

BLUE EARTH COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

County Parks and Campgrounds - COVID-19 Preparedness Plan



Blue Earth County Parks is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all our workers and customers. To ensure we have as safe and healthy workplace, we have developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for our campgrounds in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Managers and workers are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our workplaces and communities, and that requires full cooperation among our workers, management, and customers. Only through this cooperative effort can we establish and maintain the safety and health of our workers and workplaces.

Management and workers are responsible for implementing and complying with all aspects of this COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. Blue Earth County Parks managers and supervisors have our full support in enforcing the provisions of this policy.

Our workers are our most important assets. We are serious about safety and health and keeping our workers working at Blue Earth County Parks. Worker involvement is essential in developing and implementing a successful COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. We have involved our workers in this process by involving our employees in the planning process, addressing employees' concerns, requesting feedback and integrating employee suggestions into the plan. Our COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines, federal OSHA standards related to COVID-19 and Executive Order 20-48, and addresses:

- hygiene and respiratory etiquette;
- engineering and administrative controls for social distancing;
- cleaning, disinfecting, decontamination and ventilation;
- prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;
- communications and training that will be provided to managers and workers; and
- management and supervision necessary to ensure effective implementation of the plan.

The Blue Earth County Parks and Campgrounds COVID-19 Preparedness plan includes and adheres to the following documents which are included hereto and made a part hereof:

1. Blue Earth County Reopening Plan – Protocol for the Reopening of County Buildings, May 27, 2020 (or current version)
2. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Industry Guidance for Safely Reopening Campgrounds, May 20, 2020 (or current version)
3. Blue Earth County Parks Plan to Meet MNDNR Guidelines. May 27, 2020 (or current version)

Certified by:



Ryan Thilges, P.E., County Engineer / Public Works Director

Blue Earth County Public Works Department

35 Map Drive, Mankato, MN 56002-3083



Blue Earth County Reopening Plan

PROTOCOL FOR THE REOPENING OF COUNTY BUILDINGS

Effective: May 27, 2020

Blue Earth County is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for our employees. All employees are responsible for implementing and adhering to the provisions of this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our workplaces, and that requires full cooperation among employees and supervisors. Only through this cooperative effort can we establish and maintain the safety and health of our employees, public, workplaces and the community.

Supervisors and employees are responsible for implementing and complying with all aspects of this plan. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring the provisions of the protocol are fully implemented and enforced.

Employees are our most valuable asset. We are serious about the health and safety of every employee. It is our priority to provide a safe environment for all employees, so they can remain working. Employee involvement and commitment is essential in implementing a successful Reopening Plan.

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to set forth Blue Earth County's protocol regarding the safe return to work practices that will comply with the [Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973, Minnesota Statutes 2019, Chapter 182 \("Minnesota OSHA Standards"\)](#), in addition to guidelines related to COVID-19 set forth by the [Minnesota Department of Health](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) ("MDH and CDC Guidelines"). This protocol complies with the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan requirements as set forth in guidance published by the [Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development \(DEED\)](#).

Blue Earth County is aligning the reopening plan with OSHA framework of a "hierarchy of controls" to select ways of controlling workplace hazards while delivering the core functions. During a COVID-19 outbreak, when it may not be possible to eliminate the hazard, the most effective protection measures are:

- a. engineering controls;
- b. administrative controls;
- c. safe work practices (a type of administrative control);
- d. and personal protective equipment (PPE).

The coronavirus / COVID-19 situation is rapidly changing.

All recommendations in this document are based on guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

Always follow any guidance or instructions from health care providers; local or state health departments; state and federal regulatory agencies; and Blue Earth County's policies and procedures.

2. SCOPE OF COVERAGE

This protocol is applicable to all employees of Blue Earth County and the public entering a County facility or work site, including on-site contractors and vendors.

