OpenSafely

Stay Safe Against the Coronavirus



Fairs, Festivals and Carnivals

***Refer to guidance provided for Amusements, Water Parks, Indoor Play Centers, and similar venues for use of these facilities.**

***Refer to guidance provided for Pool Halls, Bowling Alleys, Skating Rinks, and Arcades for use of these facilities.**

***Refer to guidance provided for Sports and Activities and Racing Events for use of these facilities.**

***Refer to guidance provided for Outdoor Play Centers and Playgrounds for use of these facilities.**

START DATE: Contingent upon satisfaction of the requirements outlined below.

NOTE: Updated guidelines apply to all facilities whether currently reopened or future planned.

NEW March 31, 2021

The Office of State Fire Marshal is providing this update in conjunction with the Office of the Governor and the Louisiana Department of Health to keep you up to date with additional information and/or

changes as it becomes available during our battle with COVID-19. These notifications are issued automatically and immediately to those who sign up through "OpenSafely" (https://opensafely.la.gov/).

Every attempt is being made to highlight critical changes that have occurred since the previously published notification for your convenience. However, please read through this entire document in context as these changes do not stand on their own and all of the additional general information and clarifications made may not be highlighted.

Preface:

This phasing plan applies to those non-essential businesses that have been affected by the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. Essential (critical) infrastructure businesses are not further restricted by these new guidelines and may continue to operate under the current guidelines that are applicable to the specific business. Refer to: https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/covid/Essential-Infrastructure_fact-sheet.pdf for specific information regarding critical infrastructure businesses.

COVID-19 is a highly contagious and deadly disease. The fundamental concept of this phased opening plan is to slowly open businesses at reduced occupant capacities that will allow for social distancing and circulation to keep employees and patrons safe. Everyone's cooperation is critical to the success towards defeating this disease and revitalizing our economy.

The virus spreads primarily through person-to-person contact, from droplets that are formed by coughing, sneezing or other projections, or by touching infected surfaces and then touching one's eyes, nose or mouth. Individuals can carry the virus and be contagious for up to 14 days prior to having any symptoms. The guidelines outlined below for social distancing, face coverings and sanitation are proven methods of mitigating these modes of transmission. **THE MOST IMPORTANT FACT** to remember is that COVID-19 is still prevalent across the state. We must all continue to do our part to help slow the spread, protect the most vulnerable and continue to remain vigilant until a cure or vaccine is widely available to provide general immunity.

Every individual in Louisiana shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside a commercial establishment or other building or space open to the public, whether indoor or outdoor.

Below are a few additional public health recommendations to help businesses comply:

- See the Face Covering Guidance section below for a link to instruction on the proper use of face coverings.
- See the Referenced Documents section below for LDH's downloadable "thank you for wearing a mask" poster options 1 and 2 for business storefronts;
- Screen customers for symptoms before entry;
- Move to reservation systems to discourage congregating in groups while waiting for service;
- Adopt sick leave policies that reduce the disincentive for employees to try to come to work sick; and
- Allow employees in high-risk groups or who directly live with/care for a high-risk individual to work in areas without direct public contact.

Guidance:

The business venues listed above must adhere to strict mitigation standards and social distancing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When possible, maintain at least 6 feet of separation from other individuals not residing within the same household. Other measures such as face covering, hand

hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced**. Individuals 65 years or older, people of all ages with poor control of medical issues like high blood pressure, heart disease, obesity, or a weakened immune system are at a higher risk for getting very sick or dying from COVID-19 and should strictly adhere to all CDC guidelines, and are encouraged to remain home as much as possible unless fully vaccinated - at least two weeks beyond receiving a full administration of COVID-19 vaccine.** The specific requirements and guidelines for this industry during this phase are listed below. These requirements and guidelines supplement and do not replace any directives or guidance provided by other state agencies, boards and commissions, or other authorities having jurisdiction. Where conflicts occur, the stricter of the requirements will apply.

