

# **Youth Camp 2021 Updates**

## Youth Camp 2020 season: COVID-19 impact, licensing, inspections, and enforcement

- 358 Youth Camp licenses were issued.
- 227 Camps operated of which 226 were inspected, and in most cases a remote/virtual inspection was conducted.
- 131 Licensed Youth Camps chose not to operate during COVID-19 pandemic.
- 39 Licensed Youth Camps reported cases of COVID-19 on-site. Some camps closed temporarily, others decided to cease operations for the remainder of the summer.
- 0 Enforcement cases referred to the Compliance unit for action ( administrative penalty or warning letter).

## 2021 Pool and Food Rule updates

- Pool rules updated and adopted Jan. 1, 2021 include:
  - Required safety equipment for pools to include a *Bag-Valve Mask (BVM)* "Ambu bag" in addition to first-aid kit, backboard, and Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
  - Pool definition revised to include lazy or leisure river as a pool.
  - DSHS pool webpage here <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/poolspa/default.aspx>
- Food rules (Texas Food Establishment Rules) are currently under adoption and here is a link for the summary of changes, no major impacts on operations of youth camp kitchens:  
[https://www.dshs.texas.gov/foodestablishments/pdf/Laws/Summary-of-Changes-TFER-2020\\_DRAFT\\_20200915.pdf](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/foodestablishments/pdf/Laws/Summary-of-Changes-TFER-2020_DRAFT_20200915.pdf)

## 2021 Summer Camp Inspections

Camp operations and inspections may look exactly the same as last year due to COVID-19, with the same Governor's minimum health protocols in place, and possibly virtual inspections as well. There are no youth camp rule changes in process at this time.

Latest information on camps and COVID-19:

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/youthcamp/default.aspx>

## COVID-19 Vaccinations

Here is the latest on the DSHS website in regards to vaccinations: who is currently eligible, when the general public may receive vaccinations, and where to get vaccinated: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx>

The general public health recommendation is that all persons be vaccinated.

New (March 2020) FAQ page here:

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/youthcamp/guidance-faqs.aspx> . It has many commonly asked questions, and is a good resource.