



COVID-19 Guidelines for Freedom Lake

[CDC Guidelines HERE](#)

These Covid-19 Guidelines were created to support the safe operating requirements by permit issuing agencies and to provide the safest possible experience to our patrons.

All guidelines are subject to change.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Freedom Lake

Town of LaGrange

PHYSICAL SPACE

- **Modified set-up:** The beach will be used at its maximum capacity to provide the greatest water area for bathers. The set up plan will include the redesign of lifeguard station area. Patrons may not go to station and visit lifeguards. Please only go to the lifeguard station in an emergency. The area will be fenced off. Guards will be sitting in various locations when “off-chair rotation”.
- As always, **DO NOT** approach a lifeguard who is on chair and watching water to talk for any reason unless you have an emergency. Covid questions can be directed to the lifeguard in charge that day. We have a Covid point of contact staff person and communication procedures will be followed.
- Lifeguard chairs will be sanitized at the end of each day. Hand sanitizer will be placed at each lifeguard station for staff use.
- Waterfront **activities will be limited**. No volleyball, playground, tetherball, dino dig, daily beach activities or caterpillar crawl.
- Beach blankets must be 10ft apart unless members of same household.
- Picnic tables may not be grouped together. Please note that wood tables are not easily sanitized and you should bring your own tablecloth to cover table if you plan to use one.
- **Restrooms** will only be accessible to waterfront patrons and staff. Public restrooms are not guaranteed. Signage will be placed near and in restrooms as hygiene/social distancing reminders. You must wear a mask when using restrooms. If restroom is busy, please wait outside door for it to clear out before entering to use.
- Waterfront Check-In (gate building) will serve as the **single entry/exit point**. You must show your pass EVERY TIME to gain admission.
- Lifeguards should bring their own chairs daily for their “off-chair rotation” time. Guards are responsible for keeping their own chairs sanitized.

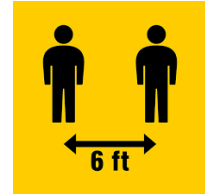


HYGIENE FOCUS

- Patrons will be encouraged about **best hygiene practices** in writing with purchase of pass, daily at gate building with handouts, verbally upon entry onto beach, announcements throughout the day and with repetitive on-site signage to:



- Maintain a safe social distance of at least 6 feet between themselves and others outside of their household.
 - Stay home if they are feeling sick or have been around someone sick.
 - Use face coverings/masks if they cannot social distance effectively. Use face coverings when using restrooms.
 - Practice regular and proper hand washing.
 - Follow directions posted on all park signage.
 - Staff will have daily health screening and temperature check before shift. If not feeling well staff are expected to stay home and call supervisor.
 - Staff are expected to report if they have been exposed to a sick person and appropriate actions will be taken.
- Restrooms and **high touch surfaces** will be intermittently sanitized by lifeguards, gate attendants and Covid compliance attendants specifically working to maintain best practices and monitor the facility. Park groundskeepers/caretaker will be using commercial sanitizing spray guns daily on high touch surfaces, after and/or before lake hours.
 - Use of **shared equipment** is not advised; therefore, no boats, lifejackets, sporting equipment, games or sand toys that are property of the Town of LaGrange will be available to the public at this time.
 - **Adequate supplies** will be monitored and stocked appropriately multiple times per day, especially in restrooms. Hand sanitizer stations will be attached to the inside of the Waterfront Check-In Building, Lifeguard First Aid Station and sanitizing wipes will be readily available wherever staff members are present for staff use. Public sanitizing stations will be provided if supplies can be secured and reordered timely.



- **PPE/Masks** - **Waterfront Director and all lake staff** should be wearing a mask while closely interacting with the public (mostly during check in/out times). It is not required to be worn during all times (be sensitive to the heat and use best judgement while outdoors). **Lifeguard on duty** is not required to wear a mask on chair, but must have one on their person if they need to closely interact with members of the public and cannot maintain a social distance. **Patrons** are not required to wear masks on the beach, as long as social distance is taking place effectively. Patrons are required to have a mask available if they cannot social distance in public spaces, primarily at check-in. Masks are required when using the restroom. **No wearing masks in the lake!**



