

Vermilion County Conservation District Guidelines for In-Person Educational Programs

To ensure the safety of VCCD staff and participants attending a District program, the following will be required for all staff and participants:

1. All current CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Vermilion County Health Department guidelines will be followed during in-person programming to ensure healthy operations and environments. Limited programs may be offered as long as Illinois remains in Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan and by the Illinois Dept of Public Health. If Illinois regresses to Phase 3 of Restore Illinois, programs may be canceled until further notice.
2. Health screenings will be conducted on staff and participants before entering VCCD facilities, including symptom screening and temperature checks with a no-touch thermometer. Symptom screening and temperature guidelines will be based on current CDC and IDPH recommendations.
3. For the safety of VCCD staff and participants, and to ensure small group sizes, ALL participants must **pre-register** for programs. Walk-up or same-day participation will not be allowed during the Spring or Summer 2021. COVID-19 Release Waivers and a Health Questionnaire Form must be filled out and signed by participants/guardians before the event begins.
4. Masks that cover the mouth and nose will be required by all participants and staff during programs, including time outside when social distancing is not possible.
5. VCCD facilities used during educational programs (Kennekuk Environmental Education Center, Gannett Outdoor Education Center, Pioneer Homestead Cabin, Sycamore Hollow Nature Center, Bunker Hill Historic Area) will be closed to the public for the duration of the programs. Only those pre-registered for the program and VCCD staff will be allowed to enter the buildings during program time.
6. Time spent during the programs will be outside as much as possible with social distancing used while inside around tables and chairs.
7. Hand sanitizer will be used by staff and participants before and after any hands-on activities or the sharing/passing around of educational materials.
8. Participants may bring a re-usable water bottle that is labeled with their name. VCCD will have water available to refill the bottles if needed.

PLEASE NOTE

The health and safety of our staff and participants are our first priorities. Mandates and recommendations from the CDC, IDPH, and VCHD may change our ability to follow this new limited program plan. Also, if we find that guests are not following appropriate social distancing or other guidelines, we may be forced to cancel programs. Please check our website and Facebook page for any changes or updates.