

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PARKS AND RECREATION IN COVID-19 RECOVERY

Park and recreation professionals provide essential services and manage essential infrastructure that are absolutely necessary for promoting and protecting community health, well-being and resiliency. When reinstating operations of these vital spaces, facilities and programs, professionals should keep these guiding principles in mind.



A volunteer in Berea, Kentucky shows the mask used while working to distribute meals to those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Photo credit: Berea College

The risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 will increase based on:

- The **more** people a person physically interacts with
- The **closer** the physical interaction is with others
- The **longer** the physical interaction is with others
- The **more sharing** of equipment or interaction with frequently touched surfaces
- The **environment** where the interaction takes place – emerging research indicates a lower risk of transmission outdoors

GUIDANCE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT PARK AND RECREATION PROFESSIONALS

PHASED REOPENING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Cross-Sector Planning
- Meeting Health Indicators
- Risk Assessment Tools
- Centering Health Equity
- Emergency Plans
- Communications Tools

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION MEASURES FOR STAFF AND PUBLIC

- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Community Education and Awareness
- Administrative, Operations and Environmental Modifications
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Staff Training

MANAGEMENT OF SPACES AND FACILITIES

- Parks, Trails, Beaches, Dog Parks and Open Space
- Playgrounds, Exercise Equipment and Splashpads
- Pools, Outdoor Courts and Athletic Fields
- Indoor Recreation Centers and Senior Centers
- Restrooms and Hygiene Stations
- Workplaces

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROGRAMMING

- Childcare and Summer Camps
- Youth Sports
- Virtual Programming
- Older Adult Programming
- Essential Services and Emergency Relief
- Nutrition Programs and Farmers Markets

To learn more on how to safely reinstate operations during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: nrpa.org/Coronavirus