

Stone Mountain Adventures Summer 2022 COVID-19 Protocols



Developed for Stone Mountain Adventures, June 2021

Created in collaboration with:

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Purpose Statement

After two safe, successful, and COVID-19 free summers in 2020 and 2021, we are looking forward to the Stone Mountain Adventures (SMA) Summer of 2022. Safely running an overnight summer camp in the middle of a pandemic was an incredible achievement and we did so by our vigilance, our devotion to our COVID-19 Protocols, and our attention to detail.

Our initial goal was to determine if it was safe and responsible to hold summer camp in the wake of the global COVID-19 pandemic. After working through the nuances of camp with Infectious Disease Epidemiologist, Cara Exten, and utilizing guidance published by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, CDC, WHO, and the American Camp Association (all resources listed on page 15), we determined that it was possible to run a safe and responsible summer program with some changes to our programming and the addition of certain safety protocols. Bear in mind, if we are not permitted by law to open, we will not legally be able to hold our summer program.

In this document we have outlined the changes and protocols that will allow us to run a safe and responsible summer program during the summer of 2022 according to the Pennsylvania Department of Health. We have also included resources to make the process as simple and easy to understand as possible for parents and campers. As always, we will keep our promise to deliver a safe and classic Stone Mountain Adventures experience for everyone.

Stone Mountain Adventures COVID-19 Safety Protocol

Introduction

At the recommendation of the American Camp Association and the CDC, we have devised a three-part safety protocol: Prevention, Detection and Response.

Prevention will include our requirements for pre-camp epidemic tracking as well as screening upon arrival and camp programming changes. Detection will include on-site health monitoring protocol. Response outlines our plan of action if symptoms present, including isolation and testing protocols.

Definition of “Vaccinated”

To this protocol, “vaccinated” means two weeks past the final vaccine dose.

Prevention Protocol

Prevention: Pre-Camp

To ensure no one is arriving at camp with COVID-19, we are introducing the following pre-camp safety protocols.

1. The SMA Physicians Report with Immunizations and the online SMA medical forms must be complete.
 - a. All camp attendees will be required to submit a medical history form including Immunization History, ongoing health conditions (ex: allergies, asthma, etc.), and notable historical medical conditions.
2. Pre-Camp Protocol **FOR CAMPERS WHO ARE VACCINATED:**
 - a. Vaccinated campers and their vaccinated family members should continue to comply with CDC guidelines.
 - b. Vaccinated campers do not need a negative COVID test.
 - c. To be as safe as possible, we are asking all vaccinated campers and their vaccinated family members to be especially careful in the week leading up to opening day.
3. Pre-Camp Protocol **FOR CAMPERS WHO ARE NOT VACCINATED**
 - a. We are requiring non-vaccinated campers to have a negative COVID test prior to your arrival, preferably taken five days before opening day (Please bring a hard copy of the test results with you on the first day of camp for our medical files).
 - b. In addition to a negative COVID test, we are requiring all non-vaccinated campers to participate in a post-test pre-camp quarantine prior to opening day (vaccinated family members should continue to comply with CDC guidelines).
 - i. Quarantine means staying home except for necessary errands, avoiding crowds, maintaining a 6-foot distance, wearing a mask outside the home, and adopting strict hand washing practices.
 - ii. The purpose of this post-test pre-camp quarantine is to avoid contracting COVID-19 between your child’s COVID test and your arrival at camp. It is also a period to monitor everyone in your household for COVID symptoms.
 1. If anyone in your household develops COVID symptoms in the three days before your arrival, an additional negative test will be required for

- your camper.
- c. A negative COVID test will be required if a vaccinated family member:
 - i. Shows symptoms within the two weeks prior to opening day
 - ii. Is exposed to someone who has confirmed case of COVID-19
 - iii. Is in or around large crowds (this includes attending another summer camp, pool parties, sleepovers, etc.)

Prevention: Opening Day / Drop-Off

We ask for your help in keeping everyone as safe as possible on opening day by doing the following:

