



St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Parks & Recreation Department

COVID-19 Guidelines for Facility Rentals

Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that is contagious, and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. On March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19. On March 17, 2020, the St. Johns County Board of Commissioners declared a local state of emergency as a result of COVID-19.

In accordance with [Governor DeSantis' Executive Order Number 20-244, Phase 3; Right to Work; Business Certainty; Suspension of Fines](#), St. Johns County Emergency Order No. 2020-9, and all applicable policies governing their use, the following guidelines will be implemented to allow the rental of all St. Johns County Parks and Recreation indoor facilities and outdoor spaces for gatherings and community events.¹

Responsible Individual Activity

- Unless exempted, all persons working, doing business or visiting a County facility shall wear a face covering when social distancing requirements cannot be maintained.
- All guests and attendees shall follow [social distancing and safety protocols](#) issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Senior citizens and individuals with a significant underlying medical condition are strongly encouraged to avoid crowds and take measures to limit the risk of exposure to COVID-19.
- All guests and attendees traveling from areas with substantial community spread as identified by Governor Desantis through [executive order](#) must follow all applicable isolation or quarantine protocols.
- All guests and attendees who work in health or long-term care facilities should be tested for COVID-19 on a routine basis.
- All guests and attendees are encouraged to follow the [CDC's guidance on how to protect themselves and others](#) from the spread of COVID-19.

¹ St. Johns County will review these guidelines periodically, and make updated changes as necessary. You will be provided with a copy of the most current guidelines prior to each rental of an indoor/outdoor facility. You will also be required to complete an Acknowledgement of Risks and Waiver of Liability prior to each rental.

Guidelines for Indoor Rental Spaces

- Any person(s), seeking to conduct a gathering held at an indoor County facility (e.g., meeting rooms, conference rooms, etc.) will be required to submit a Social Distancing plan along with the facility or event request. The Social Distancing plan, shall be reviewed and approved/disapproved by Park and Recreation Department staff. No gathering shall be held at an indoor County facility unless and until a staff-approved Social Distancing plan is complete.
- All gatherings and events at indoor gymnasiums and fitness centers shall be conducted in accordance with applicable [social distancing and safety protocols](#) issued by the CDC.
- Unless exempted, all attendees shall wear a face covering when social distancing requirements cannot be maintained.
- Use of each indoor rental space shall be limited to one gathering or community event per day to allow for appropriate cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing between uses.
- Following use of each indoor rental space, staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, and tabletops) within the facility.

Guidelines for Outdoor Rental Spaces

- Any person(s), seeking to conduct a gathering held at an outdoor County facility (e.g., pavilions, arenas, ball courts and open spaces) will be required to submit a Social Distancing plan along with the facility or event request. The Social Distancing plan, shall be reviewed and approved/disapproved by Park and Recreation Department staff. No gathering shall be held at an indoor County facility unless and until a staff-approved Social Distancing plan is complete.
- All gatherings and events at outdoor facilities shall be conducted in accordance with applicable [social distancing and safety protocols](#) issued by the CDC.
- Unless exempted, all attendees shall wear a face covering when social distancing requirements cannot be maintained.
- Daily use of each outdoor rental space shall be limited to allow for appropriate cleaning, disinfection and sanitation between uses.
- Following use of each outdoor facility space, staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., drinking fountains and tabletops) within the facility.

Acknowledgement of Risk

Any person seeking to use/rent any indoor or outdoor facility will be required to sign an Acknowledgement of Risk and Waiver of Liability stating that they understand:

1. the terms and conditions contained in these guidelines for facility rentals;

2. the CDC has provided information explaining how COVID-19 is spread and that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus, which is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>;
3. the CDC's guidance for protecting against the spread of COVID-19, which is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>;
4. COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms; and
5. St. Johns County, its officers, and employees will be held harmless against any claims of COVID-19 related illness, serious personal injury, permanent disability and death resulting from or associated with the use of a rented indoor or outdoor facility.

**St. Johns County Facility Rental
Acknowledgement of Risks and Waiver of Liability Related to COVID-19**

Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that is contagious, and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. On March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19. On March 17, 2020, the St. Johns County Board of Commissioners declared a local state of emergency as a result of COVID-19.

By signing this Acknowledgment of Risk and Waiver of Liability, I acknowledge the following:

1. I have read and understand St. John County's COVID-19 Guidelines for Facility Rentals.
2. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided information explaining how COVID-19 is spread and that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus, which is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>.
3. I have read and understand the CDC's guidance for protecting myself and others from the spread of COVID-19, which is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>;
4. I understand that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.
5. I understand that, by renting a St. Johns County indoor/outdoor facility for gatherings and community events, I am exposing myself and others to the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19, which may result in illness, serious personal injury, permanent disability, and death.
6. I understand that, by renting a St. Johns County indoor/outdoor facility, I fully assume the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 as a result of the acts, failures to act, and negligent acts by me, my guests, attendees and others, including but not limited to St. Johns County, its officers, employees, agents, volunteers.
7. I understand that St. Johns County reserves the right to deny my request to rent an indoor/outdoor facility in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare as solely determined by St. Johns County.
8. I further understand that St. Johns County reserves the right to interrupt and discontinue my use of any rented indoor/outdoor facility for failure comply with the COVID-19 Guidelines for Facility Rentals.

I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, and personal representatives, hereby voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to myself, my family, guests and attendees including, but not limited to, illness, personal injury, disability, death, damage, loss, claim, liability, and expense of any kind, stemming from or associated with my rental of any St. Johns County indoor or outdoor facility.

In consideration of renting a St. Johns County indoor/outdoor facility, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, and personal representatives, voluntarily agree to indemnify and hold harmless St. Johns County, its officers, employees, agents, volunteers from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs (included reasonable attorneys' fees) and expenses of any kind arising out of, stemming from or associated with my rental of a St. Johns County indoor/outdoor facility. I fully understand and agree that this provision regarding indemnification includes any claims based upon the actions, omissions, or negligence of St. Johns County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers.

Signature

Date

Name (please print)

St. John County Staff Signature

Date

Name (please print)