



Youth Conference COVID-19 Protocols

Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly

PROPERTY-WIDE COVID-19 POLICY:

While these are fluid and changing times, we do ask for your understanding and grace as we diligently work to help ensure our guests, staff and volunteers' safety.

We do currently ask that you keep the following information in mind during your stay with us:

- If you have had a fever within 72 hours of your expected arrival, we ask that you please reschedule your stay.
- We ask that you check your temperature before you depart to travel.
- Temperature checks will be available to guests via on-site staff if the guest requests one.
- Once your group arrives on-site, we ask that you do not travel outside our gates during your stay to help mitigate the community spread of COVID-19.

Our facility is doing our best to support you and your safety throughout your stay with us! We are actively maintaining the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 illness kit and are practicing social distancing between staff members and guests. Please be advised that these plans may change, and conferences, retreats or camps may need to be altered or discontinued at any time.

Face masks are required for all staff and guests. Hand sanitization stations are located throughout the ranch at the most populated places (i.e. Mabee Lobby and King Dining Hall); gloves are also available for guests while in the dining hall.

CONFERENCE PROTOCOLS:

Before the Conference

Partnering with Participants

Prior to the conference start date, we want to be mindful of everyone's experience regarding their health and well-being. We ask that all families and churches be considerate of your exposure to hotspot areas or non-masked group gatherings prior to their conference. With our current situation, we are taking many precautions regarding communicable diseases on-site.

Self-Screening

Based on recommendations of the CDC, participants who may be immunosuppressed, have diabetes, or have severe asthma should consult with their primary care physician before considering attending a conference. If, by chance, your primary care physician does not recommend conferences for you, please contact our office about options pertaining to cancelations, transferring your registration to 2022, refunds or donations to Mo-Ranch.

We also ask that our participants be mindful of any family members at home who may be high-risk in deciding about conference attendance. High-risk individuals include those with, but not limited to; heart issues, diabetes, cancer or weakened immune systems. Again, if Youth Conferences are not the right choice for you, please contact us about options.

All participants will be asked to monitor themselves 14 days and conduct pre-screening activities such as:

- Monitoring temperatures for 14 days prior to their respective conference
- Self-screening for the presence of symptoms (fever of 100.4° or greater, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste smell, sore throat, vomiting, etc.) within two weeks of arrival.

If you have had a fever or illness within this timeframe, please contact our office to evaluate the best options for everyone's health and wellness

Vaccines

As of April 9, 2021, vaccines are not required to attend Youth Conference. While we commend those who have been given the opportunity to prepare in this way, accessibility and availability are still scarce in many regions. Mo-Ranch has put important policies in place to provide the opportunity to connect with participants, regardless of their vaccination status.

DURING THE CONFERENCE:

Daily Self-Screening

We recommend that every participant monitor their health while at Mo-Ranch. Self-screening for the presence of symptoms (fever of 100.4° or greater, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste smell, sore throat, vomiting, etc.). Thermometers will be made available upon request.

If symptoms do arise, report to Mo-Ranch personnel immediately for evaluation.

Check-in

The check-in process will be much different for this year's conference. To limit exposure, we will be implementing a **drive-through** check-in process with **check-in times**. Sign-up times will be available prior to your conference, to accommodate everyone's unique situation Please help us to make this process smooth by arriving within your time slot. Assignments and other important check-in details will be sent out closer to the conference start date.

Facility Cleanliness

Every cabin and hotel room are rigorously cleaned prior to your arrival, according to disinfectant protocol set by the CDC. To maintain social distancing policies, Housekeeping will not do daily spot checks to your room. Extra towels will be available at the Mabee Lobby front desk upon request.

Bathrooms used by the public are sanitized and disinfected with increased frequency throughout the day for the health and care of our participants and staff.

Participant Hygiene

A major part of sustaining the health and care of all who come to Mo-Ranch, is participant awareness. For this reason, we ask that our families, sponsors, and churches teach and coach their youth about healthy hygiene practices, including washing hands, not sharing food and drinks, and respecting physical distancing.

Hygiene will be covered throughout your Youth Conference, but we encourage our adults to teach as early and often as possible.

Social Distancing – General

Mo-Ranch's minimum standard for guests and staff is to maintain six (6) feet of distance between others anytime it is possible. We understand there might be times where this is not feasible. However, we ask that you stay mindful of your surroundings and try to maintain distance.

