

# COVID-19 Policy Document

Nebraska State Fair August 28-September 7



NSF completed an application for CDHD on August 8, 2020. The goal of COVID-19 Event and Gathering Safety Plan is to limit the spread of the coronavirus and keep workers and attendees safe at gatherings, events and venues.

We have reduced our event significantly. By restructuring our livestock show schedule, we have a separate term for 4-H and FFA and Open Class. Fewer entries will be on grounds on any one day, we did CANCEL a number of livestock competitions for 2020. Static exhibits will be displayed in a larger area with room to spread out. Indoor facilities will have separate ENTER and EXIT and one-way traffic flows marked. Messaging via PA announcements (grounds-wide and at contests) and electronic via website and social media. Printed signage will be placed throughout the Fairgrounds. Extra emphasis will be at all drive-in gates and in areas where seating is available. Provide disposable face coverings for any receptive staff, attendees, vendors, concessionaires, and exhibitors at north, south, and main entry gates. Shields are also available at each of these gates. We intend to take and log temperatures for all FTE (full time employees) and Volunteers on a daily basis.

Nebraska State Fair was approved for an 11-day event: Livestock Shows, Static Exhibit Contest/Display, Concessions (food and beverage), Commercial booths, and Taverns

Event time is daily 8 a.m. - 11 p.m. Hall County, Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska

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There is no state-designated maximum capacity. Anticipated attendees over 11-days are projected at 30,000. Nebraska State Fair has cancelled a number of Open Class shows / indoor commercial vendors / concessions / entertainment / interactive learning and more. We have reduced the Event down to what we believe we can manage within the COVID Pandemic DHM (Directed Health Measures) in Phase 2/3/4. We are setting capacities and mitigation to correspond with Phase 3 DHMs.

There is no gate admission, we have split contests to allow for better flow and contest/activity attendance. The promoter for the Ultimate Bull Fight will be responsible to maintain DHM during their event August 28-29, 2020.

We will ask attendees who are symptomatic to stay home. We will not screen attendees. We have waived admission fees to State Fair and will not have Box Office used for ticketing purposes. We will have signage at gates and throughout the Grounds about mitigation strategy and asking Attendees to comply with the current DHMs.

Attendee Education will be handled with a variety of mediums used, verbal, audio, written and in-person. Details can be found on our website [www.statefair.org](http://www.statefair.org) before and during the event. Our social media channels on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram will include messaging before and during the event. During the event online ticket purchasing for Ultimate Bull

Fights can include messaging. Emails and push notifications can be utilized by departments. Signage on site before the event and during the event will be utilized. During the event registration and badge check-in along with guest services staff and volunteers both before the event and during the event.

## MESSAGING

For general admission the management of messaging to maintain 6-feet of physical distance between individuals and groups plan includes signage. Signage is our biggest tool. We have many different messages that will be relayed on signs posted throughout the Fairgrounds. PA announcements and Announcer messaging at any live shows will also remind Guests about mitigation efforts and responsibility.

## SIGNAGE - NSF will PHOTOGRAPH SIGNAGE DAILY with DATE STAMP

- How to safely wear and take off your mask
- Stop - Feeling Ill?      Stop - Wash your hands
- Stop - sanitizer      Distancing - multiple varieties      Ingress and Egress
- Arrows for one way      **At Your Own Risk Signage**
- Participants should not gather in groups of more than 8 (in barns to exhibitors)
- No food or beverage in barns - SUGGESTED, not required
- No or very limited printed programs - **see show schedules** at:
  - [www.statefair.org/livestock](http://www.statefair.org/livestock) for Open Class schedule
  - 4-H Mobile App for 4-H Classes: (official name)
  - FFA Class schedules are available: \_\_\_\_\_

The tools used to manage lines and keep people 6-feet apart include:

- Display the event's health rules before and during the event, including social distance requirements and face coverings guidelines.
- Lines marked on the ground at the event - depending on surface painters tape, spray chalk, and spray paint can work.
- Rope barriers and stanchions or bike racks to physically separate attendees.
- Fencing or bike rack
- Plans in place so attendees cannot stand at the front of the stage or fence. Note: moshing and crowd surfing are violations of social distancing.
- Messaging by the performer or announcer during the event.