3. COUNTY OFFICES OPENING UNDER A PHASED APPROACH

- a. Blue Earth County will consider the health of all employees and public as we move forward with reopening offices for public on site access while applying the best practices for social distancing in the workplace.
- b. The two key disease prevention strategies that will be implemented are the encouragement of offering appointment-only services and promoting the widespread use of masks when social distancing cannot be achieved to prevent disease transmission between people.
- c. Blue Earth County Departments will continue to serve the public by mail, virtual, phone and appointments with doors opening on June 1, 2020.
- d. Blue Earth County will use signage to educate the public on access controls to prevent the spread of disease during county business:

Signage will include:

- Health screening questions at all entrances
 - Face covering recommendation for the public
 - Distancing signage and stickers for the public indicating 6-foot distancing in various areas.
 - Signage to encourage proper hand washing and to cover your cough.
- e. Blue Earth County will make this Reopening Plan available to all employees and the public. Employees may access the plan via BECSshare or their Supervisor. Visitors may access the plan by contacting Blue Earth County Administration.

4. VISITOR AND EMPLOYEE HEALTH SCREENINGS

- a. Visitors:
 - Signs recommending the wearing of masks posted at all doors.
 - Health screening questions posted on entrance doors.
 - If experiencing fever, cough or respiratory symptoms the visitor should remove themselves from the county building and the appointment or visit should be rescheduled.

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b. Employees:

- Employees must perform a Health Screening prior to each work shift. Employees should not enter a county facility or work site if they are experiencing symptoms identified on the Health Screening Checklist. Employees shall report to their supervisor or Human Resources if they will not be coming to work due to symptoms consistent with COVID-19. See Health Screening Checklist.
- Employees who develop symptoms during the workday consistent with COVID-19 will immediately self-isolate and report to supervisor. The employee will be sent home immediately.
- Employees will contact their health care provider, as appropriate.
- Employees quarantined or isolated must contact their supervisor or Human Resources to discuss a return to work.

5. **EMPLOYEE EXPECTATIONS**

- a. Employees authorized, by the Department Director, should continue to telework as practicable.
- b. Employees will return to work as determined by the Department Director.
- c. Employees working on-site should stagger break times usage to allow social distancing in break rooms.
- d. Employees seeking an accommodation should contact Human Resources.

6. **RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE**

All persons in County facilities and at County work sites, including employees and the public, are reminded and instructed to practice good respiratory etiquette.

- a. Cover your mouth and nose with a flexed elbow or tissue when coughing and sneezing. Throw away the used tissue immediately and wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- b. Maintain social distance – If possible, keep a distance of 6 feet between yourself and others.

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- c. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- d. Masks are recommended to the public entering County buildings.
- e. Masks will be required of the public entering a secured space or where adequate social distancing cannot be achieved and there is no barrier.

7. HAND HYGIENE

All persons in County facilities or work sites, including employees and the public, are reminded and instructed to practice good hand hygiene.

- a. This can be done with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol or by washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- b. Especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; before and after all client contact; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- c. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS

OSHA categorizes working in the office with little interaction with the public as Low Exposure risk. These are jobs that do not require contact with people known to be infected with COVID19. Those employees who have some interaction with the public are classified as Medium Exposure risk. The best defense in this pandemic is to social distancing. The County has implemented exposure reduction measures such as barrier controls (e.g., Plexiglass barriers, redesign of lobby areas, etc.), to help with social distancing by increasing the physical space between employees and visitors. Employees are required to follow the guidance for social distancing.

- a. **Masks:** The use of these masks is to help contain and block droplets from your mouth when talking, sneezing or coughing from getting into the air around you. They are primarily meant as a physical barrier to keep people from spreading their own mouth-born germs and help prevent transmitting the virus to other people by decreasing the amount of virus suspended in the air.

Masks do not filter the air like a respirator or N95. Non-N95 masks should be used as a supplement to keeping safe social distances of 6 feet, washing hands frequently, and not touching your face.

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The CDC advises wearing masks in public settings where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. If you can maintain a 6-foot distance from others, you do not need to wear a mask at this time in departmental work areas.

Employees are expected to wear masks if social distancing is not possible or required by Department Director (employees with safety and/or performance concerns may be exempted from the requirement by their Department Director).

