



TOWN OF BENNINGTON

June 18th, 2020

Town of Bennington Recreation Area Re-Opening Health and Safety Plan – Phase III (Changes from Phase II are in Red Font)

Purpose: The June 12th State of Vermont Update 13 – New Work Safe Additions to the Be Smart, Stay Safe Order (<https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>) enables Vermonters to leave home to get fresh air and exercise, as well as resume limited social interactions and gatherings of 25 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 II re-opening of Town of Bennington Recreation 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 Recreation 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, **or after 7 days complete a COVID19 test and have negative result.**
- All people must adhere to Town, State and Federal guidelines upon entering any Town of Bennington Property.
- **High contact sporting event (eg Football and Basketball) are not permitted at any Town of Bennington Facilities.**
- **Organized sports must comply with Work Safe Guidelines included in ACCD Work Safe guidance memo paragraph 9.1.**
- **High Contact Sports may conduct no and low contact physical conditioning practices in groups of 25 or less.**
- **Low Contact Sports (eg tennis) and Incidental Contact Sports (eg soccer, softball, baseball, lacrosse, volleyball, hockey) intrasquad sporting events may be conducted in groups of 25 or less.**
- **Spectators should be limited at sporting events and/or practices may not exceed 25 people.**
- Mask/Cloth Face Covering wear is required while in public.
- Masks may be removed while conducting strenuous activity or exercise while maintaining appropriate social distancing of 6 feet
- Frequent washing of hands is strongly recommended (hand sanitizer is acceptable when soap and water is not available).
- **Groups** participating in outdoor recreation and fitness activities must “arrive, play, and leave.” Groups may not congregate before or after activities.

- Town of Bennington recreation facilities are only open for use by Vermonters; residents of other states who live in counties across New England and New York that have less than 400 active cases of COVID19 per 1 Million people; and residents of other states that have completed quarantine requirements.
- Every Monday by 5:00 pm the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development publishes an updated list of quarantine and non-quarantine counties throughout New England and New York (<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>).
- During Phase II picnic tables and pavilions, playground play structures, and basketball courts will remain closed.

1. Phase I Implementation and Types of Work:

a. Recreation Center:

- Indoor Facilities: The YMCA is developing a detailed re-opening plan for the indoor Recreation Center Facilities that meets all applicable health and safety requirements in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Close Contact Business Stage 2 guidelines. The plan will be reviewed and approved by the Town of Bennington Facilities Director prior to re-opening the Recreation Center Indoor activities.
- Playground remains closed
- Basketball Courts remain closed
- Pickle-ball Courts remain closed
- Tennis Courts open to only singles matches and doubles matches.
- Handball Courts open to only single use per side

b. Willow Park:

- Pavilions: The Pavilion remains closed to the general public and picnic tables remain stacked. Groups and organizations may request to use the pavilion for social gatherings of up to 25 people. A written plan that meets all applicable health and safety requirements in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Close Contact Business Stage 2 guidelines and Outdoor Recreation Businesses, Facilities, and Organizations guidelines is required. The plan will be reviewed and approved by the Town of Bennington Facilities Director prior to the event occurring.
- Ballfields: Teams and organizations may request to use the Ballfields for no contact, low contact and/or incidental contact practices, and/or low contact and/or incidental contact intrasquad scrimmages of up to 25 people. A written plan that meets all applicable health and safety requirements in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Outdoor Recreation Businesses, Facilities, and Organizations guidelines is required. The plan will be reviewed and approved by the Town of Bennington Facilities Director prior to the event occurring.
- Upper restrooms are closed
- 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.
- Frisbee Golf open for use

- c. **Senior Center:** remains closed
- d. **Stark Street Playground:** remains closed
- e. **Morgan Street Headwaters Park:** no change to current operations and trails remain open for use.
- f. **Greenberg Preserve:** no change to current operations and trails remain open for use.
- g. **Bradford Wetlands:** no change to current operations and trails remain open for use.
- h. **Beech Street Field:**
 - i. Teams and organizations may request to use the Ballfields for no contact, low contact and/or incidental contact practices, and/or low contact and/or incidental contact intrasquad scrimmages of up to 25 people. A written plan that meets all applicable health and safety requirements in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Outdoor Recreation Businesses, Facilities, and Organizations guidelines is required. The plan will be reviewed and approved by the Town of Bennington Facilities Director prior to the event occurring.
 - ii. Porta-potty not made available during Phase II

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 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, masks may be removed while conducting strenuous activity or exercise while maintaining appropriate social distancing of 6 feet.
 - 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” posted at all Town of Bennington Outdoor Recreation Facilities and Fields.
 - c. Phase II 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 II.
 - 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. YMCA Recreation Center Indoor Facilities re-opening plan will be assessed to ensure sufficient cleaning supplies are available.