## Screening Procedures

- To minimize the chance of ill attendees participating include: In the days leading up to the event, proactively ask attendees to stay home from the gathering, event, or venue if they are ill or have symptoms (including: fever, sore throat, dry persistent cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, etc.).
- Offer full or partial refunds to ticketed attendees who stay home because of illness.
- Provide all workers who are helping with screenings at the event with appropriate PPE, as advised by our local health department. (We understand procuring PPE for this event, gathering or venue is the host/organizer's responsibility).

- At the event ask attendees to report symptoms (including: fever, sore throat, dry persistent cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell ). See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.
- Immediately send anyone home to isolate who is symptomatic and strongly encourage them to be tested for COVID-19
- We will not screen attendees.

### **Movement/Restrooms /Exits/Departures**

To maintain 6-foot physical distance between attendees these guidelines will be followed:

- Patrons nearest the exits leave first.
- Display the Event’s health rules before and during the event, including social distancing requirements and departure instructions.
- No gate admission being charged for Fair entry.
- Staff will monitor waiting area to preserve an easily discernible line to avoid conflict about where the line begins.
- Signage and Que Line Markers.

### **Livestock**

We have split classes into 4-H / FFA / Open Class contests into individual terms. Onsite no gate admission, we have split contests to allow better flow and contest/activity attendance.

- Face cover in the show ring are highly recommended in Phase 3 and Phase 4.
- Face cover is highly recommended in the Barns, when 3-6’ spacing cannot be met.
- Guests are allowed in barns....**UP TO 50% in Phase 3, up to 75% in Phase 4**
- Weigh in: only staff and limited volunteers will be allowed at weigh in
- Required documents and distribution of shirts/packets are DUE at check-in
- Wash racks faucets are spaced 6’ apart
- No handshakes
- Ribbons and other prizes picked up from table, not distributed in show ring
- Shows and events OPEN to the Public - maintaining capacity @ **50% in Phase 3, up to 75% in Phase 4**
- Shows and events will be STREAMED online for family and support
  - The <http://netnebraska.org/live> :
    - Saturday August 29th from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
    - Sunday August 30th 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
    - Saturday Sept. 5th 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
    - Sunday Sept. 6th 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

### **Grounds-wide**

- 80 sanitizers - checked and filled daily
- Ample permanently plumbed hand washing stations
- Separate ingress and egress - floor markings (ALL) - Barns, every public use door marked
- One way foot traffic in indoor facilities: Expo Center, Nebraska Building, and Barns.
- Que Lines to NOT serpentine - must do a straight line or “L” shape to avoid 6’ contact. MUST MARK QUE LINES (concessions / restrooms / ticketing)

- Seated venues - 6' between each party, no more than 8 to a party. SIGNAGE
- Interior Trams: open sides - Distancing with 3-6' between individuals or parties
- Fair Staff or volunteers considered "at-risk" are discouraged from working at or volunteering at the fair.
- Handing out 30k disposable masks: GUESTS / EXHIBITORS / VENDORS / Other

### Enforcement of Contingencies

- Double Lock Security (DLS) will be commissioned to monitor capacities at Stock Dog Shows, Party Pit
- Staff: Year-round team
- Partners: Staff/Team supervisors monitor partners (vendors/exhibitors/entertainers)
- Guests: Security / State Patrol / Staff

