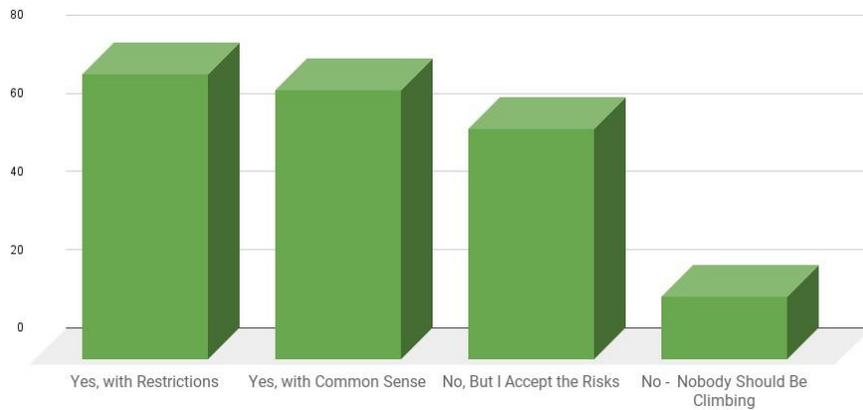
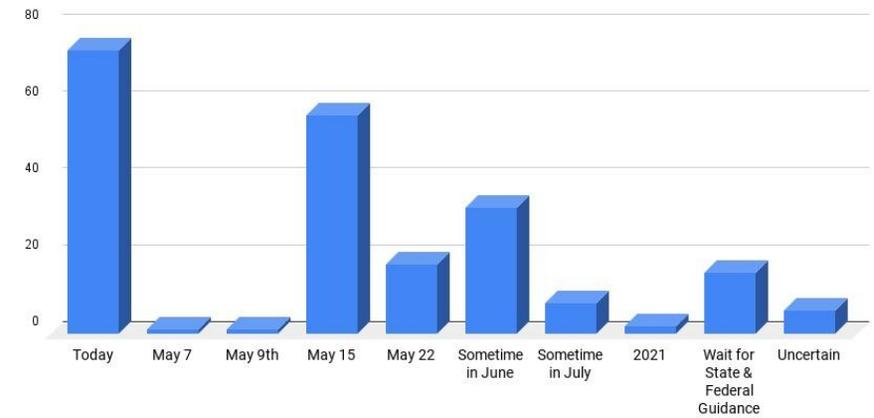


Is Climbing Safe Right Now?



When Should We Return to Climbing?



If you are climbing now or will be soon, what considerations are you/will you be making in your decision-making process.	Feedback/Suggestions: What are some things you'd like to see implemented as CRAG-VT considers recommendations for the climbing community?	What may keep you from going to a cliff at this time?	Additional Comments/Thoughts:
With household members/members of a co-household	Limit numbers of climbers at a cliff. No driving more than 30 minutes or so.	Too busy	
State Guidelines/easy single pitch/ limit partners	Climbing a few notches below max, keeping the sketch down	crowds of folks who can't go to Rumney	I have not climbed but I've seen a lot of folks climbing, which is kinda a bummer
Crowds at the crag	Social distancing, max group size	If it's too crowded	
Who will be in the area that is outside of my pod.	N/a	People I am not physically associated with being at an area	
Less partners/ try to go during less popular hours.	Guidance on proper crag social distancing	Not much. Just going on what you guys recommend	Thanks for all you're doing!
Staying away from other people.	Stop acting like everyone's concern trolling aunt. The more Crag VT tells me how to evaluate risk the more annoyed I get and the more I want to ignore whatever Crag VT says.	Peregrine Closures.	Crag VT is not the CDC. Your job is to increase climber access not close down crags.
Number of out of state plates in the parking lot	Self quarantine if you're coming from outside Vermont	Too many people	
	I think until the state is approving gatherings without the 6 foot distance, folks sharing ropes and/or rock should be from the same household.	Concern that others are not following guidelines or acting safely.	
	Not sure	An inability to completely control social distancing when climbing, shared surfaces, and a general sense of solidarity with the rest of the country-wanting to set an example for being conservative with elective activities.	Thanks for being awesome and bringing together the climbing community in Vermont to have these kinds of conversations and collective responsibility!

