

Responsible RestartOhio



Beaches

Beach Operators

Mandatory

Communicate clearly

Post information throughout the beach and surrounding areas to frequently remind visitors to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These messages should include information about:

- Staying home if you are sick or do not feel well.
- Using social distancing and maintaining at least six feet or more between individuals in all areas of the beach.
- Not gathering in groups of more than 10.
- Not loitering around restrooms or walkways to allow others the ability to social distance while accessing the beach and facilities.
- Wearing a mask or face covering when entering buildings or interacting in close proximity to other facilities, practicing good personal hygiene including washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, refraining from touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, coughing and sneezing into an elbow, etc.

Maintain public restrooms and shower facilities to lower risk of spreading the virus.

- Ensure there are functional toilets.
- Increase cleaning and sanitization of restrooms depending on visitation using EPA-registered disinfectants, particularly on high-touch surfaces such as faucets, toilets, doorknobs, and light switches.
- Make sure supplies for handwashing, including soap and materials for drying hands, are fully stocked every time the bathroom is cleaned.
- Provide hand sanitizer where water is not available.
- Restroom and shower facilities should limit the number of users at any one time based on the facility size current social distancing guidelines and should be cleaned/sanitized per CDC recommended protocol.

Closures, modifications, and limitations

- In accordance with current orders, close any non-essential areas where people could potentially congregate.
- All food service must be run in accordance with current orders and guidelines for such establishments and also in accordance with the guidance outlined in Responsible Restart Ohio for restaurants and bars.

Recommended Best Practices

Communicate clearly

Develop regular communication with customers through a variety of channels (text, emails, social posts, flyers, etc.) to clearly communicate the steps you are taking to protect visitors and stop the spread of COVID-19. Develop and update website, send emails to customers with additional preventative steps the facility is taking, as well as communicate any changes visitors should expect to experience.

Maintain public restrooms and shower facilities to lower risk of spreading the virus.

- Post a cleaning schedule at each location.
- Install touch-free entry points at restrooms and other facilities.
- Install touchless sensors on faucets, paper towel dispensers, and soap dispensers wherever possible.
- Install and stock toilet seat cover dispensers.

Closures, modifications, and limitations

- Facilities may determine if masks are required to enter common spaces or may be made available to guests entering common spaces based on the facility.
- Remove leisure activity equipment (volleyball, tetherball, basketball hoops) to discourage people from gathering into groups
- Increase the frequency of beach cleaning/grooming/raking depending on use.
- Do not allow overflow parking in grass or along roadways and consider removing parking spaces if beach area cannot accommodate the number of visitors to social distance.
- Consider removing facility provided shared equipment/furniture (beach chairs, umbrellas) that cannot be properly sanitized between uses
- Prohibit the use of blow up rafts (PFDs/life jackets are still highly encouraged), boogie boards and other in water equipment that could allow someone to drift within 6 feet of another visitor.

Beach Operators cont.

Mandatory

Follow all appropriate guidance for customer interaction, retail sales and equipment rentals.

- Install barriers and protective shields where needed to safely distance staff and customers.
- Post a revised occupancy number in retail or rental areas in accordance with any current order to minimize crowding where necessary.
- Mark floors inside buildings for 6-foot standing areas or one-way traffic.
- Clean and disinfect high-use areas like door handles, keypads, counter tops, etc. after each use or at a minimum of every two hours.
- Disinfect all rental equipment after each use, using EPA-registered disinfectants.
- Arrange any seating areas, tables, chairs, etc. (indoors and out) at safe distances from each other. If safe distances are not achievable, or regular sanitizing of these areas is not possible, barricade or remove seating areas.
- Review and follow all guidance for retail operations as provided in Responsible Restart Ohio for Retail Services.

Maintaining Distance in outdoor spaces

- In areas with a lot of cross traffic, direct pedestrian traffic to enter/exit these locations in specific ways, expand the available space (e.g. use underutilized parking lots or roads), or indicate one-way traffic wherever possible.

