|  |
| --- |
|  Information for Coastal Crown land Managers COVID-19  |
| What all coastal land managers need to know and must do to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 |

Do I need to cancel mass gatherings?

All committees of management must implement the Chief Health Officer’s Directions that prohibit non-essential mass gatherings.

The following directions for gatherings are now in effect in Victoria:

* Organising, attending or allowing of non-essential outdoor mass gatherings of 500 or more people is prohibited.
* Organising, attending or allowing of non-essential indoor mass gatherings of 100 or more people is prohibited.

Please visit the <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

Do I need to ensure physical distancing measures are in place?

All committees of management must ensure physical distancing measures are implemented.

The rule is if you are with other people, you must observe the rule of 1 person for every 4 square metres to ensure a safe physical distance.

Please continue to check the website for the most up to date information: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

Do I need to close off access to buildings on recreation reserves?

Yes. Except for public toilets, all buildings on recreation reserves should be closed to members of the public and user groups until further notice.

Under current directions by the Chief Health Officer, public toilets on recreation reserves can remain open where committees of management are able to ensure the cleaning regime of the facilities meet the requirements of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Please refer to the cleaning and disinfecting tips for non-healthcare settings on the [DHHS website for more information.](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/business-sector-coronavirus-disease-covid-19)

**Do I need to close caravan parks and camping grounds?**

Yes. All caravan parks or camping grounds must close to visitors as directed by the Chief Health Officer. This was effective from 11:59pm (local time) 25 March 2020.

Everyone who is currently staying in a caravan park or camping ground will need to pack up their belongings and return to their homes or primary place of residence.

Caravan parks and camping grounds can remain open for the following people as specified in section 10, part 3 of the Non-Essential Activity Directions given on 25 March 2020. This includes:

• a person whose place of residence is the accommodation facility; or

• a person who is ordinarily a resident of Victoria but has no permanent place of residence in Victoria; or

• a person who has a permanent place of residence in Victoria, but that place is temporarily unavailable; or

• a person, on a temporary basis, who has travelled to Victoria for work purposes; or

• a person who was a temporary guest of the accommodation facility on the date that these directions were given; or

• a person who requires emergency accommodation, including in relation to family violence and other vulnerable groups.

Inspections will be carried out by DELWP staff, Parks Victoria staff and Local Government authorised officers after 11.59 25 March 2020. Non-compliance with this direction will be followed up and enforced by Victoria Police.

For more information on caravan parks and camping ground closures, please visit: <https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/media-releases/park-and-forest-closures>

Are social events and activities still allowed?

No. While some coastal areas will remain open, all non-essential travel should be cancelled or postponed to a later date.

Any social events or activities that creates congregations of people must be cancelled. As directed by the Deputy Chief Health Officer, social sport gatherings of more than two people who would not normally reside together are not permitted to occur.

Remember, if they can stay at home, they must stay at home. Doing so will save lives.

The most important message for all Victorians is to stay at home and avoid all gatherings of people. This minimises the chances of transmission, protects the health system and saves lives.

What information should I share with my licence and lease holders?

The Victorian Government has ordered the closure of a number of non-essential businesses. For a full list of Directions, please see https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Restrictions on activities run by lessees and licence holders are currently in place. We recommend all land managers contact their licence and lease holders to inform them of the new directions and remind them of social distancing rules.

Can I issue new permits?

It is advised that no new permits are issued at this time.

Do lifesaving patrols need to stop?

 For up to date advice on Lifesaving Victoria patrols on beaches go to <https://lsv.com.au/>

Do I need to put up signage in busy areas?

Yes, it is recommended that signage is placed on viewing platforms, near kiosks and in any other areas where people may gather in groups. Signage should specify the mass gathering and physical distancing requirements and send the clear message that if people can stay home, they must stay at home. Doing so will save lives.

Do I need to enforce these new directions?

No. Coastal land managers have no authorisation to ensure compliance by community members.

The Victoria Police have powers to enforce compliance with all directions issued by the Chief Health Officer and the Deputy Chief Health Officer in accordance with emergency powers arising from declared state of emergency. Please contact the Victorian Police if you see people breaching the directions.

Can I still undertake works?

Yes. Committees of management can continue to undertake works or have contractors deliver services where necessary to manage the reserves, however physical distancing rules must be adhered to by all workers. This may change. Please regularly check the DHHS website for new Directions from the Chief Health Officer.

**Further information**

Please contact the DELWP Customer Contact Centre on 136 186, your local DELWP regional office or the DELWP website [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).