

**OUTDOOR
RECREATION
REOPENING
PHASE III, STEP I**

Massachusetts Executive
Office of Energy and
Environmental Affairs



Outdoor Recreation Reopening Operating Principals

- ❖ Access to the outdoors for the public is an essential service, especially during the summer. Goal of reopen plan for outdoors and recreation is to allow as much access as possible, in a safe way, with many opportunities for low risk activities
- ❖ DPH guidelines regarding social distancing, gathering size, masks and cleaning protocols to be implemented as relevant across each activity
- ❖ Many of outdoors activities are also a major economic driver for communities throughout Massachusetts. Timing matters because many activities are seasonal
- ❖ Outdoor recreation guidance will apply to municipal, non-profit and business venues
- ❖ Strong coordination with childcare, retail, venue decisions



Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
Outdoor	<p>Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Facilities Closed to the public for active recreation but operators are allowed to prepare their respective facilities and train staff to achieve compliance with Phase II. 	<p>Facilities Open to Adults & Youth Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Outdoor Facilities Open for adults and youth sports with limitations while adhering to assemblage and capacity guidance. ❖ Limited sports activity allowed; no-contact sports practice allowed; this does NOT include games and tournaments. ❖ Spectators limited and must socially distance. 	<p>Expansion of Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Sports activities expanded based on each sport's "risk level" and the "level of play." (see next 2 slides). ❖ Group size: maximum of 25 players or participants on a single playing surface/area/court for team/group sports. ❖ Spectators: Must socially distance and wear face coverings. No spectators allowed for sports/activities played by individuals 18 years old and older. 	<p>TBD</p>
Indoor	<p>Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Facilities Closed to the public but operators are allowed to prepare their respective facilities and train staff to achieve compliance with Phase II 	<p>Some Facilities Open to Supervised Youth Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Certain Indoor Facilities Open (see guidance) with limitations and only for supervised sports programs, including sports camps, for youths under the age of 18 ❖ Group size and social distancing restrictions in place: Limited to no more than 10 persons including a coach/instructor on each court, playing surface or playing area. More than one group allowed for large areas if separated by 20 feet. ❖ Limited sports activity allowed; this does NOT include games, scrimmages and tournaments. 	<p>Expansion of Activity</p> <p>Same restrictions as outdoor sports, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Facility capacity restricted to 40%. ❖ Spectators: limited to 1 per player under 18 years old provided that facility has the capacity and space for spectators to socially distance. No additional spectators. ❖ Locker rooms: may open at 50% capacity 	<p>TBD</p>



Levels of Risk by Sport/Activity

Lower Risk

Sports that can be done with social distancing OR individually

Examples: batting cages, tennis, pickleball, swimming, catch, disc golf, golf, individual biking, surfing, horseback riding, individual sailing, fishing, hunting, motor sports, gymnastics

Moderate Risk

•Sports or activities that involve intermittent contact, but with protective equipment or mitigating measures in place that may reduce the likelihood of respiratory particle transmission between participants (e.g., wearing masks, modifying play)

Examples: Baseball, softball, sailing, track and field, cross country, running clubs, team swimming, volleyball, dance class, fencing, field hockey, no-contact lacrosse, soccer

Higher Risk

Sports that involve close, sustained contact between participants, lack of significant protective barriers, and high probability that respiratory particles will be transmitted between participants.