- Cloth masks will be provided to employees through department directors as required or requested.
 - Employees are responsible for washing and drying your masks after each use. Masks should be washed in hot water with detergent either by hand or using a washing machine.
- b. **Plexiglass Barriers:** Barriers have been placed in areas where there may be public contact and in areas where social distancing is hard to achieve.
- c. **Gloves:** Gloves are designed to protect your hands by blocking the hazard such as toxic chemicals that could be absorbed through your skin. The skin on your hands is a good barrier for COVID19. However, it is important to make sure you do not touch your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands. A contaminated gloved hand can spread the disease just as easily as bare hand, if you touch your face. With good hand hygiene such as washing hands periodically throughout the day, there is no need to wear gloves when touching books, mail, paper or other items.
- d. **Vehicles:** Because there is limited space in cars and 6 feet for social distancing is not available, the County is recommending occupancy be limited to one staff person per vehicle when performing County work.
- This measure is needed because staff may be asymptomatic and still be shedding the virus without knowing it and in a small area such as a car there is a risk of infection even with face masks. If transportation of clientele is necessary, both the client and staff would need to wear a mask and to provide as much distance as possible while in the vehicle.
 - Hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray and paper towels should be placed in each vehicle in the County's fleet. If you notice that the vehicle is low on PPE supplies, please, contact Facilities Management. Cleaning supplies will be provided to departments for staff that utilize personal vehicles to transport clientele.

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9. CLEANING/SANITIZING

- a. Enhanced cleaning and sanitization in public areas will be done prior and during the workday by Facilities Management staff.
- b. Hand sanitizer will be provided in common areas and at service counters.
- c. Cleaning supplies will be provided to departments to clean operational areas as well as conference rooms.
- d. Employees will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting personal workstations including items such as phones, keyboards, touch screens, etc.
- e. Do not dispose of hand sanitizer bottles or sanitizing spray bottles, as they can be refilled. Contact Facilities Management for refilling instructions.

10. REMOVAL FROM COUNTY FACILITIES AND JOB SITES

- a. Individuals who experience and/or exhibit the symptoms will be required to leave the area immediately and self-isolate and contact their medical provider.
- b. Individuals may be asked to leave the county facility of job-site immediately.

Reports of unsafe conditions should be reported immediately to a supervisor, department director, Facilities Management (507-304-4100) and/or Human Resources (507-304-4150).

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5/27/2020

MnDNR - Industry Guidance for Safely Reopening Campgrounds

Campground Operator Guideline

1. COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
2. Single & Multiple Households

3. Common spaces & services

4. Capacity & Cleaning of Facilities

5. Bathhouse Special Considerations

6. Lodging & Facilities

7. Campground Capacity

8. Campsite Spacing

9. Visitor Supplies

Blue Earth County Parks Plan

- Plan in development
- Post in Rules / Reservations / Website / Caretakers
- No multi-unit campsites (group camping) permitted
- Close beaches, playgrounds, large pavilions & group centers
- Limit use of smaller picnic shelters to groups <10
- Post restrictions on use at small shelters
- County Board determined no shelter reservations, limit occupancy to less than 10
- Single person/household use of bathhouses
- Additional bathrooms cleaning/sanitizing frequency
- Daily fish cleaning stations and docks cleaning/sanitizing
- Reduced picnic shelter capacity w/ signage
- Suspend rental recreational equipment
- Camping check in/out over phone or through barrier
- Allow caretakers to conduct advance check ins
- Place trash cans near doors / open w/ paper towels
- Signage, soap, paper towels, trash cans
- Tape off air hand dryers
- Limit use to single person/household
- Bray Park Cabin
- Follow MDH & CDC guidelines for cleaning & 24 hr. vacancy between guests
- Adequate toilets & showers to site ratio per MN Rules
- Best Practice 30'-50' spacing? See maps.
- Bray - Lakeside campsites do not permit this spacing
- Daly - Area 4, not all sites permit this spacing
- Campsites all allow 6' social distancing requirement from other campsites
- Potential campsites restrictions maps for Bray & Daly
- County Board has concurred that sites not meeting state guidelines will require closure
- Potentially offer cancelled sites an overflow campsite if feasible.
- Not Applicable, no camp store on site

