



4-H Youth Development Program

# 4-H Camp During COVID-19



**Because of health risks associated with the coronavirus pandemic, the University of California requires all 4-H Camps in California scheduled through July 4, 2020 be cancelled, postponed, or held virtually.**

**Camps held after July 4<sup>th</sup> must carefully consider the questions outlined in this document before continuing camp planning.**

## Background

4-H Camp is a traditional and beloved part of many counties' 4-H programming each summer. As part of the 4-H camp experience, youth live together for several days and are often in close quarters with each other. The living situation at camps presents health and risk management concerns when considering infectious diseases, such as COVID-19.

COVID-19 or coronavirus is an extremely contagious virus which typically causes flu-like symptoms, high fever and dry cough, as well as potential respiratory illness and death. Symptoms may vary from person to person, and some people may not show symptoms, while still being able to infect others.

## RESOURCES

**CENTER FOR  
DISEASE CONTROL  
(CDC)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

**CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>

**FIND YOUR LOCAL  
HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT**

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/pages/localhealthservicesandoffices.aspx>

**UC ANR COVID-19  
POLICIES**

[http://safety.ucanr.edu/programs/emergency/current\\_health\\_alerts/](http://safety.ucanr.edu/programs/emergency/current_health_alerts/)

**UC 4-H POLICIES**

4-H Camp Safety  
Guidebook

[https://ucanr.edu/sites/safety/4-H\\_Resources/Camp\\_Safety\\_Guidebook/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/safety/4-H_Resources/Camp_Safety_Guidebook/)

## Camps after July 4, 2020: Camp Planning Guiding Questions and Considerations

The decision to extend the camp cancellation mandate may happen at any time and may be made by authorities including, but not limited to:

- The Governor of California
- The State of California
- The University of California
- County Health Departments
- The Owner/Operator of the camp facility
- Your local UCCE County Director

**Please consider the following questions when deciding whether to hold 4-H Camp.**

### Q: What contractual obligations do you have?

- What is the latest your contract can be cancelled in the event that the mandate to cancel camps is extended?
- Does your contract have a Force Majeure or “Act of God” clause?
- Are there financial penalties if you cancel your contract?

### Q: Is the camp location ready for programming?

- Have you checked with the county health department to see if they are allowing camps to operate?
- If you are responsible for your facilities your camp utilizes, does the local health department have the time and capacity to inspect your facility for permits before your program begins?
- If you are responsible for fixing or cleaning the facility prior to camp, do you have time to do so once the shelter-in-place is lifted? Do you have the ability to properly sanitize the facility before use?
- If the facility management takes care of repairs and cleaning, have you been in contact with the management about what steps they are taking to clean the facility between renters?
- What steps will you take to assure camp is clean, disinfected, and to the best of your ability, free of germs?

### GOT QUESTIONS?

California 4-H  
Camping Advisory  
Committee

#### Committee Co-Chairs

Marianne Bird

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**Your local UCCE 4-H staff are also available to answer questions**

[Find your local UCCE Office](#)

### 2020 CAMPING CONFERENCE

**RESCHEDULED to 2021**

**Date:** March 19-21, 2021

**Location:** Sly Park, CA

**Q: Will you have enough participants to hold camp?**

- Will the number of participants registered allow you to break even on your expenses?

**Q: Is your 4-H Camp medical staff available and prepared for camp?**

- Will your camp medical staff be available for 4-H camp due to the current situation?
- Is your camp medical staff willing and comfortable serving in their role during this situation?
- Is your medical staff prepared to be on the lookout for COVID-19 symptoms in campers, staff, etc.?

**Q: Is your 4-H Camp staff prepared for camp?**

- Do you have enough staff and adult chaperones to hold camp?
- Did your camp staff have adequate time to plan camp programs?
- By the time your camp begins, will your camp staff have received sufficient training to successfully hold camp?
- If your staff has not received training yet, what steps need to be taken to prepare the staff for 4-H camp?
- What programmatic changes need to be made to assure a healthy camp in the wake of the virus?

**Q: What is the plan if someone has symptoms of COVID-19?**

- What procedures are in place for the person who is ill?
- What is the plan for the other children in camp? Those youth and adults who may have had extended contact with the ill?
- How and who will notify parents?
- What follow up happens after camp?

**Q: How will you prepare campers and parents prior to camp?**

- What information will you share with families prior to camp?

**Even if you are able to successfully answer the above questions, it's okay to make the difficult choice to cancel 4-H camp if you are uncomfortable with the current situation. The safety and well-being of our youth, camp staff, and adult volunteers is important.**