

Overview of our Public Health & Safety Guidelines

We ask that you observe the following health and safety guidelines during and in advance of your retreat. These protocols apply to all retreatants, teachers and staff and are intended to protect us all from covid-19 and other easily transmissible illness such as the flus and viruses.

For the reasoning behind our Board's health and safety decisions, you can visit our website.

RAPID TESTING

We require each participant to take 2 rapid tests for covid-19 in the week prior to your retreat. You will take the first one on Tuesday and the second on Friday, the start day of the retreat, prior to check-in. *Your test results should not be emailed to us but instead presented at check-in.* Photo verification is acceptable. Both these tests must be negative for you to be able to participate in the retreat.

On retreats longer than 3 days, an additional test is required for all retreatants, teachers and staff in the morning on the third full day of the retreat. If everyone onsite tests negative at this time, masking becomes optional.

Each participant must provide their own tests. For as long as supplies last, Cloud Mountain will offer out free tests donated to us by our sangha, and then will have tests available for a purchase price of \$10 each.

MASKS

On retreats of 3 nights or shorter, masks will be required for the duration of the retreat.

On retreats of 4 nights or longer, for the first 3 days of the retreat, masks will be required until group-wide covid-19 rapid testing allows masking to become optional.

During the periods of mandatory masking, you may remove your mask for the following activities:

1. When you are alone in your private sleeping space or a bathroom.
2. Any time you are outside AND are not within 6 feet of any other person or building.

Masks must be worn correctly, covering nose and mouth. We require the use N95, KN95, KF94 or medical masks. Bandana and gaiter-style masks are not acceptable.

Teachers are permitted to remove their masks when teaching for the entirety of the retreat.

VACCINATION/BOOSTERS

There is currently **no** vaccination or booster requirement in effect. However, we still strongly encourage vaccination and up-to-date boosters for everyone attending retreat, especially as new ones become available.

FIRST-NIGHT'S MEAL

The first night's dinner will be held in silence to prevent possible covid transmission due to unmasked socializing.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK FOR COVID

Some people may wish to remain masked after masking becomes optional. We provide extra support for people who are immunocompromised or otherwise at high risk from covid-19, or who are caring for others at high risk.

The primary spaces for group activities (the meditation hall, group interview spaces and dining room) have special seating with increased ventilation available. Please send an email to info@cloudmountain.org, in advance of the retreat, if you wish stay masked and reserve special seating.

WHAT IF THERE IS A POSITIVE TEST RESULT?

If someone tests positive while on retreat, that individual will be immediately isolated and the staff will expedite their return home. Cloud Mountain does not have the training or facilities to support anyone ill with covid-19. Please be sure you have an action plan in place in case you were to test positive, including someone you can contact to give you a ride home if you carpoled.

In the event of a positive test, the retreat would not be canceled. Everyone present on site would be informed of the positive test and masks would again be required for everyone on site. If you would be returning home at the end of the retreat contact with high-risk individuals, we encourage you to pack extra tests to be able to take a rapid test before you leave.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICES RELATED TO PREVENTION OF DISEASE TRANSMISSION

SOCIAL DISTANCING

We continue to encourage social distancing as a practice, especially in the meditation hall and dining rooms. Diverse dining options are offered to allow for social distancing or complete isolation at mealtimes.

SINGLE SLEEPING SPACES

We are currently housing all retreatants in single rooms. Some doubles are available, but only upon request and with informed consent.

VENTILATION OF INTERIOR SPACES

The meditation hall has the benefit of an excellent air purification system with ozone and UV components effective against coronaviruses and many other transmissible pathogens.

HAND HYGIENE & SURFACE SANITIZATION

These precautions are minimally relevant to covid-19 transmission, but are HIGHLY relevant to preventing transmission of many colds, flus, viruses and other transmissible pathogens. We encourage you to make free and abundant use of the hand sanitizer available at stations outside the main doors of most buildings, and to make a regular practice of thorough handwashing. Hand sanitizing is mandatory before passing through the buffet line at meal times.

Several yogi jobs involve regularly sanitizing high-touch surfaces in buildings and bathrooms throughout the center to enhance overall health and safety against the many transmissible illnesses that pass all too easily through retreat centers.

THE INEVITABILITY OF CHANGE

We reserve the right to modify these health and safety precautions at any time depending on current covid-19 conditions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS AND THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF
YOUR MINDFULNESS PRACTICE, YOUR GENEROSITY AND YOUR *SILA*
IN KEEPING EVERYONE ON THE RETREAT HEALTHY!