Guidance for Outdoor Recreation and Facilities

Updated: April 21, 2021

Background

The following guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) are for outdoor recreational activities under Executive Order (EO) 21-11, which took effect Monday, March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m. (noon) and does not have an end date. Effective March 31, 2021 at 11:59 p.m., larger venues, restaurants, gyms and pools are able to expand their occupancy per the Stay Safe Guidance. Effective April 14, 2021 at 11:59 p.m., the requirement to work from home shifted to a strong recommendation.

Outdoor recreational activities identified in EO 21-11 may be enjoyed in accordance with the EO and the guidelines below.

Authorized outdoor recreational facilities referenced in EO 21-11 may be open in accordance with the EO and the guidelines below.
These guidelines do not address:

- Organized youth and adult sports/athletics and nonmotorized recreational, competitive, and non-competitive races and similar events, which are subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Organized Sports.

- Youth programming, including overnight camps, subject to the child care and youth-serving programs section of MDH’s Schools and Child Care: COVID-19 web page and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance.

- Recreational entertainment and events occurring at outdoor venues (e.g., movies, concerts in the park, horse shows, mini-golf, amusement parks, etc.), which is subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues for outdoor venues.

- Recreational entertainment and events (e.g. video arcades, games, live performances) at indoor venues associated with outdoor recreation facilities, which are subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues.

- Entertainment events, parties, receptions, and similar events held in a venue, which are subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues.

- Operation of public swimming pools, which is subject to the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Guidance for Public Swimming Pools.

- Retail services, which are subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Retail Businesses.

- Food and beverage operations at outdoor recreation facilities and related indoor facilities, which are subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Restaurants and Bars.

Please refer to EO 21-11 in addition to the referenced guidance documents for requirements regarding the above activities and settings.

GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

General Considerations

1. All outdoor recreational facilities must develop and implement a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan to manage exposure to the virus. Facilities must ensure the Plan is evaluated, monitored, executed, and updated under the supervision of a designated Plan Administrator. Employers must ensure the Plan is posted at all workplaces in readily accessible locations that will allow for the Plan to be readily reviewed by all workers, as required. Please see the Stay Safe Guidance for All Business Entities.

2. Facilities should regularly review all applicable Stay Safe Guidance for Businesses & Organizations to ensure they are up-to-date on implementing safe workplace practices.
3. Place appropriate signage and other messaging on site at locations that can be easily seen by customers and visitors. Print materials are available online at MDH Materials and Resources and at CDC Communication Resources.

Examples of messages:

- Maintain social distancing of at least six feet from people from other households.
  - While indoors, patrons must maintain social distance from members of different households without exception.
  - If patrons engage in an outdoor recreation activity where it is not possible to maintain social distancing throughout the activity, social distancing between households is strongly recommended to the extent possible and all patrons should strongly consider wearing a face covering.

- Follow all Executive Order 20-81 face-covering requirements and guidelines.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; if soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (including fever, cough, or difficulty breathing) should stay home and follow the information on the State of Minnesota’s Get Tested web site and CDC’s What to Do If You Are Sick.

4. Remind patrons to maintain social distancing and adhere to social gathering or venue occupancy limits and other venue requirements, as applicable, in indoor and outdoor common space.

5. Adapt practices to provide for physical distancing of at least six feet between people from different households. This social distancing must be maintained at all times in indoor settings. This guidance provides flexibility for outdoor recreation activities that occur in settings that do not allow for social distancing between households throughout the activity, but strongly encourages participants in these activities to only participate with their household, or to wear face coverings at all times.

6. Follow Minnesota’s face covering requirements. As of July 25, 2020, people over age 5 in Minnesota are required to wear a face covering in all indoor businesses and public indoor spaces in accordance with Executive Order 20-81. Additionally, workers are required to wear a face covering when working outdoors in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained.

- The Executive Order includes exemptions for people who are unable to wear or tolerate a face covering due to a medical or mental health condition or other reasons. There are also situations in which a face covering may be temporarily removed or where face coverings are not required. For example, a person may temporarily remove their face covering when presenting, eating, or communicating with an individual who is deaf or hearing impaired.
- Face coverings are strongly encouraged for people participating in outdoor recreational activities when social distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain.
Industry guidance also establishes sector-specific face covering requirements, and individuals must follow these requirements when in those settings. For example, face coverings are required outdoors at all times for patrons of entertainment venues in the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues.

