

COVID-19 PLANNING

Navigating the New Normal with TU Events & Activities

One thing is certain as we all continue to learn and grow through the the COVID-19 pandemic: The situation is ever-changing and knowing where things will stand in a month – or even a week – is nearly impossible.

For our chapters and councils looking to return to conservation, community and fishing activities, deciding when to move forward with in-person events and how to do so safely is daunting and challenging. While in-person activities are permitted by TU at this time, every chapter, council and volunteer leader is required to follow all federal, state and local laws, regulations, ordinances and best practices for gatherings and group events includi

At the same time, we encourage our chapters and councils to carefully consider whether holding any in-person event at this time is appropriate or necessary and if so, whether those events can be held exclusively outdoors or in spaces where social distancing is easily maintained.

When planning your coming events, please be sure to discuss the following questions, among others, as a board as you make your plans:

- What are our local rules on gathering size, mask use and social distancing?
- How will we communicate expectations for behavior and personal protective equipment (masks and gloves) to event attendees in advance?
- If our event requires masks and an attendee arrives without one, how will we handle it? Will we ask them to leave or will we have new, disposable masks available to give them?
- Will we take attendee's temperatures as they arrive at our events?
- Who will handle the contact tracing sign-in sheet to ensure we have contact information (phone and email at the least) for every attendee at our event in the case of an exposure?
- If we are using equipment (shovels, loppers etc...), do we have enough so each attendee will have their own, or will people need to share equipment? If they are sharing equipment, what will be our cleaning and disinfecting protocol and who will be in charge of ensuring all equipment is properly disinfected between uses?

Feel free to [contact your Volunteer Operations Staff](#) with questions, for clarification or advice.

Stay safe, healthy and smart as you continue to grow and develop your local conservation community during COVID-19.