Limitations:

Owners or Operators of the above referenced businesses may submit a proposed **reopening plan** with specific proposals for occupancy and sanitation to the State Fire Marshal for consideration. The plan shall specifically identify the method of ensuring compliance with the Occupant Capacity, Social Distancing and Safety Rules, management and staff guidelines, the cleaning guidelines for the areas that are outlined below, with the additional guidelines provided at www.OpenSafely.la.gov for specific use areas, and the following:

- Outdoor fairs, festivals and carnivals shall be limited to controlled, fenced-in settings only. General admission events where capacity and crowd control cannot be maintained will not be considered.

- Food service areas, if provided, shall comply with the latest guidelines for Restaurants, Cafes and Coffee Shops. Document compliance with the seating arrangements and additional guidance provided in those guidelines with your request. Food should be consumed in designated areas so that face coverings may consistently be worn throughout all other areas of the venue.

- Any alcohol sold and consumed shall be limited to a single area, or Beer Garden, that shall be clearly marked and comply with the latest guidelines for alcohol sales at Sports Events. The seating area shall be limited to the Beer Garden area. Document compliance with the seating arrangements and additional guidance provide in the Sports and Athletic Events guidelines with your request.

- Any area where attendees may form a line, such as entry ticketing, concessions/food, shows or other attractions must be clearly marked with 6-foot or greater distancing floor/ground markings. Adherence to 6-foot or greater distancing at any line-forming areas must be strictly enforced by event staff, and a plan for such enforcement must be included in the submitted reopening plan.

- Use of face coverings must be strictly enforced at all times while on premises. This pertains to indoor venues as well as outdoor fairs and festivals. Signage promoting proper face covering usage must be displayed throughout the venue.

- Cashless or touchless transactions should be encouraged.

- Any ride or similar amusement must be sanitized between each group of riders/users.

- Hand washing/sanitizing stations must be provided throughout the venue.

- Provide the registration number for the business or venue that is issued to you through "OpenSafely" (https://opensafely.la.gov/) with your request.

- Plans are to be emailed to **Open.Safely@la.gov** for review by the Office of State Fire Marshal and the Louisiana Department of Health. Every attempt will be made to provide a response to you within 10 business days of receipt. A response may not be provided for venue requests for which guidelines are not yet available.

- Maximum capacities are subject to adjustment/reduction with future Phasing changes.

Note: Submittal of a proposed reopening plan does not guarantee approval to reopen.

Occupant Capacity:

- **Subject to reopening plan approval**, the occupant capacity for any fair, festival or carnival during this period is limited to the following requirements and by the ability to maintain a minimum of 6 feet of social distance between individuals and small groups. Specifically;
    - Outdoor fairs, festivals and carnivals shall be limited to the stricter of the following:
        - Outdoor events shall be limited to no more than 50% capacity of any single, outdoor space where individuals who are not immediate household members are unable to maintain strict social distancing of six feet between others.
        - A maximum of one person per 30 square feet of net usable area within the fenced-in or contained area may be applied.
    - Indoor venues, such as circuses, bingo, or similar venue shall be limited to the stricter of the following:
        - A maximum of 500 persons in any single indoor space at the same time.
        - Shall not exceed 50% of the normal capacity as established by the Life Safety Code for the specific use of each space, or as posted by order of the State Fire Marshal.
        - Table seating shall follow the Option 1 seating arrangements outlined in the guidance provided for Restaurants, Cafes, and Coffee Shops.
        - Fixed seating shall be reduced to 50% of normal capacity, or to 500 seats, whichever is less. Seating shall be assigned in a manner that will allow for six feet of separation between non-related groups.
    - Amusement rides:
        - Open-air ride seating arrangements shall allow for six feet of separation between non-related groups.
        - Enclosed rides shall limit occupancy only to related small groups of 6 persons maximum.

- Capacities of similar activities and accessory use spaces will be based upon the closest related activity found above, or in other OpenSafely guidelines.

- Staff who work within the facilities shall be included in the total allowed capacity.