### Taverns

- Parties must be seated unless moving to visit the restroom, to place an order/
- Max of 8 in a party.
- Tables spaced 6' apart.
- Face covers are highly recommended in Phase 3 and Phase 4.
- Self-serve wipes will be accessible.
- Phase 3:
  - · 50% occupancy @ Barn Bar/LOFT/Party Pit beer tent(roof constitutes indoor)
  - · 75% occupancy @ uncovered portion of Party Pit/Spur/Motor Sports
- Phase 4:
  - · 75% occupancy @ Barn Bar/LOFT/Party Pit Tent
  - · 100% occupancy @ Party Pit open air/Spur/Motor Sports
- **NO STANDING CIRCLES if alcohol drinks are allowed in the same area. NO drinks = CAN STAND**
- **NO DANCING allowed**
- **Wherever alcohol is allowed, guests MUST BE SEATED**

### FOOD

Self-serve buffets and salad bars are prohibited. Workers must serve food directly to customers or implement buffet orders from the customer table. No customer self-service.

Face covers are highly recommended. We will educate our workers on how to safely use face covers. All workers are highly recommended to wear face coverings disposal or cloth masks (that are washable). Worker face covers must be laundered or replaced daily. Workers must wash hands before and after putting on the face face cover and after every time they touch it.

Whenever possible, food service workers should NOT perform multiple roles (Example - servers should not also take money). Venues must ensure proper training for food service workers with new or altered duties. Select all that apply that will be in your plan.

We will use pods at our venue. Create food service workers “contact pods”. Pod members should exclusively work together. Redesign workflow to eliminate cross-pod interactions that meet the close contact criteria (contact within six (6) feet for several minutes or more).

Close contacts of a COVID-19 positive individual are **required** to self-quarantine. Working in “contact pods” may reduce the number of employees that must self-quarantine for 14 days in the event that an employee is diagnosed with COVID-19.

- Tables spaced 6’ apart
- No more than 8 per table
- No self-serve buffets/salad bars/condiments/refills
- Where practical, plastic barriers should be installed.
- Face coverings for food prep and service - Required
- Point of sale terminals assigned to limited # of users whenever possible.
- Separate person prepares food versus handle money, whenever possible
- **Separate ENTER / EXIT whenever possible.**
- Frequent sanitation of many touchable items.
- Wash, rinse and sanitize food contact surfaces with an EPA approved contact surface sanitizer.
- Develop a schedule of increased, routine cleaning and disinfecting
- Ensure safe and correct use and storage of disinfectants to avoid food contamination and harm to employees and other individuals. This includes storing products securely away from children.
- Use gloves when handling garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash. Wash hands after removing gloves. Change gloves often.
- Existing permits will suffice for NO Food Prep Safe Class in 2020.

Food stands will receive and be asked to follow the NE DHHS Restaurant, Bar, Tavern, Clubs, & Bowling Alley Guide. These guides note increased disinfecting of high touch surfaces, employee pre-screening (within the booth), face coverings, and gloves.

## **MERCHANTS / COMMERCIAL/DISPLAY**

We have increased the minimum booth size to none less than 20' front. Larger space to operate will allow distancing between attendees in adjacent booths. Vendors are highly recommended to wear face cover when 3-6' distancing is not possible. Vendors are encouraged to operate cashless whenever possible. We will instruct all employees, sellers, and patrons who may be exhibiting symptoms to STAY HOME. No food or beverage samples are allowed in 2020. Vendors will receive the NE DHHS guide for Booth, Tabling, and Sales Events Guidance.

Plans in place to manage lines to maintain 6-foot physical distance between attendees.

- We are encouraging Vendors to procure customer leads in a no touch manner, using a QR Code. TXPO.net is an on-line tool that we recommend in 2020.

- Instruct any employee, seller or patron exhibiting symptoms of illness to remain home.
- Encourage face coverings at all times, especially when 6' distancing cannot be maintained.
- Booth spaces are being sold outdoors only at minimum of 20' front feet
- Very few sponsor displays will set up in PB Expo Center - minimum of 20' front feet per partner.
- Que Lines verbiage
- No food or beverage samples
- No touch application of product.