*Mo-Ranch staff and conference leadership may gently remind you from time to time to maintain distance. Please keep in mind that this is for the safety of yourself and others, **not** disciplinary action.*

Facial Coverings – General

Mo-Ranch’s minimum standard for guests and staff is to wear a facial covering anytime you are indoors and/or in proximity with another person, in accordance with CDC standards.

*Mo-Ranch staff and conference leadership may gently remind you from time to time to put your facial covering on. Please keep in mind that this is for the safety of yourself and others, **not** disciplinary action.*

Meals

General Policy

- Meals will be held in the King Dining Hall with a limited seating
- Tables will be spaced according to CDC recommendations
- Guests will use disposable plates and silverware
- Main courses will be served by Dining Hall Staff using CDC approved gloves and masks
- Masks will be required until you are seated in front of your meal
- Outdoor seating options will be available to accommodate greater numbers

Arrival Day Dinner

- Our first meal is served at 5:30 p.m. and we will only be allowing a limited number of guests in the dining hall at once. You will be seated upon arrival. We ask that you take no more than 45 minutes in the dining hall to make room for other participants.

First Day Breakfast and Beyond

- Starting on your first full day on the Ranch, meals will be served on a rotational basis. Mo-Ranch will provide you (or your group) with your timeslot upon arrival. We will allow a limited number of guests in the dining hall per rotation. This includes other programs and individual reservations. We ask that you take no more than 45 minutes in the dining hall to make room for other participants.

Lodging

To satisfy social distancing policy, we have been working diligently to place participants in housing grouped by geographical area and/or home church.

General Policy

- We ask that guests commune only in their assigned lodging
- Facial coverings are required in common spaces (hotel lobby, group lodging living rooms, etc.)

Isolation Rooms

Space allowing, Mo-Ranch will set aside isolation rooms should someone begin to exhibit symptoms related to COVID-19 or other communicable diseases. We will evaluate situations case-by-case, provide basic preliminary care, advise next steps to the affected guest(s), and if necessary, communicate with the proper healthcare authorities.

Activities – Recreation, Free Time & Swimming

A vast majority of our activities are outdoors, which will allow participants to spread out. For any activity that places participants to be within 6 feet and/or indoors, face coverings will be required.

The only acceptance to this policy is during swim time. Participants are not required to wear masks while in the water. However, staff will encourage distancing when possible.

Meeting Spaces

General Policy

- Meeting spaces will be limited to 70 percent capacity
- Chairs and tables will be spaced in accordance with CDC guidelines
- Masks will be required if using an indoor space

- Outdoor spaces to be used if possible

General Sessions (Gatherings, Keynotes, Worship, etc.)

- All conference gatherings will be held in the Main Auditorium with a limit of 300 people. These are the times where all guests will be together at once. It is imperative that everyone follow Mo-Ranch policy regarding COVID-19 safety.

*Mo-Ranch staff and conference leadership may gently remind you from time to time to maintain distance and/or pull your mask up. Please keep in mind that this is for the safety of yourself and others, **not** disciplinary action.*

Workshops/ Small Groups

- Workshop attendance limits will be determined on available meeting spaces and capacities.
- Mo-Ranch will not allow “overflow” to any workshop as to satisfy COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- Small Groups will not be limited to “home groups.” Social distancing and facial coverings will still be required.
- Mo-Ranch staff and conference leadership are working hard to establish Small Group areas that utilize Mo-Ranch’s beautiful land and riverside spaces.

Music & Singing

In compliance with CDC and Christian Camping & Conference industry guidelines, we will not allow singing during our worship times. Mo-Ranch is working hard, along with your conference leadership, to develop alternative ways to make joyful noises.

What to Expect

- Soloists, instrumentalists, or small ensembles performing worship songs
- Using pre-recorded material

What You Can Do

- Humming along to songs, staying mindful not to sing
- Using your hands and/or feet as percussion (clapping, stomping, drumming, etc.)
- Volunteer your musical gifts to be used for worship on an individual basis

We understand that music is an important part of every Mo-Ranch Youth Conference. We are continually exploring options that may allow us to sing safely. We appreciate any/all input on this matter.

AFTER THE CONFERENCE:

Once your conference ends, recommendations from the CDC and American Camping Association are to limit exposure to self-screen for two weeks after leaving Mo-Ranch. While we pray, hope, and expect to have a healthy conference, our thoughts must be with the health and safety of our friends and families back home.

If you begin to exhibit any COVID-19 related symptoms after the conference, we ask that you notify the proper health authorities as well as Mo-Ranch personnel.