Idaho campgrounds considering reopening should have an operational plan in place to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. Plans do not need to be submitted for review or approval. However, to ensure confidence of employees and visitors, campground hosts are encouraged to make their plans available if requested.

**Establish protocols to maintain at least six feet physical distance among people.**

- Physical distancing should be practiced at visitors' centers, in camping shelters, and in campground facilities such as restrooms and shower areas
  - Physical distancing should also be practiced at all outdoor recreational areas such as trails, swim areas, beaches, and picnic areas
- Consider limiting the number of people at the campground to ensure physical distancing
- Ensure campsites are at least six feet apart from other campsites or community areas
  - If campsite spacing prevents adequate distancing, consider closing sites to provide appropriate spacing between camping sites

**Establish protocols to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 among employees and visitors.**

- Regularly disinfect all campground facilities and place increased emphasis on all high touch surfaces such as hose spigots, handles, rails, garbage lids, door handles at building entrances and exits, benches, and pay stations
  - Indoor surfaces should have a special emphasis
- Thoroughly disinfect or launder all items in cabins between users
- Encourage the use of cloth face coverings or masks and gloves by employees
- Post information on websites and entrances telling visitors to stay home if they are sick
- Post signs throughout the campground (e.g., entrance, bathrooms, picnic areas, etc.) telling visitors to practice physical distancing of at least six feet from people who are not immediate family members or housemates, wear cloth face coverings in facilities, practice good hand washing, and cover coughs and sneezes
- Camp hosts should self-monitor and isolate if they have any COVID-like illness symptoms
  - Require COVID-19 positive employees to stay at home while infectious
  - Symptoms of COVID-19 include muscle aches, a fever of 100.4 °F or higher, cough, sore throat, and shortness of breath
- Discontinue any type of group activities or classes where physical distancing is not possible (e.g. hands-on activities)
- Encourage campers to be self-sufficient and bring all food, beverages, and other needed supplies to minimize contact with surrounding communities
- Provide adequate garbage receptacles and ensure receptacles are not overfilled so the lids can close completely
  - Encourage visitors to tightly enclose waste in heavy-duty bags
Establish plans to provide adequate hand hygiene and sanitation for employees and visitors.

- Identify how the campground will provide for regular disinfection of shared facilities
- Consider posting the cleaning schedule in each facility or bulletin board or kiosk at campgrounds, where applicable
- Have all visitors and employees use hand sanitizer or wash their hands often throughout the day
- Provide soap, water, and alcohol-based hand rubs in multiple locations and routinely refill; provide no-touch options if available
- Routinely clean and disinfect bathrooms, shared facilities, showering areas, sewer hookups and RV dump stations using EPA-registered disinfectants
  - Cleaning and disinfection should occur at a minimum twice daily
- Consider asking RV travelers to use their own restrooms and showers for the duration of their stay
- Establish safety procedures for purchase of incidentals such as sneeze guards for payment transactions and disinfection wipes to clean surfaces
  - Use no-touch payment methods if possible

Identify strategies for working with public health to notify visitors and employees if the facility learns someone who developed COVID-19 may have been infectious to others while at the campground.

- Identify strategies for addressing ill camp hosts, which should include COVID-19 positive camp hosts, employees directly exposed to the COVID-19 positive camp host, and closure of the campground until the location can be safely reopened
- Make sure to maintain confidentiality of the COVID-19 infected person
- Develop plans for temporary closure of the campground to disinfect and ensure other people who are at the campground are not infected
- Consult the local health district for guidance for specific situations as necessary

Resources


EPA list of COVID-19 effective disinfectants: https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2


Idaho State Parks and Recreation Social Distancing Guidance: https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/use-parks-stay-safe