

Hilltop Hikers COVID-19 updated guidelines as of 12/09/2020

This change goes into effect immediately.

Dear Club members:

The pandemic numbers are continuing to rise turning Medina, Portage, Summit and Stark counties to the color purple. With our weekend hikes increasing in popularity to sustain mental health, we need to make some adjustments to how we gather at the trailhead parking lots to protect our physical health. Masks should be worn prior to the hike during sign up and congregating in the parking lot. As members sign up, you can tell if there will be more than one group of 10 needed to safely follow the CDC and state guidelines. Please get into a group of 10 prior to the start of the hike with a distance of at least 25ft between the groups. Once you know who is leading and co-leading, new groups of 10 can be formed as the hike leaves. **THE GOAL IS TO KEEP SOCIALLY DISTANCED GROUPS OF 10 AT ALL TIMES WHILE HIKING AND SOCIALIZING IN THE PARKING LOT.** There will be NO "CIRCLING UP" UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. If there is an award to be given, it can be done at a safe time away from a large group. It is **highly, highly encouraged** to wear masks throughout the duration of the hike to keep you and others safe. This applies whether you had or think you may have had COVID in the past. If you have new COVID symptoms of any kind, including but not limited to cold symptoms, loss of taste or smell, slight fever, gastrointestinal issues or "just feeling off", you should stay home. The hike can wait until another day. If you test positive for COVID or have the COVID symptoms and have been in contact with hiking club members, you must call President Debbie Withnell immediately at 330-904-3196. As previously stated in other emails, your name will remain secure. This will ensure all members on the sign up sheet have been contacted appropriately. If you need clarification, please contact me directly via text, cell phone or email hilltophikers2015@gmail.com.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Debbie Withnell, President