



Concerning the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Last Updated: February 22, 2021

Dear Loyal Friends,

I want to let you know that, as a trusted community partner for 18 years, Camp Big Sky remains dedicated to helping people with disabilities thrive in the outdoors and to live strong, healthy lives. As such, we take the threat posed by the coronavirus (COVID-19) extremely seriously for all of the people we serve. Our campers, volunteers and staffs' health and safety are at the forefront of everything we do and especially at this time of concern and uncertainty.

Camp Big Sky reservation process is available on our website; please check the calendar for available dates. **Phase 4 of Restore Illinois plan Camp guidelines** states we may operate at maximum of 50% of facility capacity with **group sizes of 15 participants or fewer**. Due to the COVID-19 social distancing; the number of **people per day will change temporarily to 30 people max**, closer contact activities will be limited, and no more than two groups at one time on site. We have separate pavilions over 30 ft apart for groups scheduled on the same date.

Our camp season will start May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to provide you with a connection to the outdoors and green space as well as opportunities for physical activity which studies demonstrate reduces stress and improves mental health.

We continue to follow updates from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and we're working closely with local health departments to stay on top of the latest information as many of our volunteers, staff, and visitors are receiving vaccinations. We are following guidelines and have put in place measures recommended by the Illinois Department of Public Health, the regulatory agency charged with supervision of youth camps in Illinois.

Only by working together, will we all get through this safely. We appreciate your support, patience, and trust in Camp Big Sky during this challenging time. If you have any questions or concerns about attending camp this season, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. You may call or email me at 309-258-6002 or [exec@campbigsky.org](mailto:exec@campbigsky.org).

P.O. Box 56 Farmington, IL 61531 ~ [www.campbigsky.org](http://www.campbigsky.org) ~ [exec@campbigsky.org](mailto:exec@campbigsky.org) ~ 309-258-6002

*Wide open experiences for children & adults with disabilities*

Please take care of yourselves and continue to pray for faith, resilience and for the care and love of one another. We hope you are safe and well and are able to enjoy the outdoors at Camp Big Sky soon!

Best Regards,

Amanda Atchley – Executive Director

Camp Big Sky Board of Directors

## **CAMP BIG SKY COVID-19 GUIDELINES**

- **Mask Must Be Worn** – Mask are required for all students/campers who are able to keep them on inside the lodge and during closer contact activities, along with staff and volunteers. Masks are provided for those that do not bring one.
- **Temperature Checks** – Temperatures of each visitor will be taken for life skills program before each class and anyone 101 or higher will be sent home.
- **Limit activities** - We will only offer crafts outside under the pavilion and not allow campers in the arts/crafts shed.
- **Increase cleaning protocols** - disinfecting everything in between use – life jackets, hand rails, tables, chairs, restrooms, etc., using gloves that are changed in between each task. Masks will also be available.
- **Hand Washing** – Good hygiene practices must be followed, by covering cough/sneezes and washing/sanitizing hands often. Restrooms are available in the learning center and lodge; 2 stations are available at Bruce’s Lake along with hand Sanitizer available at all activity areas.
- **Signage Posted** - Hand washing, symptoms of COVID-19, stop the spread of germs signs from CDC are posted in all activity areas of use.
- **Waiver and release form** will continue to be signed by each visitor and has been reviewed and edited by our attorney to include illness.