

GSNEO COVID-19 Guidelines for Pool Reopening

Effective June 26, 2020, Girl Scouts of North East Ohio has established the guidelines below for troops who wish to use the pools located at GSNEO camp properties. Reservations for pool usage will begin on Monday, June 29, 2020.

1. These guidelines are based on measures shared by the State of Ohio as part of [Responsible RestartOhio](#), and are subject to change if state or local conditions change.
2. In addition to the protocols below, all Girl Scout policies and procedures must be followed, including [GSUSA Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) when applicable.
3. Troop leaders and families should thoughtfully discuss if they are ready to have troop/family event. Caregivers who are not ready to participate should be provided a way to stay participate during the day or find additional ways to stay connected to the troop.
4. Each troop/family should weigh their participation based on their own health concerns and tolerance for risk.
5. Research doesn't show any evidence of transference in the water. However, participants will wash their hands before going into to the pool. After getting out participants will wash or sanitize their hands after changing their clothes.
6. Access and usage of the Pool House is limited to family restrooms. Participants are encouraged to come to the site ready to swim and limit use of the pool house for restroom facilities.

Face Coverings. Volunteers should remind girls that Girl Scouts wear face coverings (masks) not only to protect themselves but to protect others. Face coverings are a civic responsibility and a sign of caring for the community. Girls can bring their own face coverings. Have disposable masks on hand for those who need them. Volunteers can teach girls [how to handle their face coverings](#) so that the coverings are effective. Some girls or volunteers may not be able to wear masks, due to medical conditions such as asthma.

From the start of this pandemic, Girl Scouts have proven themselves to be strong community supporters, going above and beyond to keep themselves and others safe. COVID-19 remains an extremely contagious virus that spreads easily in the community. Volunteers should take all reasonable precautions to limit potential exposure for girls, themselves and families and to prevent additional community transmission.

WHILE PLANNING POOL USAGE

MANDATORY

1. These guidelines must be used in conjunction with the [GSUSA Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) (Swimming, pages 167-170).
2. Operate under reduced capacity. No more than 35 people total. Maximum of 25 people in the pool at any one time. Minimum of 3 and maximum of 10 watchers are permitted.
3. Symptoms must be assessed before the event. Any individual having a fever of 100 degrees or higher cannot attend.
4. Ensure that your group will have a certified Lifeguard over 18 years of age in attendance.

5. Ensure that your group will have a First Aid/CPR/AED Certified adult in attendance with a First Aid Kit.
6. You will be sanitizing high-touch surfaces at arrival and departure, so be sure to pack disinfecting cleaner for your outing.

RECOMMENDED

1. Identify participants with higher risk factors related to COVID-19 and encourage them to take additional precautions while preparing for the event.
2. Participants should record their temperature for 14 days before the event. If they have a temperature of higher than 100 degrees or any other [COVID-19 symptoms](#) they should not attend.
3. Anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19 in the last 14 days, should not attend.
4. Troop members should travel to event with only members of their household in the vehicle. Consider staggering drop-offs and pick-ups when scheduling your event, to eliminate the possibility of larger groups gathering.
5. Encourage face covering when entering buildings or interacting in close proximity to other swimmers, practice good personal hygiene including washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, refraining from touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, coughing and sneezing into an elbow, etc.

WHILE AT THE POOL

MANDATORY

1. These guidelines must be used in conjunction with the [GSUSA Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) (Swimming, pages 167-170).
2. Operate under reduced capacity. No more than 35 people total. Maximum of 25 people in the pool at any one time. Minimum of 3 and maximum of 10 watchers are permitted.
3. Group has a certified Lifeguard over 18 years of age in attendance.
4. Group has a First Aid/CPR/AED Certified adult in attendance with a First Aid Kit.
5. Use social distancing and maintain at least six feet or more between individuals in all areas of the pool and deck whenever possible.
6. No gathering in groups of different households. Do not swim or gather in groups of more than 10.
7. Swimmers should not stand, sit, or otherwise block walkways or any identified narrow passage area.
8. Upon arrival and at departure time, sanitize all high-touch surfaces including doorknobs, railings, restrooms, etc. and any tools, supplies, and equipment before and after usage.
9. Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms while at the pool. Contact Property Manager to Shutdown area for deep sanitation if possible.

RECOMMENDED

1. Wear a mask or face covering when on the pool deck, entering buildings, or interacting near other pool guests. Masks should be removed prior to swimming as wet masks can cause difficulty breathing.
2. Practice good personal hygiene including washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, refraining from touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, coughing and sneezing into an elbow, etc.
3. Discourage or prohibit shared objects including goggles, nose clips, and snorkels.

AFTER THE POOL

MANDATORY

1. At departure time, sanitize all high-touch surfaces including doorknobs, railings, restrooms, etc. and any tools, supplies, and equipment after usage.
2. Leaders must keep complete list of attendees at each meeting / event and include the date and beginning and ending time of the event, to be made available to local health districts if requested.
3. In the event of a COVID-19 positive test result, you must immediately submit a written [Incident Report](#) to GSNEO. Do NOT contact the parents or troop members. Promptly contact your council in this situation. A council staff member and NOT volunteers, will:
 1. Alert the county department(s) health and maintain patient confidentiality.
 2. Work with the local department(s) of health to contact the caregivers of anyone who may have been exposed, or other adult volunteers, without divulging the positive tester's identity.

RECOMMENDED

1. Keep an open dialogue with families about current conditions and willingness to meet in person and hold events.

Additional guidance and resources:

- [GSNEO COVID-19 Guidelines for Troop Meetings](#)
- [Responsible RestartOhio: Local and Public Pools and Aquatic Centers](#)
 - [GSUSA Volunteer COVID-19 Guidance](#)
 - [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#)