



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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Memorandum

From: Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Date: June 9, 2020

Subject: Safety Standards for Mountain Biking and Cycling – Phase II

The following guidelines apply to mountain biking and trail cycling at parks, forests, and outdoor recreational centers during Phase II of the Commonwealth's Reopening.

Those individuals partaking in mountain biking and trail cycling at parks, forest, and outdoor facilities should abide by the specific guidelines outlined herein. All mountain biking and cycling activities should comply with assemblage guidance, *wear face covering where social distancing is not possible, and adhere to any property-specific guidance.*

This guidance should apply until amended or rescinded. Any questions regarding this guidance can be sent to outdoor.recreation@mass.gov

General Guidelines

Face Coverings and Masks: Consistent with [*COVID-19 Order 31: Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible*](#), which requires persons to wear face coverings while in public places to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and the Safer at Home Advisory issued by the Department of Public Health issued on May 18, 2020, all persons over the age of two must wear a face covering when they attend outdoor gatherings if the circumstances of the gathering could limit their ability to maintain at least six feet of distance from others, unless they are prevented from wearing a face covering by a medical or disabling condition. All persons are likewise advised to avoid close personal contact to prevent spreading the virus.

Group Size: No groups larger than 10 are allowed to gather: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/march-31-2020-assembly-guidance/download>

Manager and User Guidelines for Parking and Capacity

- ❖ To allow for adequate social distancing, user capacity and parking restrictions can be managed, if necessary, in the discretion of land managers and local municipalities, based upon size of open space.
- ❖ Parking and capacity restrictions should make considerations for emergency access for Police and Fire and other safety standards.
- ❖ Parking outside of designated assigned parking is discouraged (i.e., parking along a roadway instead of the parking lot) unless it facilitates social distancing in order to provide access to the open space where otherwise designated parking is not available and is legal to do so.

Trail Cycling and Mountain Biking:

- ❖ Cyclists should practice social distancing at all times and comply with group size guidelines.
- ❖ Trail cyclists should not gather in groups or loiter at any time.
- ❖ When encountering other trail users, cyclists should maintain recommended social distancing by stopping and moving off the trail as to maintain proper distance. If unable to do so, cyclists should wear an appropriate face covering. Trail cyclists should be prepared with a face covering or mask where social distancing cannot be achieved.
- ❖ Trail cyclists must depart the open space post cycling activity immediately (i.e., no tailgating).
- ❖ Persons seeking to organize youth or adult sport cycling activities should review and follow EEA's [*Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Outdoor Adult Sports, Supervised Adult Youth Sports Leagues, Summer Sports Camps*](#) guidance. Races and competitions are not allowed in Phase II.