Managing Interactions

1. Visitor Transactions

2. COVID-19 Screening

3. Personal Protective Equipment

4. Staff Training

5. Consistent Information

6. Appropriate Signage

- Phone check in, with digital payment to all practical extents, drop box if needed.
- Minimize interactions & transactions for wood & ice sales (honor system)
- Cash lock-box for firewood and/or ice sales up to Caretakers.
- Caretakers screen any staff prior to starting work duties (minimal to no employees)
- BEC require caretakers wear PPE (Independent Contractors)
- BEC Parks Staff Training
- Caretakers are Independent Contractors, with BEC Training
- BEC use MDH & CDC materials throughout parks staff and caretakers
- Use public information signage throughout parks from MDH & CDC

Managing Cleaning Protocols

1. Required cleaning protocols

2. Staggered use

3. Proactive closures

4. Staying informed

- Enhanced cleaning / sanitizing frequency per CDC resources for Parks & Rec Facilities
- Not Applicable?
- Playgrounds, beaches, large shelters & pavilions closed until further notice
- Regularly consult CDC & MDH guidance

Guidelines for Visitors

5. Plan Ahead

6. Be self-sufficient

7. Social distancing

8. Recreate within your household

9. Know before you go

10. Follow the rules

11. Be well informed

- Guidelines will be placed throughout parks, BEC website & reservations system
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INDUSTRY GUIDANCE FOR SAFELY REOPENING: CAMPGROUNDS



BACKGROUND

The purpose of this document is to provide direction and information about best practices for Minnesota developed campground operators as they prepare to reopen facilities in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. This document was developed in consultation with several private, municipal, county, regional, state and federal entities based on our current understanding of state and national guidance relevant to the operation of developed campgrounds. These guidelines will:

- ▶ Protect the health and safety of visitors and staff, while maintaining camping opportunities.
- ▶ Help operators provide services in a consistent and safe way.
- ▶ Provide consistent messaging so visitors understand what is expected of them.

The guidelines in this document are minimum actions to operate in during the COVID-19 pandemic. Operators are encouraged to develop and enact additional operational policies to address specific campground needs and operational constraints, as necessary. When the State of Minnesota allows developed campgrounds to reopen, these guidelines are expected to become part of the conditions of operating, and campground operators must conform their business operations to these guidelines. Additional direction may be provided from the following (see Resources section for applicable websites):

- ▶ Executive Orders
- ▶ Outdoor Recreation Guidelines issued jointly by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- ▶ MDH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) public health guidance

- ▶ Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) guidance on reopening businesses.

No operator is required to open developed campground facilities when reopening is authorized. In planning for reopening, operators should carefully consider phased reopening to ensure that their facilities and staff are ready with detailed operational plans and training and they have the necessary signage, personal protective equipment, and other supplies necessary to ensure safe operations. Campground operators will need to be ready to further adapt their operations, and even close them, if conditions or information changes and public health considerations warrant doing so.

GUIDELINES FOR CAMPGROUND OPERATORS

Operators must follow the guidelines below and ensure that social distancing, sanitation, and safety for visitors and staff can be met.

Managing availability and safe operation of facilities

- 1. Required Preparedness Plan.** Campground operators must develop and implement a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan to manage exposure to the virus. Refer to the Department of Labor and Industry website for updated templates and instructions.
- 2. Single and multiple households.** Individual campsites, including those in developed campgrounds and remote and dispersed campsites, may be made available for recreational use by members of the same household. Larger group sites may be made available for multiple household groups at reduced capacity to ensure

maximum group size is not exceeded and social distancing can be maintained. Please refer to the most current Executive Orders and MDH guidance for information on COVID-19 related group size limitations.

