Upper Thames River Conservation Authority - COVID-19 Guidelines for Participants in Community Education & Partnerships Programs & Events

In order to protect the public and staff from the spread of COVID-19, we ask that all persons participating in Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) educational programs and events adhere to the following guidelines.

Prior to Arrival at UTRCA Program or Event

- **Pre-Screen:** Any person attending or participating in a UTRCA educational program or event must pre-screen for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to arriving on site. Here are links to [online school screening for students] and [information for the general public].
- **COVID-19 Symptoms:** Any person who is experiencing a symptom of COVID-19 will not be allowed to attend the UTRCA program or event.
- **Contact Information:** Individuals attending or participating in public UTRCA programs or events must provide their full name and phone number prior to the start of the program. For privately booked UTRCA programs, the teacher or supervisor who books the program is to provide a list of all participants (students, volunteers, teachers) attending the program. All participant information will be securely filed with the UTRCA for one month (two incubation periods) and will be provided to public health, if requested, as part of a case investigation.

During UTRCA Programs and Events

- **Hand Hygiene:** Hand sanitizer (60-90% alcohol) will be provided by UTRCA staff. All participants must sanitize their hands prior to the start of the program or event and may be asked to hand sanitize again during the course of the program or event. If their hands are visibly dirty, soap and water should be used, if possible. Participants should perform hand hygiene before and after putting on or removing their mask, eating, or sharing objects/equipment.
- **Physical Distancing:** During UTRCA education programs and events, all participants, including UTRCA staff, will maintain a physical distance of at least 2 metres from anyone outside of their household.
- **Masks/Face Coverings:** All participants are required to bring a mask or face covering, and wear it when physical distancing cannot be maintained. All participants must wear a mask when indoors. Reasonable exemptions from mask wearing can be found on the [Huron Perth Public Health] and [Middlesex London Health Unit] websites.
- **Equipment Use:** Where possible, educational supplies and materials will be distributed by setting up socially distanced stations, thereby minimizing contact between staff and participants. The sharing of education materials between participants will be permitted and the emphasis will be placed on regular hand hygiene before and after handling shared program materials to reduce the risk of infection since the risk associated with use of shared materials is low. UTRCA staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces regularly.
- **COVID-19 Symptoms:** If a participant shows symptoms of COVID-19 during a program, they will be asked to remove themselves immediately from the group. Students showing COVID-19 symptoms during a UTRCA education program will need to be removed from the group and supervised by a teacher/guardian until they can be picked up by a parent/guardian. Once home, participants/parents should complete the screening tool and contact their healthcare provider if advised.

Questions?

Please direct any questions or concerns regarding this policy to:

**Julie Read**
Supervisor, Community Education (Acting) (Fanshawe CA)
(519) 451-2800 ex. 254
readj@thamesriver.on.ca

**Vanni Azzano**
Supervisor, Community Education (Wildwood CA)
(519) 284-2931 ex. 422
azzanov@thamesriver.on.ca