



Montana Association of Counties

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MACo PCT Public Facility Use Guidance

While the State of Montana recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, and business operations begin to return to normalcy, please be aware of the unique circumstances the rental and use of public facilities during our phased re-opening brings.

First, you must be able to comply with any applicable public health directives issued by the Governor. Limitations on occupancy, social distancing protocols, and service restrictions may apply depending on the phase he places the State of Montana in. The Governor will issue directives moving through the phases, not your local health authority. The use of any public facilities under your supervision will have to comply with these directives.

Additionally, your facility use will fall under any local health orders or directives that may be more stringent than the Governor's. When hosting events at your facilities, we urge you to develop operations plans to submit to your local health authority for review and approval WELL IN ADVANCE of any such events. And be cautious to develop operations plans that can accommodate the different phases as issued by the Governor.

While there is a significant difference between hosting events you sponsor and renting out your facilities for non-county sponsored functions, you need to be aware of the restrictions in place. We strongly encourage you to notify potential renters of the necessity to comply with any public health directives in place at the time of the facility rental. Entities renting your facilities should be affirmatively acknowledging their requirement to comply with COVID-19 public health restrictions.

MACo PCT is not telling counties they cannot hold events this summer. We are advising our members that the public health directives issued by the Governor and local public health authorities will require modifications to your standard operating practices. We are informing our member counties that coordination with local public health officials is essential to ensure public safety, public health, and public enjoyment of your public facilities.

We continue to make our PCT Special Event Guidelines available as a template for facility rentals. As always please contact us if you have any additional questions. If you are concerned about a specific event and coverage through the PCT, please contact Shannon Shanholtzer at 406-431-8621 or smsr@mtcounties.org.