3. Common spaces and services. Communal services and amenities, such as visitor centers, amphitheaters, large pavilions, group centers, communal fire rings, playgrounds, and other facilities that congregate large groups should not be open for use until public health officials indicate it is safe for groups larger than 10 people to congregate. When allowed to be open, the operation of pools must conform to MDH guidance. If these facilities are located within or close to a camping area, these facilities should be clearly signed as closed to the public. Smaller picnic shelters, such as those that typically accommodate only small groups or are part of a group campsite, could remain open with posted social distancing-related restrictions (e.g., limit use to one household at a time, or no more than 10 people in a group, depending on the facility size).

4. Capacity and cleaning of facilities. Facilities and services, such as those listed below, may be available to the public if they can be operated consistent with MDH, CDC and DEED guidance (see in particular DEED’s Safely Returning to Work Guidance), including social distancing and cleaning protocols. Operators must implement enhanced cleaning protocols and minimize face-to-face check-in/check-out procedures. If social distancing and sanitation protocols consistent with MDH and CDC guidance are not possible, operators may have to limit capacity or close some of these facilities or amenities:

- Bathrooms/shower buildings (note that single-user bathroom facilities, and alternative storm shelters, must then be arranged)
- Laundry facilities
- Fish cleaning stations and docks
- Contact ranger stations
- Picnic shelters and areas, with reduced capacity
- Food service (must be licensed, and guidance for restaurants must be followed)
- Rental/loaner recreational equipment

If campground operators conclude that their bathroom and shower facilities cannot be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner consistent with COVID-19 guidelines, they may want to consider limiting use to one person or household at a time, or leaving these facilities closed and allowing only visitors in recreational camping vehicles with on-board bathrooms.



5. Special considerations for bathroom and shower facilities. Operators should use the following in managing shower and bathroom buildings:

- Doors to multi-stall restrooms should be able to be opened and closed without touching the handles, opening-devices, or powered door-operators with the hand, whenever possible. If the door cannot be opened without touching the handle or door-operator with the hand, the business must ensure a trash-receptacle is placed by the door to ensure a paper towel can be readily disposed of when operating the door. The location and positioning of waste-receptacles should not interfere with Life Safety requirements (e.g. egress, evacuation, emergency equipment) or any reasonable accommodations provided under the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- For single restrooms, provide signage and materials (soap, paper towels and trash cans) for individuals to use without touching handles.
- Disconnect or tape-off hand air dryers and provide paper towels in restrooms, provide hand sanitizer, or advise visitors that they should bring their own disposable towels.
- Post signage reminding those in the facility to wash their hands.
- Only allow shower use if there are partitions or else place signage to maintain proper physical distancing of six feet. Reinforce distancing in these areas with posted signs. If partitions or proper physical distancing of six feet is not possible, these facilities should be limited to use by one person/household at a time, or remain closed.

6. **Lodging facilities.** Camper cabins, yurts and other overnight facilities may be open consistent with MDH and CDC guidelines. Operators will have to determine appropriate cleaning procedures based on the amenities, types of surfaces, and items within lodging units. Operators should increase turn-time for housekeeping and, where practical, allow facilities to remain vacant for 24-hours before thorough cleaning for the next guest. Please see [MDH Interim Guidance for Hotel Managers and Owners](#) for additional recommendations.
7. **Campground capacity.** Capacity limits for the overall recreational unit, based on designated parking spaces available, should be proactively enforced. Campground maximum occupancy should be based on the number of bathrooms open and available with social distancing (see bathroom/shower-to-campsite ratios identified in [MN Rules 4630.0900](#)). Operators should consult MDH guidelines when considering sanitation-related capacity limits. Bathroom availability may affect accessibility compliance, and should also be considered.
8. **Campsite spacing.** Spacing between campsites should be adequate to allow for social distancing. Some individual campsites may need to be closed to prevent campground overcrowding or to provide adequate distance between sites. As a best practice, it is recommended that campsites unscreened by vegetation be at least 50 feet apart from the centerlines of surrounding campsite spurs and the adjacent campsite, or at least 30 feet apart from the near sides of adjoining spurs.
9. **Visitor supplies.** To help visitors minimize their travel, consider having basic supplies on hand (e.g., spare toiletries, sunscreen, bug spray) so campers don't need to "run into town" to buy forgotten or depleted items. Keep in mind that if food is being sold or served, the proper license must be obtained prior to operation. See the [MDH licensing webpage](#).