PATRON MANAGEMENT

- Patrons must show season pass every time they enter the lake. Season passes may be purchased at the Recreation Office, or at the lake for a limited time. Credit/debit cards are only accepted in the Recreation Office. Cash/ check accepted at lake and in Recreation Office. You must have photo ID and tax or utility bill in your name to purchase pass.
- Daily admission is available to **LAGRANGE RESIDENTS ONLY**.
- Depending on volume at lake you may not be able to leave for the day and re-enter later. If you come back and we are at capacity, entrance will be denied.
- Freedom Lake will be operating on a 50% beach capacity per guidelines set by New York State. If we reach capacity, no further admission will be allowed for that day.
- Beach blankets must be spaced 10ft apart unless members of same household.
- Patrons **can bring their own** toys, as long as that particular equipment is not shared with anyone outside of their household.
- If the lake becomes too crowded, patrons will first be asked to reduce bather load and voluntarily leave the water for a while. If enough people do not comply, the lake will be cleared and re-entry coordinated by a staggered system using wristbands.



STAFF DUTIES

- **Waterfront Director and/or Head Lifeguards** will act as sole supervisors of beach area and waterfront staff. Waterfront staff will be responsible for reminding the public

about social distancing guidelines. Waterfront Director, Head Lifeguards or Lifeguards reserve the right to refuse waterfront use to anyone who cannot comply with social distancing recommendations or other lake rules.

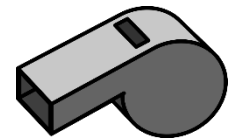


- **Lifeguard** on duty will be responsible for keeping waterfront patrons safe with eyes on the water at all times; they should NOT be enforcing social distancing protocol, as this is a potential distraction - this will be up to the Director or head lifeguard as the supervisor on site. Covid compliance staff will also be monitoring the beach and park areas and will make reminders to patrons as necessary. Full compliance with staff is expected



- **ARC guidelines** must be followed when interacting with any person in a first aid or lifesaving situation.
- **Opening duties/routine** - the lifeguard will always make sure the beach is ready for the day by:
 - Clearing the beach of debris and rake beach if necessary.
 - Attaching chair covering, if desired, before needing to be on duty.
 - Other duties as assigned by Waterfront Director or as part of regular responsibilities as a lifeguard.
 - Administrative duties/opening operations will be completed by the Waterfront Director or Head Lifeguard.

- **Lifeguard supplies** - Each lifeguard will be supplied with their own working whistle and must have it with them at all times in order to be on duty. Lifeguards will be issued their own tube and first aid pack assigned to them for the entire shift/season if supplies allow and/or as much as possible.



- **At regular intervals throughout the day**, the **Waterfront Director, Head Guard, or assigned staff person** will:
 - Sanitize high touch surfaces and bathroom (stall doors/toilet seats/sinks/handles) with bleach and water solution; trash removed; restocking paper items if necessary.
 - Prep paperwork/administrative tasks for necessary documentation.
- **Exiting a shift/closing duties**, the lifeguard will always make sure it is ready for the next shift or the next day by:



- Clearing the beach of debris and anything left behind by patrons, ensuring things look ready for the next time slot; rake beach if necessary.
- Sanitizing their supplies at the end of shift and storing appropriately. Sanitizing backboard and rescue board at the end of the day.
- Other duties as assigned by Waterfront Director or as part of regular responsibilities as a lifeguard.
- Administrative duties/closing operations will be completed by the Waterfront Director or Head Lifeguard.

IN THIS TOGETHER... SELF AWARENESS AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Please monitor your own experience while at the lake and follow all guidelines, signage and direction from staff.
- Monitor your own children and family members for social distancing in the water and on the beach.
- No sharing of toys. No grouping of tables.
- Please **PROPERLY DISPOSE** of gloves and masks in trash cans.
- If you arrive and you are not comfortable with the number of patrons at the lake, please return another day.
- You should travel to the lake with your own hand sanitizer and PPE supplies (mask, gloves). These items are extremely hard to come by and on back order in many cases, so we do not have an abundant supply for the public.
- Please follow all direction of staff.



These guidelines are subject to change as new guidance is issued or as need warrants. This document is in addition to our full safety plan operations manual and has been added as an appendix. The success of our operating plan will be determined by the willingness of all to support one another and to be mindful of our own health and well-being.