4. Opening-Day Drop-Off Protocol
 - a. **FOR VACCINATED FAMILY MEMBERS:**
 - i. Please bring a copy of your vaccination card to show upon arrival.
 - ii. You are not required to wear a mask while at camp.
 - b. **FOR UNVACCINATED FAMILY MEMBERS:**
 - i. You are required to always wear a mask while at camp to help protect you and those around you.
5. Opening Day Drop Off Day Procedures
 - a. Camp drop-offs will be from 12pm-4pm.
 - b. Drop-offs will be brief (30 minutes to an hour).
 - c. After bags are unloaded from the car, they will be delivered to cabins by camp staff. Counselors will help your camper unpack their things.
 - i. We will facilitate conversations between parents and staff prior to opening day so you will have the opportunity to meet the staff and communicate details about your camper.
 - d. PLEASE, **NO PETS** are allowed at drop off/pick up.
 - e. We will have our typical opening-day setup on the driveway with the following stations six-feet apart:
 - i. Camper Check-in
 1. Here you will have the opportunity to chat with SMA Directors and Staff, hand over final paperwork including your COVID-19 Permission to Diagnose and Treat form and settle outstanding camp balances.
 - ii. Meds
 1. Please have your daily meds in a large Ziploc bag. Our medical staff will assist you in sorting meds and placing them in an adhesive blister pack to make distributing meds easier. Any specific medical or dietary concerns will also be communicated.
 2. A staff member will check to make sure our medical information is complete including all medical history, immunization history, permission to treat, and temperature tracking documents.
 - iii. Spending Money and the Camper Bank
 1. We will not be off camp to spend money this summer, but we are having a camp canteen for kids to get treats and souvenirs.
 2. We suggest depositing \$50-\$100 in the camper bank per two-week session for your child. **Make checks to: ANNE MILLAR**
 - iv. Stone Mountain Adventures Merchandise

1. We will have a display of merchandise available for purchase on opening and closing day of each session.
6. Opening-Day Screening
 - a. Our SMA Medical Staff will be conducting temperature checks upon arrival.
 - b. Our team will review your medical documents and make sure we have everything in order.

Prevention: Closing Day / Pick-Up

Pick-Up / Closing Day will look similar, but different, to Opening Day / Drop Off Procedures:

7. Pick-up on closing day will be from 9am to Noon.
8. FULLY VACCINATED Parents and family members are not required to wear a mask while at camp
9. UNVACCINATED Parents and family members are required to wear a mask while at camp

Prevention: During Camp Programming Changes

For the most part our day-to-day camp experience will be the same, with a few changes outlined below.

10. Off-Camp Activities
 - a. We are able to run off-site activities where our group is able to maintain group isolation meaning we have no interaction with people outside of camp. Off-site activities we can safely run and maintain group isolation include:
 - i. Canoeing and Kayaking
 - ii. Mountain Biking
 - iii. Wakeboarding and waterskiing
 - iv. SUP and Sail
 - v. Camping Overnights
 - vi. Rock Climbing
 - vii. White Water Rafting
 - b. Other out of camp activities decisions will be based on COVID-19 Community Levels of the counties they plan to visit (Huntingdon, Centre, Mifflin, Blair Counties).
11. Hand Washing and Sanitizing
 - a. SMA campers will be required to wash their hands before mealtimes and evening snack.
 - b. We will have multiple hand sinks and sanitizing stations around the camp in convenient locations. Campers will be encouraged to wash their hands and sanitize when passing a station between activities.
12. On-site COVID-19 Updates
 - a. We have identified a staff member to stay up-to-date on COVID-19 news and relevant findings throughout the summer, and the member will be referring to the following resources:
 - i. [CDC Coronavirus Updates](#)
 - ii. [WHO Situation Reports](#)
 - iii. [American Camp Association COVID-19 Resource Center for Camps](#)
 - iv. [Huntingdon County COVID-19 Updates](#)

13. Basic Sanitary Practices to Minimize Exposure

- a. Face-touching will be discouraged
- b. Campers will be strongly encouraged to cough/sneeze into their elbow
- c. There will be no sharing of personal items: hairbrushes, pillows, hats, toothpaste, etc.)
- d. There will be no sharing of food or drinks

14. Cabin Safety

- a. Campers will sleep in bunks with their heads in the same direction (head to foot). Bottom bunks will sleep head to foot with heads in the opposite direction to maintain a six-foot distance overnight.
- b. At least two cabin windows (on opposite sides of the cabin) will be kept open for proper ventilation.

15. Meal-Time Protocol

- a. We will introduce additional tables outside the dining hall to create more space between campers while they eat

16. Laundry

- a. Laundry will be done once per two-week session and during intersession.
- b. Please mark your camper's clothing clearly with their full name to make this process as seamless as possible.

Detection Protocol

Our promise is to deliver a safe and responsible summer program while maintaining the classic Stone Mountain Adventures experience. To make camp safe in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, some programming changes have to be made, but we have worked hard to maintain the authentic and unforgettable overnight camp experience.

17. Daily Temperature and Symptom Check and Tracking

- a. Each morning on their way to breakfast we will conduct a one-on-one symptom check with each camper, check their temperature with an infrared thermometer and inquire about any other symptoms.

18. Self-Reporting Reminders

- a. Campers will be encouraged to speak up if they are experiencing any unusual symptoms at any point throughout the day.
- b. Campers will be reminded during our daily evening meeting and before bed to tell their counselor if they are not feeling well.

19. Daily Staff Temperature and Symptom Checks

- a. Every morning during staff meeting, each staff member will be required to do temperature and symptoms check.
- b. Upon arrival at camp, each SMA Support Staff will be required to do temperature and symptoms check.

