

# WATER WALKING GUIDELINES

(Updated March 29, 2022)

The plan for water walking usage at the Mount Rainier Pool during the COVID-19 pandemic will be based off Washington State and Seattle/King County Department of Health and CDC guidelines. Pool management has worked with other aquatics and health department professionals to disseminate this information and follow best practices to develop a safe environment for users, staff and the surrounding community.

## Age Limit

All patrons must be 13 and older during the initial re-opening. Age restrictions will be modified as directives change.

## Before You Visit

Please be aware of the following changes before you visit:

- Have a Reservation Before Using the Pool
- Wear a Mask at All Times Outside of Water
- Be Prepared to answer State-Mandated Health Screening Questions before admittance
- Arrive Ready to Swim (changed into your swimsuit)
- Bring a Pre-Filled Water Bottle
- Sign a COVID-19 Waiver (Found in front lobby at MRP)

## Before Leaving Home

Before going to the pool, please ask yourself:

- Have you been ill or feel ill in anyway?
- Have you experienced any flu like symptoms such as fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, body aches, vomiting, and diarrhea?
- If you have a thermometer, a fever check should be conducted. (If you have a temperature of 100.4 or Higher, please stay home.)
- If you experience illness, coughing or sneezing profusely, or a fever you should stay home.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, please wait 14 days from the end of symptoms to resume water walking.
- For full list of potential symptom, [click here](#).

If you need to cancel your reservation, please call us at (206) 824-4722.

## Reservations

Reservations are no longer required, but please show up for scheduled swims. See schedule at bottom of page for exact times.

- For swimmers that require own lane, Monday-Friday, 8:00-9:00am is still appointment only! Reservations can be made two (2) business days prior.
- A \$5.00 same-day cancellation/no show fee will be added to your account and must be paid before future usage.
- Having a current pass does not give you priority to use the pool.
- No Walk-ins.
- Reservations can only be made by phone or in person. To make a reservation, call us at (206) 824-4722.

## Payment/Pass Holders

Please be aware of the following changes during the re-opening phase of Mount Rainier Pool.

(UPDATED 3/19/2021) Current 3-Month and Annual Pass Holders: All current pass holders will have their passes held until March 7. Staff will send notification by email or phone on their updated passes. All passes sold on or after March 8 will have no alterations, unless another COVID-19 related closure occurs.

Daily Entry Fees and 10-Visit Passes: These passes will be honored and sold at the front desk. We strongly encourage you to pay by check or credit card to minimize the potential transfer of the disease.

Health Benefit Passes: Active and Fit, Silver and Fit, Silver Sneakers and Prime memberships will be accepted.

## Arriving at Facility/Before You Water Walk

All water walkers arrive to water walk in their swimsuits ready to use the pool. The showers, lockers and drinking fountains will not be available. All water walkers must arrive wearing face covering/mask. Please follow all signage and markings throughout the facility, and any further guidance provided by pool staff onsite. Patrons will only be given access to the facility five-minutes before their scheduled time.

1. Check-in at front desk.
2. Walk down hallway and wait on a designated social distancing marking ("X") for the lifeguard to give you access to the pool deck.  
Note-Lobby and hallway have increased filtration and air flow.
3. Upon entering the pool deck, follow the directions posted and staff direction to your designated lane.

4. A chair and area have been setup for you to place your personal items.

Enter the water, move to your designated lane and remove mask if you would like to do so. You are allowed to remain in your mask if you so choose.

### **During Your Water Walking**

According to the Washington State Department of Health's Program Manager, all patrons must keep six feet of distance at all times. Their direction at the time of re-opening is that a maximum of one water walker per lane. Caregivers with documentation will be allowed to be within six feet of distance but must be performing these duties while in the water.

Please use the stairs to enter the pool. Staff will frequently clean the stair railings between users.

There will be five areas open in the shallow end (lanes 1-5). The sixth lane will be left unoccupied to ensure adequate spacing for access to the stairs and ADA lifts while maintaining proper social distancing.

Please walk on the lap line on the floor of the pool to ensure proper social distancing.

No facility-owned equipment (kick boards, pull buoys, fins or hand paddles) will be provided during swimming or water walking. Patrons should bring their own equipment.

Staff will sound the end of your session by blowing one long whistle blast. Please leave the pool promptly.

### **Leaving**

Please wait until a staff member motions for you to exit the pool using the stairs. Please leave the pool and deck promptly.

Water Walkers should dry off, don masks before leaving their personal area at the end of their designated lane.

Please exit through the locker rooms and leave promptly. It is okay to change/ put clothing on in the locker rooms, but no showering will be allowed.

