

RETURN TO PLAY PUBLIC PROTOCOL GRAY'S LAKE BEACH



PURPOSE

This Return to Play Protocol was formed from various recommendations, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Iowa Department of Public Health, National Recreation and Parks Association and other public health organizations, as mitigation efforts to help ensure the safety of our users and our staff.

NOTICE

If permittee or users are not in compliance with these Protocols, their permit is subject to immediate cancellation. In addition, users found in violation of the Protocols will be requested to leave the premises if violations continue after one verbal warning of violation. No refunds will be provided for any dates canceled or early termination of the permit for violations.

The City of Des Moines cannot guarantee that any of the beach users will not become infected with COVID-19. Park users use the City's facility at their own risk.

The Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to change the Facility Use requirements at any time and will contact users immediately with such changes.

PREVENT

SCREEN

- Please take your temperature prior to coming to the beach and stay home if you have a fever of 100.4 or higher.
- Any person who is experiencing [symptoms of coronavirus](#), who has been in contact with anyone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the last 14 days, who is awaiting COVID-19 test results or has been asked to quarantine is prohibited from entering the facility.
 - Per CDC guidance, If you have been exposed, even if you test negative for COVID-19 or feel healthy, you should stay home ([quarantine](#)) since symptoms may appear up to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

PLAN AND PREPARE

AVOID CROWDS

- The virus that causes COVID-19 most commonly spreads from person to person respiratory droplets during close physical contact (within 6 feet).
 - According to the CDC, beach users should consider if they or their children can stay at least 6 feet apart from people they don't live with before visiting the beach.



MASKS

Following the CDC, Polk County Public Health recommendations, and the most recent [Mayor's Mask Mandate](#) in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus, **masks are required** inside our facilities at all times and when out of the water. Masks are also required outdoors when social distancing of six (6) feet or more cannot be maintained or in the presence of members outside of your household. This includes in our restrooms and to/from the beach.

- **Masks do not substitute for social distancing.**
- Masks should NOT be worn if they become wet.
 - Please bring an extra mask in case your mask becomes wet.
- Masks should NOT be worn by children under the age of two or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Masks may be temporarily removed to eat/drink (if you are safely distanced six feet or more away from others).
- Even if you are fully vaccinated, masks are required.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- **Stay at least 6 feet away, both in and out of the water**, from people you don't live with.
- Any gathering in groups with others is discouraged.
- Beach users must obey all facility signage, follow the CDC's social distancing guidelines (of six feet or more) between different household units at all times, and accept personal responsibility for following all public health guidelines.

SEATING

- Users must ensure at least six feet of physical distance between each group or individual attending alone when seated.

HYGEINE

- Beach users are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer for disinfecting hands regularly.
- Life jackets may be available at times. These are shared use items and are not disinfected. Use at your own risk.
 - Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before/after use. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

RESTROOMS

- Restrooms will be open, but occupancy will be limited to allow for social distancing.
 - Any lines for restrooms are discouraged. If there must be a line, the six-foot spacing requirement shall always be in effect.
- Public restrooms are cleaned daily.

PARKING

- Safety regulations apply to all areas, including the parking area(s).
- Beach users are asked to maintain social distancing in the parking area(s).
- Beach users must exit the facility and parking area(s) immediately.

RESOURCES/LINKS

CDC Consideration for Public Beaches During COVID-19

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/public-beaches.html>

CDC Coronavirus

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

CDC Considerations for Wearing Face Masks

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>

CDC: Visiting Beaches & Pools

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/beaches-pools.html>

City of Des Moines COVID Response Site

<https://www.dsm.city/covid19>

Iowa Department of Public Health

<https://idph.iowa.gov/emerging-health-issues/novel-coronavirus>

Polk County Public Health Department

<https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health-department/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Public Health Recommendations for Community-Related Exposure

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