**STRATEGY OVERVIEW**

On May 9, 2020, trails and trailheads will reopen as part of a multi-phased approach to allowing public access to outdoor recreational facilities countywide. The following information outlines some additional safety measures and monitoring protocols that are recommended for the County’s high trails that are managed by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation.

1. Trail signage will be installed at all trailheads, staging areas and prominent trail access points, conveying key safety information to trail users.
2. The Trails LA County mobile application and website ([www.trails.lacounty.gov](http://www.trails.lacounty.gov)) will be updated with the press release notifying the public that trails will be reopened and will include key safety information for trail users.
3. Reduced hours of operation and/or weekend closures may be considered as needed in response to crowding, physical distancing concerns, and/or other public health and safety concerns.
4. Coordination with the LA County Sheriff for more frequent patrols, monitoring and enforcement.
5. Trail Monitors are recommended to welcome the public and inform them of trail user requirements.
6. Trail Monitors deployed at high use trails will reinforce the following key public messages to trail users:
7. Encourage trail users to help keep trails open by following physical distancing guidelines and standard trails safety measures such as using safe speeds, keeping right and passing left, staying alert of their surroundings, and keeping eye contact with other trail users.
8. Advise trail users to keep 6 feet of distance between themselves and others at all times.
9. Ask people not to gather in large groups and encourage them to keep moving.
10. Urge trail users to avoid areas where they cannot maintain a 6-foot distance.
11. Ask trail users to bring all of their trash out with them.
12. Advise trail users that face coverings are required in trailheads/parking areas and on any trails where there are other groups of people nearby. Infants and children under the age of 2 should not wear cloth face coverings. Those between the ages of 2 and 8 should use them under adult supervision to ensure that the child can breathe safely and to avoid choking or suffocation. Children with breathing problems should not wear a face covering.

**TRAIL MONITOR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)**

The following is a list of frequently asked questions to be used as a reference for DSW’s:

1. **What additional steps has Los Angeles County, Parks and Recreation taken to protect trail users?**

* Temporary trail signage is installed at trailheads throughout the County.
* The Los Angeles County Trails Website, App and social media outlets will have the latest news and updates related to COVID-19.
* To reduce crowding vehicular capacity may be reduced in some locations.

1. **What trails are open right now?**

Los Angeles County trails are now open. We recommend that you check our website <https://trails.lacounty.gov/> or the Trails LA County Mobile App to make sure that the trail you want to visit is open. For additional LA County Park information, visit [www.parks.lacounty.gov](http://www.parks.lacounty.gov).

1. **What are the trail’s hours of operation?**

Normal hours of operation for Los Angeles County Trails are from sunrise to sunset, but trails within Los Angeles County Natural Areas are opened from 8:30am until 5pm.

1. **Are trail users required to wear a face covering?**

Trail users over the age of 2 are required to wear a mask at trailheads, parking lots, and while at destination points (i.e. waterfall at Eaton Canyon).

1. **If there is an issue on the trail (vandalism, dumping, etc.) who should be contacted?**

Non-emergency violations may be reported directly by the public using the Sheriff's Parks Bureau Dispatch at (800) 834-0064. Any issues in Natural Areas can be reported to (626) 369-8693.

1. **Are dogs allowed on trails?**

Dogs on-leash are allowed on County multi-use trails, however, many Los Angeles County Natural Areas do not allow pets. Please confirm online prior to visiting any trails at [www.trails.lacounty.gov](http://www.trails.lacounty.gov).

**TRAIL MONITOR LOG / SHIFT QUESTIONNAIRE**

*Information to be Collected by DSW’s*

1. Trail name and/or Natural Area location:
2. Were trail users practicing the social distancing guidelines?
3. What were some of the issues that were most problematic during the day?
4. What are some of the things we need to consider for the following weekend?
5. Do you have any recommendations on how to improve operations?
6. What worked well?