



## Mountain Trail Outdoor School (MTOS) COVID Protocols

In 2020, Mountain Trail Outdoor School (MTOS)—like hundreds of other Environmental Learning Centers—was not open due to complexities surrounding the pandemic. Now, with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), NC Department of Health and Human Services & NC Youth Camp Association, MTOS leadership is ready to open as safely as possible with an amazing experience for students and staff!

Kanuga Conference Center, where MTOS is located, is committed to providing guests and staff with a safe environment that aligns with expert protocols for working to minimize COVID-19. To play our part in curtailing a fourth wave of COVID-19 infections, all Kanuga staff will wear face coverings and practice social distancing when in guest facing/contact indoor service areas.

In accordance with CDC guidelines and new data informing their latest guidance, **all guests** (vaccinated or not) should plan to wear face coverings when inside and unable to practice social distancing. This is to protect young children and others who are unable to be vaccinated as well as those among us who are immunocompromised. This guidance is also designed to protect the vaccinated from break-through infection. **Please wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer frequently.** (*Health and safety protocols are subject to change.*)

We will be hosting schools from across the Southeast; therefore, MTOS will follow federal COVID-19 health and safety guidelines from the CDC. *These will apply to all indoor spaces on campus.*

### *MTOS Staff Policies:*

- MTOS staff will follow CDC guidance for social distancing, mask wearing, and outdoor spaces.
- We strongly encourage our staff to be fully vaccinated.
- Our staff are committed to a two of three rule. At all times, our staff will maintain two of the following three: 1-Masks; 2-Distance; 3-Outside Air. *Mountain Trail's classroom is 1400-acres of trails, ponds and streams, making it the ideal learning environment!*

### *Attending School policies: Before & During Your Trip*

- **Please have your school nurse monitor each student the week before departure to MTOS and to not allow any student/staff that is experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 to attend the trip.**
- Each morning we ask that teachers/chaperones assess the health and symptoms of each student before leaving the cabin to attend breakfast.
- Handwashing will be REQUIRED before each meal.
- High touch surfaces (i.e. dining hall tables, door knobs) will be cleaned regularly with an EPA-approved disinfectant by MTOS staff.
- **If someone shows COVID symptoms:** Schools must bring along COVID-19 rapid antigen tests and administer to students/adults with COVID symptoms. If positive, the individual will be immediately isolated, and the health department will be notified. Arrangements must be made with the school for the individual to be picked up immediately. MTOS Administration and the Lead Teacher will determine next steps for their trip.