Briar Bush Nature Center
Mitigation Plan for
Modified In-Person Programming

1212 Edge Hill Road
Abington, PA 19001
COVID-19: What you need to know

COVID-19
COVID-19 is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.

- How is it spread?
  - You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet) with a person who has COVID-19.
  - You can become infected from respiratory droplets released when an infected person talks, coughs, or sneezes.
  - You can become infected by touching a surface or object that is contaminated with the virus, then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
  - For more information regarding COVID-19, please review the guidance outlined by the CDC.

- What are the symptoms?
  - People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms, ranging from mild to severe.
  - Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.
  - COVID-19 symptoms may include:
    - fever or chills
    - cough
    - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    - fatigue
    - muscle or body aches
    - headache
    - new loss of taste or smell
    - sore throat
    - congestion or runny nose
    - nausea or vomiting
    - diarrhea
  - This list does not include all possible symptoms of COVID-19. The CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.
  - For more information regarding the symptoms of COVID-19, please review the guidance outlined by the CDC.
Modified In-Person Programming: How to Prepare

All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School
Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented policies and procedures in accordance with CDC, PA Department of Health, and Township of Abington guidelines. These policies and procedures are in place in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19. Please review the policies and procedures outlined below to ensure your child can follow them throughout the program.

Pre-Screening
All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School
Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented pre-screening strategies in an effort to encourage behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19.

• Staff
  o COVID-19 Exposure Survey
    ▪ 30-60-minutes before the start of each workday, staff will complete a COVID-19 survey as issued by the Township of Abington in order to assess the likelihood of COVID-19 exposure.
  o Staying Home
    ▪ Staff members are required to stay home if they:
      • are sick,
      • are showing symptoms of COVID-19,
      • have tested positive for COVID-19,
      • have recently had contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

• Participants
  o Self-Monitoring
    ▪ In an attempt to prevent the exposure and transmission of COVID-19 to others, parents/guardians may:
      • take and record their child(ren)’s temperature for 14 days before the program,
      • self-screen for the presence of symptoms for 14 days before the program,
        o fever of 100.4 °F or greater
        o cough
        o shortness of breath
        o diarrhea
        o fatigue
        o headache
        o muscle aches
        o nausea
        o loss of taste or smell
        o sore throat
        o vomiting
        o etc.
      • determine if the individual has been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with, tested for, or quarantined as a result of COVID-19.
Staying Home

- Participants are required to stay home if they:
  - are sick,
  - are showing symptoms of COVID-19,
  - have tested positive for COVID-19,
  - have recently had contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Parents/guardians are required to notify staff of any absence/illness.

Program Supplies

*All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School*

Participants must come prepared to the program with the following:

- **Mask**
  - Participants ages 3+ and adults are required to wear a cloth or surgical face mask during each program. Neck gaiters/buffs, bandanas, and face shields (without the use of a mask) are not permitted during the program.

- **Clothing**
  - Participants should be appropriately dressed for the program/weather.
  - Avoid sending your child to programs in open-toed shoes. We find that closed-toed sandals work well, as they dry easily.
  - Participants will get dirty during most programs, so please dress them in clothing and shoes you do not mind getting wet and/or dirty.
  - It is best if your child brings a backpack with an extra pair of clothes and shoes.

- **Sunscreen / Insect Repellant**
  - Apply sunscreen and insect repellant to your child before arriving to the program.
  - You may pack sunscreen / insect repellant for your child to reapply during the program.

- **Water**
  - A water bottle is required.
  - Snack/lunch-time is not permitted during programs.

- **Personal Items**
  - Personal items such as games, toys, electronics, etc. must remain at home.

Behavior Policy

*All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School*

While the mission of Briar Bush Nature Center is to provide quality environmental education and an enjoyable experience, the safety and comfort of our participants and staff are of utmost importance.

