

WE **R** HERE
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Considerations for
Agritourism Operations
During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Reasons for creating the resources:

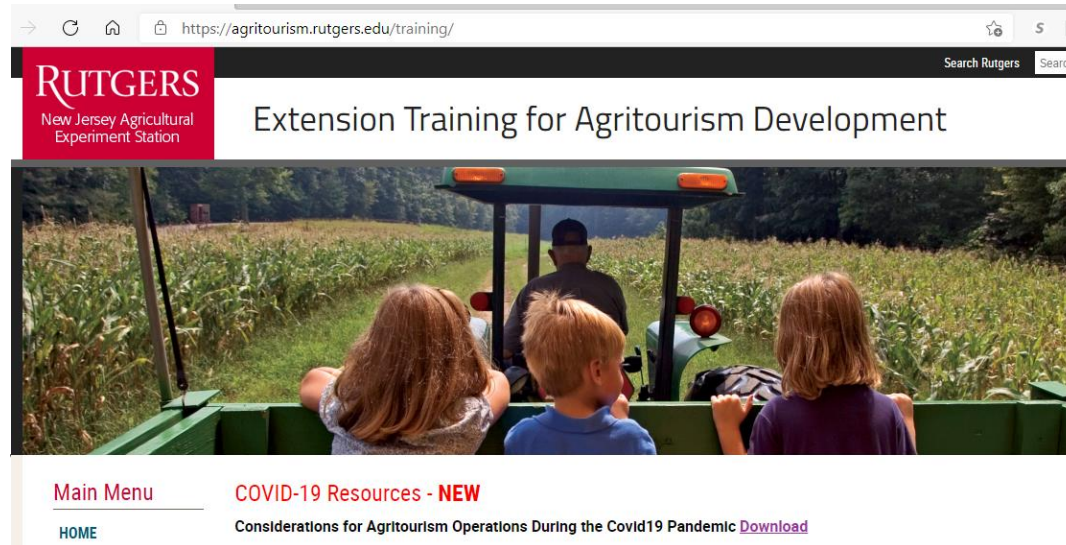
- Assist agritourism producers with navigating COVID-19 management and safety
- Understanding and complying with State EOs
- Utilizing guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and State/local authorities
- Evaluating the feasibility and practicality of implementing required or recommended practices
- Considerations for what on-farm activities can be offered and how to implement them for the agritourism/marketing season

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Additional Agritourism Resources

- Agritourism Animal Safety Assessment Checklist
- Agritourism Emergency Response & Liability Assessment Checklist
 - Agritourism Employee Assessment Checklist
 - Agritourism Operation Food Safety Checklist
- Agritourism General Farm Safety Assessment Checklist
 - Agritourism Marketing Assessment Checklist
- Agritourism Parking & Traffic Assessment Checklist
 - Sample Farm Accident/Incident Report Form

<http://agritourism.rutgers.edu/training/supplemental.html>



Considerations for Agritourism Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Has the farm operator...

Current Regulations

...reviewed the most recent [Governor's executive orders](#) and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding COVID-19?

...evaluated the size of the event or activity to determine if it is feasible based on state/local laws and regulations?

...managed activities to operate at an appropriate capacity or scale that promotes social distancing and compliance with CDC guidelines, and state/local regulations?

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Considerations for Agritourism Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Signs and Symptoms

...trained staff about CDC personal protection measures for COVID-19 that must be followed while working on the farm.?

...discussed with staff members their concerns with elevated risks factors identified by the CDC for COVID-19?

...required staff to perform daily personal health assessments/screenings prior to coming to work each day?

...notified staff who have a fever of 100.4° (38.0°C) or above, or other [signs of COVID-19 illness](#), or have been in contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 to not report to work?

...developed contingencies and/or coverage plans if an employee(s) is unable to work due to COVID-19 illness/exposure?

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Cloth Face Coverings

...required the use of cloth face coverings for both staff and visitors as recommended by the [CDC](#) and state executive orders?

...trained staff with information on the [proper use](#), removal and [washing](#) of cloth face coverings?

...trained staff on when face coverings are not required?

...considered making face coverings available for visitors who do not have them?

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Cleaning/Disinfection

...supplied hand sanitizer and/or handwashing stations at entry and exit points, key thoroughfares, sales areas, and outside restrooms, etc.?

...provided for increased and routine cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, including food service areas?

...provided for shared objects to be replaced between uses, or cleaned/disinfected between uses if replacement is not feasible?

...supplied [EPA-registered disinfectant](#) wipes or sprays for staff to wipe down commonly used surfaces (cash registers, checkout counters, hand rails, wagon step rails) and trained staff to follow the cleaning product labels?

...supplied disposable gloves for workers and instructed them to use gloves when removing garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash?

