



Camp Tannadoonah
2022
COVID-19 Policies and Guidelines



Camp Fire

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To our summer campers, staff, families, and friends,

This guidebook is intended to help us forge a partnership with our families to ensure we are properly prepared for our third summer since the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic. It remains a work in progress as we continue to gain more knowledge in our quest to ensure a safe, healthy, and successful summer at Camp Tannadoonah.

We are thrilled to say that Camp Tannadoonah had a successful Summer 2021, operating for 8 1/2 weeks of overnight camp, with only one case of COVID-19 and no community spread. While protecting our community required some adjustments, we were inspired to see the joy camp provided to campers and counselors last summer.

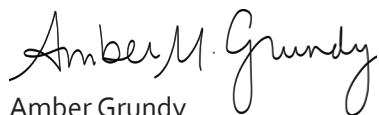
While we navigated 2020 and 2021 successfully, we continue to adapt and change our policies as we prepare for 2022. The health and well-being of our camp community continues to be our highest priority. The information provided in our guidebook is based on information from several respected sources including:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- The American Camp Association (ACA)
- The State of Michigan (MDHHS and LARA)

The policies outlined in this document reflect our plans based on April 2022 COVID case rates. We will adhere to all current MDHHS Epidemic orders and will make adjustments if the COVID situation changes prior to the start of each camp session.

Now more than ever, camp is critical for the mental health and positive social development of our children and youth. With that in mind, we are committed to ensuring Camp Tannadoonah will provide our campers with the best camping experience possible. All of us – our campers, our staff, and our families – must work together to ensure a safe, healthy, and successful camp for all of our participants.

Please take the time to thoroughly read through this guidebook. We are always happy to discuss any aspect of this information. Please contact us at any time with your questions or concerns. Thank you, be well, and stay safe.



Amber Grundy
CEO, Camp Fire River Bend



Gabby Bittner
Camp Director, Camp Tannadoonah

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General Information

Introduction

We are hopeful that case rates will be low enough by June that we won't need to do ANY of these COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies. But as we write this in April, there are too many unknowns to be certain of what this summer will look like.

We are aware that despite our best efforts to prevent coronavirus from entering the camp community, it is impossible to completely eliminate all risk. By sending your camper to camp, you acknowledge that there is a risk of exposure to coronavirus, and that Camp Tannadoonah is taking reasonable measures to ensure the health and safety of your child.

We ask that all parents/guardians review this guidebook with their camper(s) prior to arriving at Camp Tannadoonah.

Guiding Principals

Camp Tannadoonah has adopted the following guiding principles in our approach to maintaining a safe, healthy, and successful camp community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Outdoor Programming
- Vaccinations for Staff
- COVID-Cautious Lifestyles
- Testing
- Sanitizing
- Communicating
- Training

COVID-19 Response Team

If you have any questions regarding anything in this guidebook, or regarding COVID-19 at camp, please contact us at 574-387-6095 or email.

Amber Grundy, CEO - amber@riverbendcampfire.org

Gabby Bittner, Camp Director - gabby@riverbendcampfire.org

Coronavirus Outdoors

There is some evidence that the Coronavirus becomes weaker as the temperature and humidity increases. The virus has more ability to spread in enclosed spaces, so being outdoors, with wide open fresh air, wind, and other weather factoring in, means that the virus transmission is quite low.

Being outdoors is the #1 way for us to limit the potential spread of coronavirus at camp. For this reason, we will spend as much time as possible at camp outdoors. When we are forced to move indoors due to inclement weather, we will take additional precautions to limit the potential for virus spread.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Primary symptoms of COVID-19 may include one or more of the following:

- Fever of 100.4F or higher
- Body or muscle aches
- Congestion or runny nose
- Cough
- Diarrhea
- Severe Headache
- Fatigue
- Loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Sore throat

Duration of Symptoms

If a person is showing symptoms of COVID-19 they are required to isolate and quarantine. In general, the incubation period of the virus is between 2-14 days. That means once the virus enters the body, it can sometimes take between 2-14 days for symptoms to appear. A symptomatic person may be able to end their quarantine and attend camp after:

- 7-10 days have elapsed since symptoms began
- 24 hours fever-free (without medication)
- Other symptoms improve

For the safety of all of our campers, staff, and families, please notify Camp Tannadoonah of any potential COVID-19 exposures.

