

Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability Health Consideration/Opening Policies based upon CDC, Federal, and State of Alabama Public Health Dept guidelines and recommendations.

I. Attendance/Enrollment Policies

Lowest Risk: Small groups of campers stay together all day, each day. Campers remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects. Outdoor activities are prioritized. All campers are from the local geographic area (e.g., city, town, county, community). (CDC recommendations for youth summer camps; updated June 25, 2020)

- A. In an effort to minimize the risk of infecting local communities, day camps will be limited to local residents, only.
- B. Workshops/day camps will be limited to 10 participants who must register ahead of time for the activity/program they intend to attend.
- C. Workshops/ day camp activities will be led in well ventilated spaces where a minimum of 6 ft. distance can be maintained between all individuals or activities will be led in outdoor settings where the minimum 6ft distance can be maintained between individuals. When and where possible, emphasis will be placed on outdoor activities.
- D. All participants must have a cloth or disposable mask while in attendance to wear if necessary. If participants do not have a cloth covering or disposable mask, a disposable mask will be provided. All employees will wear a cloth or disposable mask when interacting with participants during the workshops/day camp activities where a 6ft distance is not possible. "Face coverings should be worn by staff and campers (particularly older campers) as feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult." (CDC recommendations for youth summer camps; updated June 25, 2020)
- E. Staff and Participants must be screened upon arrival/prior to participating with a temperature check and brief oral survey to determine exposure to or display of signs/symptoms of COVID-19 within the previous 14 day period.
 - 1.) Have you had a fever in the past 14 days?
 - 2.) Have you had a cough and/or shortness of breath in the past 14 days?
 - 3.) Have you knowingly been around anyone who has tested positive for COVID 19 in the past 14 days?
 - 4.) Have you or anyone in your household tested positive for COVID 19 within the past 14 days?
- F. A notification system that protects the individual's privacy will be utilized to notify other participants/parents and families if a participant/day camper is diagnosed with COVID-19 during the time of workshops/day camps.

II. Prior to Workshops/Day Camp Programming

- A. Participants/parents and families will receive the GCCES COVID-19 related plans and instructions in preparation for camp opening (for example: stay home if sick).
- B. All camp staff will undergo education and training on COVID-19 precautions and health guidelines prior to the start of camp using videos, webinars, and frequently asked questions (FAQs) from reliable health sources (CDC, State Public Health Dept., etc)
- C. An area of Campus is designated to isolate any participant/day camper who exhibits signs/symptoms of COVID-19 during workshop/day camp activities while they await transportation off campus. Any participant, child or staff member with a temperature of 99.0 F or above will not be permitted to attend and will be immediately sent home. Persons who are sent home with a fever should receive medical clearance from a physician before returning.
- D. Anyone showing signs of illness of any kind or who may have been exposed to COVID-19 will not be permitted to enter Campus.

III. Drop-off/arrival procedure

- A. Direct contact with participants/parents and families will be limited as much as possible. If possible, the same parent or designated person should drop off and pick up day campers every day. It will be advised to avoid designating those considered at high risk such as grandparents who are 65 or older to be the designated drop-off/pick-up guardian if there are safer options available.
- B. A Staff member will greet participants/day campers outside in front of Conservation Hall as they arrive. The designated staff person will perform a temperature scan to determine absence of fever, walk participants/children to their workshop areas/activity station, and to walk them back outside to the sign-in/sign-out station to meet their parents/designated family member at the end of the day (in the case of day campers). The staff person greeting children will not be a person at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. This will be done to limit exposure to other participants/parents and families.

IV. Promoting healthy hygiene practices during workshops/ day camps

- A. Teach and reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among staff, participants and children through the displaying of CDC signage and availability of:
 - i. Face coverings are most essential at times for staff and when social distancing is not possible for participants/practical for day campers
 - ii. Staff will be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently. Information will be provided to all staff on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.
 - iii. Adequate supplies will aid to support healthy hygiene behaviors,

including soap, >60 % alcohol content hand sanitizer, paper towels, and tissues. Hands and surfaces will be WASHED FIRST with soap and then disinfected.

V. Health and safety actions

- A. Staff will work with Campus management to intensify cleaning, sanitation, disinfection, and ventilation in areas used for workshops/day camps.
- B. Staff will work with Campus management to clean, sanitize, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (for example, playground equipment, sporting equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, tables, chairs, and counters after use) multiple times per day and limit shared objects between use.
- C. Develop, train and implement increased daily sanitization protocols for common surfaces, restrooms, recreational equipment, and camp facilities with time allowed for cleaning between activities.
- D. Avoid use of items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized, or disinfected.
- E. Incorporate bathroom breaks and handwashing breaks before and after activities.
- F. Arrange with Campus management to deep clean and sanitize the campus prior to the start of a new day camp or workshop session.
- G. Steps will be taken to limit risk of exposure to children and employees at higher risk for severe illness: people with diabetes, heart disease, and other chronic conditions, and people 65 or older, but not at the cost of exclusion.

VI. Ongoing monitoring

- A. Health screenings should be repeated periodically throughout the day for staff and day camp children to check for the development of new symptoms (Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue. Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea), if needed. Participants in workshops will be at the campus attending activities for less than three hours total, day campers for 4.5 hours or less, total.
- B. Children who become sick will be separated and cared for by a staff member until they can safely leave for home. Parents or responsible family members will be notified immediately of any illness. Rooms and materials used to care for sick children will be thoroughly disinfected after use. CDC recommends waiting 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting, if possible in effort to protect the staff who are responsible for cleaning/disinfecting the area.
- C. If possible, the medical isolations area will include separate rooms on campus, including a waiting area, a room or rooms to isolate those individuals exhibiting new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19, and a separate room for individuals seeking other medical attention during day camps.
- D. Establishing procedures for safely taking sick day camp children to a healthcare facility in the event a parent or family member can not come get them will be established within camp registration forms prior to the start of day camps.

- E. Staff directors will monitor child and employee absences and and flexible leave policies and practices for employees who may become ill.
- F. Regular communication and monitoring of developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures will be employed.

VII. Follow social distancing strategies

- A. Post signage and other messaging to remind campers and staff of physical distancing.
- B. If possible, day camp classes should include the same children in the group each day and the same staff members. Limit the use of “floater” counselors to one per room/station to provide coverage for staff at meal time and breaks or do not use a floater at all.
- C. Limit the mixing of workshop participants or day camp children by limiting overall attendance to 10 people).
- D. Space out seating to six feet apart.
- E. During day camps, do not allow sports or activities such as basketball, football, and wrestling, in which participants cannot maintain social distancing. Prioritize activities like bicycling, single kayaking, and hiking where social distancing naturally lends itself.

VIII. Limit sharing

- A. Each child’s belongings will be kept separated and in individually labeled storage containers, cubbies, or areas and have them taken home each day and cleaned, if possible.
- B. Activities and procedures will be adjusted to limit sharing of items such as toys, supplies, and equipment and clean and disinfect between use. Items that are difficult to sanitize (like life jackets) will not be shared.