



MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

WORKPLACE SAFETY and REOPENING STANDARDS FOR CAMPGROUNDS - Phase III, Step 1

July 3, 2020

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the authority granted to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) pursuant to [COVID-19 Order No. 43](#) to issue workplace safety standards for operators of and participants in outdoor recreational activities, the following guidelines apply to Campgrounds as part of Phase III, Step 1 of the Commonwealth's reopening. Authorized Phase III, Step 1 activities may not begin until Phase III is initiated by Order of the Governor.

In Phase III, Step 1, Campgrounds are permitted to operate subject to the limitations set forth below.

This document provides guidance for how to implement general workplace safety standards and other public health guidance ("COVID-19 measures") in the context of outdoor recreational operations in Phase III of the Commonwealth's reopening. Operators who fail to implement applicable COVID-19 measures may be sanctioned in accordance with COVID-19 Order No. 43. Operators are further reminded that in addition to implementing COVID-19 measures in Phase III, 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/>

LIMITATIONS ON OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

In Phase III, Step 1, operators of campgrounds are permitted to operate for reduced capacity camping for tents, self-contained recreational vehicles (RVs), trailers, motorhomes, non-self-contained campers, cabins, campsites accessed by trail or water (these may include privies, primitive cabins, lean-tos or tent platforms), and other rental accommodations provided by the campground. Managers of campgrounds shall determine the appropriate reduced capacity for each campground based on a configuration that allows for: (i) social distance between individuals, (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, campground offices, and other indoor common areas may open at 40% capacity. Fitness centers should follow applicable [Safety Standards for Fitness Centers and Health Clubs](#). 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.

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 and customers
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• 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



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 12 occupants per campsite. Individual campgrounds may set or maintain lower campsite occupancy limits.
- ❖ 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 (to the extent feasible) occupancy limits for bathrooms, visitor centers, and other indoor areas.
- ❖ Face coverings are required for all workers and customers in accordance with COVID-19 Order 31: [*Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible*](#) to prevent against the transmission of COVID-19.
- ❖ Group activities where social distancing cannot be maintained are limited to a single campsite group.
- ❖ Activities between or among more than one campsite group are permitted provided that each campsite group maintains social distancing of at least 6 feet from each other campsite group.

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, campground offices, and other indoor common areas may open at 40% capacity.



- ❖ Laundry facilities may be open provided six-foot social distancing is maintained. 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.
- ❖ Outdoor recreational activities, including, but not limited to, mini-golf, tennis, horseshoe pits and volleyball, may open provided that campgrounds can ensure social distancing is maintained. Campground managers must ensure that equipment and surfaces are cleaned according to the following guidelines: [*Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities*](#).
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Employers should take measures to ensure employees comply with all State-issued rules concerning out of state travel for any employer-paid or employer-reimbursed travel.

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](#).