Response Protocol

To prevent a camp-wide outbreak, we have developed the following protocols to isolate, test, and contain possible cases of COVID-19 at camp. Our staff will be trained to be calm and caring and to ensure the campers with possible COVID-19 cases not to feel isolated,

scared or infectious.

20. Key Symptoms

- a. The following symptoms will trigger a response protocol:
 - i. Fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle aches & pains, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
 1. If any of these symptoms are typical for the camper, we will discuss whether they are worse than usual or if regular medication is not working properly (ex: allergy meds).
 - ii. Additional symptoms that are not otherwise explainable (by their medical history or daily activity) or persist after 8 hours will also trigger a response protocol

21. Response Protocol for Vaccinated Campers:

- a. According to the CDC, vaccinated campers do not need to quarantine if they come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19. This means overnight campers and staff who are up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines can continue attending camp activities if they are determined to be a close contact.
- b. In the event a vaccinated camper exhibits any symptoms of COVID, we will proceed as follows:
 - i. Isolate the camper
 - ii. If the symptoms are respiratory, give the camper a mask to wear
 - iii. We will test the camper immediately

22. Response Protocol for Non-Vaccinated Campers:

- a. Campers who are not vaccinated and come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19 will need to quarantine until they receive a negative COVID test.
- b. In the event a non-vaccinated camper exhibits any symptoms of COVID, we will proceed as follows:
 - i. Isolate the camper
 - ii. If the symptoms are respiratory, give the camper a mask to wear
 - iii. We will test the camper immediately

23. Testing protocol:

- a. We have acquired COVID tests from the CDC and plan to test campers at camp as needed.
- b. A staff member will escort campers through the testing process (both camper and counselor will be wearing masks and avoiding touching their faces). Parents will be consulted as soon as the decision to test has been made.

24. Negative Test Results

- a. The camper returns to camp

25. Positive Test Results

- a. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will isolate away from others for at least five days and follow CDC isolation guidance. Multiple campers or staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19 can be housed together to complete at least five days of isolation. We have identified the Lower Yough

- Cabin (two separate rooms) as our isolation cabin. We also have a pop-up camper as a back-up isolation space.
- b. We will immediately be in communication with parents and decide together whether the camper should remain at camp or if parents can come pick them up.
26. Confirmed Case of COVID-19 Protocol for Session Parents
- a. In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, camp will continue as planned with heightened symptom monitoring.
 - b. Parents will be allowed to voluntarily pick up their children.
27. Intersession Camper and Staff Testing after Confirmed Case of COVID-19
- a. In the event there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a session, all intersession campers and staff members will be required to be tested and receive a negative test result before any new campers arrive on the camp.
28. Parent Communication
- a. We will do our best to send an SMA Camp Newsletter email once per week to update you on the camp fun.
 - b. If a camper requires COVID-19 testing based on the criteria outlined above, their parents will be consulted immediately by phone.
 - c. We will inform all summer parents of any positive COVID-19 case at camp throughout the summer via email as soon as the situation is under control.

Conclusion

The above protocols have been put in place to ensure the safety of our campers, their families, our summer staff, our support staff and our local community. By abiding by the protocol listed above, you will allow us to run a successful summer program without fear of an outbreak and provide your children a safe and memorable experience at camp.

A special thanks to Cara Exten, Ph.D. MPH. for her time and expertise in creating these protocols.

FAQ

Will you be practicing social distancing during camp and discouraging touching?

No. Our philosophy is to prevent COVID-19 from ever entering camp by taking the precautions outlined above. We believe interfering with normal social practices would not be in keeping with the Stone Mountain Adventures Camp experience.

Will campers and/or staff be requiring facemasks during camp?

Only on/off camp staff will be required to wear masks when in enclosed areas or interacting with the campers.

How can I be sure my camper will be safe this summer?

Get your child vaccinated and take the pre-camp protocols seriously. If everyone follows the protocols and non-vaccinated children get tested with negative results, we should have no issues this summer!

What if someone has a temperature?

If a high temperature is recorded during our daily checks, the Response Protocol will be triggered.

What if someone is asymptomatic?

We will be conducting daily temp checks to look for otherwise undetectable symptoms of the virus. However, if we do have an asymptomatic case, we will not know until someone presents with symptoms in which case the Response Protocol will be triggered.

Will I be allowed to visit my camper?

We will not be allowing any visitors during camp sessions however, if your camper is staying multiple sessions and you would like to visit during intersession, that can be arranged.

Will I be told if someone gets sick?

If the Response Protocol is triggered, we will notify all parents in the session via email.

What if someone coughs/sneezes?

We must remember that this is camp, and we don't want campers to feel they've done something wrong if they cough or sneeze. If a camper is coughing or sneezing more than usual, your child may be asked to wear a mask while we monitor their symptoms.