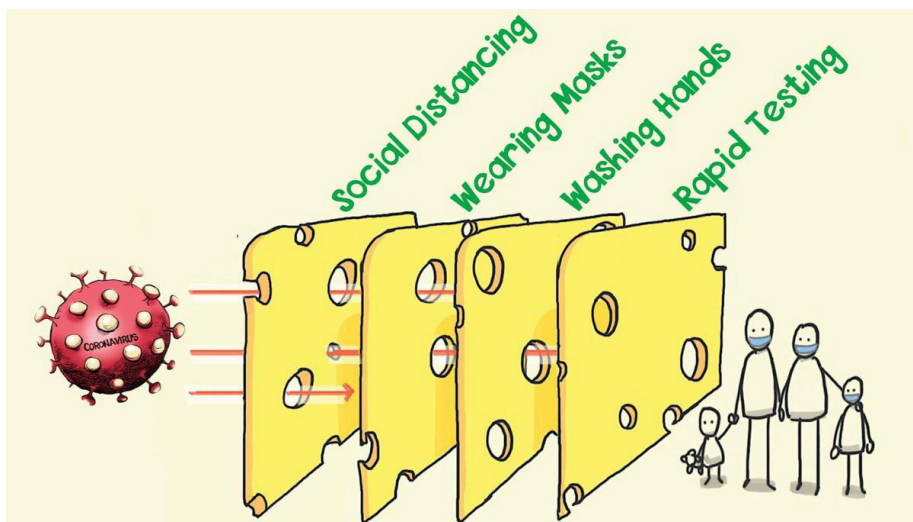
High Risk Individuals

If a camper or staff member is at higher risk for COVID-19 complications, it is highly recommended that they consult their medical provider to assess the risk of attending camp. High-risk conditions include (but are not limited to):

- Asthma
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic lung disease
- Diabetes
- Heart conditions
- High blood pressure
- Immuno-compromised
- Liver Disease
- Obesity
- Over the age of 65

Prevention: The Swiss Cheese Approach

There is no single action that can guarantee that a person will not contract COVID-19. At Camp Tannadoonah we've embraced the "Swiss Cheese Approach." Think about every preventative measure as a slice of Swiss cheese. In every slice of cheese, there are walls and there are holes. There is no perfect, singular way to stop the spread of COVID-19. By layering multiple prevention measures on top of each other - hand sanitizing AND limiting time indoors AND vaccinations AND getting tested before going to camp - creates fewer openings for the virus to travel through. The more precautions taken prior to and during camp to mitigate the potential exposure to COVID-19, the less risk for everyone of a major spread of the virus at camp.



All layers are important because each layer is not perfect.

Prevention Strategies: Masks

Masking is an effective way to decrease the risk of COVID-19. An effective mask should completely cover your nose and mouth, and fit snugly against the sides of your face without any gaps. The best masks have two or more layers of breathable fabric.

We do not anticipate that campers and staff will be required to wear masks often, but there may be some situations where we ask everyone to put on a mask. There is more detailed information regarding masks at camp this summer on page 10.

Prevention Strategies: Vaccines

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are the most effective tool against COVID-19. The vaccines are effective in keeping you from getting seriously ill even if you do contract COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccinations work by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting severely ill from COVID-19.

We are requiring each staff member and camp volunteer to be fully vaccinated prior to arrival at camp, or submit a formal request to be exempt from the vaccination requirement for medical or religious reasons. The vast majority of our summer staff and volunteers are already fully vaccinated. All staff members, regardless of vaccine status, will be tested for COVID-19 weekly.

