

Water and COVID-19

People have many concerns about contracting COVID-19 and need good information on how to best stay safe. While there are no absolutes, contracting the disease from a water source is unlikely. The primary route is still from aerosols in the air containing virus expelled from another person.

- Treatment of public water supplies inactivates the virus. There is no evidence that the virus can spread in public water supplies.
- The Centers for Disease Control note that there is no evidence that the virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to people through the water in pools, hot tubs, spas, or water play areas.
- No known transmission has occurred from contact with rivers, lakes, and the ocean, according to experts.
- Some other types of coronavirus remain viable in fresh water for a period of time, but getting enough of the virus through water is highly unlikely.
- The primary route of transmission of COVID-19 is through aerosols inhaled from other people.

The short answer is that being out on the water or in the water is a pretty safe activity, and is more dependent on the people around you and the bacterial level of the water. For more information, check out the links below:

[Centers for Disease Control FAQ](#)

[CDC: Visiting Oceans, Lakes, and Rivers](#)

[The Beach and COVID-19: Understanding the Risks](#)

[Coronavirus and Drinking Water and Wastewater](#)

[What We Know About Coronavirus and Water Treatment](#)

[SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater and rivers](#)