



APPALACHIAN HERITAGE

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## COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Through many discussions with staff and the community, we created a set of COVID-19 policies here at Foxfire. As we've previously stated, we are monitoring the policies of the state park systems and, thus, have adjusted our policy accordingly.

Our goal in changing these policies is to 1) be safe and heed the warnings of the CDC and other health professionals while 2) providing a service to the community. The general consensus among these professionals is that outdoor exercise is good and safe as long as people avoid close contact with others by practicing social distancing.

We have created a regular cleaning schedule to ensure that public spaces, such as restrooms, are sterilized every two hours. Additionally, we are encouraging everyone to bring hand sanitizer to the museum and use it regularly as you make your way through the museum. However, we are requesting that **visitors avoid touching any surfaces or artifacts in the museum.**

Beginning March 23, 2020, we are **closing to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays.** Furthermore, the gift shop will be closed indefinitely to visitors, but we will continue to take and ship online orders.

Starting Wednesday, March 25, 2020, we will be **taking appointments for visits to the museum Wednesday - Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm**, spaced out no less than 45 minutes apart. Those folks making appointments can pay over the phone by credit card or can bring cash and place it in the lock box on the gift shop porch. There will be guide books set outside, limited to no more than two per group. The rate for admission will be a flat \$5/person rate, and we are still allowing **free admission for kids 12 and under and will have activity bags set out for those children.**

With these measures in place, we believe we can dramatically lower the risk of folks interacting. With appointments spaced out at 45 minute intervals, there should be no interaction between groups (the self-guided tour generally takes 1.5 hours). We are also encouraging folks not to touch the surfaces in the museum.

We thank you all for your understanding in these hard times. We encourage everyone to stay home as much as possible. For those doing so, we will continue to provide digital content, including virtual tours, how-to videos, podcasts, and the like. Thank you.

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