## STAFF

- Face cover - recommended
- Shield - less effective, but better than nothing
- **Temperature Check - daily.** Volunteers temp and log at VHQ in Expo Center. FTE will temp and log at First Aid Office in the Welcome Center or at Department home base.
- **Temperature Check in AC, if member comes in hot, they may need to sit in the AC for 20 minutes before a documented temperature check.**
- Any staff member, vendor, and participant showing signs/symptoms of COVID-19 (fever over 100.4F, sudden onset of cough, or sudden onset of shortened breath) shall not participate and should stay home or go home.
- **Should I go to Work scenario flow chart (coming from CDHD)**
- Request that anyone with heightened vulnerability to avoid areas where people are gathering.

## ENTERTAINMENT/EQUIPMENT

Six feet (two meters) social distance is provided for singers and musical instrument players. Performance space, including on stage and in orchestra pits, are being arranged to maximize social distancing while allowing at least some of them to perform together.

Production equipment and cargo to be unloaded will enter near the stage entrance marked. Face coverings will be used by all workers.

- It is highly recommended that Workers will wear face cover when they do not interfere with essential work functions, particularly when they cannot maintain social distance.
- Equipment will be dedicated to individual users where possible.
- We are not able to designate one operator for each piece of equipment such as tractors, forklifts, boom lifts, and scissor lifts.
- Deliveries will be scheduled to minimize the time workers load and unload close together.
- Workers will wash or sanitize their hands between each delivery.
- Workers will wear face coverings when they do not interfere with essential work functions.

- Truck drivers should have received their daily screening at their place of employment.
- Ultimate Bull Fighting and any other Attractions not produced by Nebraska State Fair, own responsibility to present and to follow through with the CDHD Guidelines while on grounds during State Fair.

## Severe Weather

We have facilities to accommodate, but FACE COVERS would need to be worn as 3-6' per person is not realistic for us in the case of something as major as a tornado. We do have ample indoor facilities for shelter with 3-6' distancing during thunder, hail, and wind. Multiple restrooms in all buildings, as well as the wash racks in the Cattle and Sheep Barns.

## Worker Health and Hygiene

**COVID-19 can be a very serious illness. It is caused by a coronavirus and is highly contagious. Currently we have limited testing for this virus and no vaccine. Workers and volunteers must protect themselves and each other when working together in event Spaces.**

The Infection Control Mitigation Coordinator, Bill Ogg, will coordinate and communicate with the local health department to help implement:

1. public health guidance.
2. Work closely with the event producer or venue operator to develop and implement event health plans.
3. Ensure that existing safety plans are modified for compatibility with new health plans and current public health guidance.
4. Help create worker training that applies current information about hazards and infection control measures, including social distancing, hand washing, temperature checking, and disinfecting high-touch surfaces.
5. Regular meetings with Teresa Anderson since May, 2020. Became WEEKLY in July.

These Practices for Healthy Workers and Volunteers will be in place for our Event including:

- Physical Distancing is being followed. Workers and volunteers maintain at least 6 feet (about 2 meters) from the person closest to them. Where a task cannot be accomplished working alone, workers can limit their exposure by forming a “work team” in which people routinely work together, but they keep their distance from everyone else.
- Sanitation and Disinfection Procedures have been increased and proper cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer are available.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) protocols are in place and PPE is available for workers and volunteers. Employers should ensure that in addition to face coverings and other appropriate PPE, workers, volunteers, vendors, and independent contractors have PPE appropriate for their work. PPE will not be provided by the local health department.

- Employees and volunteers who are running a temperature (100.4 F) or showing symptoms (see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html> ) are sent home to isolate and encouraged to be tested for COVID-19. They will not be allowed to return to work until authorized by the local health department or they have been home for a minimum of 10 days since symptom onset and 3 days have passed with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., improved cough, no shortness of breath).

Nebraska State Fair will work with our local health department responding to and investigating any positive cases of COVID-19.

