



May 12, 2020

Town of Bennington Outdoor Recreational Area Re-Opening Health and Safety Plan – Phase I

Purpose: The May 5th State of Vermont Addendum #13 to Executive Order 01-20 [Play Smart and Play Safe: Restart Phase V] enables Vermonters to leave home to get fresh air and exercise, as well as resume limited social interactions and gatherings of 10 or fewer people provided social distancing and protocols for hygiene consistent with guidance from the Vermont Department of Health and Center for Disease Control are observed. This plan, in conjunction with the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Association (VOSHA) COVID19 training standards, enables the Phase I re-opening of Town of Bennington Recreational Facilities for resident Vermonters. Additional Phases will be developed as the overall COVID19 situation changes and continual assessment of this Re-Opening Plan will be conducted.

Guidelines for all Town of Bennington Outdoor Recreational Facilities:

- People who feel sick or have someone in their household who is sick should stay home.
- Someone who has had a positive COVID19 test should quarantine and remain home for a minimum of 14 days.
- All people must adhere to Town, State and Federal guidelines upon entering any Town of Bennington Property.
- No team sports or contact sports are permitted at any Town of Bennington Facilities.
- Mask/Cloth Face Covering wear is strongly recommended while in public.
- Frequent washing of hands is strongly recommended (hand sanitizer is acceptable when soap and water is not available).
- Vermonters participating in outdoor recreation and fitness activities must “arrive, play, and leave.” Groups may not congregate before or after activities.
- Town of Bennington outdoor recreation facilities are only open for use by Vermonters and out of state residents who have met the 14 day quarantine requirement after arriving in Vermont.
- During Phase I picnic tables and pavilions, playground play structures, and basketball courts will remain closed.

1. Phase I Implementation and Types of Work:

a. Recreation Center:

- i. Indoor Facilities remain closed
- ii. Playground remains closed
- iii. Basketball Courts remain closed
- iv. Pickle-ball Courts remain closed
- v. Tennis Courts open to only singles matches, doubles matches are not allowed
- vi. Handball Courts open to only single use per side



- b. **Willow Park:**
 - i. Pavilions remain closed and picnic tables are stacked
 - ii. Ballfields are closed to team sports
 - iii. Upper restrooms are closed
 - iv. Lower restrooms are opened for use from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and are cleaned in accordance with CDC restroom recommended cleaning guidelines of a minimum of three times per day.
 - v. Frisbee Golf open for use
- c. **Stark Street Playground:** remains closed
- d. **Morgan Street Headwaters Park:** no change to current operations and trails remain open for use.
- e. **Greenberg Preserve:** no change to current operations and trails remain open for use.
- f. **Bradford Wetlands:** no change to current operations and trails remain open for use.
- g. **Beech Street Field:**
 - i. No team sports allowed
 - ii. Porta-potty not made available during Phase I

2. Employee Training & Education Plan:

- a. Town of Bennington continues to assess government regulations and guidance to avoid misinformation and/or overreaction by monitoring the following government websites:
 - i. Vermont Department of Health – www.healthvermont.gov
 - ii. Centers for Disease Control – www.cdc.gov
 - iii. Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Association (VOSHA) www.labor.vermont.gov/vermont-occupational-safety-and-health-administration-vosha
 - iv. Vermont Emergency Management – www.vem.vermont.gov
 - v. State of Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) – www.accd.vermont.gov
 - vi. Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation – www.anr.vermont.gov
- b. Current Town of Bennington Employee COVID19 guidelines & training requirements remain in effect. All employees must complete VOSHA COVID19 on-line training program.



3. **Physical Distancing Plan:** Employees and people using the Town of Bennington Outdoor Recreation facilities are expected to:
 - a. Maintain personal space barrier of 6 ft distancing from each other
 - b. Avoid face to face meetings
 - c. Avoid congregating
 - d. Avoid person to person contact
 - e. Wear facial covering (mask and/or cloth) when out in public
 - f. Wash hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer when handwashing is not possible.
4. **Health Monitoring Policy for Employees:** No change to current Town of Bennington COVID19 Workplace Safety Policy, Procedures, and Guidelines in effect.
5. **Posting and Notifications:**
 - a. All employee information posted in appropriate workplace environments.
 - b. Signs describing the “Park, Play, and Go Home” model as well as signage describing “No Team Sports” posted at all Town of Bennington Outdoor Recreation Facilities and Fields.
 - c. Phase I implementation guidelines posted to Town of Bennington Website, Social Media, and Local Media outlets.
6. **Health Monitoring Policy for Vendors:**
 - a. Outside vendors will not be permitted to operate at Town of Bennington Outdoor Recreation Facilities during Phase I.
 - b. Pre-Approved contracted services are permitted. Contracted service employees must adhere to VOSHA COVID19 on-line workplace safety training and guidance.
7. **Supply Chain Impacts:** On hand supplies of cleaning products and restroom supplies (ie paper towels, toilet paper, and hand soap) are sufficient to ensure required cleaning and re-supply of Willow Park Lower Restrooms.