We strongly encourage any eligible camper to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, but do not plan to have a vaccine requirement for youth participants. You can schedule a vaccine appointment at <https://www.vaccines.gov/>

Testing

An antigen test is a type of "rapid" test that detects whether specific proteins from the virus are present in an infected person. These rapid tests typically return results in about 15 minutes. Antigen tests have a higher rate of false negatives; in other words, they can miss active infections and incorrectly come back as negative. Despite not being as reliable as PCR tests, an antigen test is important to have at camp as an extra layer in our safety plan.

Campers will be tested using an Abbott antigen test upon arrival at camp, on the first day of the session. Campers who attend multiple sessions will be tested once per week. Staff will be tested weekly throughout the summer as well.

PCR testing is considered the most accurate and sensitive method of testing for COVID-19. We are not **requiring** campers or staff to obtain a negative PCR test prior to arrival at camp, however, **we highly recommend obtaining a test if you are able to do so.** We will gladly accept a copy of the results to add to your camper's health profile, if you do get a test and are willing to share the results with us. Why are we strongly encouraging families get the PCR test ahead of time? The last thing we want is for a surprise positive antigen test to show up on check-in day, resulting in your camper having to go home.

COVID-19 Risk in Children

While fewer children have been sick with COVID-19 compared to adults, children can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, can get sick from COVID-19, and can spread the virus that causes COVID-19 to others. Children, like adults, who have COVID-19 but have no symptoms (“asymptomatic”) can still spread the virus to others.

Each family needs to decide whether or not they are comfortable with the risk of sending their child to Camp Tannadoonah during this time. The reality is that it is impossible to guarantee that COVID-19 will not come into camp.

Children who have existing comorbidities (one or more additional conditions occurring at the same time) have higher risk of more severe COVID-19 reactions. As mentioned previously, it is imperative that any person who has a higher risk of concern consults their medical professional to decide whether attending camp is worth the risk.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

If you cancel your camper’s registration by May 31, 2022, we will issue a refund of any payments made, less the non-refundable deposit. Beginning June 1, no refunds will be issued unless the cancellation is for a documented medical reason, accompanied by a doctor’s note.

All remaining camp balances are due by June 1, 2022. If your account is not paid in full by June 1, 2022, you may forfeit your spot to a camper on the waiting list, and will not receive a refund for any payments made to date.

No refunds will be issued once a camper has arrived at camp, unless they are sent home at the request of the Health Officer for a verified medical reason. If a camper or campers are sent home due to a positive COVID test or exposure to COVID, we will work with each family individually to either offer a pro-rated refund or reschedule for another week of camp if possible.

Please be aware that NO refunds will be issued if you cancel because you disagree with the COVID-related guidelines. We are doing everything we can to ensure the safety of all of our campers and staff, and by registering and paying your deposit, you are agreeing to abide by the policies that our health and safety staff determine are in the best interest of our participants.

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COVID & The Camp Program

Before Coming to Camp

In order to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 being brought into camp, we are requesting that all campers and staff take additional safety measures in the two weeks prior to their arrival.

COVID-Cautious Lifestyle

We are requesting that all campers and staff observe a COVID-cautious lifestyle as much as possible in the two weeks leading up to arrival at camp. This doesn’t mean a strict quarantine at home - we understand that you need to go to school and work and other activities you are involved in. We ask that you avoid crowded events and gatherings where precautions are not being taken, such as indoor parties, large crowds, non-essential travel, dining out, and gatherings where proper precautions are not being taken.