Examples: Football, wrestling, rugby, basketball, lacrosse, ice-hockey, competitive cheer, martial arts, ultimate frisbee



Phase III – Sequencing for Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities

	Step One	Step Two	Step Three
Level 1: Individual or socially distanced group activities	All sports	All sports	All sports
Level 2: Competitive practices (Intra-team games, contact drills and scrimmages)	Lower risk (e.g. tennis, swimming) Moderate risk (e.g. baseball, track & field)	TBD	TBD
Level 3: Competitions (Inter-team games, meets, matches, races)	Lower risk (e.g. tennis, swimming) Moderate risk (e.g. baseball, track & field)	TBD	TBD
Level 4: Tournaments	Lower risk (e.g. tennis, swimming)	TBD	TBD



Beach Services Expanded in Phase III, Step 1

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
<p>Transitory & Passive Recreation</p>	<p>Beaches open for Passive Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Distance Requirements: Min. of 12 ft distance between toweling & beach blanket groups ❖ Capacity: Can be limited by manager to achieve social distancing guidance ❖ Group Size Limit: 10 people max. when seated ❖ Face Coverings Required: face coverings worn at beaches and parking areas when social distancing is not possible in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 ❖ Other Beach Activities: Water sports allowed; Organized ball games not allowed (volleyball, spike ball, Kadima, bocce) 	<p>Expansion of Activities Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beach Activities: Non-contact ball sports such as catch, bocce, Kan Jam allowed provided social distancing can be maintained 	<p>Requirements Relaxed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Toweling groups: Remain limited to 10 people per group with a minimum of 12 feet between groups. ❖ Beach activities: Some organized sports activities allowed: see “Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities” guidance 	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Beach Services - Food Vendors, Trash Management, Restrooms, Showers, and Shuttle Service</p>	<p>Beaches Services Open with Limitations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Food Service, Concessions & Vending: Conform to applicable food service and restaurant guidelines ❖ Restrooms & Comfort Stations: Open with social distancing standards for waiting lines and interior spaces, and CDC compliant cleaning protocols. ❖ Shuttle Services: Closed 	<p>Same Rules Apply</p>	<p>Additional Beach Services Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Shuttle services: Allowed to operate at 50% vehicle capacity with all passengers wearing face coverings ❖ Locker rooms: may open at 50% capacity 	<p>TBD</p>



Parks & Municipal Public Spaces Increase Activities & Amenities

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
Park Recreation	<p>Passive Recreation Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ High-Use Trails: Rules for high use trails (e.g., passing, one way) ❖ Dog-Walking protocols: Rules for dog-walkers to ensure social distancing ❖ Face Coverings Required: masks worn when social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 ❖ Outdoor Education and fitness programs for adults only 	<p>Expansion of Activities Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Land Stewardship Events: clean-up events, community service projects, etc. ❖ Outdoor education programs for adults and youth ❖ Outdoor dance & fitness classes ❖ More than 1 group allowed in large areas, provided social distancing can be maintained with minimum of 20ft between groups ❖ No outdoor performance events such as live music, outdoor theater, or other group events. 	<p>Requirements Relaxed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Group Permits: may be issued for groups and events in alignment with group size and activity guidelines and social distancing requirements. ❖ Group size: limited to 12 people including staff/instructors for organized events. More than 1 group allowed if 12+ feet between groups. 	TBD
Athletic Fields and Courts	<p>Limited Contact Sports Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Limited Contact Athletic Fields and Courts open for: no-contact sports (tennis, catch, etc.,) with bleachers, dug-outs closed. ❖ No permits shall be issued for group gatherings ❖ No pick-up games, organized games or tournaments ❖ Sanitizing & Cleaning Protocols: Hand hygiene, no shared equipment, wipe down equipment ❖ Face Coverings Required: masks worn when social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 	<p>Expansion of Sports Allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Athletic Fields and Courts open with limitations (basketball, soccer, lacrosse, hockey, etc.) for no-contact practice. Group size and social distancing limits remain in place. No games or tournaments. ❖ Skate parks and other playing surfaces open 	<p>Requirements Relaxed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Sports: Facilities may open for expanded sports activities. See “Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities” guidance. 	TBD
Trash and Restrooms	<p>Amenities are Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Trash Management: Lidless trash where possible ❖ Cleaning Protocols: CDC guidance 1X daily cleaning ❖ Social Distancing Protocols: Social distancing standards for waiting lines and interior restroom spaces. 	<p>Amenities remain open with similar rules</p>	<p>Amenities remain open</p>	<p>Amenities remain open</p>
Picnic Areas and Grills	<p>Picnic Areas Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Households: Only same household groups at tables ❖ Social Distancing: 6 ft distancing + hygiene 	<p>Picnic Areas Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Social Distancing: 6 ft distancing + hygiene 	<p>Amenities remain open</p>	<p>Amenities remain open</p>