State Fair Employees will be strongly encouraged to wear face coverings. Disposable face coverings are available from State Fair and worker's can also choose to wear their own. Face Shields are also available via State Fair. Distancing reminders will be via signage throughout the Grounds. Temperature checks of NSF FTE and other daily workers who come into contact with multiple people. NE State Fair has procured thermometers to be available to each Department/team. We will submit logs that are made for Volunteers and for State Fair Staff Team. Signage promoting self assessments of symptoms will be at all gates and entrances.

#### **CLEANING & DISINFECTING**

Cleaning and sanitizing of regular touch points will be performed by professional and contracted cleaning service provider. Areas will have variable frequency based on the amount of traffic at a given time.

Cleaning logs will be made and kept current in public restroom facilities. Cleaning Crew will disinfect before and after larger attended Shows or events. We are also looking at dispensers or Volunteers to distribute sanitizing wipes to folks coming into an arena, so they can disinfect their space upon entry.

Additional Cleaning Team are being secured to meet demand for additional cleaning needs.

Messaging to promote cloth face covering or mask by attendees will be encouraged on pre-event ticketing, invitations, and social media.

Hand washing stations and sanitizers will provide opportunities for attendees to wash and sanitize their hands during our event. This will be accomplished by:

- Stations with either soap and water or hand sanitizer containing at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol are provided at entry points and throughout the venue.
- Stations that allow no-touch activation.
- Assigned team members responsible for regularly checking and refilling supplies.

Cleaning Practices will include:

- Up front clean + when buildings start occupancy (varied)
- Public Touch: door handles, counters, tables, chairs, (frequency 2 (two) hour sanitizing goal during high use)
- Rest Rooms (RR): Assigned attendants. Front and back of house, as well as porta potties (TINA and SOS)



- Attendants enforce no crowding in the RR, lines to form outside the door, with 6' distancing.
- Door handles, push plates, faucets, counters, toilet handles, disposal lids, changing tables, soap dispensers
- Back of house (BOH), OFFICES: door handles, push plates, doorways, railings, light switches, cabinet pulls, telephones, computers, mouse, microphones, equipment, trash receptacles
- BOH Kitchen and food prep: handles, doors, cabinets, counters, push pads, light switches, towel dispensers, handles of sinks, mops, cleaning tools, buckets, trash receptacles touch points.
- Includes at concession BOH, provided by NSF
- Bleacher cleaning: 5PA / Thompson / (NSF required after each event) Self-serve wipes will be accessible in the bleachers.

### **Cleaning and Disinfecting Facility**

Nebraska State Fair (Event) will be following the CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility guidelines. Cleaning and disinfecting logs will be in use.

#### **1. Clean**

- Wear disposable gloves to clean and disinfect.
- Clean surfaces using soap and water, then use disinfectant.
- Cleaning with soap and water reduces the number of germs, dirt and impurities on the surface. Disinfecting kills germs on surfaces.
- Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.
  - More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use.
  - Surfaces and objects in public places, such as shopping carts and point of sale keypads should be cleaned and disinfected before each use.
- High touch surfaces include:
  - Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.

#### **2. Disinfect**

- Recommend use of [EPA-registered household disinfectant external icon](#). Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product. Many products recommend:
  - Keeping the surface wet for a period of time (see product label).
  - Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.
- Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used if appropriate for the surface.
  - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection and has a sodium hypochlorite concentration of 5%-6%. Ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening may not be suitable for disinfection.
  - Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper

ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

Leave solution on the surface for at least 1 minute.

To make a bleach solution, mix:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of room temperature water  
OR
- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of room temperature water

- Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours.
- Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.

### 3. Soft Surfaces (For soft surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes)

- Clean the surface using soap and water or with cleaners appropriate for use on these surfaces.
- Launder items (if possible) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.

