WISCONSIN

GUIDANCE ON PREPARING WORKPLACES FOR COVID-19

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Outdoor recreation and natural amenities are among Wisconsin's best known and most loved features. Not only does the outdoor recreation sector encompass more than 30,000 direct employees, but it also has a strong impact on many other sectors, attracting visitors to rural markets and serving as a draw for residents relocating to the state. Because the Safer at Home Order took effect during the colder season, the initial effect for outdoor recreation businesses was limited, with some businesses needing to delay their seasonal opening dates. However, given the seasonality of the industry, maximizing revenues during the summer season is critical for these businesses' survival.

The rural and generally dispersed nature of many outdoor recreation activities bodes well for this industry, but customer safety is still of the utmost importance. Businesses will need to be sure they are allowing for the recommended social distancing and other measures to avoid the spread of COVID-19. Within those parameters, businesses have ample opportunities to create outdoor activities for individuals and household groups to enjoy.

This guide contains instructions for outdoor recreation businesses, including guide services, equipment rental, campground operators, golf courses and other outdoor experience operators. Keeping employees and customers safe is the number-one priority for all businesses. This document provides guidelines for protecting both of those groups. In addition, please see the "**General Guidance for All Businesses**" document for guidance that applies to all industries, and please consult the other available industry guides as relevant for your specific business type.

Businesses are expected to proactively ensure compliance with rules and take definitive action to enforce the rules. It is not sufficient to post signage requesting that guests maintain distancing or to anticipate that staff will be able to manage customer interactions in real time (e.g., by installing signage instructing visitors to comply with distancing but not actually utilizing visual cues or physical barriers to support compliance).

Recommendations for Outdoor Recreation

If you utilize public lands for your business, understand that some areas and facilities may be closed. Check before you reopen, and abide by the land manager's rules.

Employee health and hygiene

- Employees who have a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 should not be allowed to work.
- Maintain an adequate supply of paper towels, soap and hand sanitizer to allow employees to practice proper hand hygiene.
- Provide tissues for proper cough/sneeze etiquette and no-touch disposal receptacles.

Face masks and cloth face coverings

- Employers should recommend use of face masks or cloth face coverings by employees when social distancing is not feasible in the work environment. Usage may be recommended for public-facing activities.
- Instruct your employees in how to properly put on and remove a face mask or cloth face covering. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides guidance on how to properly wear a face covering and offers tutorials for how to make one.
- If customers will not be able to stay six feet away from others, recommend that they bring their own face mask or covering. Provide face masks for customer use in your facility if they did not bring their own, and provide adequate trash receptacles for used masks. Considerations should be made for individuals who are unable or unwilling to wear a mask or cloth face cover.

Clean and disinfect

- High customer contact areas such as doorknobs, buttons, touch screens and check-out counters should be cleaned every two hours, or after each user if feasible. Bathrooms should be sanitized frequently.
- For campgrounds, laundry facilities and shower buildings should be sanitized more frequently.
- Showers may be closed to the public.
- Toilets exceeding the minimum number of required toilets in ATCP 79.16 may be closed to the public.
- Disinfecting wipes should not be used to wipe more than one surface. Discard after use or when wipe becomes visibly soiled.
- Cloth materials should be washed on the highest possible temperature setting and dried thoroughly.
- Equipment used in your business's activities (e.g., controls/handles, harnesses, helmets, shoes, paddles, rods, life vests) should be sanitized between uses. Equipment that cannot be sanitized should be quarantined for at least 24 hours between users.
- Remove or eliminate unnecessary touchpoints that cannot be sanitized between uses (e.g., rakes on golf courses, photo props, benches).
- For operator-provided camping units, after each guest stay:
  - If towels, linens or bedding are provided, launder these items at the highest appropriate temperature setting and dry completely.
  - Sanitize all multi-use utensils, dinnerware, ice buckets, coffeemakers and glassware.
  - Sanitize light switches, toilet, faucet handles and door handles.

Social distancing

- Eliminate unnecessary physical contact between staff and customers, and maintain social distancing with a six-foot distance between individuals whenever possible. Social distancing should occur both inside buildings and outside, such as on golf courses and boat launches. Offer cashless and contactless transactions whenever possible.

When exchanging paper and coin money:

  - Do not touch your face afterward.
  - Ask customers to place cash on the counter rather than directly into your hand.
  - Place money on the counter (not in hand) when providing change back to customers.
  - Clean the counter between each customer at checkout.

- Consider adding clear plastic barrier protection at the registration/cashier desk with a pass-through opening to exchange items as necessary.
- Establish self check-ins whenever possible.
- Occupancy of a single campsite should be limited to members of a single household or living unit.
- Mark any indoor or outdoor waiting areas to ensure compliance with social distancing standards.
- Use floor markings in entry and cash wrap areas to encourage social distancing.
- Instruct customers to maintain social distancing for the duration of their visit. For example, boaters should not raft up or pull up on common sandbars/beaches, golfers should not congregate at holes, and anglers should maintain the proper distance from one another.
- Common areas (such as changing rooms, lounge areas, locker rooms, courtesy food and beverage bars and child play areas) should be closed if it is not possible to enforce social distancing and sanitize them after each user.Services requiring personal interaction (such as guides or instructors) should maintain social distancing to the extent possible, including providing face masks for situations where parties will be sharing confined spaces (e.g., car, boat, harness).

Additional customer protections

- Post signage at the entrance area and other locations letting customers know about changes to your policies and instructing them to stay away if they are experiencing COVID-like s ymptoms.
- Ensure handwashing or sanitizing stations (with at l east 60% alcohol if providing hand sanitizer) are available for employees and customers, and encourage people to use them.
- Remove all unnecessary touchpoints, especially those that cannot be sanitized between uses. Examples include the use of pens to sign receipts (cashless and contactless transactions are recommended), golf ball washers, rakes on golf courses, water coolers, photo props and benches.
- Use disposable instead of reusable items whenever possible. Provide adequate no-touch trash receptacles and increase trash removal frequency to accommodate increased waste.
- Continue offering virtual experiences and curbside pickup of physical goods to accommodate all customers if possible.
- Whenever possible, stagger participant start times to minimize interaction.
- Require all customers to make reservations, to ensure their information is available if contact tracing becomes necessary.
- If your business offers multiple product or service lines (e.g., a facility with on-site food and beverage, lodging or pools), adhere to all the relevant guidelines by industry.

Group activity guidelines

- Do not congregate in parking lots, at trailheads, at boat launches, at overlooks etc. Wait for others to leave before entering a crowded area.
- Shared transport in vans, cars, etc., should be avoided unless a seat can be left empty between all riders who are not part of the same party. Encourage passengers to wear face masks, and sanitize vehicle after each use.
- Group events should be limited to 10 people. Use floor markings or chair placement to encourage safe spacing of participants.
- Conduct orientation or group training in large, well ventilated rooms, or outdoors.
- Campsites should be limited to members of a single household or living unit.

More outdoor recreation resources

CDC Resources for Parks and Recreational Facilities: www.cdc.gov

CDC Guidance for Administrators in Parks and Recreational Facilities: www.cdc.gov

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection: datcp.wi.gov

Industry-specific resources:

International Mountain Biking Association

Wisconsin State Golf Association

Outdoor Industry Association

National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds

United States Parachute Association

BADGER BOUNCE BACK

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT of HEALTH SERVICES

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WISCONSIN'S REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS:

7 Rivers Alliance
Centergy
Madison Region Economic Partnership
Milwaukee 7
Momentum West
Prosperity Southwest
Grow North
The New North
Visions Northwest