Parks & Municipal Public Spaces Increase Activities & Amenities

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
Dog Parks	<p>Dog Parks Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Leash Rules: Dogs on trails should be leashed ❖ Designated dog parks only: Parking rules apply ❖ Other Protocols: Follow DPH guidance for social distancing/group size, users should clean hands & dogs should be under voice control ❖ Face Coverings Required: masks worn when social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 	<p>Similar guidance</p>	<p>Similar guidance</p>	<p>Similar guidance</p>
Playgrounds & Spray Decks	<p>Closed</p>	<p>Playgrounds & Spray Decks Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Cleanliness Protocols: Regular cleaning protocols, hand sanitizer stations, personal hygiene and stay home if sick ❖ Face Coverings Required: masks worn when social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 ❖ Social Distancing: maintain 6ft. distance between people 	<p>Similar Guidance</p>	<p>Similar guidance</p>



Camping & Public and Semi-Public Swimming Pools Expand Services

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
Public and Semi-Public Pools	<p>Closed</p>	<p>Pools Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity limits: 40% of facility occupancy limit ❖ Social Distancing: maintain 6ft. distance between people ❖ Restrooms & showers open ❖ Hot tubs, whirlpools, etc. closed ❖ Locker rooms and changing areas closed ❖ Indoor pools: open to supervised youth groups only 	<p>Services Expanded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Indoor pools: open to all ages ❖ Capacity limits: 40% of facility occupancy limit ❖ Locker rooms: open at 50% capacity ❖ Hot tubs, whirlpools, etc. remain closed ❖ Swimming lessons: Swimming lessons that require physical contact are allowed 	<p>TBD</p>
Camping	<p>Limited Opening of Campgrounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Camping only open where full hook-up & self-containment available: Self-contained RV's, trailers, motorhomes, rental units (cabins, yurts, safari tents) with personal bathrooms. ❖ Same household requirement: only families or groups that have been self-quarantining together prior to arrival and meet occupancy standard for social distancing ❖ Face Coverings Required: masks worn when social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 ❖ Laundry Facilities: Open on a reservation basis with campground staff and cleaning on a daily basis ❖ Recreation and Visitor Buildings closed 	<p>Expansion of Camping Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reduced Capacity Camping: Open for reduced capacity tent camping based on a configuration that maintains social distancing of at least 20 feet between campsites. ❖ Recreation and Visitor Buildings Remain Closed 	<p>Services Expanded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Indoor facilities and visitor centers: may open at 40% capacity ❖ Visitors are permitted at the discretion of the facility manager. Visitors must remain socially distanced at all times. 	<p>TBD</p>