Travel to Camp

Traveling to and from camp via a personal vehicle is the safest mode of transportation. It minimizes the amount of potential COVID-19 exposure while outside of the home. **If a group of campers travel to camp together, and one person in the vehicle tests positive for COVID-19 upon arrival at camp, everyone in the vehicle will be considered a close contact and will be unable to attend camp.**

Campers and staff who have traveled by airplane must follow current CDC rules for travel and quarantines following travel. For all travel via public transit please follow CDC recommendations for social distancing during travel, and wear a mask for the duration of your travel. We recommend wearing an N-95 mask or double masking if possible. Please visit the CDC website to view the most recent travel guidelines.

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>)

Check in and Check out

As we did in 2020 and 2021, we will conduct check in and check out entirely in the parking lot or the circle in front of the Welcome Center. There is a detailed description of the check in and check out process in our 2022 parent guide (tannadoonah.org/camp/parents). We are still hopeful that case rates will be low enough during the summer to allow parents to help their campers get settled in at the cabin if they wish to, but that decision will be made at a later date.

The first step of the check in process will be to complete the COVID-19 rapid tests. While you wait for your campers' results, you will need to wait in your vehicle (approximately 15-20 minutes). For day camp families, the COVID-19 rapid test will take place on Monday morning, so we recommend you give yourselves a little extra time on Monday morning when you bring your child to camp.

During Camp

Camp leadership has been looking at every component of camp to maintain as much of the "normal" Camp Tannadoonah experience as possible. We know campers have been through a stressful time, filled with unanticipated changes, high anxiety, and disappointments. Our goal is that once everyone has been tested upon arrival, we can go back to as much of a "normal" camp schedule as possible, including regular activity schedules and eating meals in the Dining Hall.

Masks at Camp

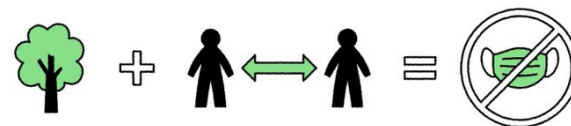
There **may** be times when campers and staff will be required to wear masks. You should plan to send at least 1 clean mask for each day of the week. We anticipate that campers will **not be required to wear a mask during a vast majority** of their program days. If campers or staff feel more comfortable wearing masks when not required, they are welcome to make that choice.

Ultimately, we are required to follow Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) epidemic orders when it comes to the wearing of masks at camp. **At the time of writing of this document masks are not required in any of our normal camp settings.** If the orders change between now and the start of camp, we will adapt our policies to meet the current rules, so that we do not jeopardize our status as a licensed camp program.

Rule of 2 out of 3

When we have larger group gatherings, especially indoors, we may ask campers and staff to follow the "rule of 2 out of 3."

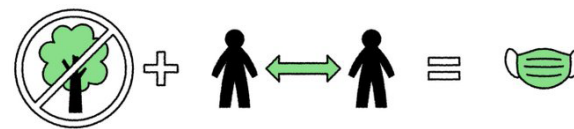
Outdoors + Distanced = No Mask Needed



Outdoors + No Distance = Mask Needed



Not Outdoors + Distanced = Mask Needed



Handwashing

We will ask campers and staff to wash hands with soap and water before every meal. At least one counselor per group will carry hand sanitizer, to be used before and after every camp activity. Campers and staff will be reminded to wash their hands and use hand sanitizer frequently.

Meals

Only kitchen staff who have received training in food handling and safety procedures will be allowed to enter the kitchen beyond the serving counter. We intend to eat meals in the Dining Hall this year. Most likely, cabins will eat together for each meal, at a designated table. Meals will be served family style. Lunch and dinner will include a salad bar option. Breakfast will include a cereal and fruit option daily. Milk will be served at at least two meals daily.

Emergency Procedures

Procedures will be modified as much as possible to allow for social distancing of groups. However, the immediate health and safety of all campers and staff will be prioritized in situations of a missing camper, lost swimmer, fire, severe weather, or other critical emergency.

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COVID Emergency Action Plan

Potential COVID case at Camp

A camper identified as having a potential case of COVID-19 will be isolated from other members of the camp community as part of Camp's communicable illness plan. We have designated the screened porch at the Health Officer's cabin as the isolation area for all potential communicable illnesses.

