

Covid Guidelines for Facility Rental at River Bend Nature Center

If you are hosting a private gathering at River Bend Nature Center

Due to the high risk status of the Covid-19 virus, please refer to the following information prior to your reservation.

- Renters are asked to limit their guests to 25% of building capacity. Em's Cabin capacity - 50 (25%=12)

Main Lodge Capacity - 200 (25%=50)

- For the safety of our staff, no-contact access to the building will be provided. The space will be unlocked at the time specified in your contract. If you should have questions during your event, please call the office at 262-639-1515. Please call the office when you leave so they can lock up.

- Please keep windows/door open for ventilation.

- Masks are required in all buildings. Maintain social distancing.

- We have included the following guidance from the CDC regarding hosting gatherings.

Hosting gatherings or cook-outs (CDC Guidance)

Remind guests to stay home if they are sick

- Remind invited guests to stay home if they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days or are showing COVID-19 [symptoms](#). Anyone who has had [close contact](#) with a person who has COVID-19 should also stay home and monitor their health. Invited guests who live with those at higher risk should also consider the potential risk to their loved ones.
- Consider keeping a list of guests who attended for potential future [contact tracing](#) needs.

Encourage social distancing

- Host your gathering outdoors, when possible. If this is not feasible, make sure the room or space is well-ventilated (for example, open a window).
- Arrange tables and chairs to allow for social distancing. People from the same household can be in groups together and don't need to be 6 feet apart – just 6 feet away from other families.
- If planning activities for adults and/or kids, consider those where social distancing can be maintained, like sidewalk chalk art or frisbee.
- When guests arrive, minimize gestures that promote [close contact](#). For example, don't shake hands, do elbow bumps, or give hugs. Instead wave and verbally greet them.

Wear masks

- Wear [masks](#) when less than 6 feet apart from people or indoors.
- Consider providing masks for guests or asking them to bring their own.

Clean hands often

- Consider providing hand sanitizer in addition to clearly marked hand washing areas.
- [Wash your hands](#) for at least 20 seconds when entering and exiting social gatherings. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Make sure there is adequate soap or hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol available in the restrooms and encourage guests not to form a line at the door. Consider also providing cleaning supplies that allow guests to wipe down surfaces before they leave.
- Remind guests to wash their hands before serving or eating food.
- Use single-use hand towels or paper towels for drying hands so guests do not share a towel.

Limit the number of people handling or serving food

- Encourage guests to bring their own food and drinks.
- Limit people going in and out of the areas where food is being prepared or handled, such as in the kitchen or around the grill, if possible.
- If serving any food, consider identifying one person to serve all food so that multiple people are not handling the serving utensils.
- Use single-use options or identify one person to serve sharable items, like salad dressings, food containers, and condiments, so that multiple people are not handling the items.

Limit contact with commonly touched surfaces or shared items

- Use touchless garbage cans or pails.
- Use gloves when removing garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash. [Wash hands](#) after removing gloves.
- [Clean and disinfect](#) commonly touched surfaces and any shared items between use when feasible.
- If you choose to use any shared items that are reusable (e.g., seating covers, tablecloths, linen napkins), wash, clean, and sanitize them after the event.