

Covid-19 Protocol for NV Field Trips - Approved by the Board on Nov 2, 2020

Opening Statement

Nature Vancouver is restarting its field trips program but on a limited basis for now due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. We understand that participation in a group activity is an individual and careful decision at this time and we are modifying our field trip protocols to reduce risk. Our requirements and recommendations for these field trips have been based on information from the following websites:

- **CDC BC:** [Covid-19 Prevention](#)
- **BC Search and Rescue Association:** [Search & Rescue During Covid-19](#)

We have also used Wild Research, North Shore Hikers and Golden Age Hiking Club as resources in developing these protocols and thank them for their good examples.

Mandatory COVID-19 Precautions for Field Trips

- Participation is limited to Nature Vancouver members only – no guests at this time.
- Limit of 6 - 8 participants per group including the trip leader.
- Pre-registration is mandatory for all participants.
- All field trip participants must read, sign and submit the Release of Liability Form to the field trip leader in advance of the field trip.
- Two metre physical distancing should be maintained during the trip.
- Masks are required to be worn when physical distancing is not possible.
- Trip participants should be self-sufficient with their own mask, hand sanitizer and pen. No sharing food or drinks; no sharing of items like cameras, binoculars, spotting scopes or pens.
- Carpooling is strongly discouraged for those who are not in the same bubble. It is recommended that masks be worn during carpooling.

Requirements for Field Trip Leaders During Covid-19 Pandemic

- Meeting time and place are not to be given in field trip listings to ensure pre- registration. Setting a 48 to 72 hours cut-off before the day of the trip is recommended.
- For contact tracing, the trip leader must give all participant information (name and phone number) and waivers to Field Trip Coordinator within 24 hours after the trip.
- Visiting overcrowded sites and trails is discouraged. Remote locations should be avoided.
- All proposed field trips are to be sent to Field Trip Coordinator for review one week before they are posted, so concerns about details of the trip and how precautions will be followed can be dealt with in advance.
- Trail etiquette and rules must still be respected even with physical distancing as trail use is generally higher than in the past.
- All trip participants must follow all instructions and directives of the trip leader unless those instructions or directives contradict provincial health guidelines.

Health & Safety Self-questionnaire (Field Trip Leaders)

I (Full Name) _____ confirm that:

- I do not have any of the following that are new and not related to allergies or pre-existing conditions: dry cough, fever higher than 38 degrees Celsius, shortness of breath, sore throat, fatigue or headaches.
- I have not tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14 days.
- I am not awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- I have not been told to self-isolate by health authorities.
- I have not been in contact with someone who has travelled outside Canada within the last 14 days or someone currently in quarantine.

Signature

Date