

The state is slowly allowing the opening of a few more types of businesses and changing some of the rules for others. Some of the guidelines are very specific and others only give us guidance from which we have to make the policies. Please take the time to read this entire update. We are trying to make things as clear as possible and also to adapt procedures to make them easy to follow while also meeting the guidelines. By working together we can all relax, be less stressed and make the best of this situation.

The current guidelines referred to by the state as "Stay at Home 2.0" are scheduled to be in effect until 5/31. They could of course be modified, extended or otherwise changed at any time.

Operationally there are a number of changes being forced upon us. One is that we can only accept customers who either reside in state or are "members." Right now we are not taking any more reservations from out of state campers for arrival before 5/31. This restriction may well be determined to be unconstitutional as a restraint of interstate commerce especially as it is only being applied to campgrounds and golf courses and not to other retail establishments including state liquor stores.

Every camper must have a reservation. No drop-ins. Campers cannot have any day visitors or overnight guests. This means the only people on your site can be the people in your household that you specified when you made your reservation. Outdoor gatherings cannot exceed 10 people and people must remain at least 6 feet apart. (of course people in the same household do not have to remain 6 feet apart) This effectively eliminates group campfires and group meals, hanging out on your friend's site etc. Please also note that the State is asking all people from out of state to quarantine for 14 days. As many of you from out of state will be staying less than 14 days that would mean quarantining the entire time you are here. The state's definition of quarantine would mean not using the campground restrooms, store, retail places in the surrounding communities, etc. You can still walk around and drive around, but no interaction with other people or surfaces. This definitely means you can't be on someone else's campsite even if you were to remain 6 feet apart. Please bring with you whatever you will need during your stay (or 14 days if staying for that long or longer) so you will not violate the quarantine by having to shop.

There are a number of facilities and activities that we currently cannot offer.

Closed: Game rooms in both campgrounds, TV room in Meredith Woods, Pool and Hot Tub in Meredith Woods, All playgrounds in both campgrounds, boat rentals and sports equipment sign-outs, and all activities. Beaches were not specifically mentioned in the guidelines so fall into the category of "outdoor public gathering areas" which are limited to 10 people who remain 6 feet apart which effectively closes it.

The use of other facilities will be modified. As tents have to use the restrooms, the state mandated that tent sites (or sites with non-self-contained units) could only be rented at 50% occupancy. We decided to not allow tents until at least the end of May rather trying to make that work. This does not mean you can't have a tent on your site, but rather that you have to have a self-contained RV on your site. Because of the difficulty in continually disinfecting all the restrooms and not needing them with everyone having self-contained units we expect to close half of our restrooms so we can concentrate on the open ones.

Obviously any frequently touched surface has the potential of transferring the virus so we do concentrate on cleaning those and also advise everyone to minimize the touching of surfaces and disinfect whenever possible.

The store is open and fully stocked for your convenience. Please accompany all children under 12 and remind them not to touch anything they will not be purchasing. Remember to practice social distancing while in the store. Children over 12 are permitted in the store as long as they follow the social distancing rules.

Check in Procedures

We are trying to minimize interaction during this process. We have two check-in counters in the office with the usual blue tape marked box to stand in to maintain 6 feet between customers. There is a solid sheet of plexiglass separating you from the clerk. As there is only enough room at the registration area for the two people currently registering we require that people waiting to register wait outside the office on the porch until a space is available. Please be ready to register and pay so you can quickly complete the registration process. This means having your license plate information, any balance due (credit card or cash), and the cash deposit of \$10 required for each gate card (exact change if possible). Only one person from the site should come in to register.

In Conclusion

One of the main reasons campgrounds are allowed to be open while other lodging remains closed is because the campground industry convinced the state that it is easy to quarantine and/or social distance in a campground as every family has their own individual site. This advantage is negated if people do not follow the same social distancing rules in the campgrounds that they are told to follow at home.

From the CDC:

Everyone should limit close contact with individuals outside your household in indoor and outdoor spaces. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others when possible, even if you have no symptoms. Avoid large and small gatherings in private places and public spaces, such a friend's house, parks, restaurants, shops, or any other place. This advice applies to people of any age, including teens and younger adults. Children should not have in-person play dates.

We must stress to you that these rules must be followed while camping. This is for the health of all our customers and so we can continue to be open and be able to serve our customers under these difficult circumstances. If you do not feel you want to camp under these rules, we ask that you stay home until the rules loosen.

Thank you and stay safe,
Jon, Sue and the staff