



## **Regulations, Policies, and Procedures for Aquatics Programs**

Since the start of Covid-19 pandemic, the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services has remained committed to providing essential services to Bristol families. Our professional team, in conjunction with the Bristol-Burlington Health District, has established the following procedures in order to create an environment that reduces the chance of Covid-19 exposure.

### **Capacity Limits:**

Per guidelines established by the BBHD, aquatics facilities are currently limited to 25%.

### **Face Coverings:**

- Staff will be required to wear face coverings while in “common” areas such as the locker rooms, lobby, and pool deck. Lifeguards are considered “first responders” and are not required to wear face coverings while actively lifeguarding.
- Patrons must wear facemasks while in “common” areas such as the locker rooms, lobby, and pool deck.

### **Executive Order 7BB does not require the use of face masks by:**

- **Anyone for whom doing so would be contrary to his or her health or safety because of a medical condition;**
- **Anyone under the age of 2 years, or an older child if the parent, guardian or person responsible for the child is unable to place the mask safely on the child’s face.**

*\*\*Please note: Due to the Executive Order, we cannot force anyone who falls within the aforementioned groups to wear face masks\*\**

### **Staff Procedures:**

- Staff members reporting will don their masks prior to entering the facility and will be asked to confirm that they do not have a fever, shortness of breath, or cough. A visual inspection of the staff for signs of illness, which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness will be conducted.
- Staff temperatures will be taken daily with non- contact thermometers. The Supervisor on Duty will ensure that staff are wearing their face coverings while in common areas.
- Staff must notify the Aquatics Supervisor of any out of State travel that could potentially increase exposure.
- Staff must report any child feeling sick to the Aquatics Supervisor as soon as possible.
- Staff will comply with the requirements listed in the Department of Economic Development Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employees per Executive Order 7V.

## **Aquatics Programs Procedures:**

### **Health Care:**

- Limited guardians will be allowed in the aquatics facility.
- Participants or staff who feel sick or displays symptoms related to COVID-19 (see list above) will be brought to the designated sick area immediately where a staff person will monitor them until a family member picks them up.
- Participants and staff with a suspected Covid-19 case will be sent home with a packet containing information on Covid-19 and suggested next steps.
- In the case that a staff member must respond to an emergency situation that requires contact with a participant, all efforts will be made to wear the appropriate PPE. If appropriate PPE is not available or the situation requires immediate response, staff will appropriately respond to the present circumstances, and guardians will be made aware of potential cross-contamination when notified of the situation.

### **General Hygiene:**

- Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services will be implementing regular hand washing, for both staff and participants, with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or sanitizing using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer:
  - Before and after eating;
  - After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing;
  - After using the rest room;
  - Before handling food;
  - After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated; and
  - After using any shared equipment
- Patrons are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer to aquatics facilities.
- Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services will be implementing the following respiratory hygiene policies:
  - All staff will be required to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow. Staff will be required to wash their hands or sanitize after coughing or sneezing.
  - Staff will encourage patrons, when appropriate to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow. Participants will be required to wash their hands or sanitize after coughing or sneezing and
  - Soiled tissues will be disposed of in the designated non-touch container immediately after use.

### **Cleaning and Disinfection:**

- All tables, chairs, and high contact surfaces will be disinfected after every swim session and as often as possible in addition.
- All tables, chairs, and high contact surfaces will be disinfected at the end of each activity implementing CDC best practices for multiple cleanings a day.
- Commonly touched surfaces such as light switches, door knobs, and bathrooms will be disinfected multiple times throughout the day. EPA standards apply to all products used.

### **Drop Off/Pick Up:**

Drop off and pick up will occur in the outdoor pick-up area.

- Participants and guardians should stay in their vehicle upon arrival at the pool.
- Participants who have a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees, will be asked to wait ten minutes, before their temperature is retaken. If their temperature reads greater than 100.4 degrees twice, they will not be permitted into the facility.

- As a result of the July 14th Executive Order requiring self-quarantining for anyone traveling into Connecticut from outside of the country or from a state with high, daily positive Covid-19 test rates, Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services may be asking if the patron, household members, or someone the patron has been in close contact with, has traveled outside of the state of Connecticut within the last fourteen (14) days. Those patrons who have traveled outside of the country or into the following states, or have been in close contact with someone who has traveled to one of the designated locations, will be asked to quarantine for fourteen (14) days. A refund will be given to any attendee who is unable to attend a designated program as a result of this policy.