Managing interactions among visitors and staff

1. **Visitor transactions.** To the maximum extent possible, provide and encourage the use of online payments or on-site pay stations for handling campsite reservations, fees, and permits, and retail transactions such as firewood, ice and other purchases. This will reduce visitor-staff interactions by eliminating the need for signatures and exchange of cash. This does not mean that cash cannot be accepted; rather, its use should be minimized and precautions taken to reduce the risk of virus transmission.
2. **COVID-19 screening.** Operators should screen all staff for COVID-19 prior to staff starting work duties. Screening should include all questions on the [MDH Visitor and Employee Health Screening Checklist](#), which is available on the [MDH website](#) in printable English, Hmong, Somali, and Spanish versions. Staff who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or who live with someone or have been in close contact with someone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19, should review CDC's [If You Are Sick or Caring for Someone](#) and should stay at home. Staff should consult [MDH guidelines](#) for when it is safe to return to work. Operators are encouraged to develop policies for screening visitors using the same questions and procedures and plan how they will address situations in which visitors become ill at the campground.
3. **Personal protective equipment.** Provide staff and volunteers with personal protective equipment such as gloves, goggles, face shields, and face masks as appropriate for the activity being performed.
4. **Staff and volunteer training.** Staff and volunteers, such as campground hosts, should be trained on social distancing and sanitation guidelines, as well as any procedural changes for routine operations, emergency situations, or weather emergency alerts. Ensure that emergency action plans are updated to reflect any facility closures, operational changes, and revised emergency weather procedures.



5. **Consistent information.** Operators should develop and deploy clear and consistent messaging for visitors on social distancing, facility closures, building and site capacity limits, and expectations for visitor behavior. Operators should use this messaging when creating their own signage, posting information on websites, emails to customers, and other communications with the public. Some helpful resources include the following:
 - [MDH Materials and Resources](#)
 - [CDC Communication Resources](#)
6. **Appropriate signage.** Public informational signage should be posted, where appropriate, to encourage the following:
 - Social distancing of at least six feet between individuals from different households, in particular at entrances, exits, and locations where people tend to congregate such as trailheads, kiosks, restrooms and shelters.
 - Capacity limits for facilities that take into account any group-size limitations and maximum occupancy with social distancing of at least six feet between individuals from different households.
 - Sanitizing protocols for individuals to follow before and after using public amenities.
 - Basic COVID-19 health reminders, such as staying home when you are sick, covering coughs and sneezes, washing hands frequently, wearing a cloth mask to protect others, and avoiding touching your face.
2. **Staggered use.** Operators may want to consider staggered use (e.g., by campsite number) to facilitate implementation of enhanced cleaning and sanitation protocols.
3. **Proactive closures.** Commit to the highest standards of safe sanitation and operational practices to minimize the risk of COVID-19 spread. If social distancing and sanitation protocols cannot be followed for any reason, proactively close the facility until they can be implemented.
4. **Staying informed.** Regularly consult MDH, CDC and DEED guidance, as well as the DNR/MDH Outdoor Recreation Guidelines, for any updated information on cleaning protocols and best practices to minimize the risk of COVID-19 spread.

Guidelines for Visitors

Consistent messaging will help visitors effectively plan and prepare for their visit. Campground operators should ensure their customers receive this information. Information distribution methods may include social media, news releases, e-mails sent to campers, and on-site postings, among other methods.

