

Recreational water facilities fall into a mixture of categories on Governor Jim Justice's plan, "West Virginia Strong: The Comeback." A recreational water facility may be part of a park, gym, fitness center, recreation center, physical therapy treatment center, hotel or motel, bathing beach (permitted or unpermitted), organized camp, or various other venues. **These facilities will reopen as allowed in the Governor's plan.** Check with your local health department if you have questions regarding the reopening status of your facility. All recreational water facilities permitted by the local health department must comply with WV § 64 CSR 16 Recreational Water Facility Rule.

### COMMON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Recent loss of taste or smell

### PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSMISSION

- Occurs via small droplets from the nose or mouth of the infected person when they cough, sneeze, or exhale.
- Virus can remain on surfaces for a limited time period. Although less common, transmission may occur from touching contaminated surfaces and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

### GENERAL PREVENTION

- Learn about COVID-19 from reputable sources.
- Maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Encourage proper handwashing.
- Clean and sanitize surfaces often.
- Do not share food, drinks, etc.
- Wear cloth face coverings.
- Stay home if you feel sick.
- Isolate sick individuals.

### STAFF AND PATRON HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Perform a Daily Health Screening for symptoms of COVID-19 on all patrons and staff.
- Do not visit a recreational water facility of any kind if you are:
  - Positive for COVID-19.
  - Experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Caring for a household member with symptoms or positive for COVID-19.
- Report any COVID-19 positive staff immediately to your local health department.
- Staff who experience symptoms at work shall report symptoms to management and leave work.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY continued

- Staff must wear a clean cloth face mask or covering, unless safety is inhibited, or other type of PPE if required by employer due to nature of the work being performed.
- Eliminate patron breaks but establish staff rotation to allow for appropriate staff breaks.
- Encourage increased handwashing, use of hand sanitizer, and appropriately covering coughs and sneezes for all employees and patrons.
- Minimize the use of shared equipment whenever possible (phones, desks, headsets, etc.). If shared, clean and disinfect between uses.

### SOCIAL (PHYSICAL) DISTANCES

- Space tables and chairs to provide 6 feet of distance between patrons and/or staff when in use.
- All patrons must maintain 6 feet of distance from other patrons not of their household.
- Social (physical) distancing should be observed in the water to the extent possible.

### RECREATIONAL WATER FACILITIES

- Maximum occupancy will be based on meeting social (physical) distance requirements but shall not exceed the maximum number of people for gatherings as stated in current executive order.
- Post signage about maximum occupancy. Designate occupancy for each type of facility present.
- Tables and chairs must be cleaned between patrons.
  - Consider removing tables and chairs and allowing patrons to check out a chair and return it at the end of their stay.
- Encourage patrons to maintain 6 feet of distance.
- Patrons and staff must wear cloth face masks or coverings when not in the water.

### YEAR-ROUND RECREATIONAL WATER FACILITIES

- May open when announced in the Governor's plan if the facility is in good standing with the local health department and has maintained correct water chemistry during closure.

## SEASONAL RECREATIONAL WATER FACILITIES

- Facility should contact the local health department prior to opening for the season.
- Recreational water facility shall have a valid operational permit from the local health department prior to opening.

## REOPENING HOT TUBS/SPAS, SPLASH PADS, SLIDES AND ANY OTHER INTERACTIVE WATER FEATURES

- Follow applicable guidance above regarding seasonal or year-round facilities and social distancing.
- Maximum occupancy will be based on meeting social (physical) distance requirements.
- Flush your water system.
  - Flush hot and cold water through all points of use (e.g., showers, sink faucets).
  - Flush until the hot water reaches its maximum temperature.
- Clean all splash pads, slides, decorative and interactive water features, such as fountains.
  - Be sure to follow any recommended manufacturer guidelines for cleaning.
  - Ensure that all water features are free of visible slime or biofilm.
  - After the water feature has been re-filled, measure disinfectant levels to ensure that the water is safe for use.
- Ensure hot tubs/spas are safe for use.
  - Ensure that hot tubs/spas are free of visible slime or biofilm before filling with water.
- Perform a hot tub/spa disinfection procedure before use. Follow CDC guidance found in steps 4–9 and 12–13: <https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/downloads/hot-tub-disinfection.pdf>

## FOOD CONCESSION STANDS

- Must comply with guidelines established in [A Guide to Safely Opening our Restaurants Through Takeaway Service & Outdoor Dining](#).
- Must have a valid food establishment permit.
- Must comply with WV § 64 CSR 17 Food Establishment Rule.

## PUBLIC RESTROOMS

- Clean restrooms as needed throughout the day but at a minimum at start of day, mid-day, and end of day.
- Include frequently touched surfaces like handles, levers, doorknobs, and feminine hygiene disposal boxes with fixture cleaning. Use the cleaning agents that are normally used in these areas and follow the directions on the label.

## PUBLIC RESTROOMS continued

- Provide disposable wipes or paper towels so that a barrier can be placed between hands and commonly used surfaces.
- Post signage about patron health and COVID-19 prevention and remind patrons not to gather in groups.
- Use approved disinfectant products:
  - <https://www.americanchemistry.com/Novel-Coronavirus-Fighting-Products-List.pdf>
  - <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>
  - Dilute bleach solutions, made fresh daily:
    - 1/3 cup of bleach per gallon of water.
    - 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water.
  - Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.
- Mop floors with disinfectant, or bleach solution, at the same schedule as listed above.

## USE OF FACE MASKS AND COVERINGS

- CDC recommends the use of simple cloth face masks or coverings as a voluntary public health measure in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- For workers who do not typically wear masks as part of their jobs, consider the following if you choose to use a cloth face mask or covering to slow the spread of COVID-19:
  - Launder reusable face masks or coverings before each daily use.
  - CDC has [additional information on the use of face coverings](#), including washing instructions and information on how to make them.
  - Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing cloth face mask or covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/aquatic-venues.html>

Questions and concerns can also be directed to the 24/7, toll-free COVID-19 information hotline:

**1-800-887-4304**

