

Summer Fun while Reducing Risk

We're all wondering, what are we allowed to do this summer? What's wise? What's risky?

[NPR.org](https://www.npr.org) collected a panel of experts and rated the risk associated with each activity.

Largely, it came down to four factors: time, space, people, place. "The more *time* you spend and the closer in *space* you are to any infected people, the higher your risk.

Interacting with more *people* raises your risk, and indoor *places* are riskier than outdoors." Here's a summary of some of their least risky summer activities.

BYO- Backyard Gathering (low-medium risk)

A spacious outdoor area with only a small group isn't too risky, as long as everyone respects social distancing. Lower risk by making it a BYO-everything party to avoid touching shared dishes/ utensils. Remember, moving into the house increases the risk.



Backyard Lawn Tournament (low risk)

Lawn games like bocce, badminton, horseshoes/ washers can naturally allow for space between individuals. Reduce your risk by wearing a mask while playing and using hand sanitizer after touching shared equipment.



Pool or Beach Day (low risk)

As long as you maintain social distancing, you should be pretty safe. Transmission through the water is highly unlikely because of the sheer volume of water, but be careful your kiddos aren't playing too closely with any new pool friends. Consider going during times of the day that are less crowded, like early morning or late afternoon.



Staying at a Hotel or Vacation House (low-medium risk)

The consensus seems to be that this is a fairly low-risk activity, particularly once you are inside your room/ home. Wipe down high touch areas with a disinfectant wipe and avoid common areas like the gym or elevators. Consider less populated areas, like a cabin in the woods with plenty of hikes and creeks/ lakes nearby to explore.



Camping (low risk)

Camping appears to be the most friendly COVID-19 safe summer activity; isolated and outdoors. If you are going with a group, ensure that you can trust their previous exposure and keep distance (separate tents, etc). Disinfect and sanitize in bathroom facilities.