No groups of people you don't live with, only go to areas that see little to no traffic, use hand sanitizer before and after climbing in these areas. Try your best not to touch your face while climbing. Don't climb anything difficult enough that you are likely to fall, and therefore there is heightened risk. Don't climb anything r rated or with an inherently heightened risk factor. If you scrubbed moss off it that day, there's definitely no one else's germs on that hold.	A list of community agreed upon covid climbing guidelines posted at every kiosk.	The popularity of the cliff is the main thing I will be thinking about when easing back into it.	The one minute tips have been great! I love how crag is encouraging people to practice/ learn gear skills while not out climbing, more of that stuff is great in a time like this.
Maintaining distance at crags from other parties and climbing with known partners or solo	Maintaining clear messages. Should there be a party limit at certain crags, or walls? A check in and checkout board? (Which would be hard to get everyone to remember to bring a personal pen/not avoid surface contact)	If it is explicitly forbidden or if there are too many people present	
Going to either untouched new rock, or very obscure locations that others are not using. bouldering alone or with one partner at a distance.	uncertain	popularity of the area	
remote areas and crags	na	na	
I will not climb near other climbers. Frequent use of hand sanitizer.	Guidelines to allow climbers to climb but stay safe as possible	Crag-VT telling me not to go	
Wearing masks when in groups, social distancing measures, hand sanitizing, limited capacities at crags, out of state climbing discouraged	Out of state climbing discouragement. Local crags within your state. Discourage large groups, promote social distancing and sanitizing	if there are large crowds. Example: smuggs might be nice now when it is empty, but tourism season may be a different story	This is a difficult situation and is definitely case by case. I think a lot of trust is involved in hoping people follow social distancing and preventative measures in their personal lives to then carry to the crag. I think climbing in a pandemic is inherently risky, but in Vermont at least we aren't lucky that our healthcare system is not currently at risk of being overwhelmed. However, we still pose a danger to each other and carrying any germs potentially to the crag. I think crowd management measures may need to be considered in popular areas, and out of state climbing/climbers should be discouraged as New England has been hit particularly hard. I work in event programming so considering these reopening strategies is something I am doing every day and have been curious how we can apply these methods to outdoor recreation in ways that maintain access, health & safety, and fun within reasonable limits. Wishing you all the best!
Avoiding peak times at the crag, only climbing in small groups (4 or less), changing plans if Crag is crowded, only climbing routes that I know/in my comfort zone	Be understanding and reasonable. Highlight the importance of balancing safe practice with reality	Number of cars in the parking lot, day of the week	
Remote/obscure crags. If i show any symptoms then i will not be going.	Maybe signage or reminders for climbers visiting crags	Crowding, having symptoms.	
	Guidance for limiting Climbing with members outside of your household.	Climbing is a dangerous activity that unnecessarily increases risk at this time. Further, there is no reasonable way to sanitize rocks that many people are climbing on. Also sharing gear/rope/crashpads etc with people is impossible to avoid.	Aside from climbing with your household members, it seems impossible to practice social distancing while climbing as so many of the tools are inherently shared.

