



Safety Guidelines for Restaurants, Summer Camps and Private Camping

Gov. Polis is issuing guidance to allow for the opening of restaurants, summer camps and private camping in as safe a manner as reasonably possible.

About Safer at Home

Coloradans are still encouraged to stay at home as much as possible, wear face coverings when leaving the house and wash hands frequently. It remains just as important that vulnerable individuals Stay at Home.

What does this mean for Coloradans?

- *Coloradans should continue staying home as much as possible.*
- When you go out, you should follow physical distancing requirements (6 feet of space between yourself and others) and wear a face covering.
- Older adults over 65 years of age and vulnerable people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should follow Stay-at-Home recommendations, which means taking extra precautions to maintain physical distance and only leaving home for medical care and essential activities. Vulnerable individuals cannot be compelled to perform in-person work for any business or government function, including a Critical Business or Critical Government Function.
- People who are sick, or have a household member who is sick with COVID-19 like symptoms, should still stay home from work and limit social interactions as much as possible.

Do I still need to wear a face covering?

Colorado is asking everyone to wear a face covering while out in public for necessary activities like grocery shopping, going to work or walking your dog and for social activities you choose to participate in. Please make or buy a cloth covering that will cover your mouth and nose and use it whenever you are outside your own house or yard. Scarves and bandanas will work as coverings. Wash your face covering regularly.

All workers should wear medical or non-medical face coverings that cover the mouth and nose while at work, except where doing so would inhibit health, and to wear gloves (if gloves are provided by an employer) when in contact with customers or goods.

How long is this going to last?

Gov. Polis signed Executive Order D 2020 044, extending Safer at Home to the next step in reopening, permitting for limited restaurant and summer camp openings. The order currently expires on June 1, but can be amended or extended at any time.

What if cases spike back up after opening up more businesses?

The governor won't hesitate to take the necessary steps to protect the health and safety of Coloradans, including going back to the Stay-at-Home level or promulgating more restrictions. It is everyone's personal responsibility to know and follow current orders. During Safer at Home, we must continue staying home as much as possible, and take the necessary steps like washing hands and wearing a mask when leaving the house.

Gatherings

Can Coloradans hold public or private gatherings?

Group gatherings should continue to be under 10 people. It is safest continuing to only socialize with members of your household. Any gatherings with people outside your household, either indoors or outdoors, should adhere to all physical distancing requirements, the use of face coverings, and other recommendations.

Restaurants and Bars

When can restaurants open up?

Effective May 27th, 2020, restaurants may open to in-person dining indoors at 50% of the posted occupancy code limit, not to exceed 50 people, whichever is less. Tables or groups must be limited to no more than 8 people and be spaced so that patrons are a minimum of 6 feet apart. Restaurants may also use any existing (and new space if the restaurant obtains authorization from local authority) licensed outdoor space for in-person dining with the same group limit of 8 and minimum spacing of patrons 6 feet apart. Restaurants must work with local authorities to get authorization for expanding space to accommodate outdoor dine-in for adjacent or nonadjacent public or private spaces.

Restaurants can only open for in-person dining if the following requirements can be met:

- Patrons in different parties must be a minimum of 6 feet apart. The spacing of tables should be 6 feet or more to ensure proper physical distancing between diners from different parties.
- All employees must wear face coverings.
- Ensure maximum ventilation by opening windows and minimizing air conditioning to the extent possible.
- Deep clean and disinfect all shared surfaces between parties/at each turnover.
- Parties must stay seated together and will not be allowed to mingle with other parties.

Read the guidance for restaurants [here](#).

Are food trucks allowed?

Yes. Since food trucks have a license to serve food, they are allowed.

Will bars be able to open?

No, establishments that do not serve food will be evaluated in June.

The intent of this guidance is to open establishments in which people traditionally associate only with those in their party and for the primary purpose of dine-in service, or what is colloquially referred to as “restaurants.” So, whether something can open as a restaurant depends on whether the establishment is set up to host patrons for meals. In many cases, this is straightforward when an establishment already functions as a conventional restaurant and has a full service kitchen.

There may be some establishments, like breweries with large indoor and outdoor spaces, that want to change their business model to re-open and operate like a restaurant. In these cases, food must be provided by a licensed retail food establishment. Establishments can form partnerships with neighboring restaurants to provide food (like, for example Carboy in Denver), or can partner with food trucks (like, for example Quiero Arepas Food Truck). Light snacks (like bar nuts) or things that are commercially prepared somewhere else and heated up in a microwave on premises (like Hot Pockets) don’t count as food service. Allowing patrons to bring in their own takeout or order food from an app does not count either.