Face coverings are NOT a replacement for social distancing.

For more information see Face Covering Requirements and Recommendations under Executive Order 20-81 and MDH Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

7. Outdoor recreation facilities may provide food and beverage and allow on-site consumption consistent with EO 21-11, applicable licensing requirements and the following:

- Restaurants, bars and concessions must follow the Stay Safe Guidance for Restaurants and Bars. In entertainment venues, concessions must follow any additional requirements in the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues.

- All other food and beverage consumption (including vending and "grab and go" convenience food and beverages) must be consumed in an indoor seating area that ensures social distancing requirements between households can be maintained; outdoors; or in the visitor’s tent, car, RV or lodging (provided that social distancing requirements are met in indoor spaces).

- Food or beverage carts that travel a golf course or other outdoor recreational facility may dispense packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages so long as there are adequate provisions for worker handwashing/hand sanitizing, social distancing between all workers and patrons, social distancing between patrons from different households, and, where required, face coverings. For information specific to the sale of alcohol, please see this Minnesota DPS webpage.

Employees

1. Employers must establish and implement health screening for staff upon or prior to arrival at a work location. See MDH’s Visitor and Employee Health Screening Checklist. Staff whose responses to the health screening indicates they are potentially infectious must stay or be sent home and follow the information on the State of Minnesota’s Get Tested web site and MDH’s guidelines for COVID-19: When to Return to Work on Businesses and Employers: COVID-19.

2. Employees must use proper handwashing, observe respiratory etiquette, and avoid using other employees’ phones, desks, offices, or other work tools or equipment.

3. Just as facilities need to ensure that customers are following social distancing while on the premises, employees of the facilities also need to follow social distancing. This means maintaining a physical distance of at least 6 feet between all workers, and between workers and all facility patrons. These distancing requirements must be maintained inside buildings and outside, such as at trails, golf courses, boat launches, and other outdoor settings.
4. Minimize face-to-face employee and customer interaction. Implement contactless (e.g., online) or socially distanced measures to take reservations and payments, provide instruction, or sell supplies such as gas or bait.

**Facility Access and Cleaning**

1. Outdoor recreational facilities may allow public access to associated indoor facilities in accordance with EO 21-11. Local authorities may also limit activities or close facilities within their purview. Unless addressed by a separate Stay Safe Guidance (for example, the [Stay Safe Guidance for Retail Businesses](#)), occupancy of indoor facilities must follow the requirements for managing occupancy in the [COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Guidance: Requirements for Indoor Venues](#).

2. For bathroom and shower facilities, post signs reminding those in the facility to maintain at least six feet of social distance from members of other households. It is not necessary to disable or tape-off sinks, bathroom stalls or showers that are closer than six feet since people from the same household may safely use adjacent facilities. If the facility size does not allow for social distancing between households, limit use to one household at a time.

3. Clearly post the occupancy limit, social distancing and face covering requirements at facility entrances, and be prepared to remind patrons of requirements or ask patrons to leave if requirements are not followed.

4. Ensure that employees and customers have access to handwashing/hand sanitizing facilities and supplies.

5. Surfaces such as doorknobs, counters, and other items that are high-touch should be regularly cleaned and sanitized. Follow [CDC’s Guidance on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#) and [CDC’s Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces](#).

6. **Clean and disinfect bathrooms regularly**, particularly high-touch surfaces, and ensure they have handwashing supplies. These [EPA-registered household disinfectants](#) are recommended by the CDC for cleaning.

**Events, Guiding and Instruction**

1. Limit indoor social gatherings to no more than 15 people, and outdoor social gatherings to no more than 50 people.
   - Social gatherings are groups of people who are not members of the same household, congregated together for a common or coordinated social, community, or leisure purpose.

2. Organized youth and adult sports/athletics and nonmotorized recreational races/non-competitive similar events must follow the [Stay Safe Guidance for Organized Sports](#).

3. Other outdoor recreation events must meet the requirements below.
▪ All participants, organizers, officials and spectators follow Minnesota’s face covering requirements.

