

Camp COVID-19 Policies for Oxbow summer camp 2022

*Oxbow is planning our 2022 summer camp season with these COVID-prevention practices in mind, and we believe our approach represents the appropriate level of caution to keep campers, families, and staff healthy while still having fun! Our protocols and restrictions are based on the latest information provided by the CDC, the Washington State Department of Health, and the American Camp Association. Our protocols and procedures are structured in a 3-tier system, based on the latest Covid-19 Community Level reported by the [King County Department of Health's COVID-19 Community Level Dashboard](#):

Tier 1 (Green): King County Covid-19 Community Level is LOW - We will practice frequent hand washing and daily health screenings. Campers are expected to bring masks to camp to be worn during food prep, large gatherings which include singing (such as opening & closing circle), inside our bathroom facilities, or in the event of sudden symptoms onset. Masks will not be required for most games and activities, and camp groups will be able to interact with one another.

Tier 2 (Yellow): King County Covid-19 Community Level is MEDIUM – In addition to Tier 1 procedures, we will wear masks at all times (during small group as well as large group activities), except while eating or taking a distanced mask break. Staff will assess and limit activities that involve close contact and interaction with other camp groups, will provide individual tools (not shared) for activities, and will frequently clean/sanitize high-touch surfaces and items.

Tier 3 (Red): King County Covid-19 Community Level is HIGH – In addition to our Tier 1 and 2 procedures, we will minimize large group gatherings and camp groups will have very limited interactions with one another, while conducting activities in more spread-out areas.

Campers, staff, and volunteers are always welcome to wear masks and take additional precautions, at their discretion. Full descriptions of COVID-19 safety practices to be conducted before camp, upon arrival on site, and during camp are listed below. We ask for active participation from families to ensure all campers and staff are exposed to the lowest possible risk- thank you!

Pre-screening and monitoring:

Parents/guardians will be asked to take camper temperature (monitoring for fever*) every day before arrival at Oxbow. During morning check-in, we will ask campers and families to answer pre-screening questions including asking about symptoms and history of exposure.

Vaccination:

While we encourage vaccinations for all who are eligible, campers and volunteers are **not required** to be vaccinated against COVID-19. All paid Oxbow staff, however, are required to be fully vaccinated based on eligibility and the latest [definitions from the CDC](#).

Staying home if sick and/or possible exposure:

We require that if a camper (or member of their household) is exhibiting any symptoms that could be COVID-19, they stay home from camp for the remainder of the week unless assessed by a doctor and approved to return and/or tested negative. Even if symptoms are mild, we require at least a one-day absence from camp for monitoring. If a camper or household member has experienced a suspected exposure to COVID-19 within the two weeks prior to camp, we

ask that you monitor your camper closely for symptoms and recommend seeking a PCR test no more than 3 days after the suspected exposure, but early enough that you will receive results before the start of camp. Our staff will be following the same procedure, informed by [CDC's guidance](#), the [WA Department of Health Guidance for Childcare, Youth Development and Day Camps](#), and the [American Camp Association \(ACA\) guidance](#).

If your camper tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to stay home from camp for at *least* 5 days following the positive test result (see "return to camp" criteria below.) If you must cancel your registration or your camper/s must stay home for a portion of the camp week due to COVID or COVID exposure, you are protected by our camp cancellation policy: <https://www.oxbow.org/education/summercamp/summer-camp-policies/>

On site, staff will be alert for symptoms, including:

- Fever*, cough or shortness of breath, or other [symptoms](#) of COVID-19
- Staff will check temperature using a forehead thermometer if symptoms develop.

Campers may return to camp once they meet all the following criteria:

- Are symptom-free for 24 hours
- Are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
- If tested for COVID-19, have received either a negative antigen (at-home) test result or a negative PCR (testing center) test result.

Supplies:

What to bring to camp is detailed [here](#). Campers are asked to bring their own face mask (cleaned or replaced daily) and, if available, work gloves and notebook or journal (including pens, pencils, colors), in addition to their own water bottle, lunch, and all utensils, in order to minimize sharing.

Surface sanitizer, extra masks, gloves, soap, paper products, and first aid supplies will be available at various locations around the farm. Camp staff are also equipped with 1st Aid and extra COVID safety gear at all times.

