



Nature Day Camp 2021 COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocol

This guide outlines measures taken before, during, and after Raritan Headwaters' Nature Day Camp programs at Fairview Farm Wildlife Preserve during the summer of 2021. These protocols are based on CDC guidance and recommendations by the American Camp Association. As we receive updated information on COVID-19 guidelines, the content of this document may be revised and shared with you in a timely manner.

Our intent is to create an environment that is safe for our campers, their families, and our staff, while offering a fun outdoor experience in keeping with RHA's exceptional Nature Day Camps!

Preparation

- Lauren Theis, Director of Education, will be the primary contact for campers, parents/legal guardians, and staff. She is certified in "Healthy Workplaces during COVID-19" and will oversee all health and safety protocol during Nature Day Camp.
- All relevant communication to camp families (before, during and after camp) will take place via email.
- These guidelines have been shared with RHA Staff, Educators, and all Camp Families.
- Nature Day Camp Educators will be trained prior to the start of the camp season on best practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19 addressing the following:
 - o How and when to effectively wash and sanitize hands
 - o How to practice physical distancing in various settings
 - o Which symptoms to look out for and when to report them and to whom
 - o When to stay home
 - o Coughing and sneezing etiquette
 - o Other camp-specific policies or guidelines
 - o How to speak in age-appropriate language to campers about these best practices, and how to handle Camper questions or concerns, and reduce stigma.
- These behaviors will be reviewed with campers at an age-appropriate level at the beginning of camp each week.
- Relevant posters tailored to children and teens with COVID-19 information and hand washing instructions will be displayed.
- Vaccination is strongly recommended for all eligible educators, campers, and their families.

- Our camp programs will layer multiple prevention strategies to help protect the people who are not vaccinated and slow the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.

During Camp

- Temperature checks using a no-touch thermometer will be taken daily at drop off for all campers and staff. If a camper or staff member shows an elevated temperature, they will not be permitted to attend.
- We will arrange for socially distanced drop off and pick up – you will need to accompany your child from your car to your designated drop off site (we will direct you as you arrive), and vice-versa at pick up time. Rather than signing in and out each day, we will do a verbal confirmation of parent/guardian at drop off/pick up.
- If a camper shows COVID-19 symptoms after drop-off, they will be given a face mask or cloth face covering, isolated by at least 6 feet, and accompanied by a staff member wearing a face mask and disposable gloves. The camper's parent/guardian will be contacted, and the child will be accompanied by an RHA staff member while awaiting parent/guardian pick up.
 - o All camp families and RHA Staff will be notified immediately following the camper's dismissal. The dismissed individual's privacy will be maintained throughout all communication.
 - o Records will be kept assisting in contact tracing, follow-up and monitoring.
 - o All areas used by the person who is sick will be cleaned and disinfected.
- Group size has been limited to 10 campers or less, and two educators. Activities will always be scheduled to maintain small groups and distance between groups.

Facilities

- Additional bathrooms will be made available on the campus. Each bathroom facility will be designated for a specific group of 12 individuals or less and locked after camp each day.
- Bathrooms, hand washing stations, and all commonly touched surfaces will be disinfected using FDA approved products before and after camp each day.
- Camp facilities will be outdoors as much as possible, using well-ventilated, covered spaces during inclement weather. Designated spaces for each group will be created, including outdoor areas to store personal items (backpacks, boots, etc.) labeled with individual campers' names.

Hand Washing

- Three hand washing stations designated for Campers and Staff will be created on campus for regular hand washing to occur. Hand washing will be required:
 - o Before eating food
 - o After touching frequently touched surface (railings, doorknobs, counters, etc.)
 - o After using the restroom
 - o After coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose
- When Campers are on the trail, FDA recommended hand sanitizer will be made available to Campers and Staff.

Physical Distancing

- Activities will be adjusted so physical distancing between campers can be practiced as much as possible.

Mask Wearing

RHA will adhere to CDC recommendations for mask wearing. Given evidence of limited transmission of COVID-19 outdoors, the CDC has updated guidance for outdoor mask use among people who are not fully vaccinated. At RHA's Nature Days programs:

- **Indoors:** Mask use indoors will be required for people who are not fully vaccinated, including children.
- **Outdoors:** In general, the CDC reports that people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. As we did last year, our activities will take place outdoors at all times (except during inclement weather) and will include social distancing measures. We will advise children to wear masks during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people.
- The CDC states that masks should not be worn when doing outdoor activities that could get masks wet, like during sprinkler time or stream exploration. During these activities, campers will maintain physical distance and we will limit the number of children participating at a time.

Although people who are fully vaccinated do not need to wear masks, we are supportive of campers or staff who choose to wear a mask.

Thank you for reviewing these policies and for helping us assure a safe, healthy and fun summer at Nature Day Camp!

For questions, please contact Director of Education, Lauren Theis, at ltheis@raritanheadwaters.org