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# YMCA CAMP COPNECONIC

COVID-19 OPERATIONS GUIDE  
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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## OVERVIEW

YMCA Camp Copneconic is committed to following best practices in mitigating risks associated with COVID 19. We take recommendations from the following agencies to shape our practices:

- The YMCA of the USA & The YMCA Camping Cabinet
- The American Camping Association
- The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)
- The Centers for Disease Control
- Genesee County Health Department

We will continue to update our policies and procedures as these organizations update their recommendations. Any changes will be communicated to staff and families. This guide was last updated 4/20/2022.

## OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 MITIGATION STRATEGIES

YMCA Camp Copneconic is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for Camp. To this end, we will follow these general guidelines to maintain safe operations:

- Camper Cohorting
  - o Campers will be put into small groups by school staff or group leaders. We encourage schools and groups to consider the following when choosing the students to group together:
    - Keeping students in cohorts with their classroom/family/friend group
    - Keeping overnight students in cohorts with their cabin, or limiting the number of cabins mixing in groups
    - Keeping students in groups with those who sit near them in class/on the bus/in the same car while traveling to camp
- Health and Temperature Screenings
  - o Schools/groups must conduct temperature and symptom screening as outlined below.
  - o Staff will be screened daily for COVID-19 symptoms and will have their temperatures checked.
- Pre-Camp Testing
  - o While not required, it is recommended that schools/groups perform pre-camp testing on their students, based on availability of tests, level of risk in their area, and level of risk in Genesee County (where camp resides)
- Mask Wearing and Physical Distancing
  - Anytime more than one group is sharing a space, physical distance will be maintained.
  - Masks will be optional for campers if the Community Level for Genesee County is in the Low to Moderate range. If Community Level is High, masks will be required when campers are in an indoor shared space.
  - Camp staff will support individuals or groups who choose to wear masks outside of when they're required.
- Increased Cleaning & Sanitizing
  - o Camp has developed robust cleaning protocols to clean frequently touched surfaces at least daily.
  - o Camp will create a culture of hand hygiene amongst campers and staff.
- Meals
  - o Groups will be seated in the dining hall in assigned areas. We will maximize space between groups to the greatest amount possible. Meals will be served buffet style.

## RESPONDING TO A POSSIBLE OR CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19

- Sick individuals will be immediately separated from all other campers and staff and either sent home or to a healthcare facility, depending on how severe their symptoms are. School staff/ group leaders are responsible for transporting a child to a healthcare facility if necessary, and will contact families when necessary.
- If a camper cannot be picked up immediately, they will be isolated in the Health and Wellness Center. Campers will remain under school staff supervision until parents/guardians arrive.
- Sick individuals will wear a cloth face covering.
- Staff who begin to feel ill during camp will be sent home.
- If someone becomes symptomatic at camp, staff will contact the Genesee County Health Department to report exposure and determine next steps.
  - o The Health Department will provide guidance regarding how to determine who should be considered a close contact and who should be sent home.
  - o Campers determined by the Health Department to have been in close contact will not be allowed to stay at camp. They will be required to remain at home until they've received two negative COVID tests or 14 days have passed without symptoms.
  - o All campers and staff exhibiting COVID-like symptoms will be isolated in the Health and Wellness Center.
- If a camper, staff member, family member, or visitor to camp becomes ill, camp will contact the Genesee County Health Department and Michigan LARA for next steps.
- Staff and families are **required** to report to camp if they become symptomatic or receive positive COVID-19 test results.
- Camp staff will notify school staff if a staff member who interacted with their group has a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 and will share as much information as possible without violating the privacy of the individual.
- School staff/ group leaders will contact Camp if a student who attended camp has a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 and will share as much information as possible without violating the privacy of the individual.
- If an individual in a shared area is identified with a positive test for COVID-19, leaves camp experiencing a fever greater than 100.4<sup>o</sup>, or demonstrates COVID-like symptoms, that area will be closed until it is cleaned and disinfected.

## CONTACTING CAMP

Parents/Guardians should report possible illness to school staff if anyone in their household shows symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19. Please contact the school **before bringing your child to camp** so that they can assess whether the child must remain isolated.

To reach camp staff:

During Camp Hours (Monday-Friday, 8 AM – 5 PM):

**810-629-9622 – ask for THOMAS**

Outside Camp Hours

**810-730-0229**

Camp is required to have a Point of Contact Adult onsite during operations. This person is THOMAS BAWDEN. Thomas has a thorough understanding of the signs/symptoms of COVID-19, Camp's preparedness and response plan, and the Camp Health Service Policy. Thomas can be reached at the numbers listed above.

## COVID-19 HEALTH SCREENING

Before arriving at camp, school staff/group leaders will screen campers for COVID-19 symptoms.