OR

- Disinfect with an EPA-registered household disinfectant. [These disinfectants](#)
- [external icon](#)
- meet EPA's criteria for use against COVID-19.
- [Vacuum as usual.](#)

### 4. Electronics (For electronics, such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines)

- Consider putting a wipeable cover on electronics.
- Follow manufacturer's instruction for cleaning and disinfecting.
  - If no guidance, use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol. Dry surface thoroughly.

### 5. Laundry (For clothing, towels, linens and other items)

- Launder items according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.
- Wear disposable gloves when handling dirty laundry from a person who is sick.
- Dirty laundry from a person who is sick can be washed with other people's items.
- Do not shake dirty laundry.
- Clean and disinfect clothes hampers according to guidance above for surfaces.
- Remove gloves, and wash hands right away.

### 6. Cleaning and Disinfecting Outdoor Areas

- Outdoor areas, like playgrounds in schools and parks generally require normal routine cleaning, but do not require disinfection.
  - Do not spray disinfectant on outdoor playgrounds- it is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.
  - High touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings should be cleaned routinely.
  - Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (play structures, benches, tables) or groundcovers (mulch, sand) is not recommended.
- Sidewalks and roads should not be disinfected.

- Spread of COVID-19 from these surfaces is very low and disinfection is not effective.

### **When Cleaning**

- Regular cleaning staff can clean and disinfect community spaces.
  - Ensure they are trained on appropriate use of cleaning and disinfection chemicals.
- Wear disposable gloves for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.
  - Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash.
  - Gloves should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
  - Always wash immediately after removing gloves and after contact with a person who is sick.
  - Hand sanitizer: If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. However, if hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water.
- Additional key times to wash hands include:
  - After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - After using the restroom.
  - Before eating or preparing food.
  - After contact with animals or pets.
  - Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child).

### **Additional Considerations for Cleaning Employers**

- Educate workers performing cleaning, laundry, and trash pick-up to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19.
- Provide instructions on what to do if they develop [symptoms](#) within 14 days after their last possible exposure to the virus.
- Develop policies for worker protection and provide training to all cleaning staff on site prior to providing cleaning tasks.
  - Training should include when to use PPE, what PPE is necessary, how to properly don (put on), use, and doff (take off) PPE, and how to properly dispose of PPE.
- Ensure workers are trained on the hazards of the cleaning chemicals used in the workplace in accordance with OSHA's Hazard Communication standard ([29 CFR 1910.1200 external icon](#)).

- Comply with OSHA’s standards on Bloodborne Pathogens ([29 CFR 1910.1030 external icon](#)), including proper disposal of regulated waste, and PPE ([29 CFR 1910.132 external icon](#)).

#### **Alternative Disinfection Methods**

- The efficacy of alternative disinfection methods, such as ultrasonic waves, high intensity UV radiation, and LED blue light against COVID-19 virus is not known.
- EPA does not routinely review the safety or efficacy of pesticidal devices, such as UV lights, LED lights, or ultrasonic devices. Therefore, EPA cannot confirm whether, or under what circumstances, such products might be effective against the spread of COVID-19.
- CDC does not recommend the use of sanitizing tunnels. There is no evidence that they are effective in reducing the spread of COVID-19. Chemicals used in sanitizing tunnels could cause skin, eye, or respiratory irritation or damage.
- CDC only recommends use of the surface disinfectants identified on List Nexternal iconexternal icon against the virus that causes COVID-19.

### **Additional Guidelines**

#### **Booth, Tabling, and Sales Events Guidance**

The below guidance is intended to slow the spread of coronavirus. It is strongly recommended that all booth, tabling, and sales events (including community garage sales, sidewalk sales, car shows, firework stands) adhere to the following guidance.

It is important for the event coordinators to work with their local health departments to institute changes to slow the spread of COVID-19 amongst their vendors and patrons. All counties in Nebraska have been issued a Directed Health Measure (DHM) and can be accessed at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Directed-Health-Measures.aspx>, please refer to your county to ensure your event/facility is eligible to follow the guidance below.

