



May 31, 2023

Camp Neringa approach to Covid-19 Guidelines for the 2023 summer camp season

We hope this message finds you well and that you are looking forward to the upcoming summer camp season as much as we are!

The World Health Organization (WHO), citing a year-long downward trend in the Covid-19 pandemic globally, has declared that the public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) should end.

The U.S. government has also declared that the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) ends as of May 11, 2023, citing that the country has “made tremendous progress in our ability to manage Covid-19 so that it no longer meaningfully disrupts the way we live our lives.”

Our own monitoring has shown that cases remain low in key geographies for our Neringa community and we will continue monitoring guidelines and research from the American Camp Association, the State of Vermont, and others.

COVID-19 VACCINE RECOMMENDATION

As we announced earlier, we continue to strongly encourage vaccination against Covid-19. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that everyone 6 years and older receive an updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna Covid-19 vaccine, regardless of whether they have received any original Covid-19 vaccines. For children under 6, please refer to the CDC [website](#) for more detailed information on vaccine recommendations.

Taking the above developments into consideration, however, we will no longer be requiring Covid-19 vaccination to attend Neringa summer camps in 2023.

COVID-19 TESTING

We will only require Covid-19 testing if a camper, staff member or volunteer is symptomatic. Covid-19 symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

If you are experiencing these symptoms before leaving home to come to camp, please take a Covid-19 rapid test before coming. If the test shows positive results, please do not come to camp, and follow the advice of a healthcare professional for treatment. If the test is negative, but

symptoms persist, please stay home until symptoms subside, whether the illness is Covid-19 or something else.

We encourage everyone to bring **two** Covid-19 rapid tests to be used in case your campers show symptoms or to be donated to camp to help defray costs.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AT CAMP

If anyone exhibits signs of Covid-19 the healthcare staff will review the symptoms. During the assessment, non-Covid situations, like known allergies, asthma, overheating, etc., will be ruled out. If the symptoms are still concerning for possible Covid-19, a rapid test will be administered at camp. If the test result is negative, the individual will stay in the nurse's cabin per normal procedure for illness and retest in 24 hours.

If the Covid-19 rapid test result is positive, we will contact the camper's parents or guardians and the local medical clinic to receive medical advice. As with any communicable illness at camp, based on symptom severity and medical advice, we will evaluate each case on an individual basis. The camp may need to suspend or modify activities, isolate affected individuals for several days, and implement additional testing and quarantine measures as necessary. We may also require individuals to be sent home if multiple cases arise.

OTHER PROCEDURES AND INFORMATION

We will continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation, including local transmission rates and guidance from health authorities, and adjust our approach accordingly as needed. Our usual hygiene routines will be in place, including cabin ventilation and screen doors, opening windows, eating outside when possible, frequent hand washing and disinfection.

We wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe summer!