▪ Any events, or portions of events, held in a venue where admission and occupancy can be controlled and predictable must follow the occupancy limits and other requirements for venues in EO 21-11 and the applicable Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues, including face-covering requirements. Event organizers may establish temporary venues under this guidance.

▪ Any events occurring in an outdoor public area that does not meet outdoor venue requirements must not involve gatherings of more than 50 people. Any portions of outdoor recreation events occurring indoors that do not meet indoor venue requirements must not involve gatherings of more than 15 people. These limits include all participants, organizers, officials, and spectators, and all involved must follow the social distancing requirements in this guidance.

▪ Virtual events like a race or tournament where competitors participate individually, then upload their result (time, biggest catch, etc.) to a common site or e-mail as their competition entry, are permitted, provided that the virtual event limits any in-person gatherings to no more than 50 people outdoors or 15 people indoors before, during, or after the event (including all participants, organizers, officials, and spectators). Virtual events may involve multiple separate gatherings of individuals, but no single in-person gathering can exceed these limits.

▪ Any support groups for event participants (such as a “pit crew”) must avoid congregating and maintain social distancing from members of other households throughout the event.

The following examples are provided for illustrative purposes only. This is not an exhaustive list and activities may be subject to local restrictions, permitting requirements and/or additional Stay Safe MN guidance:

▪ A fishing tournament or league that involves multiple points of access as needed to comply with the social gathering limits, and where any rules meeting, weigh-in or awards ceremony adheres to the social gathering limits if not held in a venue or the applicable occupancy limit if held in a venue.

▪ A golf event with staggered tee times or a shotgun start to ensure social gathering limits are met while on the course, and where registration and any award ceremonies are modified as needed to comply with applicable social gathering or venue occupancy limits.

▪ A motorcycle race with staggered start times that allow competitors to remain socially distanced on the course, and either ensures that any spectators do not congregate in a manner that exceeds social gathering limits or establishes a controlled perimeter and adheres to venue requirements.

4. Guided and instructional services (e.g., fishing or birding guides, safety training, skill building) and outdoor workouts and training not addressed in the Stay Safe Guidance for Organized Sports or Stay Safe Guidance for Gyms, Studios and Fitness Centers are allowed subject to the following:
There are no more than 50 people in a group outside, and no more than 25 people in a group for any portion of the service or training that takes place inside.

Any portion of the service, workout, or training that occurs indoors is modified as needed to allow for six feet of social distancing between people from different households at all times. All guides, participants, and instructors must wear face coverings indoors (see Face Covering Requirements and Recommendations under Executive Order 20-81).

If an outdoor service, workout, or training cannot be modified to ensure consistent distancing between households throughout the activity (e.g., a guided fishing outing in a small fishing boat), social distancing between households is strongly recommended whenever possible. When consistent social distancing between households cannot be maintained throughout the activity, coaches, guides, or instructors must wear face coverings and must strongly encourage all participants to wear face coverings.

If multiple groups are operating in a similar space or area, each group is physically separated from other groups by at least 12 feet at all times.

Consider limiting any spectators to one or two per participant.

Charter and Launch Boats

1. Charter and launch boats are outdoor recreation facilities subject to this Guidance for Outdoor Recreation and Facilities, and may also be subject to other Stay Safe Guidance depending on the use of the boat (e.g., entertainment offerings or events – including cruises or tours – are subject to the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues; food or beverage operations must follow the Stay Safe Guidance for Restaurants and Bars).

2. Unless addressed by a separate Stay Safe Guidance (for example, the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues), capacity must be limited on charter and launch boats as follows:

   Operators are strongly encouraged to limit occupancy to the number of people who can maintain social distancing of six feet between people of different households. If all patrons are members of the same household, the charter or launch may be for the full legal load/capacity of the boat. If consistent social distancing between households cannot be maintained, staff must wear face coverings even while outdoors and must strongly encourage all patrons to wear face coverings while outdoors.

   The occupancy of indoor facilities must follow the requirements for managing occupancy in the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Guidance: Requirements for Indoor Venues and ensure all workers and patrons wear face coverings at all times. If all patrons are members of the same household, the occupancy may be the full legal load/capacity.