When planning for your event, please reference your local county DHM. Ticketing limits and physical distancing between groups are limited under each DHM and should be referred to when planning for your event. Public gatherings are limited under each DHM, for locations/venues that have capacity to hold 500 or more individuals (1,000 or more in counties over 500,000 population) plans for reopening must be submitted to the local health departments and approved prior to the event (your local health department can be found at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/LHD-COVID-19-ResponseList.pdf>). If a plan has been submitted previously and your location/venue is expanding capacity, the plan must be re-submitted to the local health department. Depending on the county DHM, physical distancing is highly encouraged. Additionally, venues are encouraged to promote and encourage the use of facial coverings by patrons and staff, especially when distancing cannot be maintained. Critically evaluate each event to determine whether it needs to be held. If an event can be postponed, please do so. If you decide to hold an event, take the following protective measures:

### **Practical event set-up for social/physical distancing:**

- Use technology to host virtual sales whenever possible.
- Instruct any employee, seller or patron exhibiting symptoms of illness to remain home and request that anyone who is a member of a population of heightened vulnerability to avoid areas where people are gathering.
- Encourage face coverings at all times especially if six (6) foot separation is not able to be maintained at all times (e.g. entry/exits, bathrooms).
- Special attention needs to be placed on reducing close contact at entry/exits or other areas of congregation and/or congestion.
- Increase the footprint of the event to allow patrons and vendors to maintain a physical distance of at least six (6) feet between each other.
- Limit the number of patrons at the event to ensure everyone maintains at least a six (6) foot separation between themselves at all times.
- Increase the footprint of the booth, table, tents, cars, etc. with at least ten (10) feet of distance between them to reduce congestion.
- Anywhere there is a potential for people to stand in a line, queue lines should be set up to control distancing and should be either a straight line or an “L” shaped line. Six (6) feet distancing should be marked in those queue lines (using tape, spray paint, flag rope and cones, etc.) Directional arrows can also be used to direct the flow throughout the event. - Areas to consider include: ticketing, restrooms, food stands, etc.
- Assign additional staff to help regulate customer flow and ensure social/physical distancing. “Helping People Living Better Lives”
- Consider closing all parts of the event location that are not directly associated with the booth, table, tent, etc. areas to prevent people from co-mingling, including common seating areas.
- Clearly communicate and enforce your policies.

### **Hygiene and Disinfection:**

- Provide ample opportunities for staff, vendors, and patrons to wash hands with soap and water. Consider providing additional hand sanitizer or hand washing opportunities throughout the event such as portable sanitizer or hand washing stations.
- Allow only the vendors and their staff to handle products. Customers should shop with their eyes and wait to touch the products until after they have purchased them.
- Encourage vendor use of vinyl or plastic table covers for easy disinfecting.
- Encourage vendors to disinfect their stands regularly, by wiping down tables, terminals, cash boxes, etc.
- Vendors should consider using a credit card reader when possible to avoid the exchange of cash.
- Clean and disinfect all commonly-used areas frequently including restrooms and restock often with soap, paper towels, and hand sanitizer.

### **Food:**

- All food code regulations must still be followed. Please contact your local health department or Dept. of Agriculture for more information.
- Do not allow the sampling of products at booth, table, tents, etc. or selling of drinks in open containers (e.g. by the cup). For events selling food products, follow the following concession guidance. - Stands selling food are allowed to open, if they meet the following:
- Markings should be placed on the ground to ensure individuals waiting are spaced six (6) feet apart.
- Clean and sanitize high touch surfaces regularly.
- Staff must serve food directly to customers and remove self-serve condiment stations (e.g. provide customers with condiment packets upon request).
- Whenever possible, practice social/physical distancing between staff.
- All employees directly interacting with customers should wear face coverings.
- It is highly recommended that all food and beverage prep and service wear face covering.
- Employees should wash hands frequently; provide hand sanitizer for customers