

## **Four Winds Nature Institute's COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols and Plans**

Four Winds Nature Institute staff follows guidance from CDC and VT's ACCD, DOH, and AOE to protect public health amidst Covid-19, and we expect our volunteers and participants to do so as well.

Four Winds staff, volunteers, classroom teachers, parents/guardians, and children all have a part to play in keeping each other safe during this pandemic. We are concerned about the physical, social, and emotional health and overall well-being of all those in our communities. Here are some of the ways in which we are keeping our schools and communities both healthy and connected.

First and foremost, we all need to carefully assess how we're feeling and stay home if sick or symptomatic (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, etc.) OR if you've been in close contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with Covid-19. Also, all Vermonters – adults and students – who have [traveled to a high-risk area](#), must follow Vermont [Department of Health guidance for quarantine](#) upon returning to Vermont (see [exceptions](#) for those traveling regularly from neighboring states). We also need to pay attention to the health and travel guidance from other states when traveling. Four Winds staff will restrict travel for work to only those “green” counties on the [travel map](#).

### **At workshops and trainings, all staff and participants will:**

Be outside as much as practical;

Practice physical distancing (6' from others) and discuss how to do so with children;

Wear masks, especially when unable to maintain physical distancing;

Wash hands frequently or sanitize, especially before and after handling equipment.

### **In addition, Four Winds staff will:**

Take care to present and follow the most cautious guidance to minimize risks and maximize benefits;

Limit the number of participants in our workshops as appropriate for the physical space and outdoor access;

Keep a record of attendance with contact information for all workshops;

Teach workshops outdoors, and demonstrate how to do this effectively with children;

Recommend configuring lessons with children to be in small groups with one adult;

Use individual supplies and materials where possible to limit sharing of materials;

Provide hand sanitizer at workshops and sanitize any shared materials before and after workshops.

***September 1, 2020***