Pick up and Drop Off:

Hand washing stations will be set up at the entrance of Oxbow for campers to clean their hands upon arrival at Oxbow.

Parents and other individuals who are on-site during drop off will also be required to wear masks as needed based on our 3-tier COVID protocols listed above, unless exempt based on [Governor Inslee's mandate](#).

*For the purpose of this guidance, fever is defined as subjective fever (feeling feverish) or a measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher. Note that fever may be intermittent or may not be present in some people, such as those who are elderly, immunocompromised, or taking certain fever-reducing medications (e.g., nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs [NSAIDS]).

Campers must have their temperature taken daily either before coming to Oxbow or upon arriving. If campers have a fever* they will be asked to return (or stay at) home. Parent/guardian and camper will be asked daily if the camper has any symptoms of COVID-19 (shortness of breath, flushed cheeks, difficulty breathing, cough). Additional symptoms are not limited to, but may include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Parents will be asked to complete a daily sign-in acknowledging their camper has been assessed for potential symptoms.

Social Distancing on site at Oxbow:

Campers will be placed in groups, typically with a 10:2 camper to staff/volunteer ratio. Campers will spend their entire week with this cohort.

- The vast majority of camp activities will take place with all people spaced 6 feet or more apart.
- Campers should bring masks and be prepared to wear them during various camp settings and activities (based on our 3 tier COVID protocol system), especially when activities require campers to be spaced less than 6 feet apart. Masks need to be washed/replaced daily.

Signage will be posted to remind campers and staff of social distancing, hand washing and sanitation procedures.

Camp staff will keep records of when campers come in close contact** (interactions within 6 feet for more than 15 cumulative minutes, especially if done so without masks or if coughing or sneezing occurs), as well as who is in their weekly cohort. This information will be used to notify camper families in the event of a suspected COVID exposure/case.

Campers who are siblings or are from the same household can be exempted from social distancing measures.

Hygiene and sanitation:

**Data are insufficient to precisely define the duration of time that constitutes a prolonged exposure or close contact. Recommendations vary on the length of time of exposure, but 15 minutes of close exposure can be used as an operational definition. Brief interactions are less likely to result in transmission; however, symptoms and the type of interaction (e.g., did the infected person cough directly into the face of the exposed individual) remain important.

Definitions from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

Gloves

Disposable gloves will be used by camp instructors and volunteers when distributing or handling food, and will be properly disposed of after use.

Hand washing

All hand washing protocols outlined by the CDC will be followed, including:

- Wash hands for at least 30 seconds with soap and water OR sanitize with a hand sanitizer of at least 60% alcohol content.
- Wash hands every time a camper/staff/volunteer enters and leaves Oxbow property, a bathroom is used, before and after handling food, and after touching the face.

Due to the increased hand washing need, additional hand washing and sanitizing stations will be available throughout the property.

Harvesting and Farm Projects:

Masks may be required when entering the Kids' Farm field, depending on the current COVID protocols. There may be off limits areas of the farm field where crops are being harvested for hunger relief.

Snacking will be done in designated areas and all produce will be washed prior to consumption. Produce harvested by campers will be for their own consumption (or for their family) and not shared between campers.

Hand washing will be required before and after eating and before entering the Kids' Farm field or doing any farm projects.

Communication:

We ask for full disclosure and continued communication from parents if there is a concern about potential COVID-19 exposure or symptoms and we will do the same.

If a camper is suspected of, or confirmed to have COVID during your camp week, we will disclose this information to staff and other camp families immediately.

If a camper is suspected of having COVID-19, or exhibits any suspicious symptoms during camp:

Camper will be immediately isolated, a mask or cloth face covering will be applied if not already, and parents will be called to immediately remove the camper and pursue medical intervention and testing.

Camper will be asked to stay home for the remainder of the camp week, all surfaces will be immediately re-sanitized. All campers and staff from the sick camper's group will be closely monitored by parents and camp instructors. Anyone who has come in close contact** with the affected individual will be asked to stay home for the duration of the week.

*For the purpose of this guidance, fever is defined as subjective fever (feeling feverish) or a measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher. Note that fever may be intermittent or may not be present in some people, such as those who are elderly, immunocompromised, or taking certain fever-reducing medications (e.g., nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs [NSAIDS]).