

Saint John's Outdoor University COVID-19 Protocols for Field Trips

Using the outdoors as a learning environment has proven to be an effective way to teach students while helping to limit the spread of COVID-19. Saint John's Outdoor University will be offering limited field trips for the 2022 Maple Syruping Season following COVID-19 protocols.

Staff

- All Outdoor U staff will be vaccinated, including a booster shot.
- All Outdoor U staff will have masks to use in case proper distancing is unable to occur while outdoors.
- All Outdoor U staff will be trained in best practices to reducing COVID transmission.

Groups

- Group size is a maximum of 2 classrooms.
- preK, K, and 1st grade classrooms are limited to 3 chaperones per 10 students, not including the teacher or other school staff (paraprofessionals, nurses, administrators, etc...).
- 2nd grade and higher classrooms are limited to 1 chaperone per 10 students, not including teacher/school staff.

Facilities

- All maple syrup field trip activities will take place in an outdoor classroom near the sugar shack. The sugar shack and the indoor classroom area will be not accessible this year for school groups.
- Field trips will be a maximum of 1 ½ hours long.
- Groups can use indoor bathrooms on campus before or after their field trip **with prior approval** from Outdoor U. Anyone entering a campus building must wear a mask.
- A portable toilet will be located near the outdoor syruping classroom.
- Groups will not be able use any indoor or outdoor sites at Saint John's University for lunch.

Equipment

- Less equipment will be used during field trips than in years past.
- Equipment that will be used will be cleaned and disinfected according to CDC protocols after use by students.

School and Teachers' Responsibility

- Teachers are responsible for maintaining safety and following all protocols while on bus.
- Teachers are responsible for conducting health screening for students and staff before boarding the bus at school. Students or adults who do not pass the school's COVID health screen are not able to attend the field trip.

Saint John's Outdoor University reserves the right to cancel any scheduled field trip due to staff sickness or shortage due to COVID-19. These policies may change based on changing campus conditions. Please contact Sarah Gainey with any questions or concerns.

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Resources:

Schools and Child Care COVID-19 Best Practices Recommendations

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/plan.html>

COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Youth Programs and Day and Overnight Camps

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/youthguide.pdf>

American Camp Association Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC Guidance

<https://www.acacamps.org/resource-library/coronavirus/camp-business/field-guide-camps>