Don't forget, stay home stay safe orders have not been lifted yet I don't think (?) so anything you advise needs to be consistent with those	Don't stop anywhere besides your home town and the cliff when you are out. Climb with only people you live with. Keep six+ feet between other parties. Keep it easy and safe (!!!). Use liquid chalk ;)	Too many people there already, peregrines, anything not aligning with "stay home stay safe"	It is impossible to socially distance with your climbing partner (ropes or bouldering). Nobody should climb with anyone they are not already quarantining with. It is also impossible to know how contagious a route would become after a COVID positive person climbed on it. And it's not realistic to expect/ask people to climb in masks. But the experience as a whole is definitely much safer than a gym...
Not climbing	Recommending not climbing	People are gross and I don't want to be around others	
Limiting groups to only people within household, not going to crowded locations, climbing well within my comfort zone to reduce risk of falling/injury	Recommendations how to best stay safe while climbing	Risk of injury or crowding at crags	
staying local and giving others space	stay local and give others space	Too many people	
Not climbing yet, but will once we have the green light	Reopen crags but encourage people to keep their distance from each other	If it's too crowded	
Choosing safe routes/taking it easy, traveling minimally, avoiding crowded crags, only climbing with my partner	Perhaps parking lot limits	The guidelines that cragVT would lay down	
Only climbing with members of my household at less-populated crags, climbing well below my limit to minimize the risk of injury.	Sign in sheets at trailheads to gauge daily use of crags in order to prioritize social distancing enforcement at crags that are too crowded.	Too many people, resurgence of the virus in Vermont, any change in the Governor's recommendations or reinitiating of shelter-in-place orders.	
Size of the crag, expected crowds, and ability to be socially distant while enjoying outdoor activities.	There aren't really many. Unfortunately it's the outdoors. You can either shut it down, or give general advice.	Crowds.	I'm an ER physician, I'm not an infectious disease specialist or epidemiologist. But I think that we can safely climb now that the peak has passed. With that said, climbers have to realize this can be shut down if they don't follow general guidelines, and Hotspots may still pop up. I hope they don't, and I hope people can be smart about it.
	?	Closure	
Don't share equipment. Climb with an unique partner all the season. Always wear masks and never put the rope in your mouth for clipping	Share a doc/calendar with crags and people who will attend (maybe)	More regulations and safety information	I have my nails long
Only going with my partner	Common sense guidelines	Weather, i really want to get out to the cliffs but do it responsibly	
The hardest thing for me would be interacting with partners. A lot of the places i like to climb are pretty empty most of the time anyway. Im more worried about climbing with other people outside of my household. Especially if we are all "promiscuous" climbers who have multiple partners.	Probably just advising people to go to a different crag if they see more than 3 cars parked or something . Most of our crags dont get all that busy. Bringing hand sanitizer and using it between climbs might help? But its hard to imagine people actually doing that. Leaving dogs at home. Climbing with only 1 other person.	Crowds. And bad weather. This spring has not been very inspiring.	
Would climb only with members of my immediate family or in situations where close contact with climbing partner could be avoided. Would avoid lead climbing and multi pitch with anyone outside family.	As above - would climb only with family or in situations where close contact/gear swap with a non family member could be avoided/minimized. If crag is busy or climb is already occupied, move on. Still stay LOCAL.	Crowds. Need for travel.	Maybe an online "signup" for climbs or crags or some other way to moderate the number of people in one location or on a specific climb in a single day.
Climbing only with housemates, at remote/obscure crags where seeing people will be less likely, going somewhere else if the parking lots is looking full	General recommendations to avoid overcrowding at popular crags	Crowds (but that ain't new), driving distance, popularity of trailhead if shared with other communities, proximity to private land	
Climbing within my abilities (not pushing my physical limits), climbing only with my one partner (no groups)	Encouraging climbers to stay within their limits and respect social distancing/not congregating in groups.	Crowded crags, people not respecting social distancing, pushing their limits and putting themselves at risk of injury.	Looking forward to getting back out there!

