

**PARK GUIDANCE FROM MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
(REVISED 5/6/2020)**

The following policies related to park admission, capacity, and enforcement have been implemented at state parks and DNR-owned lands/properties:

- Effective immediately, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may begin accepting reservations for tent and RV camping under the following conditions:
 - Campers must be with immediate family members or people with which they reside.
 - No parties or reservations for more than 10 people.
 - Guidance on social distancing must be followed.
 - Signage must be posted regarding COVID-19 prevention.
 - Reservations for cabin rentals will not be accepted at this time, however DNR will begin to consider gradual or regional protocols for accepting reservations.
 - No parties or reservations for more than 10 people should be granted for any one cabin.
- Effective immediately, DNR staff may begin accepting shelter/pavilion rental reservations for groups of less than 10 people if common areas and surfaces can be disinfected between each use, and the facility has adequate staffing to monitor.
 - Social distancing guidance must be followed by the patrons.
- Effective immediately, DNR-owned beaches will be opened under the following conditions:
 - Outdoor exercise such as walking, jogging, running, swimming and fishing are allowed.
 - Guidance on social distancing must be followed.
 - The prohibition on social gatherings must be strictly followed.
 - Chairs, blankets and picnics are prohibited.
 - Signage must be posted regarding COVID-19 prevention.
- Vendors, such as kayak and boat rentals, may resume operations, but should follow U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Maryland Department of Health (MDH) guidelines and utilize protocols to meet social distancing and facial covering requirements.
 - Other retail vendors, such as concessionaires, should remain closed until further notice.
- Effective immediately, playgrounds will be reopened.
 - Signage must be posted regarding COVID-19 prevention.
 - Staff should monitor to ensure groups of less than 10.
- Admission fees will continue to be waived and parks will remain on an “honor” system to avoid/reduce interactions.
- Courts and fields for team and high-contact sports, including basketball, should remain closed and cordoned off with exclusion fencing and locked (if possible). Courts and fields for low-contact sports, including disc golf and tennis, may be opened.

- Signage must be posted regarding COVID-19 prevention.
 - In addition to signage, parks should continue to post COVID-19-related guidance and rules on social media and webpages, and should disseminate information to email lists and community, neighborhood and school forums and newsletters.
- Law enforcement and parks rangers have been given CDC and MDH guidance and should be reminded of that guidance.
 - Law enforcement and park rangers should continue to disperse groups and large gatherings (>10 people).
 - Police, rangers and staff should increase checks of known choke points and congested areas, such as beaches, parking lots and side roads.
 - Certain high congestion, traffic, and use areas, including select parking lots, should remain cordoned off.
 - Local law enforcement should consider increasing the frequency of drive-throughs during the day and evening hours.
 - Law enforcement and parks staff should continue to comply with the executive order regarding facial coverings and should utilize personal protection equipment in accordance with CDC and MDH guidelines.
- Possible COVID-19 transmission points, such as water fountains, should remain cordoned off.
 - Swimming pools will remain closed.
- Continue increased cleaning of all restrooms; bathhouses and showers will remain closed unless required by MDH.
- High volume, indoor facilities such as exhibits, gift shops and visitor centers should remain restricted to the general public.
 - Small groups/tours may be allowed; groups must be less than 10, and staff and visitors must follow the governor's order regarding facial coverings.
 - Protocols should be established for enhanced cleaning, including disinfecting high touch surfaces and common areas.
- Effective immediately, allowable outdoor exercise and recreation in state parks has been expanded to include boating, fishing, hunting, off-highway vehicles and horseback riding under certain conditions and where allowed under park rules.