

# Screening - It's Importance In a Post COVID-19 Era

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# Screening

## Goals for Seminar:

- Identify/discuss current screening methods & procedures
- Refresh knowledge about AMC policy the not-so-new and new-ish....
- Differentiate between Leader/Participant centered screening
- Receive an update on AMC's progress towards screening protocols in a post-COVID-19 era



# Screening



# Screening - Example

What were the reasons why your screening didn't work and the issue arose?

- Undisclosed medical condition
- Lack of fitness
- Lack of gear
- Unknown personal incompatibility
- Other

# Essential Eligibility Criteria



# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Essential Eligibility Criteria (EEC) - A Shortcut

## What Does It Say

- Outlines physical/cognitive participant requirements for Activities
- Activities vs. Outings - they're different
- Defines what participants need to be able to do in order to participate in the Activity - broad scale criteria

## What It Means to Ldrs

- Activities-any AMC posted trip
- Outings- “front country” no phys/tech skills required
- Refer to this document if you have questions about whether a person can participate in the activity

# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Essential Eligibility Criteria (EEC) - A Shortcut

## The Bottom line:

Participants should possess the qualifications in this document in order to attend your trip. You should not have to alter your activity significantly (ex: change scope, purpose, itinerary) in order to accommodate a participant.

Source: [https://www.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/amc\\_eec.pdf](https://www.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/amc_eec.pdf)

# Service Animals





# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Service Animals on AMC Vol-Led Activities - A Shortcut

## What It Says

Leaders can only ask 2 questions regarding the animal during screening:

1. Is the animal required because of a disability?
2. What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

AND...

Leaders **may not screen a participant off** due to the suspicion that the animal isn't a "real" service animal.

Setting expectations through screening - leaders can ask service animal owners that will be coming on the trip:

1. Animal remains on leash for the duration of the activity
2. Abide by Leave-No-Trace principles throughout the activity.

### Source:

<https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/22115026/FINAL-Service-Animal-Guidelines-for-AMC-Volunteers.pdf>

# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Service Animals on AMC Vol-Led Activities - A Shortcut

## What It Says (cont'd)

*“Leaders may only screen off a participant with the service animal only if their participation will fundamentally alter the nature of the **activity** (for example: Objective of the activity would not be achievable due to the physical ability of the animal) **or impact the safety of the other participants.**”*

### Source:

<https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/22115026/FINAL-Service-Animal-Guidelines-for-AMC-Volunteers.pdf>

# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Service Animals on AMC Vol-Led Activities - A Shortcut

## What It Means for Leaders

- Follow the protocol if you are unsure about what the requirements are.
- The leader **CAN exclude pets or comfort animals** from their trips **but CANNOT exclude ADA service animals**.
- Include “no pets” on your trip listing if you don’t want pets/dogs.
- **Land owners can exclude dogs** from entering their property, but **not ADA service animals**. The Audubon Society’s properties are examples of such a land rule.

### Source:

<https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/22115026/FINAL-Service-Animal-Guidelines-for-AMC-Volunteers.pdf>

# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Service Animals on AMC Vol-Led Activities - A Shortcut

## What It Means for Leaders

- Both dog and owner must meet EEC to be included on the trip and both must follow LNT guidance.
- What if a participant is afraid of dogs? An ADA service animal can't be excluded from trip. Protocol if this situation occurs is to keep the dog on leash and well away from fearful participant.
- Contact [leadership@outdoors.org](mailto:leadership@outdoors.org) if you need assistance with screening on/off your trip.

### Source:

<https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/22115026/FINAL-Service-Animal-Guidelines-for-AMC-Volunteers.pdf>

# Youth Policies



# Existing AMC Policies Regarding Screening Youth Participation in Activities - A Shortcut

## What It Says

Minors can participate in trips if the waiver is signed by legal guardian or parent - not the adult present with them on the trip

AND...

