

COVID-19 Response - Activities and Events Rubric

Effective for programs starting on or after March 9, 2020

Expires March 31, 2020 or when superseded by new guidance



Colorado Department of Health and Environment urges residents to follow these recommendations

People at higher risk of severe illness should stay home and away from large groups of people as much as possible, including public places with lots of people and large gatherings where there will be close contact with others. People at higher risk include:

- Older adults, especially those over 80
- People with underlying health conditions including heart disease, lung disease, kidney disease, or diabetes
- People who have weakened immune systems
- People who are pregnant

[Click here](#) for recommendations from the CDC for people at higher risk for COVID-19 complications.

Workplaces should enact measures that allow people who can work from home to do so. Taking these measures can help reduce the number of workers who encounter people with COVID-19 and help minimize absenteeism due to illness. The American Mountaineering Center is following those CDC Guidelines, [found here](#).

Some people need to be at work to provide essential services of great benefit to the community. They can also take steps in their workplaces to minimize risk.

If you can feasibly avoid bringing large groups of people together, consider postponing events and gatherings. The CDC recommends [these guidelines](#) for any community events planned.

All people should not go out when they are sick.

Expert Resources:

[CDC Recommendations for High Risk Populations](#)

[Large Community Events or Gatherings Protocol](#)

[Latest COVID-19 updates from Colorado Department of Health and Environment](#)

[De-Stigmatizing Coronavirus](#)

Colorado Mountain Club COVID-19 Response Guidance

Colorado Mountain Club COVID-19 Response: Guiding Principles

- The health and well-being of the Colorado Mountain Club community is our top priority
- Minimizing impacts to Colorado Mountain Club programs and activities is an important secondary priority as it supports our mission and the interests of members, volunteers, and staff
- The Colorado Mountain Club community is part of the broader Colorado community; our response to the COVID-19 outbreak will support the overall well-being of the community
- We commit ourselves to decisive decision-making, providing actionable guidance, providing as much support for changes as possible, and for transparent communications

Colorado Mountain Club COVID-19 Response: Action Steps

For all events & activities, please review the latest public health guidelines and check in with your volunteers to make sure they are comfortable running the program.

For all events & activities, we encourage you to *minimize* carpooling with people you wouldn't otherwise have day-to-day contact with. While this contradicts our low-impact ethic, in the near term we must prioritize public health.

Colorado Mountain Club COVID-19 Response: Decision Making Rubric

Follow the questions outlined below to determine whether to move forward with your Colorado Mountain Club program:

Do you have volunteers willing and qualified to run the program?

YES → proceed

NO → cancel or reschedule your activity

Have 50% or more of your participants canceled?

NO → proceed, and require that all participants who are sick stay home

YES, and it is a component of a course or series → cancel or reschedule your activity

YES, and it is a stand-alone event → scale back your event to accommodate a smaller audience, or cancel/reschedule

INDOOR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Will your activity/event have more than 12 people?

NO → Proceed

YES, but fewer than 50 →

- Move to online meeting software when feasible
- ONLY if an online meeting is NOT feasible, ensure your space has 4x capacity of your group size to allow for space.
- For field trips, split into small groups of no more than 12, and avoid intermixing groups

YES → Cancel, Reschedule, Reduce the size, or move to online meeting software

Is your activity/event overnight or multi-day?

NO → Proceed

YES → Proceed, and follow these steps:

- Have a plan for immediate evacuation/cancellation if one person on the trip becomes sick
- Avoid shared sleeping arrangements (participants should have their own sleeping quarters)
- Schedule time for frequent hygiene practices

Will your activity/event require participants to touch one another?

NO → Proceed

YES, but only occasionally → Proceed, provide hand sanitizer and PPE where appropriate, and schedule time for frequent hand washing

YES, frequently → Cancel or reschedule

Will your activity/event require participants to share gear?

NO → Proceed

YES, and all participants are 14+ → Proceed, provide hand sanitizer and PPE where appropriate, and schedule in time for frequent hand washing

YES, and participants are under 14 → Cancel or reschedule

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Will your activity/event have more than 12 people?

NO → Proceed

YES, but we can stay in relatively isolated groups of 12 or fewer → Proceed

YES, and we'll all be intermixed all day → reduce the size, cancel or reschedule your activity/event

Is your activity/event overnight or multi-day?

NO → Proceed

YES → Proceed, and follow these steps:

- Have a plan for immediate evacuation/cancellation if one person on the trip becomes sick
- Avoid shared sleeping arrangements
- Schedule time for frequent hygiene practices

Will your activity/event require participants to touch one another?

NO → Proceed

YES, but only occasionally → Proceed, provide hand sanitizer and PPE where appropriate and schedule in time for frequent hygiene practice

YES, frequently → Cancel or reschedule

Will your activity/event require participants to share gear?

NO → Proceed

YES, and all participants are 14+ → Proceed, provide hand sanitizer and PPE where appropriate, and schedule in time for frequent hygiene practice

YES, and participants are under 14 → Cancel or reschedule

Colorado Mountain Club COVID-19 Response Support Systems

General support:

- Recognizing the wide variety of activities we host, we know that even with this guidance some decisions will be ambiguous. Staff are available to help you decide about your program. The best staff to reach out to for support are: [Kathy Nguyen](#) (Youth Education), [Maddie Miller](#) (Adult Education & Trips), [Claire Joseph](#) (general inquiries & events), [Emily Bresko](#) (Permits)

Online meeting support:

- The Colorado Mountain Club has a Zoom (video conferencing) account available for volunteers who would like to move their event/activity to an online platform. Please contact [Claire Joseph](#) to inquire about availability. Meetings will be scheduled on a first-come first-served basis as accounts are available.

Re-scheduling support:

- Our facilities staff will provide support to volunteers looking to reschedule events at the American Mountaineering Center. Please contact [Claire Joseph](#) to see if we have any flexibility to reschedule.
- For programs on public lands, please contact [Emily Bresko](#) if you have questions or concerns about how land manager or permit regulations will affect your ability to reschedule a program.

Cancellation & refund support:

- If you need to cancel your personal participation due to illness or Coronavirus related issue, or if a program in which you are enrolled is cancelled by a volunteer, you will be given a full refund. You will not be charged a cancellation fee.
- Refunds will be issued by our member services team Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm. Refunded money can take up to a few weeks to show up on your credit card statement.

Support for staff:

- All staff should work from home when it's feasible to do their jobs from home.
- For staff who work most of their normal time directly or indirectly with programs:
 - When programs are canceled, supervisors should work with staff to find alternate work that can be accomplished at home. If that is not feasible, staff should work with supervisors to evaluate whether work can be assigned in the office, provided it is consistent with then-current public health recommendations.
 - When non-exempt hours are canceled due to program cancellations (canceled renter groups, canceled youth programs, etc), alternate work will be made available. The Colorado Mountain Club will support all staff and want to reduce unnecessary worries about job security as we're responding to the coronavirus outbreak. Instead of doing alternative work, employees may choose to take sick or vacation time if they and their supervisor agree.