

## The COVID Hows of Summer Camps 2020

We are asking that parents prepare their kids with the expectations below. Starting the dialogue now will better prepare children for camp after months of less structured time apart from friends.

Please work with your child now to practice properly washing hands, applying sunscreen, and keeping track of their belongings.

### **H**ands to yourself.

Keep 2 bike lengths apart from your friends.

### **O**wn your stuff.

Keep on top of all your belongings and keep them together in your bag.

(We acknowledge this will be difficult for some campers, and we're here to help!)

### **W**ash your hands.

- After every transition, before and after eating snack and meals.
- After using bathroom.
- After any time you touch someone else or their belongings.

Hand Sanitizer - place on your hands and scrub for 10 seconds until all the way dry.

Soap and water - wet hands, lather all the way with soap, scrub for 20 seconds, rinse, dry completely.

**S**mile are the best way to show you love and care—no touching needed!

## **Pre-Drop Off**

### **Belongings**

Keeping track of personal belongings has never been more important to reduce the number of people touching objects. We recommend:

- Labeling all your child's belongings.
- Find a bag or duffel that fits ALL your child's gear. It can be separated inside the larger duffel in backpacks and lunch boxes.
- Explain to your child on the importance of being in charge of their belongings. (We realize some kids are still learning this vital skill!)

- Pack your child for inclement weather – we have reduced/eliminated indoor field trips for the start of summer. We will be outdoors in all weather. Closed-toe shoes, pants, jackets, layers in general ARE VITAL. Even for park-based camps.
- We will provide each participant with a buff to use as a facemask. We will only require its use when physical distancing cannot be maintained. If you would like your child to wear a facemask for the entire program – PLEASE set this expectation with them at home. We will do our best to get them to comply.

### **Sunscreen**

Please generously sunscreen your child before camp. We will work with them to reapply. We recommend long sleeves, hats, and bandanas for added sun protection.

### **Health Check**

Complete preprogram participant health screening assessment on your child – you don't need to turn in a copy of it, but when you sign them in at the start of camp you are acknowledging you have completed the check and that they are symptom free - keep them home if they are ill.

### **Behavior Expectations**

- Front-load your child with the HOWS of summer camp on the ride to drop off location. Talk to them about “personal bubbles”, six feet of physical distancing, and WHY we need to practice these things.
- Please understand that if your child is struggling to follow our COVID-related HOW policies they might be asked to take a break from programming. We love and care for every child, but we must protect other campers and staff.

### **Schedule**

Please check the schedule regularly and be knowledgeable. We are doing pick-up and drop-offs in different locations throughout the week, and we know how chaotic summer schedules can be!

### **Drop-off**

- You will need to check your child in personally with staff each day. Each camp will have a designated drop off location within the facility/park – we'll email you with specifics and maps.
- Temperature checks will be completed for each child and we will wash hands at drop off.
- Sign your child in – this is an acknowledgment that you have completed their participant health screening AND that you are transferring supervision to us.

### **Pick-Up**

- Head to the camp's designated pick-up location within the facility.
- You will need to sign your child out with staff – Check that they have all belonging

## COVID-19 Safety Protocols – Summer Camps and Youth Programs

### Locations

- We will be programming all camps to be entirely outdoors throughout June. Indoor field trips have been replaced with awesome outdoor activities. In case of inclement weather, we have secured open-air covered areas for programs to continue to participate in activities.

**PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER WITH PROPER FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT.**

- After June, and as the state moves into Phase 3 of the [“Reopening The Big Sky” plan](#), we will reevaluate indoor field trips. Parents will be notified with ample time to decide whether they would like to proceed with having their child participate.

### Activities, schedules, pick up and drop off

- **ADVENTURE CAMPS** Parent/guardian pick-up and drop-off for travel-based camps may differ throughout the week in order to accommodate exploration and adventure. **Marshall Mountain has been secured as a base for many of our adventure-based camps!** Please refer to sample schedules for further explanation.
- **PARK BASED CAMPS will largely look the same.** We have programed other amazing activities to replace field trips to indoor facilities through June. Campers will be biking and walking to different locations throughout the week. MPR will use pull-behind bikes to aid kids who are new to biking. Please refer to sample schedules for further explanation.
- **Camping trips have been suspended through June.** If your child was registered for a camp that has an overnight, your account has been automatically credited to reflect the cost of a day-camp program. We may reinstate camping trips for camps once the state moves to Phase 3 reopening.
- We have secured alternative locations to spread camps out across town.
- Sports and games will be modified to promote physical distancing and eliminating touching of shared objects with hands or head. This includes eliminating tag and toss based activities and playing physical face to face defense during sport.

### Transportation

- **We will not be transporting campers in our vans until the end of June**, with possible reintroductions of van use in Phase 3. When we decide to move forward with this, we will notify parents before camp so they have ample time to decide if they want their child to participate. We will have set policies and procedures and email these to parents.
- We will not be using public transportation until further notice.

- If we use school bus services, campers must wear a face mask, sit one to a seat, and have the windows of the bus open with circulation system working. There are VERY few and specific instances when we may use a school bus. Parents will have ample warning and can choose to transport their child instead.

### **Group Size and Dynamics**

- Group sizes will comply with the recommendations of Missoula City-County Health, as required by current public health orders.
- Campers will be with the same staffing pairs throughout the week; and will have reduced to no interaction with other camp groups.
- Instructors from outside the program will be asked to fill out a health assessment before presenting to camp groups. These instructors must follow all guidelines as camp employees.

