

2020
Jurisdictional Scan: Picnic Table Management

As things begin to reopen, how is your jurisdiction dealing with the use of picnic tables? I.e Are you offering them at all?

JURISDICTION	REPLIED	YES/NO	CONTACT NAME
B.C PARKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES	Bob Austad
<p>COMMENTS:</p> <p>BC Parks will be doing the following, but we are still working on our cleaning procedures and realize changes in cleaning standards may evolve as better practices are developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic tables will be available to use by park visitors in all open areas i.e. day use areas and campgrounds. • Regular cleaning will be undertaken. In most parks that involves daily cleaning, but in more isolated areas the cleaning frequency will be less, perhaps twice or once per week. • Messaging to park visitors will be posted on park information shelters and on the BC Parks website and likely common facilities like toilet/shower buildings, again still being developed. We have no plans to post extra signs specific to tables or day use areas. • Messaging for the park visitor will indicate 1) the visitor should consider cleaning facilities, like a picnic table, before and after use, 2) BC Parks will only be doing regular cleaning. • BC Parks will be doing enhanced cleaning on other high touch surfaces, but at this time picnic tables are not on the list for enhanced cleaning. • For many park facility variables we are putting the emphasize back on the park visitor to come prepared with a personal cleaning kit to enhance their individual health and safety. We know there is no way we can keep all park facilities clean and sanitized beyond our regular cleaning procedures. However, some facilities like toilets/shower buildings and other high touch facilities will receive enhance cleaning – doubling our cleaning frequency from regular standards. 			
ALBERTA PARKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<p>COMMENTS:</p> <p>Resource included below</p>			
SASKATCHEWAN PARKS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
MANITOBA PARKS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
ONTARIO PARKS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
SEPAQ (QUEBEC)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR PARKS	<input type="checkbox"/>		

NOVA SCOTIA PARKS	X		
PARKS NEW BRUNSWICK	Inquiring Jurisdiction		Josh Tompkins
<p>COMMENTS:</p> <p>Good morning everyone, we're curious in NB how you might be dealing with the use of picnic tables currently and as you begin to open up more services?</p> <p>I.e. Are you offering them at all; only in specific locations; offering with appropriate signage; or something else?</p> <p>Any guidance would be very much appreciated.</p>			
P.E.I PARKS	X		
GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES PARKS	X		
NUNAVUT PARKS	X		
YUKON PARKS	X		
PARKS CANADA	X		

Response Rate: 2/13 for **15%**

Key Findings:

- Too few responses for broader findings
- B.C Parks will be allowing access to picnic tables. Onus to clean and sanitize picnic tables will be primarily placed on visitors, and messaging to convey this expectation is being developed.

Future Questions to Ask:

- Have any cases of COVID-19 been traced back to picnic tables?
- Has the use of picnic tables caused compliance issues, such as gathering, during COVID-19?

Links to Resources:

- [Alberta Picnicking Landscape Architecture Guidelines](#)