



RESTARTING MAINE'S ECONOMY

COVID-19 Fishing Derby Guidelines

The State of Maine has adopted a staged approach, supported by science, public health expertise and industry collaboration, to allow Maine businesses to safely open and allow regulated activities to resume when the time is right. The plan is available at www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine.

This is one of many industry/activity guidance documents that the State is providing for businesses and for regulated activities so they can reopen/resume safely. Please make sure you pair this document with the general guidance document that applies to all industries/activities, which is available online at www.maine.gov/DECD.

The purpose of these guidelines are to encourage recreational angling and to allow organized fishing events to occur in a safe and healthy manner. Please use common sense and keep this goal in mind. A failure to adhere to these guidelines is a violation of the derby permit and may result in the loss of privileges to participate in future events.

Please note: This document may be updated as additional information and resources become available.

Updated December 23, 2020

General Guidance for Indoor and Outdoor Event Spaces

- Require all staff, vendors, and guests to maintain 6 feet of physical distance from individuals who are not part of their household group/angling party whenever possible.
- Require all staff, vendors, and guests to wear a face covering for indoor and outdoor public settings defined in [Executive Order 16](#) and subsequent orders, per CDC recommendations and pertinent [Executive Orders](#) from the Office of the Governor.
- The number of individuals that can gather in an indoor or outdoor space must not exceed the limit established by the [Governor's Executive Orders](#).
- It is mandated that all out-of-state travelers coming into Maine, as well as Maine residents returning to Maine, complete a 10-day quarantine upon arrival. Travelers should monitor for signs and symptoms for an additional 4 days. For current requirements and travel guidelines refer to the [Keep Maine Healthy](#) web page.
- Under no circumstances should an angler or organizer participate if they show signs of illness.



- Outside events are preferable to inside events in order to reduce the risk of exposure to respiratory droplets from attendees. Increase airflow through open windows and doors for indoor events to the extent practicable.
- For indoor events, understand the square footage of the event space and limit the number of people in the space to ensure physical distancing can be maintained.
- Crowding should be minimized where possible, and event organizers should consider using distancing measures to reduce close contact among people during the gathering.
- Avoid formal ceremonies and gatherings if possible and certainly do not exceed gathering limits as established within the Governor's current Executive Order. Utilizing Facebook Live or another digital platform to manage weigh-in results is recommended over an in-person organized ceremony. For more specific information on large gatherings refer to the [large gatherings checklist](#).
 - Event briefings, communications, and fees should be managed electronically, preferably in advance of events to avoid gatherings and a need to actively manage social distancing. Video recordings for viewing online via Face Book or web link, or other electronic messaging should be sent to all contestants with information about rules and specific times prior to the event day.
 - All winnings or prizes should be mailed or distributed in a manner to avoid any type of gathering and in-person interactions.
- Remind anglers and event staff to practice good hand hygiene with frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing.
- Minimize shared touch surfaces such as pens, tablets, receipts, etc.
 - Use digital rather than paper formats to the greatest extent practicable.
 - Use of electronic registration (phone, web-based, email, phone apps) is recommended to reduce interpersonal contact.
- Consider installing non-porous physical barriers such as partitions or plexiglass barriers to protect anglers and staff.
- Refer to the following documents for guidance on general cleaning and disinfection:
 - [COVID-19 Prevention Checklist General Guidance](#) (State of Maine)
 - [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#) (CDC)
 - [Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools and Homes](#) (CDC)
- Food vendors should wear face coverings, practice hand hygiene, use barriers or tables to maintain physical distancing to the extent possible, and ensure that patrons do not crowd sales area.
 - If food is provided, any vendors or catering services should refer to the [food and drink service checklist](#).