



## MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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### WORKPLACE SAFETY and REOPENING STANDARDS FOR CAMPGROUNDS - Phase II

June 9, 2020

#### **INTRODUCTION**

On May 18, 2020, Governor Baker issued [COVID-19 Order No. 33](#), 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](#), which directed the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) “to issue guidance for the implementation of the generally applicable COVID-19 workplace standards by operators of and participants in outdoor recreational activities.”

In Phase I, operators of campgrounds were permitted to open 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”).

On June 6, 2020, Governor Baker issued [COVID-19 Order No. 37](#), authorizing the re-opening of Phase II enterprises. This Order reaffirmed the Secretary of EEA’s authority to issue Sector Specific Rules for outdoor recreational activities to supplement the generally applicable COVID-19 safety rules applicable to all workplaces in the Commonwealth. Pursuant to that authority, as part of Phase II of the Commonwealth’s reopening, campground services will be permitted to expand camping opportunities by opening sites for reduced capacity camping for tents, non-self-contained campers, and campsites accessed by trail or water (these may include privies, primitive cabins, lean-tos or tent platforms), all subject to the limitations set forth below. Shared indoor amenities other than restrooms will remain closed.

This document provides guidance for operators of campgrounds on how to implement workplace safety standards and other public health guidance (“COVID-19 measures”) in the context of their outdoor recreational operations in the second phase (“Phase II”) of the Commonwealth’s reopening. Operators who fail to implement applicable COVID-19 measures may be sanctioned in accordance with [COVID-19 Order No. 37](#). Operators are further reminded that in addition to implementing COVID-19 measures in Phase II, they must still comply with all federal, state and local laws.

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.

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](mailto:outdoor.recreation@mass.gov)



## **LIMITATIONS ON OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES**

In Phase II, operators of campgrounds are permitted to open sites for reduced capacity camping for tents, non-self-contained campers, and campsites accessed by trail or water (these may include privies, primitive cabins, lean-tos or tent platforms). Managers of campgrounds shall determine the appropriate reduced capacity for each campground based on a configuration that allows for: (i) social distance between individuals in outdoor areas, (ii) at least 20 feet of spacing between campsites, and (iii) use of bathroom facilities in a manner that will not result in compromising social distancing protocols.

Visitor centers, recreational halls, fitness centers and other indoor common areas must remain closed to the public. Any food service activities must follow any applicable restaurant or food service guidance for such activities.

In order to ensure social distancing among groups staying in different campsites, campsites must be spaced no less than 20 feet apart as measured by the closest edge of each neighboring site (which could include for example, but is not limited to, closest tent peg, picnic table or fire ring).

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

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

## **IMPLEMENTING SAFETY MEASURES FOR YOUR OPERATION**

*All business and other organizations in the Commonwealth must immediately adopt and maintain the following generally applicable COVID-19 safety rules.*

<b>Social Distancing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All persons, including employees, customers, and vendors should remain at least six feet apart to the greatest extent possible, both inside and outside workplaces</li><li>• Establish protocols to ensure that employees can practice adequate social distancing</li><li>• Provide signage for safe social distancing</li><li>• Require face coverings or masks for all employees and customers</li></ul>
<b>Hygiene Protocols</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide hand-washing capabilities throughout the workplace</li><li>• Ensure frequent hand washing by employees and adequate supplies to do so</li><li>• Provide regular sanitization of high touch areas, such as workstations, equipment, screens, doorknobs, restrooms throughout work site</li></ul>



<b>Staffing and Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide training for employees regarding the social distancing and hygiene protocols</li><li>• Employees who are displaying COVID-19-like symptoms do not report to work</li><li>• Establish a plan for employees getting ill from COVID-19 at work, and a return-to-work plan</li></ul>
<b>Cleaning and Disinfecting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish and maintain cleaning protocols specific to the business</li><li>• When an active employee is diagnosed with COVID-19, cleaning and disinfecting must be performed</li><li>• Disinfection of all common surfaces must take place at intervals appropriate to said workplace</li></ul>

The application of these measures for campgrounds is detailed below.

