

Coronavirus COVID-19

Guidance For Large Gatherings



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Greene County

Public Health Advisory

The following are guidelines for local health departments to use when preparing for large gatherings in their community to stop the spread of COVID-19 in conjunction with the CDC.

Key Prevention Strategies in Operations Plans

- Promote everyday prevention actions.
- Frequently wash your hands for 20 seconds or more with soapy water, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- If soap is unavailable, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with your hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Encourage employees to stay home when they are sick (except to visit a health care professional) and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue (then throw the tissue in the trash) or a sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Provide COVID-19 prevention supplies at the event and have extra supplies on hand. Supplies should include sinks with soap, hand sanitizers, tissues, and disposable facemasks for people who begin developing symptoms. *(Facemasks should only be worn if a worker or attendee becomes sick at the event. Those who become sick should immediately be isolated from staff and other participants who are not sick and be given a clean, disposable facemask to wear.)*
- Plan for staff absences. Identify critical job functions and positions and plan for alternative coverage by cross-training staff.
- Promote messages that discourage people who are sick from attending events and request that people leave events if they begin to feel sick.
- Identify a space that can be used to isolate staff or participants that become ill at the event. Work with partners to create a plan for treating staff and event participants who do not live nearby.
- Develop flexible refund policies for participants that allows them to stay home when they are sick, caring for someone that is sick, or is at high risk for complications from COVID-19.
- Identify actions to take if you need to postpone or cancel events.

For the latest information visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov

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Communicate About COVID-19

- Update and distribute timely and accurate emergency communication information. Establish systems for sharing information with event staff, participants, suppliers, vendors, stakeholders, and key community partners. Identify platforms such as a hotline, automated text messaging, and a website to help disseminate information.
- Identify and address potential language, cultural, and disability barriers associated with communicating COVID-19 information to event staff and participants.

During A COVID-19 Outbreak

- Meet regularly with the emergency operations coordinator or venue planning team.
- Stay up to date about the local COVID-19 situation. Be aware of temporary school dismissals in your area because they may affect event staff.
- Distribute health messages, including prevention actions, to event staff and participants. Address the potential fear and anxiety that may result from rumors or misinformation.
- Provide prevention supplies to event staff such as hand sanitizer, tissues, trash baskets, disposable facemasks, cleaners, and disinfectants. Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects, prior to disinfection.
- Consider reassigning duties for high-risk staff (older adults and people with underlying medical conditions) to have minimal contact with others. Consider providing refunds to participants who are unable to attend or provide information on alternative viewing options.
- Implement flexible staff attendance and sick leave policies.
- Identify a space that can be used to isolate staff or participants that become ill at the event. Provide them with facemasks. If needed, contact emergency services. Wearing a disposable facemask does not replace the need for a person that is sick to leave as soon as possible or stay home.

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