When camping, visitors should follow these recommendations:

5. **Plan ahead.** When you are able, make reservations and purchase permits, firewood, ice and other items online or by phone before you arrive on site. Cash-less and minimal-contact transactions are becoming a common operating procedure in many establishments to avoid lines and person-to-person interactions. This will help protect you, other visitors, and staff.
6. **Be self-sufficient.** Be prepared to be as self-contained and self-sufficient as possible. For example, arrive prepared with your own soap, surface disinfectant supplies, hand sanitizer, paper towels/hand towels and toilet paper just to be sure.
7. **Socially distance yourself.** To ensure that social distancing can be maintained, it is best to set up your campsite—sleeping, campfire and eating areas—to maximize distance from adjacent campsites that host people from different households.
8. **Recreate with your household.** Restrict use of your individual campsite/campfire to only those in your immediate household.

Managing new cleaning protocols

1. **Required cleaning protocols.** Developed campground operators must develop new cleaning protocols based on MDH and CDC guidelines. Several resources are available, including recommendations about frequent cleaning and sanitization of touchpoints, restrooms and common areas. In particular, reference [MDH Interim Guidance for Hotel Managers and Owners](#), [CDC's Guidance on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#) and [CDC's Resources for Parks and Recreational Activities](#). Ensure the use of [EPA-approved cleaning and disinfecting](#) supplies and procedures. Visibly post general information about cleaning protocols so visitors know what to expect (e.g., restrooms will be open to the public and cleaned ## times per day).

9. Know before you go. Be prepared for lower levels of service and public contact. Plan ahead for your visit. Ensure that you have maps of the area downloaded or printed before you leave home, in case they are not available on site. Many programs and facilities will be canceled or closed, so check online resources for updated information about rules changes and closures so you know what to expect when you arrive.

10. Follow the rules. Follow all campground rules and instructions, whether given in writing or verbally, that protect your safety and the safety of others. These rules and instructions will likely include facility-specific direction about things such as:

- Wearing face masks in public settings, such as within bathrooms, shelters, and ranger stations and around kiosks
- Observing cleaning protocols for self-service facilities and amenities before and after using them.
- Leaving furniture, such as picnic tables and chairs, as you find them—they were likely appropriately spaced by the campground operator to encourage social distancing.
- Restricting use of your individual campsite/ campfire to only those in your immediate household.
- Following directional signage – e.g., wait your turn and capacity limits – that will promote social distancing in buildings, at overlooks, and around other confining spaces.

11. Be well informed.

- Continue to consult MDH Guidelines for up-to-date information on keeping yourself and your family healthy at www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html
- Visit the Minnesota DNR website for up-to-date Outdoor Recreation Guidelines at www.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/covid-19-outdoor-recreation-guidelines.html



Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines – [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/park-administrators.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/park-administrators.html)

EPA-approved Cleaning and Disinfecting Supplies and Procedures – [epa.gov/coronavirus/guidance-cleaning-and-disinfecting-public-spaces-workplaces-businesses-schools-and-homes](https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/guidance-cleaning-and-disinfecting-public-spaces-workplaces-businesses-schools-and-homes)

Interim Guidance for Hotel Managers and Owners – health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/lodgingcleaning.pdf

Minnesota Administrative Rules for Toilet, Bathing and Laundry Facilities – revisor.mn.gov/rules/4630.0900/

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Safe Work Guidelines – mn.gov/deed/newscenter/covid/safework/

Minnesota Department of Health – health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html

Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry Updates, Templates and Instructions – dli.mn.gov/updates

National Park Service Coronavirus Updates – [nps.gov/aboutus/news/public-health-update.htm](https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/news/public-health-update.htm)

National Recreation and Park Association – [nrpa.org/our-work/Three-Pillars/health-wellness/coronavirus-disease-2019](https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Three-Pillars/health-wellness/coronavirus-disease-2019)

State of Minnesota Executive Orders – mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp

State of Minnesota Symptom Screener – mn.gov/covid19/for-minnesotans/if-sick/is-it-covid

State of Minnesota Outdoor Recreation Guidelines – dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/covid-19-outdoor-recreation-guidelines.html

U.S. Forest Service Coronavirus Updates – fs.usda.gov/about-agency/covid19-updates

mn.gov/deed/guidance

