

# Deep Portage COVID Preparedness Plan – Overnight Summer Camps

This plan was based off of the most current guidelines for overnight youth camps. The last state of MN recommendations update was June 3, 2021 and we have revised our plan on June 15, 2021. We will update this plan as guidelines change.

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/youthguide.pdf>)

We understand a number of campers and adults may have a full round of vaccinations and are comfortable to move more freely, but Forkhorn camps also have many campers who are too young to receive a vaccine or have not gotten one yet, so we still have guidelines in place to protect those individuals. Campers who do not adhere to this plan are not welcome at camp and will be sent home.

## Preparation:

### What to bring

- **Face Masks.** Face coverings will be required indoors when going through the meal lines and when social distancing cannot occur, except when eating or in dorm rooms. They are not required outdoors unless social distancing cannot be achieved.
- **Hygiene.** Each room has cubbies for hygiene items, but please bring a way to organize those on the shelf to stay separate from others. Camper hygiene and room cleanliness will be strongly emphasized each day.
- Bringing your own hand sanitizer is strongly recommended

## Pre-Arrival

### When to stay home

- Campers are asked to stay home if they are sick or show any symptoms of COVID-19. The [CDC What to do if you are sick](#) webpage is a helpful resource to make this decision.
- Campers and camper families are encouraged to do all they can to limit exposure to people outside their household 14 days prior to coming to camp.

### Health screening before arrival

- We ask that camper guardians conduct a health screening for each camper the day of arrival at Deep Portage.
  - [Visitor and Employee Health Screening Checklist](#)
  - Participants who have any COVID-19 symptoms will not be allowed at summer camp.

## Transportation

- Please do your best to limit the number of campers who are not in the same household within the same vehicle when coming to camp

## Cancellations or Changes due to COVID-19.

- Deep Portage reserves the right to cancel overnight summer camp programs depending on the changing COVID-19 guidelines or in the case of COVID positive staff members.
- If a camper is no longer to come due to illness or COVID exposure, we will work with you to come up with a solution.

## Arrival

- Camper registration will be up to two hours and outside as much as possible whether by vehicle or near the front doors.
- *Adults will not be allowed in the building during move-in.*
- Families are encouraged to explore the outside grounds while registration and move-in are taking place.

## Health screening upon arrival

- Campers will be asked for any COVID-19 symptoms at the check-in table. Those with symptoms will be asked to leave camp.

## Departure

- After their last class, campers will wait for parents to pick them up starting at 11am. No graduation ceremonies will take place.
- Pick-up will be outside. If raining, campers will wait indoors until their ride home is parked at the front door. Adults are not allowed inside.

## Summer Camp Programming:

### Teams

- Deep Portage uses learning "Teams" for programming. Teams will be no bigger than 22 individuals, including Deep Portage staff.
- Teams will be kept separate from other learning teams as much as possible.

### Cohorts

- Each dorm room of 3-4 campers will be their own cohort. These individuals will be able to be close to each other throughout camp without social distancing. These students will eat meals together at the same table, and sit at the same table for lecture and the MN DNR written tests. They will stay 6 feet apart from other cohorts and wear masks when social distancing is not possible.

### Programming

- Classes will be outdoors as much as possible.
- Staff and campers will maintain at least 6 feet of social distancing when possible.

- When social distancing is not possible outside, masks will be worn.
- Shared equipment will be minimized and gear will be sanitized according to CDC and MDH guidelines before, during, and after programs.
- Group sizes including campers and Deep Portage staff will be no larger than 25 indoor small spaces and 50 outdoors.
- We will be doing morning lectures in the dining hall as a group of 37. Each room will have their own table, spread well apart from other rooms. Windows will be opened.
- Teams will be kept separate as much as possible.
- MN DNR written test will be spread out in the dining hall
- Live hands-on firearms safety training will still be taught and kept to the highest level of safety. Disinfecting firearms between shooters will occur and masks will be worn when social distancing cannot occur

#### Meal Times

- Meals will be had in the Dining Hall with campers sitting spaced out at tables by dorm room
- Campers will go through the food line room by room, washing their hands before they come through the line, and wear a mask while in line. Serving utensils will be sanitized between each Team group.
- Campers will be required to wash their hands before and after each meal.
- Snacks throughout the day will follow the same procedures as meals

#### Bathroom Breaks

- Besides their sleeping rooms, each Team will have designated bathroom areas for bathroom breaks and hand washing.
- Each room cohort will be allowed in a public bathroom space at one time.

#### Rooming

- According to recommendations, and depending on room size, our rooms can fit 3-4 campers.
- Each room contains multiple bunk beds, 2 sinks, a private bathroom, separate shower room, and cubby space
- Beds will be marked for use and rotated between camp groups.
- Campers will be responsible for daily room cleaning with disinfectant wipes, keeping their gear organized as possible, and room clean checks will be administered by staff.
- Each room has cubbies for hygiene items, but please bring a way to organize those on the shelf to stay separate from others.

## Indoor Air Considerations

- Windows will be opened as much as possible throughout the rooms and hallways.
- Fans may be used to circulate air out of a room.

## Plan for Isolating Sick Campers and Staff

- This [decision tree](#) will be used to assess campers or staff exhibiting symptoms.

### Campers

- A separate room will be set aside to isolate symptomatic campers.
- Campers with illness symptoms will be monitored for 2-4 hours. If their symptoms subside they can rejoin their group. If symptoms persist, they will be kept in isolation with further monitoring, a call to the emergency contact will be made, and the camper will need to be picked up from camp. They will remain in isolation until they are picked up.
- Deep Portage staff will ensure isolated campers will have food, drinks, medical supplies, and some form of entertainment (book, colored pencils, etc).
- If a camper is sent home due to COVID-19 symptoms, we strongly suggest the camper is tested so Deep Portage staff can communicate with staff and camper families whose campers were potentially exposed to COVID-19.

### Staff

- A separate room will be set aside to isolate symptomatic staff
- Staff with illness symptoms will be monitored for 2-4 hours. If their symptoms subside they can rejoin their Team. If symptoms persist they will be kept in isolation and required to get a COVID test at the Walker Sanford Health Clinic or other available test site as quickly as possible.
- If symptoms persist, any staff member who shares a residence with the symptomatic staff member will also be removed from the programming and placed in isolation.
- If any staff test positive for COVID-19 the staff member will follow the COVID-19 When to Return to Work guide from the MDH.

## Contract Tracing

- Deep Portage will keep a database of all its campers with names and emergency contacts. If a camper or staff tests positive for COVID 19 during or after their trip, we will contact whomever was at camp that week.
- Deep Portage will notify the MDH of confirmed COVID-19 cases among campers and staff

Though strict measures are being followed to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the undersigned acknowledges that attending a public event could result in COVID-19 infection.