Employees and vendors

Be as flexible as possible with staff attendance and sick-leave policies. Remind staff to stay at home if they are sick. Isolate and send home anyone who exhibits fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

- Employees must perform daily symptom assessment, including assessing for symptoms, taking employees' temperatures with a thermometer, and monitoring for fever. Per the CDC, symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficult breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headaches, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell.
- Require employees to stay at home if symptomatic and perform daily symptom assessment requirements before returning to work.
- Businesses must require all employees to wear facial coverings, except for one of the following reasons:
 - Facial coverings in the work setting are prohibited by law or regulation.
 - Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards.
 - Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons.
 - Facial coverings are in violation of the business' documented safety policies.
 - Facial coverings are not required when the employee/volunteer works alone in an assigned work area.
 - There is a functional (practical) reason for an employee/volunteer not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.

(Businesses must provide written justification, upon request, explaining why an employee is not required to wear a facial covering in the workplace. At minimum, facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.)

- Employee vehicles and other equipment must be cleaned after every use.
- Employee break rooms, bathrooms, and other common areas must be cleaned on a routine basis.
- Wherever possible, implement staggered employee entry, work in assigned teams, vary arrival and departure, and stagger breaks to avoid interaction or grouping among staff.

Recommended Best Practices

Follow all appropriate guidance for customer interaction, retail sales, and equipment rentals.

- Regularly provide customers with up-to-date information about COVID-19 and related business procedures and policies. Communicate the importance of practicing preventive actions.
- Where available, use online solutions for reservations, waivers, or payment.
- Install touch-free entry points to buildings where possible.
- Create self-sanitizing stations by making hand sanitizer, soap, and water, or effective disinfectant available to the public at or near the entrance of facilities and at any locations where people have direct interactions and near high-touch surfaces.

Maintaining Distance in outdoor spaces

- Set and post maximum occupancy limit of beach area to allow guests to properly social distance. In constrained areas or areas of concern, mark six-foot spacers to help visitors practice safe distancing.

Employees and vendors

- Encourage third-party delivery staff to wait outside or in non-congested areas practicing social distancing guidelines. Encourage third-party delivery staff to wear face coverings.
- Educate on proper use, disposal, and maintenance of face coverings. Enhance education on proper use of gloves, per code.
- Health checks may include temperature assessments, questionnaires, employee self-checks, screening apps, or other tools. Update files with log of "health checks".
- Conduct telephone symptom assessment for employees who were ill and planning to return to work.
- As employee rehiring begins, consider virtual interviewing and on-boarding when possible.
- Reinforce education per current food safety code about when to wash hands. Post health department handwashing posters at sinks and stations. Set times for periodic handwashing.
- Avoid switching tasks when possible to reduce cross contamination concerns. Increase handwashing if changing tasks is necessary.
- Appoint an employee safety team or point of contact to identify safety concerns, suggest additional safety or sanitizing measures, and make ongoing improvements to your safety plan. Make sure all employees know who is on this team and how to contact them. This team can be responsible for training, developing, and distributing information regarding updated protocols, answering questions, and displaying information.
- Regularly provide staff with up-to-date information about COVID-19 and related business procedures and policies. Communicate the importance of practicing preventive actions.
- Have beach attendants monitor visitation and encourage groups to disperse if they start to gather in groups greater than 10.

Mandatory

Visitors

- Stay home if you are sick or do not feel well.
- Use social distancing and maintain at least six feet between individuals.
- Do not gather in groups of 10 or more.
- If the beach is crowded or parking lots are full, go to another location that is not as crowded.

Recommended Best Practices

- Wear a mask or face covering when entering buildings or interacting near other visitors.
- Practice good personal hygiene including washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, refraining from touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, coughing and sneezing into an elbow, etc.
- Bring trash bags, food, and supplies. Plan to carry in and carry out trash and other items.
- Bring your own equipment (chairs, umbrellas, grills, etc.). If you use public equipment, disinfect it with EPA registered disinfectants before and after use.
- Do not share beach toys (boogie boards, footballs, sand shovels, buckets, etc.) with anyone outside of your household.

Confirmed Cases

- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms.
- Contact the local health district about suspected cases or exposure.
- Shut down affected areas for deep sanitation, if possible.

- Work with local health department to identify potentially infected or exposed individuals to help facilitate effective contact tracing/notifications.
- Once testing is readily available, test all suspected infections or exposures.
- Following testing, contact local health department to initiate appropriate care and tracing.
- Collect guest contact information as appropriate that can be shared with the health department for contact tracing purposes.