

SAFER AT HOME: PHASE THREE
OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMPS

SCOPE: Overnight services of camps, as defined in § 35.1-1 of the *Code of Virginia*.

PHASE 3: Overnight summer camps may begin operation on May 1, 2021. Establishments must either implement the following mandatory requirements or close.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

Overnight Camps must strictly adhere to the enhanced cleaning and disinfection practices and enhanced workplace safety practices provided in the “Guidelines for All Business Sectors” document. They must also adhere to the following additional requirements:

- ✓ All camps must develop and implement a plan to decrease the risk of infectious campers and staff entering the camp environment. This plan must include, but shall not be limited to, the requirement for a negative molecular test within seven days prior to the beginning of camp, or 14 day symptom screening for the camper and all persons in the Family as defined in Executive Order 72 that have contact with the camper. Campers utilizing symptom screening must restrict their close contacts to those inside their Family as defined in Executive Order 72 for the duration of the 14-day period. This plan must also include protocols for streamlined travel and drop-offs with limited interactions between parents and camp personnel and other campers.
- ✓ Camp personnel must perform a daily symptom screening of all campers, including upon arrival. Children and teens infected with COVID-19 exhibit a wide range of symptoms, some of which may be similar to other common pediatric infections and illness such as flu, strep throat and allergies. Children may be less likely to have fever, may be less likely to present with fever as an initial symptom, and may have only gastrointestinal tract symptoms. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 in children are fever and cough, but children may have any of these signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

- ✓ All daily screenings must include:
 - Fever (temperature 100.4 °F or higher)
 - Sore throat
 - New cough
 - Diarrhea, vomiting, or stomachache
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- ✓ Other symptoms that may be included are chills, nasal congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, tiredness, muscle or body aches, or poor appetite. If children are not being screened for these particular symptoms, staff should still be aware that these can be possible indicators of COVID-19.
- ✓ All non-camp personnel that enter camp must wear a mask as required by Executive Order 72. Limit camp entrances to essential personnel only.
- ✓ Campers above the age of 5 and staff must wear a mask as required by Executive Order 72. A group of campers and staff cohabitating in the same sleeping space are considered equivalent to a Family as defined in Executive Order 72; mask requirements do not apply unless persons are in the presence of campers or staff outside their camp cohort/Family, or are in an indoor public place that is shared with other campers or staff.
- ✓ Post signage to provide public health reminders regarding physical distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, and reporting symptoms if sick (samples at bottom of this document). Signs must use age-appropriate language to be understandable by campers.
- ✓ Employ the use of cohorts for the first 14 days of any camp session. Cohorts may not be mixed, including during meal times, for at least 14 days to facilitate contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine in the event of positive COVID-19 cases. Cohort size may not exceed 25 campers, not including staff. When any camper or staff is traveling throughout the camp or near other cohorts, strict six feet of physical distancing and mask wearing must be observed from those not in their cohort. Ten feet of distancing must be observed when engaging in singing, cheering, exercise, or other activities involving increased exhalation.

- ✓ Staff may not have close contact with campers in multiple cohorts, with the exception of medical services or any event where close contact is necessary for the health or safety of a camper. Restrictions against staff having close contact with multiple cohorts would not include when staff is leading outdoor or indoor activities, so long as appropriate physical distancing is practiced and masks are used by all those present.
- ✓ Camps should develop and follow a comprehensive hand hygiene plan (e.g. “Wash-in/Wash-out” when transitioning between activities/locations).
- ✓ Social gatherings or similar events attended by campers from multiple camps are prohibited. All-camp gatherings are not prohibited; however, they must follow all cohort requirements within the first 14 days of any camp session: campers from different cohorts must wear masks in indoor settings, and physical distancing must be strictly observed between cohorts.

BEST PRACTICES:

In addition to the requirements provided above, camps are encouraged to utilize the following best practices to the extent they are feasible:

- ✓ Communicate camp COVID procedures and camp departure protocols to parents/caregivers before the beginning of camp.
- ✓ Prioritize outdoor activities and limit all-camp gatherings or activities that include participants from multiple cohorts to those that can take place outside.
- ✓ Have staff and campers dine in well-ventilated areas. Create a plan for structured food distribution to avoid congregation areas. Limit shared items, such as condiment bottles, sports equipment, and self-serve utensils.
- ✓ Limit off-campus activities to those that minimize camper and staff exposure to the community.
- ✓ Cohorts may be combined, expanded, or eliminated after the first 14 days of camp; however, maintaining cohorts for the duration of camp is strongly recommended. Creating larger cohorts, is preferable to eliminating cohorts altogether, to facilitate contact tracing and reduce exposures among campers.

- ✓ Develop and maintain close communication networks with the local health department and community leaders. Camps must have a plan for how they will test campers for COVID-19 when needed and collaborate with the local health department and community care providers in the development of this plan.
- ✓ Camps may consider reducing occupancy when necessary to maintain cohorts and the separation of staff working with separate cohorts. As campers in the same sleeping area can be considered of the same Family for the duration of camp, decreasing occupancy to increase sleeping distance is not necessary.

RESOURCES TO PRINT AND DISPLAY:

[Washing Hands is Your Superpower - CDC](#)

[Stop the spread - CDC](#)

[Hand washing instructions for children - CDC](#)

[Symptoms of Coronavirus - CDC](#)

[Don't let your germs go for a ride - CDC](#)

[Cover Coughs and Sneezes - CDC](#)

[Handwashing activities for kids](#)