3. Owners and operators must put in place practices to ensure these social distancing, occupancy, and face covering requirements are followed in all areas, including decks and in cabins, cuddies, small holds, restrooms, and breakrooms.
Equipment Rental and Transportation Services

1. Rental of outdoor recreational equipment is allowed. Facilities must implement clear check-in and check-out procedures that minimize contact between customers and workers, and reservation or other procedures that help avoid people from multiple households congregating while waiting for rental equipment.

   - Some outdoor recreational equipment rentals, such as a fishing boat, golf cart, or kayak, have seating or space for multiple people. If these outdoor recreation equipment rentals do not allow for social distancing between households, strongly recommend that patrons only share these rentals with their household, and strongly recommend that patrons wear a face covering if they choose to share these rentals with members of other households.

   - Follow the COVID-19 Guidance for Hotel Managers and Owners for cleaning live-aboard rental equipment such as houseboats or RVs.

   - Any instruction on the operation or use of rental equipment must be provided in a manner that complies with face covering and social distancing requirements.

2. Transportation services to and from authorized outdoor recreational activities, such as transport to a boat launch or hiking trailhead, must follow the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Guidance: Requirements for Passenger Transportation and adhere to the following additional requirements.

Marinas and Docks

1. Public and private marinas and docks may provide storage, docking, and mooring services to slip owners, seasonal renters or the general public. This includes allowing boaters to purchase fuel, use access ramps, or purchase or receive services authorized by EO 21-11. Any food and beverage offerings must be consistent with applicable licensing requirements and the Stay Safe Guidance for Restaurants and Bars. Onsite consumption is allowed subject to the limitations (e.g., capacity, hours of operation, etc.) in EO 21-11 and the Stay Safe Guidance for Restaurants and Bars.

Camping

1. Private and public developed campgrounds may be open for recreational camping if they develop and implement a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan consistent with the Stay Safe Guidance for Campgrounds. Dispersed or remote camping sites may also be open for recreational camping.

   - A dispersed campsite is a single campsite, not in a developed campground, used for overnight camping.
A remote campsite is a designated backpack or watercraft campsite, not in a developed campground, used for overnight camping.

For More Information

If you have questions about what outdoor recreational facilities are currently authorized or the information in these guidelines, please email us. Also, please see Stay Safe MN for information about reopening various business and social settings not addressed here.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PUBLIC

Time spent outside provides many benefits. We encourage outdoor recreation as a good way to stay healthy, reduce stress, and enjoy time with family. However, it is essential to follow the guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health (see Protecting Yourself and Your Family and Strategies to Slow the Spread) and the Centers for Disease Control (see Visiting Parks and Recreational Facilities) and observe the following practices while recreating outdoors to protect yourself and others and slow the spread of COVID-19:

General Considerations

1. Explore the range of public lands available to you. If you arrive at a park, playground, water access site or other public recreation land and see that it is busy, choose a different option. This will allow you to maintain social distancing and reduce impacts on staff and resources. Also, consider visiting at off-peak times, such as mid-week, or early or late in the day on a weekend.

2. Respect signs limiting access or providing temporary direction regarding facility, trail or site usage. The same goes for time limits (such as on the use of seating areas) to allow others to also benefit from those amenities/facilities.

3. Be aware that some facilities you may have used in the past may not be open at this time. Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather, call ahead or visit applicable websites so you are aware of what to expect, and be as self-sufficient as possible. For Minnesota DNR-managed parks and lands, consult the DNR website or call the DNR information center (651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR (888-646-6367)).

4. If you rent recreational equipment – such as a bicycle or canoe – consider bringing your own protective gear like lifejackets and helmets. When using or renting equipment indoors, face coverings are required and social distancing is required between households at all times. Outdoor rental equipment that does not allow for 6 feet of social distancing should only be shared with people from your household. If you decide to share rental equipment outdoors that does not allow for social distancing between households, face coverings are strongly encouraged.
5. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

6. Anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (including fever, cough, or difficulty breathing) should stay home and follow the information on the State of Minnesota’s Get Tested web site and CDC’s What to Do If You Are Sick.

7. Follow Minnesota’s face covering requirements. As of July 25, 2020, people over age 5 in Minnesota are required to wear a face covering in all public indoor spaces and indoor businesses in accordance with Executive Order 20-81. Additionally, workers are required to wear a face covering when working outdoors in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained.