- Non-legal guardians may attend trip with minor, as long as legal guardian signed the waiver
- Leaders must ensure a adult:child ratio of 1:3
- Use discretion if allowing minors on adult/18+ trips
- Family programs can designate age ranges on trip descriptions to create offerings for specific demographics

Source: <https://www.outdoors.org/volunteer/volunteer-resources/youth-participation-information>

# COVID-19: Impact on Screening Protocols



# Leader-Centered vs. Participant-Centered Screening

## Examples of Leader vs. Participant screening

### Participant

Prior contact with leader

- Self-screen off after reading trip description\*
- Self-screen on by contacting leader

After contact with leader

- Self-screen on after discussing
- Self-screen off after considering

### Leader

Determines participant skill level is or is not appropriate for the activity

\*Effective trip description reinforces screening process



Trip  
Planning

Trip  
Description



Screening

# COVID-19 - Phase 2 Activity Procedures: Trip Planning (Pre-Screening)

What screening criteria do leaders need to consider?

How will trip planning and trip description impact?

*Screening Method*

*Screening Detail*

Participant vs. Leader centered screening

Source:

[https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDCVolActRubric\\_FINAL.pdf](https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDCVolActRubric_FINAL.pdf)

# COVID-19 - Phase 2 Activity Procedures: Screening

- Pre-register
- Electronic waiver
- Follow local and regional travel restrictions/recommendations
  - Primary residence
  - Where the *activity* is taking place.
- Briefing on Risks
- If Leader exhibit signs/symptoms
  - Cancel *activity* or
  - Identify alternate leader
- If Participant exhibit signs/symptoms
  - Cancel registration

Source:

[https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDCVolActRubric\\_FINAL.pdf](https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDCVolActRubric_FINAL.pdf)

# Leader Implementation of COVID-19 Screening (Phase 1)

1. Review Foundational Threshold Requirements
2. Watch Required Online Training Video (30 minutes)
3. Confirmation and Acknowledgement of Risk Waiver

**\*\*\*\*\* SAVE A PICTURE OF THE CONFIRMATION!! \*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*\*VERY IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\***

4. Review Decontaminating Checklists

Source: AMC Restarting Volunteer Newsletter from AMC Newsletter June 12, 2020 email

## Leader Implementation of COVID-19 Screening (Phase 2)

1. Review Foundational Threshold Requirements
2. Watch Required Online Training Video (50 minutes)
3. Confirmation and Acknowledgement of Risk Waiver
4. Review Decontaminating Checklists
5. ActDB Registration Training for Volunteers/Leaders
6. COVID-19 Changes to Live trips

Source: [AMC Restarting Volunteer Newsletter from AMC Newsletter June 19, 2020 email](#)

# Participant Responsibilities - COVID-19 Screening

- 14 days prior to event: No symptoms
- 14 days of prior to event: No contact with a person
  - exhibited symptoms or
  - tested positive for Covid 19 Participants
- State and federal guidelines for physical distancing and hygiene must be followed
- Normal facilities may not be available
- No carpooling outside of Contact Group\*

\* a group of individuals who reside or have isolated together at the same residence for over 14 days

Source:

[https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDC\\_VolActRubric\\_FINAL.pdf](https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDC_VolActRubric_FINAL.pdf)

## COVID-19 Screening: Next Steps to Trip Leading

- Completion and test of online registration and online waiver tools
- Creation of training materials for use of registration tools
- Outreach to approvers about new registration tools (by 6/19)
- Trainings for leaders and contributors about registration tools
- Live trips need to go back through the approval queue to ensure these trips meet new guidelines.
- Status of state stay at home orders, group size limits, and access to public lands need to be all set.
  - Chapters to help monitor this information for Leaders.

Source: [AMC Restarting Volunteer Newsletter from AMC Newsletter](#)  
June 12, 2020 email

# COVID-19 Screening: Take Away

## Pre-Work for Leaders - Think About Your Risk Profile

- Is leading a trip during Phase 2 a risk you would be willing to take given your personal circumstances?
- It's important to understand that while you are leading a trip during these re-opening phases, you will be taking a health risk along with the other participants on your trip.
- If you are leading a trip during this time, trip planning will require extra attention to most functions of trips that we have been habituated to do: handshakes/hugs at trailheads, helping with gear, including touching others packs, holding/retrieving others' gear in their packs, navigating difficult terrain with physical distancing protocols, carpooling, and post trip socialization.

Source:

[https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDCVolActRubric\\_FINAL.pdf](https://cdn.outdoors.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/21093342/OLDCVolActRubric_FINAL.pdf)





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