

The Basics of Walden West's Successful Physical Distance Summer 2020 programs

This is a summary of how we safely operated our summer programs this year. Most of the procedures will translate over to our science day camp programs for Fall 2020. At the time of this document, we are still in a planning phase and we are hoping to release more information in September.

- Per the current [SCC Public Health directive](#), campers could not attend any other camps, child care, recreational groups, etc. during the same week or the 2 weeks prior to their week at Walden West.
- We had separate group meeting spots for up to 8 groups of participants:
 - Each group had up to 12 campers, 1-2 staff, and 1-2 counselors
 - Each group had their own restrooms and parking locations (here is a [sample camp map](#)).
 - Groups could not interact with each other, or use another group's restroom, and they had to stay with their group the entire week (no one was allowed to switch groups)
 - We tried our best to assign campers of the similar grade to the same group
- All campers and staff were frequently washing hands and using hand sanitizer when available
- All campers and staff were required to wear a face mask while on site unless eating, drinking, or engaging in activities such as all-day hikes, running games, etc.
 - Currently, the directive says that participants under the age of 12 are not required to physically distance from each other, and it is recommended they wear a face mask. Due to the wide variety of people at Walden West, **we required ALL campers and staff to wear a face mask.**
 - Campers who sheltered in place together, carpoled together, and siblings/family members of the same household did not need to physically distance themselves from each other.
 - Campers 12 and older and our staff needed to maintain the 6 feet physical distance.
- Campers received their group assignments with their check-in location and parking map the week prior to theirs. We also had a [video](#) we sent to parents before camp started.
- Each day staff checked in campers and signed them out at their meeting spots. PPE was provided for the staff to do the health screenings and temp checks.
 - Staff schedule: 8am-4pm with a working lunch
 - Camper schedules:
 - 8:30am-3:30pm
 - When we had 7 groups, we staggered the times:
 - Half the groups went from 8:30am-3:30pm
 - Other half went from 8:45am-3:45pm
 - ID code cards were given to families for signing out campers to authorized persons
- We also gave campers their own RAFT kits and arts & craft supplies.
- The animals in our Nature Lab were brought outside to the individual groups. Everyone used hand sanitizer before and after handling the animals.
- A campfire program was pre-recorded and the link was emailed to parents on Thursday. We also sent home s'mores kits to all campers so they could enjoy s'mores with their family as they watched the campfire program.
- If anyone got sick, we were to follow the [SCC Public Health protocols](#). (FYI - no one got sick!)