

**New York – New Jersey Trail Conference Condensed Field Guide to COVID-19 Outdoor Group Protocols**

<b>Protocol</b>	<b>Required</b>	<b>Best Practice</b>
Protect yourself and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do NOT attend if you are exhibiting ANY symptoms, even if you think it's just allergies</li> <li>No carpooling with other participants who are from outside your household</li> <li>Sanitize your hands as much and frequently as possible</li> <li>No sharing food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you are part of the vulnerable population and/or have any underlying conditions hold off on volunteering</li> <li>Never touch your face until the gloves have come off and you've sanitized your hands. Wear eye pro at all times as a reminder to not touch your eyes</li> </ul>
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum number of workers in a group is 10 people (includes leaders and all participants). If a project has multiple leaders, each may lead a separate group of 10 that remains distanced from the others</li> <li>All participants must agree to the COVID-19 disclaimer</li> <li>Only existing volunteers who have been previously trained/have experience may join group activities</li> </ul>	
COVID-19 PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each participant must bring their own:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mask</li> <li>Work gloves</li> <li>Protective eyewear</li> </ul> </li> <li>Each trip leader must procure (funded by TC):                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disinfectant for hands/people</li> <li>Disinfectant for tools/hard hats</li> <li>Trash bags to carry disposed rags</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each participant brings their own personal disinfectant for hands</li> <li>Each trip leader has (funded by TC):                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spare masks</li> <li>Yard signs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Physical Distancing and Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Minimum of 6 feet</u> at all possible times</li> <li>Masks are on whenever there is less than 6 feet between participants</li> <li>Masks are to be worn by anyone talking loudly</li> <li>Step off the trail and provide 6 feet distance or put on a mask if members of the public are passing through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If an activity requires less than 6 feet distance between participants, keep it as brief and infrequent as possible</li> <li>When physically exerting yourself or speaking loudly increase physical distance to as much as 15 feet</li> </ul>
Tools & PPE Disinfection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared PPE, such as hard hats, shall not be transferred between participants during the day</li> <li>Disinfect shared tools and PPE at the end of the workday. Per CDC guidelines:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use water (ideally a premixed bottle of soapy water) and a disposable rag to remove dirt</li> <li>Follow by disinfecting with approved cleaners that won't harm the environment. We highly recommend a bleach mixture (add 4 teaspoons of bleach to 1 quart or 1 liter of water)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When possible bring your own personal tools that won't be shared (i.e. handsaws, clippers, etc.)</li> </ul>
Trip Leader Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the land manager approves of volunteer work</li> <li>Share your schedule with <a href="mailto:volunteer@nynjtc.org">volunteer@nynjtc.org</a> and your PC</li> <li>Email prior or read day of the COVID-19 disclaimer to participants</li> </ul>	

## **New York-New Jersey Trail Conference Disclaimer Regarding COVID-19 for Outdoor Group Outings**

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference has implemented enhanced safety protocols for all group volunteer outings. You must follow all protocols while participating in volunteer activities.

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), senior citizens and people with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable.

By participating in a group outing you:

1. Acknowledge the existence of the COVID-19 virus and voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.
2. Affirm you have not tested positive for COVID-19, do not have symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e. cough, fever, shortness of breath), and have not within the last 14 days arrived from or been in contact with someone who has travelled abroad.
3. Agree that in the case someone from the group tests positive, the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference can provide your contact information to the state for contact tracing.
4. Agree that the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and its staff and volunteers will not be liable to you as a result of the COVID-19 virus causing injury, illness or other damages arising from the attendance at a group outing.