



COVID GUIDANCE: An Update

ALL TRR Programs effective July 28, 2021

Background

TRR is a health and healing program, and we need to make certain our volunteers and veterans, and their families, feel safe and protected by the best practices. The United States is very fortunate to have an abundance of highly effective vaccines which greatly reduces the chances of severe illness requiring hospitalization. While no vaccine can 100% eliminate the possibility of catching Covid and potentially transmitting to others, we need to pay attention to the ongoing national pandemic ebb and growth. It is not over.

Current hospitalizations are now 95% unvaccinated individuals. The Delta variant is creating a surge in both infections and hospitalizations. Please closely review current (7/28/21) TRR Covid Guidance protocols and information, below.

TRR COVID Event Guidance and information

- All overnight TRR programs will now require vaccinated individuals. At least one of the 2 shot Moderna or Pfizer-with 2nd dose scheduled, or the one shot J&J. Any deviation from this (hopefully temporary) policy must be cleared with Dave Robey, TRR Program Director. Deviations might include: a few unvaccinated camping individuals; unvaccinated individuals not staying overnight and always outdoors.
- Please refrain from taking and posting pictures of groups unless all are masked.
- Shuttles or helping *non driving* veterans with transportation should be carefully considered with all participants. Long shuttles carry significant risk. These shuttles are at the discretion of the Program or Chapter Coordinator
- Event leaders should always monitor risks in their locality. An excellent source is <https://covidactnow.org>. Scroll down the Risk Map. Risk is based on several factors which are documented on the website. If your state is designated as Very High Risk (Red) or Severe Risk (Orange), take extra precautions to mitigate (if possible).
- We strongly urge participants to wear masks when in close proximity; vaccinated individuals as well - until safely spaced on the water.
- Consider probable length of exposure. The CDC uses [15 minutes](#) within 6' as their rule of thumb. Outside events aren't as major of a concern but indoor events like shuttles or overnight accommodations carry a high risk. The CDC still maintains a mandate to wear a mask (vaccinated or not) on ALL forms of [public transportation](#).
- Even fully vaccinated individuals can transmit COVID, especially new variants like the Delta variant. TRR can provide masks or reimbursement for purchased program masks upon request.
- At the present time (7/28/21), TRR is not recommending COVID Tests or vaccinations as a requirement for participation in their outdoor day paddling events. Rapid tests (generally antigen) are only 50% accurate, not very reliable. PCR tests are very accurate (97%) but are only good on the day of the test and take time to get the results.