



# Howard County

## RECREATION & PARKS

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Fall 2020

Robinson Nature Center Program COVID safety policies

Thank you for your interests in Robinson Nature Center drop-off programs. In an effort to provide safe and enjoyable experiences, all staff and sites will adhere to the following policies and precautions. Please note that, as the COVID pandemic continues to evolve, HCRP and Robinson staff will be updating this list and will be working closely with all State and local government officials and agencies.

### **Robinson Nature Center 2020 Fall drop-off program Guidelines**

#### **Check-in/Check-out Procedures**

- Sign in/out table, chairs, tent (if necessary) will be set up for check-in/out.
- Staff, parents, and participants must wear face coverings when walking to and from the check-in/out table and when within 6-feet of another person.
- When parents, and participants arrive, they should maintain social distancing when waiting to check-in.
- Staff takes each child into the pavilion/facility/program area.
- Parents should not enter the classroom spaces. Parents choosing to stay at the Center for the duration of the program may wait in designated parent lounges (available during home school programs only, space is limited) or may utilize the trail or outdoor seating areas and play space.
- Parents need to sign their child in and out of the program. Pens will be sanitized after every use; although we encourage you to bring your own pen.
- Parents give the staff member stationed at the check-in table the necessary paperwork.
- When parents arrive to pick up their child, they should maintain social distancing when waiting to check their child out.

#### **Sanitization/Cleaning**

- All children and staff must use hand sanitizer before and after participation.
- Cleaning staff will clean restrooms daily. Program staff will surface clean (e.g. picnic tables, equipment, pens etc.)
- Children will be given their own materials (pen, pencils, scissors) to use during class and will not share with other participants.
- All program equipment will be sanitized after programs end.
- Pens for sign in/sign out will be sanitized after every use; although we encourage you to bring your own pen.

#### **Capacity (Group Size)**

- Capacity limitation of no more than 15 individuals in a group (this includes all staff and participants in each group.)
- Maintain social distancing when arriving, departing, or speaking with others.

#### **Contact with Others**

- Staff and participants must wear masks when indoors and when social distancing cannot be maintained outdoors.
- No physical contact should occur.
- No group celebrations, fist bumps, high-fives, etc.
- Though we may explore the stream/river, no water play (splashing) will be permitted.



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- Staff and participants are to maintain a 6-foot distance between each other at all times possible.
- Check-in/out may be at different areas of the park/facility for different groups. Please see program welcome email for specific check-in/out details. This avoids congregation.
- Parents are not permitted into the classroom spaces.
- A “station” or cubby will be assigned for each participant to place their equipment (bag, water bottle etc.), and they should return to the designated station during breaks. Assigned space for all participants should allow for adequate distance (6-foot) per CDC guidelines.

### Health Checks

- There will be daily COVID-19 symptom checks for participants and for anyone entering the Nature Center to include COVID-19 exposure questions, as described by the CDC. Program participants will also be required to have their temperature checked with a touchless, forehead-scanning thermometer prior to being admitted to the program. If the temperature reads 100.4F or higher, the child is not permitted to stay in the program. A temperature log will be recorded for each participant daily and the information will be kept confidential.
- Volunteers/Staff use a touchless thermometer to take the temperature of each staff member prior to them entering the pavilion/program.

### Sharing equipment or water

- Participants need to bring their own filled water-bottle. Water coolers will be available. These will be staff operated, while wearing PPE equipment. Children are not permitted to operate the water coolers.
- All staff and participants cannot share water, towels, etc.

### Unexpected or pop up storms

Communication will be made to parents prior to programs starting if an extreme weather emergency is predicted that would necessitate cancelling the program (ie hurricane/tropical storm warning, snow storm, etc.). If there is an unexpected extreme emergency and program participants must seek shelter in close quarters, the participants may not be able to stay 6 feet apart. Please note that there is a risk when your child is participating in an outdoor program. For a program that is short in length, we recommend that parents stay in the vicinity. If parents would like to stay at the program, it is recommended that they stay in the designated parent lounge areas (available during home school programs only, space is limited), outdoor seating areas or in their car, away from the camp. Those staying in the parent lounges must wear a mask, and those utilizing outdoor spaces must wear a mask when within 6 feet of other individuals.