...made a plan for regular cleaning, disinfection and restocking of both permanent and portable toilets/portable handwashing stations? (particularly high-touch surfaces such as faucets, toilets, stall doors, doorknobs, countertops, diaper changing stations, and light switches)



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Signage

...posted signs at entry points/provided information on farm's website and social media pages listing on-farm requirements (self monitor for [COVID-19 symptoms](#), cloth face covering, hand hygiene, social distancing, etc.)?

...posted [COVID-19 precaution signs as recommended by CDC](#) at key areas on the farm (keep social distancing, wear face coverings, hand hygiene, etc.)?

...posted written information with [proper hand washing instructions](#) near sinks?

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Considerations for Agritourism Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Modified Layout/Physical Barriers

...created pedestrian traffic flow patterns to reduce bottlenecks, pinch points, and cross flow contact?

...organized attractions and facilities to provide for social distancing between visitors?

...increased number of available restroom and handwashing facilities to alleviate crowding?

...posted physical guides and markings used to instruct guests to remain at least 6 feet apart while waiting at entry points, restroom lines, lines for activities/attractions, check out counters, etc.?

...created separate pick up and drop off locations for activities such as hayrides, when visitor numbers are high and there are lines for activities?

...evaluated the need for physical barriers, such as partitions and plexiglass shields at key locations if needed (ticket booths, checkout stations, etc.)?

...provided proper distancing between sitting areas and tables in eating/rest areas in compliance with guidelines/regulations?

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Response & Liability – More on this in future webinars

...documented efforts to inform customers about precautions and farm safety measures to address COVID-19 risks?

...documented staff training procedures and farm protocols designed to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to employees and visitors?

...consulted with insurance providers on any current coverage changes due to COVID-19?

...remained apprised of and compliant with the Governor's executive orders pertaining to COVID-19?

...documented efforts to comply with [recommended practices and guidelines issued by CDC](#) and other health agencies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19? (e.g. videoing or photos of signs, layouts, hygiene and sanitizing products being used on the farm)

...considered developing a written plan for on-farm COVID-19 procedures for employees, visitors and emergencies?

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Communications and Marketing

...designated an employee(s)/supervisor(s) responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns and policies if visitors have questions?

...developed online communications to quickly notify potential visitors of the farm's current operating status, policies for entry and expectations while visiting the farm?

...evaluated implementation of touchless payment options?

...evaluated if online pre-sales, reservations, and pre-payments/orders can be implemented?

Considerations for Agritourism Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Parking and Traffic

...posted signs at ingress and egress areas to notify visitors when parking is at capacity or if entrance requirements are restricted to reservations only?

...developed a plan for alternative parking layouts to accommodate social distancing and reduce congregation areas?

...posted signs or other markings directing the flow of foot traffic in and out of parking areas to agritourism areas to promote social distancing and facilitate safe customer movement?

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Considerations for Agritourism Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Employees

...evaluated if staffing levels are sufficient to implement any additional COVID-19 safety procedures?

...trained employees to consistently and accurately answer customer questions regarding [COVID-19 safety practices](#) or informed employees on where to direct questions from visitors, media, or other inquiries?

...conducted routine staff update meetings to inform all employees of any necessary revisions or changes to operating procedures?

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Animal Safety

...educated visitors about the potential for animal-to-human spread of [zoonotic diseases](#) from CDC information, including SARS, [COVID-19](#), etc.?

...maintained separation of 6' between [potentially susceptible animal species](#)?

...maintained safe distance between animals and visitors to eliminate contact?

...considered assigning staff to regularly monitor animal viewing areas and to promote hand washing before entering and exiting animal areas?

...developed social distancing plan for animal viewing areas such as ground markings, signs to remind visitors to maintain safe distances, etc.?

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Animal Safety Cont.

...provided for safe visitor flow including separate ingress and egress to minimize close interaction between visitors (one-way flow of foot traffic)?

...minimized items customers are allowed to take into animal viewing areas (strollers, coolers, food, etc.)?

...consulted a veterinarian for any special recommendations to protect animal and human health related to COVID-19?

...developed “touchless” feeding practices for visitors to feed animals including single-use feeding practices?

...instructed visitors in animal areas to follow [CDC guidelines on proper hygiene when being near animal areas](#)?

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Food Safety - More on this in future webinars

...discouraged customers from touching produce and other food items they do not purchase?

...ensured employees preparing, handling or serving food to customers properly wear gloves and change them often?

...instructed employees to frequently clean and sanitize food contact surfaces and provided proper cleaning materials labeled for food contact surfaces?

...provided ample time throughout the day for food handling employees to [wash their hands often and properly](#)?

...considered using pre-packaged, single-serve, or “grab and go” food items, especially for prepared foods and food for on-site consumption?

...considered pick-your-own items in the overall admission price to deter foot traffic congestion when exiting the field to weigh or pay for items upon exit?

...encouraged social distancing and capacity control of activities like, corn mazes, sunflower mazes, orchard picking, hay bale mazes, etc.?

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Thank you for joining us....

Discussions and Ideas



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