In all cases, establishments must operate according to the new guidelines, which include having patrons dine in defined groups of up to 8 people who are seated, not allowing patrons to mingle with other groups, observing spacing and hygiene requirements, preferably utilizing a reservation system, and requesting patrons wear a face covering when not eating or drinking.

Why aren’t bars allowed to open?

All decisions are based on consideration of the potential for exposure to COVID-19 and how feasible it is to adhere to public health guidelines in each setting. It's important to note that all places of public accommodation subject to Public Health Order 20-22, that offer food and beverages may continue to offer food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-through service, drive-up service, and curbside delivery. This includes bars, taverns, brew pubs, breweries, microbreweries, distillery pubs, wineries, limited wineries, tasting rooms, special licensees, clubs, and other places of public accommodation serving alcoholic beverages.

We are closely evaluating the public health data to assess the next steps in Safer at Home.

Is it safe to have restaurants opening for in-person dining?

While it is not possible to eliminate the risk of COVID-19 exposure, restaurants will have to take a number of safety precautions in order to open for in-person dining. This includes steps taken to ensure the safety of the space, employees and customers. Read the full guidance [here](#).

What if a restaurant opens for in-person dining, but isn't adhering to physical distancing requirements?

Coloradans should contact their local public health department if they believe a business isn't following proper physical distancing or other requirements and endangering the lives of their customers and staff. Restaurants that operate in violation of public health orders risk a number of enforcement measures, including indefinite suspension of their license for health hazards.

Summer Camps

Will my child be able to attend camp this summer?

Day camps will be able to open starting on June 1.

Residential overnight camps are prohibited in June. Decisions for July and August overnight camps will be made in mid-June. Children's residential camps that choose to operate as day camps must work with the Colorado Department of Human Services and their local public health agency (LPHA) for approval. Day camps, including mobile and outdoor camps, must operate with restrictions and strong precautionary measures, as specified in the [guidance](#).

If day camps are opening, why not overnight camps?

All decisions are based on consideration of the potential for exposure to COVID-19 and how feasible it is to adhere to public health guidelines in each setting. Kids at overnight camps spend longer periods of time with each other, and it is more challenging to keep them in cohorted groups. In addition, many of the facilities for overnight camps are difficult to thoroughly disinfect between each camper's use. We will re-evaluate the data in mid-June to determine whether overnight camps can open for July or August.

How many kids will be able to attend a camp at once?

Outdoor day camps may be held with up to 25 campers per group. Indoor day camps remain at 10 campers per room which includes four walls and a door. Groups of campers must remain with the same group and not mix with other groups during structured time or free time. Campers both indoors and outdoors must be spaced 6 feet apart, to the greatest extent possible.

Private Camping

When will private campsites open?

Effective May 25, private campsites may reopen.

What if counties don't want to open up private campsites?

If a host county would like to keep campsites closed, county commissioners should consult with their local public health agency, and then notify the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and CDPHE in writing.

Spring Skiing

What about skiing? Will resorts who want to be able to open for Spring skiing?

The Executive Order that closed ski resorts has expired. Ski resorts must work to secure approval from their local authorities in order to open.

Enforcement

How will this order be enforced?

Colorado law requires compliance with executive and public health orders; therefore, not following these orders is breaking the law. We all must do our part to ensure success, and call upon all people in Colorado to voluntarily comply. Local law enforcement agencies can enforce public health orders. State law enforcement will assist and support in any way requested, but voluntary compliance is critical. Law enforcement involvement is reserved for the most aggravated circumstances.

Gov. Polis has created an advisory board to support coordination across multiple jurisdictions on compliance and enforcement of the Safer at Home order with the goal of maximizing physical distancing compliance. The advisory board is specifically focused on how local governments and local public health can coordinate with the state on educating the public about these regulations and maximizing compliance and enforcement efforts during the COVID-19 crisis.

Are the Safer at Home executive order and corresponding public health orders mandatory or just guidance?

They are mandatory.

Will the Colorado National Guard be enforcing this order?

No. The Colorado National Guard will be supporting logistics, transportation, and medical response efforts. The Guard will not be enforcing this order.

Residents should contact their local [public health agency](#) to report any potential violations of an order.

For more information about public health orders and how they are enforced [click here](#).

Will I be fined or jailed if I don't wear a mask when I'm out in public?

People are strongly advised to wear a non-medical cloth face covering that covers the nose and mouth whenever in public, but it is not a requirement. You will not be fined or jailed. Again, we are calling on all Coloradans to voluntarily comply with the orders and recommendations.

What can residents do if they suspect someone is violating a public health order? Residents should contact their local [public health agency](#) to report any potential violations of an order.