### **I. Social Distancing**

- ❖ Overall campground capacity must be managed to accommodate adequate social distancing campsite distance, and bathroom capacity, based on an assessment by the campground manager.
- ❖ Visitors and employees must abide by social distancing protocols. Visitors and staff and individuals from different campsite groups must remain 6 feet apart at all times. Visitors who are members of a group staying at the same campsite are not required to social distance from each other.
- ❖ Occupancy of each campsite is limited to a maximum of 10 occupants per campsite. Individual campgrounds may set or maintain lower campsite occupancy limits. Campsite groups may not invite persons not staying at the campsites to visit.
- ❖ Employees and visitors must wear face coverings while away from the visitor's campsite and on the campground.
- ❖ Activities between or among more than one campsite group are not permitted.
- ❖ Remote payment and credit card transactions are encouraged.
- ❖ Purchases from a front office/camp store such as firewood and propane shall comply with applicable retail guidelines.
- ❖ Campground managers must set, post and monitor occupancy limits for bathrooms based on the ability to maintain six-foot social distancing.

### **II. Hygiene Protocols**

- ❖ Employees, to the extent possible, should not share communication devices or equipment, work 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 frequently; alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol may be used as an alternative.

### **III. Staffing and Operations**

- ❖ Visitor centers, recreation halls, fitness centers and other indoor common areas must remain closed to the public. Campground office may remain open to the public for first aid, if required.
- ❖ Laundry facilities may be open to maintain six-foot social distancing. High touch surfaces in laundry facilities must frequently be disinfected and the facility cleaned and disinfected 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.
- ❖ Outdoor recreational activities, including, but not limited to, mini-golf, tennis, horseshoe pits and volleyball, may be open provided that campgrounds can ensure social distancing is maintained and/or can be limited to one campsite group at a time. Campground managers must ensure that equipment and surfaces are cleaned between uses according to the following guidelines: *Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses Providing Outdoor Recreational Experiences and Educational Activities* and [\*Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Outdoor Adult Sports, Supervised Youth Sports Leagues, Summer Sports Camps\*](#).
- ❖ Fishing, biking, and hiking are allowable activities provided that social distancing and any applicable guidelines for such activity are followed.
- ❖ Campgrounds that have access to beaches and pools must follow the guidance for such activities, including the [\*Safety Standards for Public and Semi-Public Swimming Pools\*](#) and [\*Safety Standards for Coastal and Inland Beaches\*](#).
- ❖ Campgrounds that have access to playgrounds must follow the guidance for the operation of playgrounds: [\*Safety Standards for Playgrounds, Spray Decks and Outdoor Fitness Areas\*](#).
- ❖ Managers must post signage and use other communication channels (e.g., websites, social media) to communicate the need for social distancing, frequent hand hygiene/washing, facial covering when in public places and limited activities and use of facilities.
- ❖ Log everyone who comes in contact with the campground to enable contact tracing (name and phone number or name and email address), including temporary visitors. It is recommended that at least one individual per campsite is logged so as to assist with contact tracing.
- ❖ Encourage workers who test positive for COVID-19 to disclose to the workplace employer for purposes of cleaning / disinfecting and contact tracing. If the employer is notified of a positive case at the workplace, the employer shall notify the local Board of Health (LBOH) in the city or town where the workplace is located and assist the LBOH as reasonably requested to advise likely contacts to isolate and self-quarantine. Testing of other workers may be recommended consistent with guidance and / or at the request of the LBOH.



#### **IV. Cleaning and Disinfecting**

- ❖ Bike, boat and other rentals may occur if equipment is sanitized between users.
- ❖ Operators of primitive or backcountry campgrounds, that provide no traditional campground facilities except privies, should, if feasible, provide guests with information on required social distancing and sanitation protocols, including instructions on self-sanitization of any shared surfaces such as privies and food storage containers.
- ❖ Conduct regular and not less than daily cleaning and sanitation of all high-touch areas such as workstations, door handles, water spigots, dishwashing stations and restrooms. Restrooms should be cleaned and sanitized following the [\*EEA COVID-19 Outdoor Recreation Facility Restroom Cleaning Best Practices\*](#).
- ❖ Plastic or Metal picnic tables and other high-touch areas within campsites must be sanitized before each new occupancy.
- ❖ 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\*](#).