You may use the restroom facilities in the locker room, but please leave promptly to allow staff to adequately clean all high-touch areas.

## Staff Direction

It is paramount that all users follow staff direction to ensure safety for all patrons. Staff will have a “Social Distancing Officer” that will monitor and enforce all social distancing to ensure lifeguards and other staff can concentrate on safety and regular duties. Any patron that violates staff direction may face a suspension from the facility.

### April 2021 SCHEDULE March 29 – To Be Determined

#### Monday, Wednesday and Friday:

- 5:30-6:30am Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 6:45-7:45am Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 8:00-9:00am Lap Swimming/Water Walking\* and Water Exercise (*One Swimmer/Lane\*\*\**)
- 9:15-10:15am Lap Swimming/Water Walking\* and Water Exercise\*\*
- 10:30-11:30am Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- Noon-1:00pm Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 1:00-3:00pm Closed for Cleaning
- 3:00-5:00pm MRHS Swim Team
- 5:00-6:00pm HSD Dive Team
- 6:00-8:00pm Private Swim Team (SMAC) Practices

#### Tuesday and Thursday:

- 5:30-6:30am Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 6:45-7:45am Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 8:00-9:00am Lap Swimming and Water Walking (*One Swimmer/Lane\*\*\**)
- 9:15-10:15am Lap Swimming/Water Walking\* and Water Exercise
- 10:30-11:30am Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- Noon-1:00pm Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 1:00-3:00pm Closed for Cleaning
- 3:00-5:00pm MRHS Swim Team
- 5:00-6:00pm HSD Dive Team
- 6:05-7:05pm Lap Swimming
- 7:00-8:00pm Water Exercise
- 7:15-8:15pm Lap Swimming

#### Saturday:

- 8:00-10:30am Closed for Private Swim Team
- 8:00-11:00am Swim Lessons\*\*\*\*
- 11:15am-12:15pm Lap Swimming and Water Walking
- 12:30-1:30pm Lap Swimming and Water Walking

#### Sunday:

- No classes at this time, but updates coming later this Spring.

*\*Water Walking is allowed in Lap Lanes during Water Exercise Classes.*

*\*\*Water Exercise on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:15-10:15am. Insurance (Tivity, ASH Networks accepted).*

*\*\*\*Special: For those still concerned with COVID-19, one-swimmer per lane.*

*\*\*\*\*April and May swim lessons moved to Saturdays due to increased MRHS swim meets.*

#### More Information:

For more information, visit our website at [www.mtrainierpool.com](http://www.mtrainierpool.com) or call us at (206) 824-4722.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION (FAQ)

### **Time in Pool**

Please be aware that ensuring proper safety and social distancing may cut into swimmers' time in the pool. Promptly following directions will help us to make sure everyone gets equal access to the pool during their allotted time slot.

Our main goal is to provide a safe environment and staff have been directed that it is paramount to take their time to properly enforce social distancing as well as thoroughly sanitize the facility.

### **Parents/Spectators**

The goal is to limit visitors to the pool at re-opening to lower the chance of exposure to the disease and to allow staff to focus on cleaning less high-touch surfaces more frequently. Parents and spectators can wait in their vehicles until their water walkers are finished. Once restrictions lessen, the District will put out more guidance for lobby and spectator areas.

Once parents/ spectators are allowed to remain to observe water walkers, they will be required to follow of the same guidelines, parents should:

- Wear face coverings/masks.
- Will be asked screening questions by staff before entering the facility.
- Sign COVID-19 entry waiver.
- Maintain 6ft or greater of social distancing. This can be achieved by designating observational places throughout your facility.
- Avoid using restrooms
- Bring their own pre-filled water bottle.
- Sanitize hands upon entering and exiting our facility.

### **Lockers**

No lockers will be available during initial re-opening. A notice will be put out when lockers will be available.

### **Bring Own Water Bottle**

Water Walkers and caregivers must bring their own pre-filled water bottle. Water bottles cannot be shared. No food or other drink should be allowed during your visit. Water bottles are available for sale at the front desk (\$1/bottle).

### **Face Masks**

Facial coverings/masks should be worn by the water walkers up to entering the pool. (Pulling your shirt over your face does not constitute a face mask, per state directives).

**Subject to Change**

Due to mandated state and local changes to directives, best practices and future restrictions due to a future increase in cases, these directives may be changed. Any changes will be communicated to patrons by [email notification](#), [website](#) and [Facebook](#).

**Questions or Concerns**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lauryne Thurmond, Aquatics Manager, at (206) 824-4722 or email [lauryne.thurmond@desmoinespool.org](mailto:lauryne.thurmond@desmoinespool.org).