### CAMPER SCREENING

School staff/ group leaders must perform the following screenings:

- Temperature check
  - Campers with a 100.4° or higher fever will not be allowed at camp.
- Symptom Check
  - School staff/ group leaders will review a list of COVID symptoms with campers' families. Any campers exhibiting symptoms will not be allowed to stay at camp. These symptoms include:
    - Feverish
    - Loss of Taste or Smell
    - Sore Throat
    - Shortness of Breath
    - Diarrhea
    - Chills
    - Cough
    - Headache
    - Nausea or Vomiting
    - Muscle Aches without recognized cause
  - School staff/ group leaders must ask campers if they've felt unwell in the last 3 days and if they're feeling well today. Any campers exhibiting symptoms will not be allowed to stay at camp.
- Visual Check
  - School staff/ group leaders must perform a visual check of the camper for signs of illness, including:
    - Flushed cheeks
    - Rapid or difficulty breathing
    - Fatigue
    - Extreme fussiness
  - Campers exhibiting symptoms will not be allowed at camp.
- Contact Check
  - Campers' families must be asked if their child has been in contact with a person who has or is suspected to have COVID-19 within the last two weeks. If they have, campers will not be allowed at camp.

## STAFF SCREENING

Daily, Camp staff will perform self-checks before interacting with children. Their checks will include the following:

- Temperature Checks
  - Staff with a temperature above 100.4<sup>o</sup> will not report to work, or will be required to leave work and remain off site.
- Symptom Checks
  - Staff demonstrating any COVID symptoms will not report to work, or will be required to leave work and remain off site.
- Contact Checks
  - Staff who have had close contact and/or live with any person having a confirmed COVID diagnosis or a person displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow CDC guidance on whether to isolate, quarantine, or increase mask usage.

## RETURNING TO WORK

***If a staff member does not feel well and/or feels ill:***

Daily, Camp staff will perform self-checks before interacting with children. Their checks will include the following:

- Temperature Checks
  - Staff with a temperature above 100.4<sup>o</sup> will not report to work, or will be required to leave work and remain off site.
- Symptom Checks
  - Staff demonstrating any COVID symptoms will not report to work, or will be required to leave work and remain off site.
- Contact Checks
  - Staff who have had close contact and/or live with any person having a confirmed COVID diagnosis will follow CDC guidance on whether to isolate, quarantine, or increase mask usage.

## CAMP ORIENTATION (GIVEN BY CAMP HOST)

Camp staff will give a brief orientation to every group upon their arrival at camp. They will include the following information when they welcome your group:

- Introduce yourself as the Group Host. You will be here to let the group know when to be places, where to be and also to answer questions and help if the group needs anything.
- Tell the kids about "Give Me Five" and how it works. (Encourage them to practice and remind them, the longer it takes, the more time they take away from activities.)
- Explain how the schedule works and where their group's meeting spot is.
- Explain the rules surrounding COVID Safety
  - Keep 6' distance whenever possible
  - Explain that while masks aren't required, campers, chaperones and camp staff will be supportive of an individual's choice about whether or not to wear a mask.
  - Stay with your group
  - Wash your hands frequently.
    - Before eating
    - After eating
    - After coughing or sneezing
    - Before using shared equipment
    - After using shared equipment
- During breaks they may use the restroom in the Dining Hall, but need to take a chaperone and a buddy with them.
- Also let the kids know that they should meet in this spot before each meal. Tell them that you will meet them at their spot and dismiss them into the dining hall.
- Next, take the group on a verbal tour around camp.
  - The Lake: Let the kids know that they should not be on the lake unless it is their assigned time and they have a Copneconic lifeguard with them. They should stop at the cement bricks and not go past them.
  - The Bell: Explain that the bell is part of camp's emergency system and will only ring if we need to alert the whole camp to an emergency.
  - The Totem Pole: Explain that they may take group photos in front of it, but it is not to be used as a climbing structure.
  - The Red Wood Chips: Explain to the students that the red wood chips in front of the Dining Hall are off limits and students should walk around the rocks when entering or exiting the Dining Hall.
- Go over the Buddy System: No one is to ever wander around camp on their own. If a student needs to go to the restroom or their cabin, they need to take a chaperone, and a buddy. If it's during an activity, they also need to tell their Copneconic instructor.
- Dismiss each group with their instructor for the day
- Have the staff introduce themselves to their small groups on their way to their first activity.

## DINING HALL ORIENTATION

Camp staff will give a brief orientation before students enter the dining hall. Our staff will share the following instructions with your group:

- Everyone should wash their hands as soon as they enter the dining hall. Sinks are available in the bathrooms and hand sanitizer is stationed around the hall as well as on tables.
- Have the students sit spread out at a round tables. Once the group is seated, explain to them that when they enter the Dining Hall for each meal, they should wash their hands, take their seat and wait for announcements or instructions from camp staff
- Explain that each table will be dismissed by their host to get up and go through the food line. (Please emphasize that they need to stay seated until they are dismissed.)
- Verbally walk them through the layout of how the dining hall is organized.
- Explain where the garbage goes after they're finished eating, and what to do before leaving the dining hall