**Department protocols if staff or participant(s) are diagnosed with Covid -19:**

- In February 2020, COVID-19 was added to the List of Reportable Diseases. Cases of COVID-19 infection must be reported immediately to the Connecticut Department of Public Health and to the local department of health in the town of residence of the case-patient by telephone on the day of recognition or strong suspicion of the disease. The COVID-19 report form is available on the DPH website at: <https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/Covid/InitiateCovidReport>
- Patrons or staff members who test positive for Covid-19 will not be allowed to return to a Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services aquatics site until they received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart. A doctor's note will be required stating negative test results for any patron or staff member returning following recovery from Covid-19. A patron who tests positive for Covid-19 will receive a full refund for the time they are out of a program or membership as necessary.
- Patrons or staff members who are determined to have had close contact with the infected patron/ staff member (other group members, patrons, and staff) will not be allowed to return to a Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community aquatics site for 14 days after the last day they had contact with the affected patron/staff member, so long as they show no symptoms of Covid-19. A child who is unable to attend an aquatics program due to the fact that a patron/group/team member has tested positive for Covid-19 will receive a refund for the time they are out of an aquatics program.
- Anyone attending/working at the pool will be required to stay home from the pool for 14 days, and may return so long as they show no symptoms of Covid-19.
- If a household member of a participant or staff member tests positive for Covid-19, the patron will be required to stay home for at least 14 days. Upon returning to the pool, these participants or staff members must provide an end of quarantine notice from their local Health District. A child who is unable to attend an aquatics program due to the fact that a household member has tested positive for Covid-19 will receive a refund for the time they are out of the pool.
- Additional practices to those below may be followed in consultation with the local health department or the CT Department of Public Health.
  1. Our department in conjunction with the Bristol-Burlington Health District will determine the date of symptom onset for the patron/staff member.
  2. Our department in conjunction with the Bristol-Burlington Health District will determine if the patron/staff member attended/worked at the pool while symptomatic or during the two days before symptoms began.
  3. Our department in conjunction with the Bristol-Burlington Health District will attempt to identify what days the patron/staff member attended/worked during that time.

4. Our department in conjunction with the Bristol-Burlington Health District will determine who had close contact with the patron/staff member at the program during those days (staff and other patrons).
5. Our department in conjunction with the Bristol Public School staff will conduct appropriate cleaning and disinfection:
6. Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
7. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
8. Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
9. Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
10. If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
11. Shared bathrooms used by patrons or staff members will be taken offline for seven days. Other bathrooms will be made available to participants and staff on site.
12. Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

#### **Communications Policies:**

Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services strives to provide the best possible communication between our department and our participants. In order to make sure that we have the most up-to-date contact information for your family, please make sure to update your contact information on your account and update as needed.

Steps:

1. Visit [www.bristolrec.com](http://www.bristolrec.com)
  2. Log into your account
  3. Click on *My Account*
  4. Edit your contact information and select *General Opt-In* and *Cancellation Opt-In*
- All patrons and staff are required to self-report immediately if they are experiencing COVID symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19, or have come in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
  - To self-report call 860-584-6161. If no one answers, please leave a detailed voicemail indicating the name and contact information and a staff member will call back as soon as possible.
  - Upon learning of any potential COVID exposure, first, Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services staff will contact the local Bristol-Burlington Health Department. Secondly, the Department will communicate with participants and staff about the possible exposure and will relay appropriate instructions from that point on.
  - Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), our Department is not able to disclose which patron or staff member tested positive.

#### **Future Policies:**

The above list is not necessarily inclusive of all necessary policies and protocols that should become necessary during these unprecedented times. All operations should be conducted in the safest manner possible and should always prioritize safety. Due to the evolving nature of COVID-19 and updates from the State of Connecticut, Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services reserves the right to change policies or procedures at any time at their discretion for any reason they

deem necessary. Updates in policies will be communicated to staff, participants, and guardians in a timely manner.

**Symptoms of Covid-19 (cdc.gov):**

- “People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever >100.00 deg. F
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally have mild illness.

This list is not all inclusive. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

- When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention:
- Look for emergency warning signs\* for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately
  - Trouble breathing
  - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
  - New confusion
  - Inability to wake or stay awake
  - Bluish lips or face

\*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

- Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19 ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov))

**The CDC recommends the following for Covid-19 patients (cdc.gov):**

- “People with COVID-19 who have stayed home (home isolated) can leave home under the following conditions\*\*:
  - If you have not had a test to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these three things have happened:
    - You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) AND
    - other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved) AND
    - at least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared
- If you have had a test to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these three things have happened:
  - You no longer have a fever (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) AND
  - other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved) AND

- You received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart. Your doctor will follow CDC guidelines.
- People who DID NOT have COVID-19 symptoms, but tested positive and have stayed home (home isolated) can leave home under the following conditions\*\*:
  - If you have not had a test to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these two things have happened:
    - At least 10 days have passed since the date of your first positive test AND
    - You continue to have no symptoms (no cough or shortness of breath) since the test.
  - If you have had a test to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after:
    - You received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart. Your doctor will follow CDC guidelines.

*Note: if you develop symptoms, follow guidance above for people with COVID19 symptoms.*

*\*\*In all cases, follow the guidance of your doctor and local health department. The decision to stop home isolation should be made in consultation with your healthcare provider and state and local health departments. Some people, for example those with conditions that weaken their immune system, might continue to shed virus even after they recover”.*

**Hotlines:**

Bristol Health COVID-19 hotline (860-261-6855) is available for residents to ask Bristol Health staff questions about the coronavirus.

Bristol All-Heart Hotline (860-584-6253) has been established for Bristol residents in need of social services or other support during this public health emergency.