- Program participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times.
- The following guidelines have been developed in order to provide all those involved in programs with a safe and enjoyable experience.
- A caring and positive approach will be taken regarding discipline. Staff will positively reinforce appropriate behavior.
- Listed below are the disciplinary procedures for participants who are exhibiting inappropriate and unacceptable behavior. Examples of those behaviors are also listed below. This is not an extensive list. Depending on the severity of the behavior, a particular step may be skipped.
Behavioral Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels of Offense</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>o Disruption of program activities</td>
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<td>o Misuse of property</td>
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<td><strong>Level 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>o Disregard/disrespect/defiance/non-compliance toward staff, program, regulations, etc.</td>
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<td>o Inappropriate gestures/language</td>
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<td>o Bullying program participants, volunteers, staff, etc.</td>
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<td>- Bullying is defined as unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated or has the potential to be repeated, over time.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Level 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>o Endangering the wellbeing of self, program participants, volunteers, staff, or animals</td>
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<td>o Aggressive physical contact including hitting, kicking, etc.</td>
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<td>o Consistent bullying including aggressive verbal, social, or physical behavior.</td>
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Program Logistics

General Public and Visitation
Briar Bush Nature Center has limited the access to facilities in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.
- Museum and Bird Observatory
  - Public access to the Museum and Bird Observatory is prohibited.
- Trails
  - During the Green Phase, the trails are open to the public.

Prevention Measures
*All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School*
Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented measures that promote healthy hygiene and reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
- Face Coverings
  - Participants ages 3+ and adults are required to wear a cloth or surgical face mask during each program. Neck gaiters/buffs, bandanas, and face shields (without the use of a mask) are not permitted during the program.
    - Participants are advised to refrain from touching their mask throughout the program.
    - Breaks from masks will be implemented throughout the program.
  - Face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.
- Physical Distancing
  - Participants will be distanced at least 6’ from one another throughout the program as often as possible.
    - Outdoor activities will be prioritized where physical distancing can be maintained as much as possible.
    - While indoors, participants will have assigned seating at least 6’ apart.
  - Efforts to maintain physical distancing will not impact existing program safety protocols.
- Hand Hygiene
  - Staff will teach and reinforce proper handwashing techniques.
  - Hand sanitizer will be available at times when soap and water are not readily available.
- Respiratory Etiquette
  - Participants are encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Signage and Demonstrations
  - Signs that promote protective measures, describe how to stop the spread of germs, demonstrate proper handwashing, and demonstrate proper mask use will be posted throughout the facilities.
  - Staff will demonstrate healthy hygiene practices during the program.
    - Staff will remind participants of these practices throughout the program.
- Food and Water
  - In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19, programs will not consist of a snack break.
    - Participants should arrive with full bellies!
  - Participants are required to bring a water bottle to the program.
Participant Arrival / Drop-Off

All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School

Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented a drop-off procedure that reduces the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- Schedule
  - Magic Mornings
    - Arrival Time: 10:25am
    - Arrival Procedure: park, screen, and enter museum through side door
    - Program Start Time: 10:30am
  - Nature Pioneers
    - Arrival Time: 12:55pm
    - Arrival Procedure: drop-off carline at garage
    - Program Start Time: 1:00pm
  - School’s Out
    - Arrival Time: AM - 8:55am; PM - 12:55pm
    - Arrival Procedure: drop-off carline at garage
    - Program Start Time: AM - 9:00am; PM - 1:00pm
  - Escape to Nature: After-School
    - Arrival Time: 2:55pm
    - Arrival Procedure: drop-off carline at garage
    - Program Start Time: 3:00pm

- Drop-Off Carline Considerations
  - BBNC encourages the same parent/guardian to drop-off each day to limit exposure.
  - Parents/guardians are not permitted to enter any of the BBNC facilities.
  - Parents/guardians and participants must wear masks during drop-off.
  - Car seats cannot be held at the Center.

- Drop-Off Carline Procedure
  - Cars will enter BBNC’s one-way driveway and stop at the Drop-off/Pick-Up Station at the garage.
  - Parents/guardians and participants must remain in their car while waiting in the carline.
  - BBNC staff will greet each family and conduct the initial screening in order of arrival.
    - See Initial Screening section.
  - BBNC staff will perform a supplies check to be sure the participants is prepared for the program.
  - If the participant passes initial screening, a staff member will escort the participant to their program location. The parent/guardian will exit the driveway and the next car will move up.
    - Participants will be instructed to use hand sanitizer when they arrive.
  - If a participant does not pass initial screening, he/she will not be permitted to join the program.

Initial Screening

All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School

Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented initial screening strategies in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

- Staff
  - Administrative staff will perform screening of staff upon arrival to determine if individuals are permitted to enter. Screening of staff includes:
    - a temperature screening with the use of a non-contact thermometer,
- a signs and symptoms check for any combination of these symptoms:
  - cough
  - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - fatigue
  - muscle or body aches
  - headache
  - new loss of taste or smell
  - sore throat
  - congestion or runny nose
  - nausea or vomiting
  - diarrhea

  - Staff who do not pass the initial screening will not be permitted to enter.

- Participants
  - Administrative staff will perform screening of participants upon arrival to determine if individuals are permitted to join the program.
  - Parents/guardians and participants must remain in the car throughout the duration of the screening.
    - Initial Screening of Magic Mornings participants will occur outside of the museum
  - Screening of participants includes:
    - a health screening questionnaire with parent/guardian,
    - a temperature screening with the use of a non-contact thermometer,
    - a signs and symptoms check for any combination of these symptoms:
      - cough
      - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
      - fatigue
      - muscle or body aches
      - headache
      - new loss of taste or smell
      - sore throat
      - congestion or runny nose
      - nausea or vomiting
      - diarrhea

  - Participants who do not pass the initial screening will not be permitted to join the program.

**Ongoing Screening**

*All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School*

Briar Bush Nature Center will implement ongoing screening throughout the program in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

- Signs and Symptoms
  - Staff will monitor each participant throughout the program.
  - If a participant develops a fever of 100.4 °F or greater OR any combination of the following symptoms (outside of allergies), he/she will be sent home:
    - cough
    - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    - fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

**Program Groups**

*All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School*

Briar Bush Nature Center has modified group logistics in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

- Magic Mornings
  - Maximum Number of Participants: 8 participants, 8 adults
  - Number of Groups: 1
  - Staff-to-Participant Ratio: 1:16
- Nature Pioneers
  - Maximum Number of Participants: 6 participants
  - Number of Groups: 1
  - Staff-to-Participant Ratio: 1:6
- School’s Out
  - Maximum Number of Participants: AM - 16, PM - 16
  - Number of Groups: AM - 2, PM - 2
    - Children who have had contact with each other outside of the program will be placed in the same group if notified ahead of the program (siblings, cousins, family friends, etc.)
    - Each group will remain together with dedicated staff throughout the program.
    - There will be no mixing between groups during the program.
  - Staff-to-Participant Ratio: 2:8, 1:6
- Escape to Nature: After-School
  - Maximum Number of Participants: 16
  - Number of Groups: 2
    - Children who have had contact with each other outside of the program will be placed in the same group if notified ahead of the program (siblings, cousins, family friends, etc.)
    - Each group will remain together with dedicated staff throughout the program.
    - There will be no mixing between groups during the program.
  - Staff-to-Participant Ratio: 2:8, 1:6

**Program Locations**

*All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School*

Briar Bush Nature Center has modified the use of program spaces/locations in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

- Indoor Spaces
  - Each group will have a designated indoor space.
    - Indoor spaces will be cleaned and disinfected after each program.
  - Indoor spaces will be temperature controlled.
  - Indoor spaces will be used during inclement weather (extreme heat, humidity, thunderstorms, etc.).
  - Indoor spaces will contain tables and chairs for program use.
- Participants will be stationed in assigned seating in an effort to maintain physical distancing.
  - Participants will have an assigned crate for personal belongings at their assigned seat.
    - Personal belongings will be kept separate from other crates.
    - Crates will be cleaned and disinfected after each program.