Outdoor Recreation Experiences & Educational Activities

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
Zoological Parks, Nature Centers, Botanical Gardens, and Outdoor Wildlife Reserves	<p>Outdoor Education Facilities Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Outdoor Areas only: with the exception of restroom facilities which are open, visitors are limited to outdoor park areas. ❖ Visitor Guidelines: facial coverings and management of social distancing required ❖ Capacity & Safety: controlled admission & timed tickets to manage capacity, separate entrances & exits, and one-way walking paths, no shared equipment/no shared touch exhibits ❖ Retail: Gift shops and retail must comply with retail guidance 	<p>Guidelines Adjusted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity Increase: capacity adjusted to 40% ❖ Indoor exhibit areas remain closed ❖ Safety: No touch exhibits/shared equipment 	<p>Allowable Activities Expand and Guidelines Adjusted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity increase: capacity adjusted to 50% of overall capacity ❖ Indoor exhibits: may open at up to 40% of indoor capacity. ❖ Organized events, tours, and group programming: permitted with specific capacity limitations. 	TBD
Seasonal Outdoor & Adventure Recreation	<p>Seasonal Outdoor & Adventure Recreation Opens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Outdoor & Adventure Recreation Protocols: Protocols and best practices for Mountain Biking & Horseback Riding to ensure adherence to CDC and DPH guidance ❖ Ski-Area Summer Operations Open: Protocols will be developed for ski-lift access for mountain biking, adventure park and ziplining, and mountain bike parks ❖ White-water Rafting Opens June 13: Guidance developed for white water rafting guides ❖ Face Coverings Required: masks worn when social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with COVID-19 Executive Order No. 31 	<p>Additional Opportunities Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Protocols for Additional Opportunities: Guidance added for safe operation of motorsports venues, zip-lines, go carts, outdoor rock climbing, disc golf, outdoor paintball, mini-golf, horseback riding, etc. ❖ Social distancing & group size limitations in place 	<p>Some Requirements Relaxed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Competitions and Tournaments: see “Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities” ❖ Transportation/shuttles: may operate at up to 50% of vehicle capacity with all occupants wearing face coverings 	TBD



Boating Activities Expanded in Phase III, Step 1

Specific Activity	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
<p>Recreational Boating and Boating Businesses</p>	<p>Recreational Boating remains Open with Additional Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Yacht/Boat Clubs and Marinas with guidance for the safe operation. No organized events/competitions/lessons allowed. Sanitization of common areas. Only persons from same household allowed on boats. ❖ Rental Boat Operations: allowed with proper disinfection procedures between users ❖ Launch Operations Allowed: 6 feet of distance required between captain and boat owner with facial coverings to be worn. 	<p>Expansion of Boating Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Boat ramps open to out-of-state visitors ❖ Remote/virtual tournaments and derbies allowed 	<p>Requirements Relaxed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Fishing and sailing derbies/tournaments allowed with event and capacity restrictions consistent with “Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities” 	<p>TBD</p>
<p>For-Hire and Charter Vessels</p>	<p>For-Hire and Charter Vessels Open with Additional Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity: 10 people total (including Captain and crew) 	<p>Expansion of Boating Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity: 10 passengers plus captain and/or crew 	<p>Requirements Relaxed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity: Inspected vessels limited to 50% capacity, plus Captain and crew. Uninspected vessels limited to 6 passengers plus Captain and crew. ❖ Indoor areas limited to 40% of indoor capacity. 	<p>TBD</p>



Fishing & Hunting Opportunities

Specific Activity	Initial State	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III, Step 1	Phase III, Step 2
Recreational Fishing	Open (seasonal)	All Fishing is Open by Season <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Piers and Shoreline Fishing ❖ Recreational Shell fishing ❖ Recreational Lobstering ❖ Recreational Fishing with Bow or Spear 	Additional Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Remote/Virtual fishing derbies allowed 	Additional Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Fishing derbies/tournaments allowed with event and capacity restrictions in “Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities” 	TBD
Recreational Hunting	Open (seasonal)	All Hunting is Open By Season <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Individual Hunting ❖ Group Hunting ❖ Game Preserve Hunting 	Remain the same	Remains the same	Remains the same
Club Activities	Closed	Open with Sport Specific Guidance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Indoor Shooting Range Practice ❖ Outdoor Shooting Range Practice ❖ Indoor Archery Range Practice ❖ Outdoor Archery Range Practice 	Open with Sport Specific Guidance	Open with Sport Specific Guidance	Open with Sport Specific Guidance
Educational Activities	Closed	Open with Sport Specific Guidance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Firearms Safety Courses Online When Possible with Limited Group Size ❖ Hunter Education Courses Online When Possible with Limited Group Size 	Open with Sport Specific Guidance	Open with Sport Specific Guidance	Open with Sport Specific Guidance