



## COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines 2021 Pineywoods Summer Camps (March 2021)

**\*\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS COVID ENVIRONMENT OR STATE DIRECTIVES CHANGE\*\*\***

These guidelines reference both requirements and requests/recommendations. The requirements are the minimums that Pineywoods Staff will enforce during camp. We desire to have the safest environment possible for campers and staff alike, but we know that we, as a limited staff, can only oversee/enforce so much in our limited interactions with campers. We must have certain requirements to protect camp staff so that we can continue to serve camps throughout the summer. We also deeply desire for your campers to avoid contracting COVID-19 in your group; therefore, we request and/or recommend further actions from adults, students, and leadership while at camp.

**ANYONE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19 OR WHO IS EXHIBITING SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS OF ANY KIND SHOULD STAY HOME.**

### VACCINATION

- Because campers and leaders gather often, share lodging facilities, and spend prolonged time together, camp is considered a high-risk environment.
- Some individuals sometimes think it unnecessary to follow guidelines in the “relative safety” of their group.
- Pineywoods strongly recommends that every person who can obtain a vaccination for COVID-19 do so well before coming to camp.

### PREPARATION FOR SUMMER CAMP

- **Church Group Leaders** must communicate with participants, parents, and families all COVID-19 health and safety information and related protocols prior to camp.
- **Church Group Leaders** must procure hand sanitizer for each person coming to camp. Alternatively, each person must plan to bring his/her own sanitizer to keep on his/her person.
- **Church Group Leaders** must purchase bottled water for the group. Traditional hydration stations will not be available. Pineywoods will provide some water, but it is best to supplement what is provided.
- **Church Group Leaders** must ensure each person coming to camp is bringing his/her own face covering(s).

### BEFORE DEPARTING FOR PINEYWOODS

- Pineywoods requires that EVERY PERSON be screened for COVID-19 symptoms prior to travel to camp, including a logged temperature check.

- Pinewoods requires submission of a health screening form from every person upon arrival at camp. Pinewoods will provide the form (Health Questionnaire) to group leadership for distribution.
- **Church Group Leaders** must screen for symptoms, including a temperature check, before departing for camp.
- **Church Group Leaders** must distribute and ensure completion of the health screening form (Health Questionnaire) by parents of minors and adult participants (sponsors, worship leaders, pastors, group leaders, etc.).
- **ANY PERSON SHOWING ANY SYMPTOM SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE FOR CAMP.**
- **ANY PERSON WHO HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19 WITHIN 14 DAYS PRIOR TO CAMP SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE FOR CAMP.**

### **ARRIVAL AT PINEYWOODS**

- Pinewoods requires a temperature check and submission of a health screening form from every person upon arrival at camp.
- Camp staff will guide your group through check-in and temperature checks.
- **Church Group Leaders** must ensure that EVERY PERSON is ready to submit his/her own health screening form upon arrival at Pinewoods when his/her temperature is checked.

### **DAILY SYMPTOM SCREENING**

- Pinewoods requires that each person has his/her temperature checked each morning upon entry to the Dining Hall or other food service location.
- Any person experiencing symptoms or feeling ill must immediately notify his/her adult sponsor and visit the First Aid Station.

### **FACE COVERINGS**

- Pinewoods **requires** all persons to wear face coverings when in close proximity to camp staff, specifically in the following areas:
  - The Dining Hall (when not in the physical act of eating and drinking)
  - The Gift Shop
  - The Camp Office
  - Challenge Course/Recreation Activities when being harnessed or connected to equipment
  - In transit into and out of indoor meeting spaces
  - When gathered in indoor meeting spaces and physical distancing of 6 feet cannot be achieved
  - When waiting in line and physical distancing of 6 feet cannot be achieved
- Pinewoods **requests/recommends** that face coverings are worn according to the following:
  - When in a dorm room and not sleeping, showering, or physically distancing
  - During any close contact with others whether indoors or outdoors

### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- Pineywoods recommends that small group gatherings practice physical distancing of 6 feet when possible. Otherwise, Pineywoods recommends that persons wear face coverings.
- During transit, free time, and in lines, Pineywoods recommends that physical distancing is practiced whenever face coverings are not worn.