   - The Executive Order includes exemptions for people who are unable to wear or tolerate a face covering due to a medical or mental health condition or other reasons. There are also situations in which a face covering may be temporarily removed or where face coverings are not required. For example, a person may temporarily remove their face covering when presenting, eating, or communicating with an individual who is deaf or hearing impaired.
   - Face coverings are strongly encouraged, for people participating in outdoor recreational activities when social distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain.
   - Industry guidance also establishes sector-specific face covering requirements, and individuals must follow these requirements when in those settings. For example, face coverings are required outdoors at all times for patrons of entertainment venues in the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues.

   - Face coverings are NOT a replacement for social distancing.
   - For more information about face covering requirements and exemptions see Face Covering Requirements and Recommendations under Executive Order 20-81 and MDH Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

8. Please note that while outdoor activities consistent with the Stay Safe MN Plan and these guidelines are allowed, associated outdoor recreation facilities are not required to open, and facility operators and local authorities may impose additional restrictions and limits. Before visiting an outdoor recreational facility, be sure to check with the owner or operator to confirm it is open and that your intended activity is allowed.

**Social Distancing and Gatherings while Recreating Outdoors**

1. Practice social distancing (stay at least 6 feet from people from other households). This isn’t just for parks and trails – it is also essential at boat launches fishing piers, hunting lands, and anytime you leave your home. If you are participating in an outdoor recreational activity where it may be difficult to maintain social distancing throughout the activity, only participate with members of your household or strongly consider wearing a face covering.
2. “Household” means all the people living in the same home or residence, including a shared rental unit or other similar living space. This includes college-aged children who return home over a weekend, holiday or break. Students returning home for school breaks are strongly encouraged to follow the recommendations available at MDH’s Institutes of Higher Education website.

3. Social gatherings are limited by EO 21-11 as follows:
   - Indoor social gatherings involving no more than 15 people are allowed as long as members of different households maintain at least six feet of separation from each other, and participants adhere to additional precautions in the Stay Safe Minnesota website.
   - Outdoor social gatherings involving up to 50 people are allowed as long as members of different households maintain at least six feet of separation from each other, and participants adhere to the additional precautions in these guidelines and on the Stay Safe Minnesota website.
   - “Social gatherings” are groups of people who are not members of the same household, congregated together for a common or coordinated social, community, or leisure purpose.

4. Avoid carpooling to outdoor recreational activities with people other than those in your household.

5. Avoid congregating in common areas like trailheads, parking areas, overlooks, playgrounds or fueling stations.

6. Follow all occupancy limits, including time limits, for any indoor or outdoor facilities that are open to the public.

**Outdoor Events, Guiding and Instruction**

1. Organized youth and adult sports/athletics and nonmotorized recreational races/non-competitive similar events are not addressed in these guidelines; please see instead the Stay Safe Guidance for Organized Sports.

2. Guided or instructional services (e.g., fishing or birding guides, safety training, skill building) and outdoor workouts and training not addressed in the Stay Safe Guidance for Organized Sports are allowed subject to the following:
   - There are no more than 50 people in a group outside, and no more than 25 people in a group for any portion of the service or training that occurs inside.
   - Any portion of the service, workout, or training that occurs indoors is modified as needed to allow for six feet of social distancing between people from different households at all times. All guides, participants, and instructors must wear face coverings indoors (see Face Covering Requirements and Recommendations under Executive Order 20-81).
   - If outdoor services, workouts, or trainings cannot be modified to ensure consistent distancing between households throughout the activity (e.g., a guided fishing outing in a small fishing boat), social distancing between households is strongly recommended whenever possible. When consistent social distancing between households cannot be
maintained throughout the activity, coaches, guides, or instructors must wear face coverings and must strongly encourage all participants to wear face coverings.

- If multiple groups are operating in a similar space or area, each group is physically separated from other groups by at least 12 feet at all times.
- Consider limiting any spectators to one or two per participant.