If a camper presents with symptoms of COVID-19, they will be evaluated by the Camp Health Officer. The Health Officer will determine whether or not to activate the COVID-19 Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Each case will be evaluated individually, and the exact course of action taken by the Health Officer may vary depending on the severity of the individual's symptoms.

Initiation of the EAP: First 15 minutes

- Symptomatic individual will be isolated from other campers on the Health Officer's porch.
- Leadership team (CEO, Directors, Health Officer) will be notified.
- The Health Officer will contact the camper's emergency contacts.
- The Health Officer will obtain consent to administer a rapid antigen test from the camper's parent or guardian.
- The Health Officer will remain with the camper to monitor their condition and provide updates to the Leadership team.
- The Camp Director will monitor phone calls and emails.
- All available staff will put on appropriate PPE and prepare for the cleaning phase of the EAP.
- If the rapid antigen test is positive, the cleaning phase of the EAP will be initiated.
- The Health Officer and Camp Director will identify close contacts and begin contacting parents or guardians of these individuals.

If a Positive case is confirmed

- The Camp Director will notify the Cass Van Buren Health Department of a positive test result.
- We will follow the current guidance of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) regarding required quarantines.
- The Camp Director will send an email to all families whose campers are currently at camp. This communication will serve as notification of a positive case of COVID-19 at camp, inform parents of the mitigation steps being taken, and the options for picking up their campers if desired.
- Camp will follow the guidance of the Cass Van Buren Health Department regarding additional health screenings for staff and campers who remain at camp.

If test results are negative

A camper who presented with symptoms of a communicable illness must meet all of the following criteria before they would be permitted to return to camp activities:

- They are fever-free for at least 24 hours, without medication to reduce fever.
- Other symptoms have improved.

Cleaning Phase: Within 30 Minutes

- If a positive case of COVID-19 is confirmed, The Camp Director will instruct staff to initiate cleaning and sanitization of shared spaced and equipment, utilizing all available staff.
- The first priority for cleaning and sanitizing will be the Dining Hall and the Shower House.
- Shared spaces (such as activity areas like the handcraft porch), high touch surfaces (door knobs, light switches, table tops, faucets), and shared equipment (sports balls, archery equipment, kayak paddles, life vests) will be cleaned and sanitized.
- The Health Officer will continue to monitor and provide care to the patient, providing updates to the Camp Director.
- A Head Counselor, wearing appropriate PPE, will pack the camper's belongings, placing everything in large plastic trash bags, and bring them to the Welcome Center porch.
- The other campers will not return to their cabin until it has been thoroughly sanitized.

Communication Phase: Within 2 Hours

- The Camp Director or Health Officer will make phone calls to each of the parents/guardians of close contacts to update them on the situation.
- Private health information will not be shared; parents will be notified that there is a potential COVID exposure, and will be informed of the steps we are taking.
- The CEO will notify the President of the Camp Fire Board of Directors to inform them of the situation and the mitigation steps we are taking.
- The Camp Director and CEO are the only individuals who are authorized to speak to the media, if necessary.

Thank you.

Thank you for taking COVID-19 seriously, and helping us protect all of the members of our camp community. Thank you for reading and sharing these policies with your camper(s) before you arrive at camp. And thank you for trusting Camp Fire and Camp Tannadoonah, and supporting our efforts to provide the best camp experience possible.



Our Promise

Young people want to shape the world. Camp Fire provides the opportunity to find their Spark, lift their voice, and discover who they are. In Camp Fire, it begins *now*. **Light the fire within.**

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Camp Tannadoonah is operated by Camp Fire River Bend, Inc., a chartered council of Camp Fire National Headquarters, Inc. Camp Tannadoonah is licensed by the State of Michigan and Accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). Camp Tannadoonah welcomes all youth and their families, regardless of ethnicity, race, creed, gender identity, social status, disability, or sexual orientation.