Social Distancing and Safety Rules:

- Table and chair set-ups shall follow the guidelines for Restaurants outlined on OpenSafely.la.gov.
- Seating shall not be allowed within 6 feet of the attraction.
- Group seating should be limited to persons who are members of the same household.
- Eliminate gatherings at entry/exit points.
- Provide hand sanitizing stations and signage that can be accessed within 75 feet of travel.
- Provide markings for queuing lines to designate minimum 6-foot spacing.
- Promote the need for social distancing through signage and media.
- Allow a minimum of 20 feet between rides, attractions, and game set-ups to allow for circulation.
- When loading and unloading children/patrons and securing seatbelts, the ride operator will do so in accordance with the rides' manual, but with limited touching of the patrons.
- Interior waiting areas shall remain closed. Waiting may be provided outside of the facility while following social distancing guidelines or persons shall wait in cars. Reservations are strongly encouraged.

Checklist for Management:

☑ A minimum of one crowd manager shall be provided for every 50 attendees. Crowd managers shall be properly trained to control social distancing, enforce mask wearing (excluding while in water), and in evacuation procedures.

☑ Actively enforce the capacity, masking, and social distancing requirements and manage the attendees' movements.

☑ Ensure the exterior waiting areas are not blocked.

☑ Maintain social distancing requirements explained in this document.

☑ Wherever practical, implement a reservation system, whereby patrons may sign-up to access the facility during a prearranged time-slot. Schedule cleaning breaks between time-slots.

☑ EPA recommends that building owners and managers take proactive steps to protect public health by minimizing water stagnation during closures and taking action to address building water quality

prior to reopening: https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/information-maintaining-or-restoring-water-quality-buildings-low-or-no-use

Checklist for All Staff:

- ☑ Check for fever or respiratory symptoms daily.
- ☑ Stay at least 6 feet from other employees and patrons.
- ☑ For water parks, splash pads and water play venues, wear face coverings while around others except while on an elevated lifeguard station that is at least 6 feet off the ground.
- ☑ Frequent handwashing is the most important hand hygiene action to stop the spread of COVID-19. Gloves are recommended when touching products, goods, money and credit cards, but are otherwise not recommended for tasks that do not normally require gloves. If gloves are worn:
    - Wash hands before putting gloves on and after removing gloves.
    - Gloves should be changed between tasks, when they are obviously soiled, and after each interaction with a new individual.
- ☑ If gloves are not available, use hand sanitizer between each task and after visitor interaction.
- ☑ Clean and sanitize items frequently touched by employees.
- ☑ Clean and sanitize surfaces that customers touch often, like gate handles, handrails, chairs, etc. Current evidence suggests that SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces, as well as high-touch surfaces, followed by disinfection is a best practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in community settings. Follow the CDC guidance for proper cleaning and disinfecting. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html
- ☑ Clean and disinfect the restrooms regularly.
- ☒ Do not touch the customers, except as allowed for and provided for herein.

Face Covering Guidance:

Refer to Louisiana Department of Health guidance here:
http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/CDC-DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf

Steps for Cleaning Areas and Other Items:

1. First, clean the area or item with soap and water or another detergent if it is dirty.
2. Then, use disinfectant.
    - If possible, use EPA-registered household disinfectant.

- Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product.

  Many products recommend:
  - Keeping surfaces wet for a period of time (see product label).
  - Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

  Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used if appropriate for the surface.
  - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening, may not be suitable for disinfection.
  - Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
  - Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
  - Leave the solution on the surface for at least 1 minute.

  To make a bleach solution, mix:
  - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) of bleach per gallon of water; or
  - 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water.

  Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.

The CDC offers this additional guidance for cleaning: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html

Referenced Documents:

- ❑ Essential (Critical Infrastructure) Services remain operational with guidelines in place. See: https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/covid/Essential-Infrastructure_fact-sheet.pdf
- ❑ Face mask sign option 1: http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Face-Mask-Sign-Option-1.pdf
- ❑ Face mask sign option 2: http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Face-Mask-Sign-Option-2.pdf

Signage Samples:





