

Crested Butte Wildflower Festival
Operating Plan
July 10-19, 2020



Joni Reynolds
Gunnison County Public Health Director
220 N. Spruce St.
Gunnison, CO 81230

Dear Joni,

In response to Gunnison County's COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent Public Health Orders, the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival has re-designed our 2020 Festival. First and foremost, our priority is keeping our staff, volunteers, and participants safe and healthy by following guidelines set forth by the Gunnison County Health Department, the Colorado Governor, and the CDC.

We have developed a plan and set of procedures to safely operate as we move into Phase 2 of Gunnison County's re-opening plan. We are confident that our staff can adopt practices to provide safe experiences for our Festival community. Our preliminary plan is highlighted below:

Staff:

- All staff, volunteers, and guides will wear face coverings in all situations unless it creates additional health risks. Complimentary face coverings will be available at headquarters if needed.
- All staff and guides will be required to screen themselves for symptoms of COVID-19, including taking their temperature daily prior to arriving at Festival headquarters.
- At Festival headquarters, staff will practice social distancing and stay 6 feet apart from each other.
- Staff will be required to wash their hands frequently throughout the day and will have access to hand sanitizer.
- All guides will be provided with hand sanitizer and will be encouraged to use it frequently in the field.
- All staff and guides will receive training on enforcing social distancing guidelines during Festival events, and will be updated daily of any new protocols as conditions change.

Festival Headquarters:

- We are renting the Old Historic Train Depot at 716 Elk Avenue to serve as our Festival Headquarters. This building has two large sliding doors that will remain open during operating hours. These doors allow for air to circulate throughout the venue, and a large deck is adjacent to the rear sliding door to allow for easy access to the outdoors.
- Signage at entrance and inside headquarters will display safety protocols. We will follow Gunnison County Business Hygiene and Social Distancing Protocols.
- Signage at entry doors and markings on the floor will explain the movement of foot traffic throughout the area. Guests will move in one direction entering through the front doors and exiting for their events through the rear doors.
- Merchandise will be displayed out of reach and Festival staff will deliver items to customers at time of purchase. The Festival will accept only digital payments, and Festival staff will sign for customers to prevent direct contact between customers and the point of sale system.
- All restrooms, touch screens, handles, and high contact areas will be cleaned and sanitized after each tour departs and returns.
- ***if necessary, we can run our entire check-in process outdoors using a Farmer's Market style booth.***

Events:

- We have reduced the scope of our 2020 Wildflower Festival significantly, offering a total of 61 events over the course of the 10-day Festival (we offered 204 events in 2019).
- Participants are required to wear face coverings and practice social distancing (remain 6 feet apart) for the duration of the event. Complimentary face coverings will be provided if needed.
- Additional precautions:
 - All events occur outdoors
 - Group size is limited to 8 participants plus guide(s). No group is larger than 10 people
 - Event start times are staggered by a minimum of 15 minutes
 - No food or transportation* is provided by the Festival
 - Participants will bring their own water and snacks/lunch

Guest Check-in:

- The Festival will communicate check-in and participation protocols with guests prior to the event start time via email and text messaging.
- Guests will sign digital waivers whenever possible to reduce contact during check-in.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for guests in multiple locations during check-in.
- Groups will gather with their guide outside headquarters after checking in.
- Guests will provide their own transportation to the trailhead. Only guests in the same reservation party will travel together.

Special Circumstances:

- *Hike to Aspen is scheduled for Saturday, July 18th and requires transportation to the West Maroon Trailhead and from Aspen via Dolly's Mountain Shuttle.
 - Participants will be spaced apart during transportation, maximum of 10 per vehicle including driver
 - Hand sanitizer will be available in the vehicle
 - Face coverings will be worn by staff and participants
 - Windows will remain open if possible
- We employ guides and serve participants that are over the age of 60, but otherwise deemed to be in good health.
 - Current 60+ guides have reviewed our operating plan and are comfortable leading events with the safety measures outlined within this plan.
 - Participants over the age of 60 will sign a waiver informing them of our precautionary measures and reminding them of the risk of exposure to COVID-19 inherent in participating in any group activity.
 - We are willing to implement additional measures as directed by the Gunnison County Public Health Department to further protect this subset of our Festival community.

We welcome feedback from the Gunnison Public Health Department regarding our operating plan. The above plan assumes the county will move forward into Phase 2 of their Re-Opening Plan by the start of the Festival on July 10th. We recognize the unpredictable nature of COVID-19, and are prepared to cancel our Festival on short notice if conditions warrant, taking direction from the Gunnison County Public Health Department and the state of Colorado.

Thank you for your consideration,



Michelle Bivens
Executive Director