



**OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR CAMPGROUNDS, RECREATIONAL CAMPS,  
AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) PARKS**

**May 1, 2020**

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected virtually every aspect of our lives, and the campground industry is no exception. Currently, all campgrounds required to remain closed, with exceptions, as a result of Ohio Department of Health (ODH) [Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order](#). This Director's Order "Reopens Businesses, with Exceptions, and Continues a Stay Healthy and Safe at Home Order".

In accordance with the expressed intent of the Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order, with exceptions as outlined in the order, all individuals currently living within the State of Ohio are ordered to stay at home or at their place of residence except as allowed in this Order.

Topics are broken out into seven main categories: Campgrounds, Recreational Camps, Recreational Vehicle (RV) Parks Closed with Exceptions; Prohibited Activities; Facial Coverings; and Social Distancing specific to COVID-19; and General COVID-19 Information and Checklist for Business/Employers; Sector COVID-19 Information and Checklist for Business/Employers, Intent of The Order, and Cleaning and Disinfection After A Person Suspected/Confirmed to Have COVID-19 Was Working.

This document will be updated as often as necessary to ensure you are being provided with the most current best practices.

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**CAMPGROUND, RECREATIONAL CAMP, RECREATIONAL VEHCILE (RV) PARKS VENUES  
CLOSED WITH EXCEPTION (SECTION 13)**

**"Campgrounds, including recreational camps and recreational vehicle (RV) parks, shall be closed, except that persons residing in recreational vehicles ("RVs") at campgrounds who genuinely have no other viable place of residence may remain in the campground. This campground closure also excludes cabins, mobile homes, or other self-contained units, meant for single families and where preexisting full season agreements already have been established. An example would be individuals who have part-time preestablished seasonal sites at campgrounds for the entire season or a long-term property interest or lease agreement with a campground for residential activity. Such persons should comply with all applicable guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ohio Department of Health regarding social distancing."**

**This campground closure language is interpreted to exclude, self-contained units meant for single families having a pre-existing full season agreement established prior to May 1, 2020.**

**Examples include:**

- cabins,
- mobile homes, or
- other self-contained units meant for single families and where preexisting full season agreements already have been established.

An example would be individuals who have:

- part-time preestablished seasonal sites at campgrounds for the entire season; or
- a long-term property interest; or
- lease agreement with a campground for residential activity.

Such persons should comply with all applicable guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ohio Department of Health regarding social distancing.

Keeping with the fact that campgrounds, including recreational camps and recreational vehicle (RV) parks are closed, the order appears to allow the individual's use of their property within the campground while limiting the use of the closed campground.

**Therefore, the following items, at a minimum, are not permitted:**

- No tent camping;
- No transient (short-term, overnight) camping;
- No visitors.

**Therefore, the following items, at a minimum, are closed for use:**

- all common space areas;
- clubhouses, lodges, pavilions, picnic areas;
- common restroom and shower facilities;
- common food facilities, dining, or vending areas;
- Recreation areas such as, but not limited to, pools/spas, tennis, bocce ball, basketball courts, , and playgrounds;
- Group and/or camp sponsored activities, events and venues;
- communal fires or group campfires meant for single families.

**PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES (SECTION 4)**

All public and private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household and connected property, or living unit and connected property are prohibited, except for the limited purposes permitted by this Order. **Any gathering of more than ten people is prohibited unless exempted by this Order.** This is in accordance with President Trump's coronavirus guidelines issued March 16, 2020. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household, family or residence.

## **FACIAL COVERINGS (MASKS) (SECTION 8)**

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Businesses must allow all customers, patrons, visitors, contractors, vendors and similar individuals to use facial coverings, except for specifically documented legal, life, health or safety considerations and limited documented security considerations.

Businesses must require all employees to wear facial coverings, except for one of the following reasons:

- Facial coverings in the work setting are prohibited by law or regulation;
- Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards;
- Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons;
- Facial coverings are in violation of the business's documented safety policies;
- Facial coverings are not required when the employee works alone in an assigned work area; or
- There is a functional (practical) reason for an employee not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.

Businesses must provide written justification, upon request, explaining why an employee is not required to wear a facial covering in the workplace. At a minimum, facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

## **SOCIAL DISTANCING (SECTION 16)**

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For purposes of this Order, Social Distancing Requirements includes maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands), regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.

- a) Required measures. Essential Businesses and Operations and businesses engaged in Minimum Basic Operations must take proactive measures to ensure compliance with Social Distancing Requirements, including where possible:
  - i. Designate six-foot distances. Designating with signage, tape, or by other means six- foot spacing for employees and customers in line to maintain appropriate distance;
  - ii. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing products. Having hand sanitizer and sanitizing products readily available for employees and customers;
  - iii. Separate operating hours for vulnerable populations. Implementing separate operating hours for elderly and vulnerable customers; and
  - iv. Online and remote access. Posting online whether a facility is open and how best to reach the facility and continue services by phone or remotely.