### **Face masks**

- Staff will be issued a buff/bandana face covering during camp.
- Staff will be required to wear face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- We will provide face coverings for each participant to keep in the form of a MPR buff.
- Participants will be required to wear face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

### **Camper Drop-off Policies and Health Checklist**

- Parents must complete a checklist health screening of their child before each camp day. By signing your child in to camp, you are confirming your child is not displaying any of the signs/symptoms on the checklist.

### **Temperature Checks**

- Temperature checks will be completed by MPR staff upon drop-off. Parents may not leave until their child's temperature has been checked and noted. We will then take temperatures again at lunch for each child. If a child registers a temperature, they must be picked up immediately.

### **Hand Washing**

- Campers will wash hands/use hand sanitizer upon arrival to camp, after using the bathroom, before applying sunscreen, before and after eating, after each transition, and before and after a game or craft project.
- MPR has secured handwashing stations for camps and hand sanitizer.

### **Shared Equipment and Camp Supplies**

- All campers will receive their own supply bag each week of camp instead of group supplies.
- For specific projects that include additional supplies, staff will set up in individual spots for the campers to complete these projects without sharing supplies. Staff will have these projects prepped individually and ready to set up for each project.

- Camps/Parks will have their own equipment bags/games/ supplies that will not leave the camp location. All equipment will be wiped down/disinfected before and after each game, using disinfecting wipes, Lysol spray, or other appropriate disinfecting supplies.
- Supplies and equipment will be kept in their own bins/bags and kept organized in storage areas.
- Shared equipment will be checked out, disinfected before use, after use, and when put back in its spot in the shed. Staff will initial that it was properly disinfected.
- All cleaning equipment will be labeled and used correctly by staff only. Cleaning supplies will be kept out of reach of all campers.
- All surfaces will be wiped down/disinfected before and after each project/game and transition.
- If a supply is put in a camper's mouth, coughed or sneezed on, it will be removed immediately to be disinfected.
- There will be NO shared snacks or food between campers.

### Rest Rooms and Bathroom Use

- We will be following CDC guidelines in sanitation of restroom facilities.
- Porta-johns at Marshall Mountain will be checked 2 times daily for adequate sanitation supplies and cleanliness by MPR staff coupled with the regular CDC recommended sanitation through the porta-john company.
- Participants will be required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after using restroom.

### Programs and activities

- Campers will each have a designated "bubble area" signified by a hula-hoop distanced six feet apart to place their personal belongings.
- Games and activities have been programmed to be "personal bubble" oriented and will not require nor encourage touching.

### Staff policies and procedures

- Staff will complete the Missoula Parks and Recreation COVID Training.
- Staff will complete a health self –assessment prior to work daily.
- Staff will stay home if they are sick or live with someone who is sick.
- Staff will be required to wear a face mask while at work.
- Staff will be required to maintain physical distance at work unless there is an emergency that requires immediate action. **Staff will do what is necessary to render aid or assist as needed if a camper is in danger or at risk.**

## If an employee or participant tests positive for COVID

- The Missoula City-County Health Department will conduct contact tracing and notify staff and participants as needed. (More details available upon request.)

## Limited contact to prevent exposure and protect campers

- Contacts will be limited for both participants and staff, so that groups are isolated from one another and contacts can be traced easily if needed.
- Camp staff will be restricted by work team and program. (For example, camp leader Nonie and camp leader Shawn will work the same camp together for two weeks; they will not mingle with other staff or other campers.)
- Participants will be kept in same group with little to no contact with other camp groups during the week. Camp leaders will remain consistent throughout the week.
- Staff assignments will be tracked to facilitate contact tracing if needed.

## Parent Options Moving Forward

1. **Keep your registration:** No need to notify us; we will reach out with finalized plans for camp soon!
2. **Withdraw from the program.** [Request a refund](#)

We understand that families may choose to withdraw from camp for a variety of reasons during these uncertain times. If you would like to withdraw from camp or transfer to a later date, you are entitled to a credit or refund.

Please see our Summer Camp withdrawal/transfer policy below. If you'd like to request a refund or credit now, please use this [online form](#) and our registration staff will contact you.

For transfers, please check availability at [www.missoulaparks.org/register](http://www.missoulaparks.org/register) and then give us a call at 721-PARK (7275.)

## Parks and Recreation Summer Camp Withdrawal/Transfer Policy

These policies help us deliver a high-quality camp experience for your child. Please give us a call at 721-PARK to withdraw from camp or transfer to another camp.

- Withdrawal 14 days or more before camp start date – 100% credit\* or refund. \$10 administrative fee for refunds. No administrative fee to transfer to another summer camp.
- Withdrawal fewer than 14 days before camp start date – 50% credit\* or refund. Transfers are considered withdrawals and are subject to the 50% credit. \$10 administrative fee for refunds.
- Illness or injury withdrawal—will miss a full week of camp:
  - 100% credit\* or refund with documentation from your medical provider. \$10 administrative fee for refunds.
  - Sick/Missed Days - If a camper will miss a day of camp for any reason, please notify us as soon as possible at 721-PARK.

- Wait Pool - Participants may join the wait pool when a camp is full. When a spot opens, Parks will contact wait pool customers by phone. The first person to respond and pay registration fees will be enrolled in the program.

\*Credits on account expire 12 months from date of issue. Credits may be used for any Parks program and at both aquatics facilities.