3. Only engage in tournaments, leagues and other outdoor recreation events not addressed in items 1 through 2 immediately above that meet the following requirements:

- Participants, organizers, officials and spectators follow Minnesota’s social distancing and face covering requirements.
- The event adheres to the capacity limits and other requirements in the Stay Safe Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues, including face-covering requirements, if it occurs in a venue. Temporary venues may be established under this guidance if they meet all applicable requirements.
- The event does not involve gatherings of more than 50 people – inclusive of participants, organizers, officials and spectators – in one place at a time if it occurs in an outdoor public area that does not meet the requirements applicable to venues (i.e. where admission and occupancy can be controlled and are predictable). Any events occurring indoors that do not meet indoor venue requirements must not involve gatherings of more than 15 people. These limits include all participants, organizers, officials, and spectators, and all involved must follow the social distancing requirements in this guidance.
- Virtual events like a race or tournament where competitors participate individually, then upload their result (time, biggest catch, etc.) to a common site or e-mail as their competition entry, are permitted, provided that the virtual event limits any in-person gatherings to no more than 50 people outdoors or 15 people indoors before, during, or after the event (including all participants, organizers, officials, and spectators). Virtual events may involve multiple separate gatherings of individuals, but no single in-person gathering can exceed these limits.

The following examples are provided for illustrative purposes only. This is not an exhaustive list and activities may be subject to local restrictions, permitting requirements and/or additional Stay Safe MN guidance:

- A fishing tournament or league that involves multiple points of access as needed to comply with the social gathering limits, and where any rules meeting, weigh-in or awards ceremony adheres to the social gathering limits if not held in a venue or the applicable occupancy limit if held in a venue.
- A golf event with staggered tee times or a shotgun start to ensure social gathering limits are met while on the course, and where registration and any award ceremonies are modified as needed to comply with applicable social gathering or venue occupancy limits.
▪ A motorcycle race with staggered start times that allow competitors to remain socially distanced on the course, and either ensures that any spectators do not congregate in a manner that exceeds social gathering limits or establishes a controlled perimeter and adheres to venue requirements.

**Boating**

1. When enjoying recreational boating:
   ▪ If you boat with people not from your household, strongly consider limiting passengers as needed to allow for six feet of distancing between people from different households, recognizing that vessel size and design affects capacity. If social distancing between households may be difficult to maintain throughout the activity, strongly consider wearing a face covering.
   ▪ Maintain a minimum of six-foot separation between boats. Beaching or rafting with other boats must follow social gathering limits and must ensure social distancing between riders on different boats.
   ▪ When launching or loading your boat, give those ahead of you plenty of time and space to finish launching or loading before you approach.

**Camping, Cabins, Live-Aboard Rentals, and Other Accommodations**

1. To help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for you and others:
   ▪ Plan ahead. When you are able, make reservations and purchase permits, firewood, and other items online or by phone before you arrive on site. Some facilities and amenities may not be open and many that are have reduced capacities, so check online resources or call ahead so you know what to expect when you arrive.
   ▪ Be self-sufficient. For example, arrive prepared for the weather you may encounter, and bring your own disinfectant supplies, hand sanitizer, face covering, towels and toilet paper, in case these necessities are not available onsite.
   ▪ Those renting or reserving campsites, cabins, live-aboard rentals (e.g., RVs, houseboats, etc.), and other similar accommodations must ensure that they comply with the Stay Safe In Social Gatherings guidance, including the requirements to maintain social distance between households and to limit gatherings to no more than 15 people indoors and 50 people outdoors.
     ▪ Set up or modify campsites, cabins, live-aboard rentals, and related accommodations (e.g., campsites and eating areas) to ensure social distancing between households is met in all areas.
   ▪ Follow all verbal and written rules and instructions from the business or entity issuing the rental, permit, or accommodation.
Summary

We all have a role to play in protecting ourselves and fellow Minnesotans from the COVID-19 health threat. By following the StaySafe MN Plan and these guidelines, we can enjoy the many benefits of the outdoors while providing for public health, slowing the spread of COVID-19, and decreasing the strain on local communities and health care systems in Minnesota.

For More Information

Do you have questions about the information provided here? Email us. Please see Stay Safe MN for information about reopening various business and social settings not addressed here.

Resources


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

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


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

State of Minnesota Get Tested site – https://www.mn.gov/covid19/get-tested/index.jsp

Stay Safe MN – https://staysafe.mn.gov/

Information for Individuals and Families – https://staysafe.mn.gov/individuals-families/index.jsp

Information for Businesses and Organizations – https://staysafe.mn.gov/industry-guidance/index.jsp

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