## **GENERAL COVID-19 INFORMATION AND CHECKLIST FOR BUSINESSES/EMPLOYERS (SECTION 20)**

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Business and employers are to take the following actions:

- a. Strongly encourage as many employees as possible to work from home by implementing policies in areas such as teleworking and video conferencing, subject to the discretion of the employer;
- b. Actively encourage sick employees to stay home until they are free of fever (without the use of medication) for at least 72 hours (three full days) AND symptoms have improved for at least 72 hours AND at least seven days have passed since symptoms first began. Do not require a healthcare provider's note to validate the illness or return to work of employees sick with acute respiratory illness; healthcare provider offices and medical facilities may be extremely busy and not able to provide such documentation in a timely way;
- c. Ensure that your sick leave policies are up to date, flexible, and non-punitive to allow sick employees to stay home to care for themselves, children, or other family members. Consider encouraging employees to do a self-assessment each day to check if they have any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, or shortness of breath);
- d. Separate employees who appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms from other employees and send them home immediately. Restrict their access to the business until they have recovered;
- e. Reinforce key messages - stay home when sick, use cough and sneeze etiquette, and practice hand hygiene - to all employees, and place posters in areas where they are most likely to be seen. Provide protection supplies such as soap and water, hand sanitizer, tissues, and no-touch disposal receptacles for use by employees;
- f. Frequently perform enhanced environmental cleaning of commonly touched surfaces, such as workstations, countertops, railings, door handles, and doorknobs. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. Provide disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces can be wiped down by employees before each use; and
- g. Be prepared to change business practices if needed to maintain critical operations (e.g., identify alternative suppliers, prioritize customers, or temporarily suspend some of your operations).
- h. Comply with all applicable guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ohio Department of Health regarding social distancing.

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## **SECTOR SPECIFIC COVID-19 INFORMATION AND CHECKLIST FOR BUSINESSES/EMPLOYERS (SECTION 21)**

Consumer, retail & services

In keeping with the expressed intent that these facilities are closed, the following sector specific guidelines must be implemented when and if contact occurs with patrons:

- Ensure minimum 6 feet between employees, if not possible, install barriers;
- Employees must perform daily symptom assessment that should include taking temperature with a thermometer and monitoring for fever. Also watching for coughing or trouble breathing;
- Require employees to stay home if symptomatic;
- Consider having customers wear face coverings at all times;
- Require regular handwashing by employees;
- Place hand sanitizers in high-contact locations;
- Clean high-touch items after each use (e.g. carts, baskets);
- Ensure minimum 6 feet between customers;
- Specify hours for at-risk populations (e.g. elderly);
- Ask customers and guests not to enter if symptomatic;
- Stagger entry of customers and guests;
- Post social distancing signage and disinfect high-contact surfaces hourly;
- Clean merchandise before stocking if possible;
- Establish maximum capacity;
- Discontinue self-service food stations, product samples;
- Food courts remain closed;
- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms while at work;
- Contact the local health district about suspected cases or exposures; and
- Shutdown shop/floor for deep sanitation if possible.

#### **INTENT OF THE ORDER (SECTION 17)**

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The intent of this Order is to ensure that the maximum number of people self-isolate in their places of residence to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling additional day to day activities to continue, to slow the spread of COVID-19 to the greatest extent possible. When people need to leave their places of residence to perform or to otherwise facilitate authorized activities necessary for continuity of social and commercial life, they should at all times and as much as reasonably possible comply with Social Distancing Requirements. All provisions of this Order should be interpreted to effectuate this intent.

#### **CLEANING AND DISINFECTION AFTER PERSONS SUSPECTED/CONFIRMED TO HAVE COVID-19 HAVE BEEN IN THE FACILITY**

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Close off areas visited by the ill persons. Open outside doors and windows and use ventilating fans to increase air circulation in the area. Wait 24 hours or as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection.

Cleaning staff should clean and disinfect all areas used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.

### ***How to Clean and Disinfect Hard (Non-porous) Surfaces***

If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products for concentration, application method and contact time, etc. Additionally, diluted household bleach solutions (at least 1000 ppm sodium hypochlorite) can be used if appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application, ensuring a contact time of at least 1 minute, and allowing proper ventilation during and after application. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted. Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3 cup) bleach per gallon of water or
- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

### ***How to Clean and Disinfect Soft (Porous) Surfaces***

For soft (porous) surfaces, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces. After cleaning, if the items can be laundered, launder items in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and then dry items completely. Otherwise, use products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 and that are suitable for porous surfaces.