



COVID Safe

Two of our distinguishing values at the East Coast Greenway Alliance are our attention to safety and community. Looking out for each other is one of the things that will make this event special.

The COVID-19 pandemic presents unprecedented challenges, but it doesn't change our values. Your safety remains our top priority. While vaccines are becoming increasingly available, we anticipate that the pandemic will continue through 2021.

For that reason, we are putting a number of protocols in place. Some will happen behind the scenes, such as enhanced cleaning schedules, while others will be apparent to all. Our plans will adapt to meet or exceed evolving CDC guidelines. Here are some of our practices for this year. We will update this page as new information becomes available.

- **Physical distancing.** Our festival and rest stop spaces will be expanded so everyone can maintain a 6-foot physical distance on site as recommended by current guidance. Entry to ceremony and camping sites will be controlled to prevent overcrowding.
- **Capacity control.** We will limit the number of people who may sign up to avoid crowding. These spots are first come, first serve, so make sure you [register](#) early! You will be assigned an arrival window based on your selected route, in order to minimize lines and clustering. Please be on time!
- **Medical screening.** All riders, walkers and volunteers must pass a medical screening upon arrival at the start, including completing a medical questionnaire and a temperature screening upon entry. (The questionnaire will be provided to registered participants in advance.)
- **Masks.** Face masks will be required at all times that riders are not on the bike. We also highly recommend that masks be worn while riding as well. Volunteers and walkers must wear masks at all times except when eating or drinking.
- **Hand sanitizer.** We will have hand sanitizer widely available throughout ceremony sites, rest stops and the campsite.
- **Bathrooms and sinks.** Our portable toilets will be placed six feet apart. In addition, we are adding portable sinks with soap and water and urge all participants to wash their hands after using the rest room and before eating.
- **Reduced touch points.** We are introducing new check-in procedures to reduce the number of touch points on site.
- **Packaged meals and snacks.** Meals and snacks will be served as packaged meals, individual snacks and whole fruit rather than in a buffet style.
- **Water and Gatorade.** We ask participants to arrive with a filled water bottle (or two). We will have water available as always, but it will be served in ½-liter grab and go bottles rather than larger jugs. Gatorade will be offered in bottles, rather than being dispensed from 5-gallon Igloo containers as in prior years. We recognize the negative environmental impact of single-use containers, so we will offer enhanced recycling opportunities to minimize waste.
- **Distancing on the road.** We ask riders to stay 12 to 20 – or even 30 – feet apart while riding, except to pass. (The faster you ride, the more distance you should give.) While it's true that respiratory droplets disperse more quickly outdoors, remember that you are riding into the respiratory stream of the rider in front of you. That's why we strongly recommend you wear a mask while riding.