



MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

WORKPLACE SAFETY and REOPENING STANDARDS FOR CAMPGROUNDS

May 18, 2020

INTRODUCTION

On May 18, 2020, Governor Baker issued *COVID-19 Order No. 33: Order Implementing a Phased Reopening of Workplaces and Imposing Workplace Safety Measures to Address COVID-19*, implementing a phased reopening of workplaces and imposing workplace safety measures to address COVID-19. That same day, he issued *COVID-19 Order No. 34: Order Expanding Access to and Use of State Beaches and Addressing Other Outdoor Recreational Activities*, which directed the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs “to issue guidance for the implementation of generally applicable COVID-19 workplace standards by operators of and participants in outdoor recreational activities.”

This document provides guidance for operators of campgrounds on how to implement those general workplace safety standards and other public health guidance (“COVID-19 measures”) in the context of their outdoor recreational operations in the first phase (“Phase 1”) of the Commonwealth’s reopening. Operators who fail to implement applicable COVID-19 measures may be sanctioned in accordance with COVID-19 Order No. 33. Operators are further reminded that in addition to implementing COVID-19 measures in Phase 1, they must still comply with all federal, state and local laws.

The public health data and guidance on which this document is based can and does change frequently. The most recent version of this document can be found on the Commonwealth’s website, <http://www.mass.gov/>

Any questions regarding this guidance can be sent to outdoor.recreation@mass.gov

LIMITATIONS ON OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

COVID-19 Order No. 33 permits certain outdoor recreational activities and facilities to resume operations on May 25, 2020, provided that those operations meet safety standards and comply with the terms and conditions of the Order.

With respect to campgrounds, the Order provides that campgrounds can open in Phase 1, provided, however, that individual campsites with cabins and campsites for self-contained recreation vehicles, be used by single household groups, and provided further that all common areas, excluding bathrooms, are closed.

This means that campgrounds are limited to opening sites for (1) self-contained Recreational Vehicles (RVs), trailers, and motorhomes (units with holding tanks, bathroom, shower, and cooking facilities) and (2) rental units, such as cabins and YURTS, and other rental accommodations provided by the



campground (with their own bathroom and holding tanks) and in both cases where full hook-up and/or self-containment are available (together, “Self-Contained Units”).

In order to ensure social distancing between individuals, camp sites must be spaced no less than 20 feet apart.

Tents, non-self-contained campers, and campsites accessed by trail or water (these may include privies, primitive cabins, lean-to’s or tent platforms) are *not* permitted to open for camping at this time. Visitor centers, recreational halls, and fitness centers should remain closed to the public.

These guidelines shall apply to any campgrounds administered by private, municipal, state and non- or for-profit managers as well as primitive campsites accessible only by hiking or paddling trails.

If applicable, campgrounds must comply with DPH Regulation 105 CMR 440.000: Minimum Standards for Developed Type Campgrounds (State Sanitary Code, Chapter Vi) and must be inspected and licensed by Local Boards of Health, where required.

In addition to complying with the aforementioned limitations, operators must implement the safety measures detailed below.

IMPLEMENTING SAFETY MEASURES FOR YOUR OPERATION

COVID-19 Order No. 33 organizes safety measures into four distinct categories, social distancing, hygiene protocols, staffing and operations, and cleaning and disinfecting. Operators of campgrounds must ensure that the following are met to protect consumers and employees.

Social Distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All persons, including employees, customers, and vendors should remain at least six feet apart to the greatest extent possible, both inside and outside workplaces• Establish protocols to ensure that employees can practice adequate social distancing• Provide signage for safe social distancing• Require face coverings or masks for all employees
Hygiene Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide hand-washing capabilities throughout the workplace• Ensure frequent hand washing by employees and adequate supplies to do so• Provide regular sanitization of high touch areas, such as workstations, equipment, screens, doorknobs, restrooms throughout work site
Staffing and Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide training for employees regarding the social distancing and hygiene protocols• Employees who are displaying COVID-19-like symptoms do not report to work• Establish a plan for employees getting ill from COVID-19 at work, and a return-to-work plan
Cleaning and Disinfecting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish and maintain cleaning protocols specific to the business



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When an active employee is diagnosed with COVID-19, cleaning and disinfecting must be performed• Disinfection of all common surfaces must take place at intervals appropriate to said workplace
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The application of these measures is detailed below.

I. Social Distancing

- ❖ Campgrounds must provide a minimum distance of 20 feet between camp sites
- ❖ Visitors and employees must abide by social distancing protocols of at least six feet between individuals. Visitors from the same household are not required to social distance from each other.
- ❖ Occupancy of Self-Contained Units is limited to a maximum of 10 occupants from the same household per campsite. No additional guests are allowed on the campground
- ❖ All state and local social distancing and face covering guidelines apply for customers and employees while walking in the campground
- ❖ Activities between or among more than one campsite group are not permitted
- ❖ Remote and credit-card transactions are encouraged
- ❖ Purchases from a front office/camp store such as firewood and propane are curbside only for pick-up

II. Hygiene Protocols

- ❖ Employees will not share communication devices, equipment, facial coverings or gloves, or company vehicles with other employees or guests. If equipment or vehicles are required to be shared, proper sanitization and cleaning shall occur between use.
- ❖ Supply employees at workplace location with adequate cleaning products (e.g., sanitizer, disinfecting wipes)
- ❖ Ensure access to handwashing facilities on site, including soap and running water, and allow sufficient break time for employees to wash hands to frequently; alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol may be used as an alternative

III. Staffing and Operations

- ❖ Reservations at campgrounds are only allowed where full hook-up and/or self-containment are available
- ❖ Visitor centers, recreation halls, fitness centers, and playground should remain closed
- ❖ Laundry facilities may be open but only on a reservation basis. Laundry facilities must be cleaned by campground staff on a daily basis
- ❖ Picnic and grill areas should be closed if social distancing cannot be maintained and sanitization cannot occur between uses



- ❖ Recreational activities, including but not limited to mini golf and volleyball, are to remain closed except where campgrounds can limit use at sites to one campsite group at a time via reservations using their own equipment with cleaning of surfaces between uses, where necessary (applies to basketball, horseshoe pits or tennis courts, for example).
- ❖ Fishing, biking, and hiking are allowable activities provided that social distancing and other applicable guidelines for such activity are followed
- ❖ Campgrounds that have access to beaches and pools should follow any relevant guidance for such activities
- ❖ Any food service activities should follow any applicable restaurant or food service guidance for such activities
- ❖ Information must be posted and distributed to all campground visitors of the need for social distancing, frequent hand hygiene/washing, facial covering when in public places and limited activities and facilities
- ❖ Campgrounds must regularly update communication challenges, such as posted signs, websites, social media, and park channels regarding policies and procedures

IV. Cleaning and Disinfection

- ❖ Bike, boat and other rentals can occur if equipment is sanitized between users
- ❖ Conduct regular and not less than daily cleaning and sanitation of all high-touch areas such as workstations, door handles, and restrooms. Restrooms should be cleaned and sanitized following the EEA COVID-19 Outdoor Recreation Facility Restroom Cleaning Best Practices
- ❖ Self-Contained Units that are rentals must be cleaned by campground staff meeting all DPH/CDC standards prior to and after occupancy and following the EEA COVID-19 Outdoor Recreation Facility Restroom Cleaning Best Practices