



Serving with Diligence and Determination

YMCA BLUE RIDGE ASSEMBLY

*Updated January 2022

YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly has modified our operations to ensure all practices prioritize the health and safety of our guests, staff and the community. We rely on guidance from the CDC, the state of North Carolina, Buncombe County, and the American Camp Association (ACA), and we enforce compliance with all measures focused on preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Our conference center is subject to guidelines set by Buncombe County, which is currently requiring masks for indoor public spaces. In accordance with the County guideline, we ask that guests wear masks when they are in lobby, gift shop and entering the dining room. It will be up to each group to maintain COVID safety in their own private spaces as appropriate.

Additionally, YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly is requiring that guests are either fully vaccinated or obtain a negative COVID-19 test result prior to arrival. We ask that each group leader convey this expectation to participants and handle it as best they can to prevent a COVID outbreak in your group.

Guest Responsibilities

- Guests are required to wear a mask in our main lobby, gift shop and dining room area. We also encourage masks when participating in an Assembly-led activity. It will be up to each group to maintain COVID safety in their own private spaces as appropriate.
- Guests should either be fully vaccinated or obtain a negative COVID-19 test result prior to arrival. Group leaders should handle conveying this expectation and handling it as they see fit.
- Keep a safe distance as appropriate.
- If fever or other symptoms develop, guest must either leave immediately to isolate at home, or if unable to leave, notify staff and request a quarantine room.
- Adhere to the specific protocols of your group.

Blue Ridge Staff Responsibilities

- Frequent and thorough hand washing with soap, water and/or use of hand sanitizer.
- Adhering to proper physical distancing protocols and wearing face masks and gloves when appropriate.
- Staying home to self-isolate with any symptoms, such as headache, cough, or fever, or if exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
- Seeking medical attention for any symptoms and getting tested for COVID-19 before returning to work, following the CDC guidelines for testing.

Public Spaces and Guest Services Desk

- Increased cleaning of public bathrooms, counter tops, doors, and other high traffic areas, as needed based on usage throughout campus.
- Hand sanitizer is available in public spaces throughout campus.
- Guest room keys are sanitized between each use.
- Social distancing markers are placed in the lobby appropriately in front of guest services desk, and plexiglass barriers are at each desk station.
- Campus will only be open for registered guests.

Lodging

- Staff will not enter any residential areas.
- Towel exchange and garbage pickup will take place in hallways and on porches depending on the building (as discussed with group leader prior to visit).
- Staff cleans with CDC-approved disinfectants and cleaners and uses CDC guidelines for high contact surfaces.

Dining

- Meals will be self-serve buffet style, and disposable plates and utensils will be used at this time.
- Guests are encouraged to sit at tables in family units or pre-determined cohorts, depending on the group.
- Assigned meal periods may be instituted as needed.

Meeting Spaces

- Spaces will be sanitized and set accordingly prior to group's arrival.
- Blue Ridge must have all A/V needs in advance of arrival and may not be able to provide additional equipment on short notice during stay.
- Group is responsible for sanitizing spaces as needed throughout the stay.
- Staff will only enter each meeting space to pick up trash as needed while the group is not present.

Recreation

- Staff-led activities may be available as deemed safe to run, such as climbing structures, low-ropes course, archery, mountain biking, and crafts.
- Open recreation facilities may be used by guests, including hiking trails, disc golf, tennis, basketball, volleyball, corn hole, outdoor swimming pool and playground. Guests may bring their own equipment or use our equipment that will be sanitized between each use.
- Hours for Mountaintop Café & Gift Shop to be determined.