### **DORM CAPACITIES / SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS**

- Pineywoods will provide adequate dorm space for each group attending camp and will strive to mitigate crowding. Texas Youth Camp protocols do not limit dorm capacities.
- Texas Youth Camp law requires that a minimum of 2 adult sponsors be assigned to each dorm room.
- When possible, dorm assignments will be made to limit exposure to participants from the same group. Please understand, there will be situations that necessitate more than one church group assignment to a dorm room.
- Pineywoods strongly recommends persons sleep head to toe in bunks (upper to lower) and in alternating directions in adjacent bunks (side by side).
- A personal fan must be pointed at only one person.
- Adult sponsors in dorm rooms will be responsible for COVID-19 mitigation within their room. Adult sponsors should be united in their approach.

### **DEPARTURE FROM PINEYWOODS**

#### **Church Group Leaders:**

- Remind students, parents, and leaders on departure of the enhanced risks of campers being in direct contact with anyone age 65 or older for 14 days after the end of the camp session.
- Notify Pineywoods Camp if any person from camp tests positive for COVID-19 within 14 days after departure from camp.

*Please note that this guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. Each person at camp should take actions based on common sense and wise judgment to protect the health of campers, leaders, and staff.*

Keep reading for additional information...

My staff and I had additional questions. Please see those questions and answers from camp in red.

1. If someone gets sick while at camp and you suspect Covid, will you send just that child home or will the entire cabin be sent home? Obviously, if a camper tests positive, he/she will be sent home. It's looking like we'll have access to rapid tests so that we can do the testing on-site. The state regs stipulate that parents of the campers in the same cohort or group be notified of the positive test result. This is going to be a supreme challenge for a group as large as yours. The regulations do not stipulate that the entire cabin must leave – only that parents are notified and that the exposed campers be monitored for symptoms. This is one of the reasons why we are requiring the COVID screening prior to camp entry and are still requiring masks in certain instances, as mitigation efforts are our best on-site defense against spread of COVID.
2. For me to bring water bottles for my kids for the entire time, I will be hauling roughly 4,000 water bottles for my group. Could I bring a couple of large igloo coolers and fill them with ice (do you guys keep bags of ice that I could purchase) and water for my group? I will need to bring a golf cart like I did 2 years ago (or rent one from the place you use in town) and bungee cord them to the golf cart. Then my kids could refill their personal water bottle with the water I carry around. We are planning to provide the small, short bottles of water at the hydration stations during rec time and during other high-volume times, but keeping them cold will be futile, while maintaining minimal contact. We also have ice for sale on-site. I wouldn't have any issue with your igloo cooler plan as long as your sponsor dispensing the water is pretty vigilant to sanitize – multiple hands touching the same spigot is the challenge. May need to think through the “best practice” way of that. (side notes from Barbra... a) only an adult would touch the spigot... kids would not be able to dispense their own water; b) we will bring water bottles to give the kids each evening once they are in the cabins for the night; c) we are looking into purchasing refillable water bottles for each child (as well as a string pack in which to keep the personal hand sanitizer and water bottle.))
3. Is the plan that everything will be open? (ping pong, gaga ball, 9-square, swimming, etc.) Everything will be open – studies have shown that outdoor surface transmission is pretty unlikely.
4. “Adequate dorm space.” I have a few parents asking if you are removing any bunks to allow for physical distancing in the dorms. We are not removing any bunks from the cabins. All of our bunks are spaced at least 3 feet apart and the campers are encouraged to alternate sleeping directions in adjacent bunks. We will not be “crowding” the dorms as we have sometimes done in the past and we will not have another church group share dorm space with FBC Woodway. Overall camp registration has been reduced by roughly 20% to ensure that over-crowding is not an issue.