- Outdoor Spaces
  - Shelters
    - Each group will have a designated outdoor shelter space.
      - Outdoor spaces will be cleaned and disinfected after each program.
      - Outdoor shelter spaces will contain tables and chairs for program use.
        - Participants will be stationed in assigned seating in an effort to maintain physical distancing.
  - Trails
    - Each group will actively use the trail system and places of interest along the trails.
      - Physical distancing will be implemented.
      - Groups will remain separated from another while on the trails.

- Bathrooms
  - Each group will use a designated bathroom facility.
  - Bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected after each program.

Program Activities
All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School

Briar Bush Nature Center has modified program activities in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

- Craft / Activity Bag
  - Participants will receive a bag with items used for most activities during the program.
    - This bag will include items such as crayons, markers, paper, scissors, magnifying glass, etc.

- Animal Encounters
  - Programs will most likely include physical distanced Animal Encounters.
    - In order to protect the health of the animals (as some animals are known to contract COVID-19), participants will not have physical contact with the animals during the Red, Yellow, and Green Phases.

- Pond
  - Programs will most likely include visits to the pond.
  - The pond will be utilized by groups at designated times (staggered scheduling).
  - Pond equipment will be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

- Nature Play / Exploration
  - The programs will include opportunities for participants to explore and play in nature.

- Transitions
  - Participants will wash hands/use hand sanitizer between activities.

Participant Departure / Pick-Up
All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School

Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented a pick-up procedure that reduces the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
• Schedule
  o Magic Mornings
    ▪ Program End Time: 10:30am
    ▪ Departure Time: 10:30am
  o Nature Pioneers
    ▪ Program End Time: 2:00pm
    ▪ Carline Pick-Up Time: 2:00pm
  o School’s Out
    ▪ Program End Time: AM - 12:00pm; PM - 4:00pm
    ▪ Carline Pick-Up Time: AM - 12:00pm-12:15pm; PM - 4:00pm-4:15pm
  o Escape to Nature: After-School
    ▪ Program End Time: 5:00pm
    ▪ Carline Pick-Up Time: 5:00pm-5:15pm

• Considerations
  o BBNC encourages the same parent/guardian to drop-off and pick-up each day to limit exposure.
  o Parents/guardians are not permitted to enter any of the BBNC facilities.
  o Parents/guardians and participants must wear masks during pick-up.

• Procedure
  o Cars will enter BBNC’s one-way driveway and stop at the Drop-off/Pick-Up Station at the garage.
  o Parents/guardians must remain in their cars while waiting in the carline.
  o BBNC staff will greet each parent/guardian in order of arrival.
  o BBNC staff will check parent/guardian ID at pick-up before releasing the child.
  o If a parent/guardian is picking up a sick child during the camp day, he/she should follow the procedure above. A staff member will escort the camper to the car once ID is checked.

Cleaning / Disinfecting
All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School
Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented intensified cleaning / disinfecting practices in an effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

• Program Locations / Materials
  o Program materials such as tables, chairs, bins, bathrooms, craft supplies, materials, etc. will be cleaned and disinfected after each program.

• Frequently Touched Surfaces
  o Frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, light switches, etc. will be cleaned/disinfected after each program.

Confirmed Case of COVID-19
All Programs: Magic Mornings, Nature Pioneers, School’s Out, Escape to Nature: After-School
Briar Bush Nature Center has implemented the Township of Abington’s protocol in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

• Confirmed Case of COVID-19
  o In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, Briar Bush Nature Center is required to shut down and halt in-person operations for 14 days.
  ▪ Programs will be cancelled.
- Briar Bush Nature Center will begin contact tracing to inform parents/guardians of potential contact with the confirmed individual.
  - In order to maintain confidentiality, the name and any potentially identifying information of the confirmed individual will not be provided.
- Briar Bush Nature Center will contact the Township of Abington Emergency Management Coordinator who will inform local health officials and follow contact tracing guidelines.
- Facilities will be cleaned and disinfected after 24-hours
- Staff will stay home and self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days.
  - Families of participants are encouraged to do the same.

If you have any questions regarding the Mitigation Plan for Modifies In-Person Programming, please call Briar Bush Nature Center at (215) 887-6603.