Small group. If it's busy, leave. Social distance	If we mess up, places reclose	Other outdoor activities. Go to least busy areas and less busy times and days.	
Not taking huge risks, only climbing with family	Small groups, 4 or less, no pets	Weather	Climbing has significantly less Covid-19 transmission risk than going to a grocery store.
	see below and my other response	.	Literally 20 seconds after I submitted this I got the latest Governor's update... My new answer is that I think that climbing is objectively allowed now. Trails are open, you can socialize with members outside of your household and I hear no mention of a 10 mile radius... Phil Scott said it best: "There is no specific set of rules, or enforcement measures that we can put in place here. We need Vermonters to be smart and thoughtful during these visits.
	If we reopen climbing here folks outside of VT will think they can come climb here. It's also not about contracting COVID while climbing, it's about taking medical resources and rescue services when people get injured	Caring about how my need to climb matters less than other people's lives	
	I'm not sure that Crag Vt can police this, I think you may have to trust people to make good decisions.	Crowds	
Risk from/to climbing partner	Signage at local crags encouraging stay home if sick/high risk, social distancing and mask use if unable to social distance	No trespassing signs	
I would keep it real safe and mellow. No highballs, no runouts.	Encourage people to do climbs on more remote cliffs, and to bail if the parking lot is crowded.	The concern that if I needed a rescue or medical attention I would be putting others at risk, and straining the healthcare system unnecessarily. I think it's more about that at this point than it is about transmission between partners.	
I'll only climb wellll within my limit. I would probably be comfortable top-roping at the moment if that was an option.	It would be nice to have a statement from s&r. I think the contact transmission while climbing is less of a concern than taking hospital and emergency care resources.	I definitely wouldn't drive far to climb (e.g. NH is out for the moment).	
How many people at the crag when you show up, if there's more than a few find another crag. Don't climb a route right next to someone. Sanitize your hands between climbs or at the very least end of the day and before you eat/drink. Respect any neighbors, just because the dome is now secured doesn't mean you should be yelling in excitement at the cliff or on the road. If you live with climbing partner, great, if not, give a little space, it's hard to avoid carpooling but maybe park elsewhere and bike over.	Problem with no carpooling is you could have 10 cars in a lot (seems like a lot) but only 5 groups climbing. For upper west or the dome, maybe allow further parking along road? I also think signs suggesting a max # of people could be posted, whether they are followed or not is another question.	Signs saying I can't park there / no trespassing signs	I think climbing should be allowed, people just have to be responsible. We have plenty of local crags, even the not so good ones (Bog Wall, Winooski cut, pit crag, whatever) can be a lot of fun! If you are upset you can't climb because the lot is full, arrive earlier or choose a different crag or choose a different outdoor activity and save the cragging for early on the weekends. Step around people and off the trail, give others space. Climbing in big loud groups isn't as fun anyways :)
Climbing in few numbers/those that I've quarantined with. Climbing well below my limit, and choosing safer methods of climbing when possible - bouldering, top roping, etc.	Crag presence and management to ensure large groups are not climbing together. Many mountain bike trailheads in Colorado are staffed by local associations to provide education on appropriate trail stewardship and physical distancing.	Large crowds, closures, weather	

Avoid crowded crags. Go during less peak times i.e. early morning, mid week	I don't think crag vt needs to control anything, I think individuals need to continue to act responsibly and practice social distance	Right now we haven't been climbing because we respect the advisory to stay home. Once we get a green light, lots of cars at a crag would make me turn around. I think we will stick to some less traveled places.	It has been hard to be responsible and not climb but my partner and I knew it was what needed to be done. What sucked more was still seeing people out climbing and not respecting the advisory. We would paddle past lone rock and almost always saw climbers and it was so frustrating because that's our back yard crag. I think keeping crags closed, people will still climb and I know we are getting close to cracking and getting out there.
I make sure that I'm climbing with only 1 person, as well as making sure we keep a safe distance from each other and sanitize regularly.	-	Other people climbing there	
	Besides what was talked about in the meeting last night, I think that there should be an effort to highlight low use/obscure crags. This could be as simple as instagram highlights of certain areas that could prevent overcrowding at the dome/upper/lower.	Concerns about social distancing, added load to medical system (is that still an issue?), finger injuries lol	
Visiting unpopular crags	Limiting number of climbers at crags	Crowds. Local outbreaks.	
Social distancing is needed, possible and should allow for a safe outing	Stress the need for social distancing and signage at Crags for climbers to respect adequate social distancing space	Too many people at the crag	
Continue practicing social distancing.	Limits to people climbing together.	Too many people.	
	Recommendations against multi-pitch - makes it harder/impossible to maintain social distancing; Party size - limit the number in the group you climb with/climb in the same zone or cliff with (tight spots like Upper Tier); Spacing btwn parties - don't climb on lines directly next to other parties.	Exposing myself to people who are too complacent and spread the virus myself, sabotaging the effective steps I've taken so far to stay healthy.	
How crowded it may be. Small/spread out groups necessary. Masks when walking through woods.	Sign in sheet. With area of preferred climbing that can be used at trailhead to assess risk.	Crowds. Increased infection rate.	
	Unsure	Potential crowds	
As far as covid-19 and Mission rock climbing is very low probability, as far as rescue attempts in the event of an injury, I keep my activities to a crawling distance from motor vehicle	Shaming members of the climbing Community is counterintuitive	Not having a climbing partner for too far off the beaten path	Way too much virtue signaling and shaming of those seeking safety Recreation
I will only top rope or do climbs that I am extremely comfortable climbing. I will also use hand sanitizer after belaying and climbing. I'll wear my mask. I will not share my chalk ;)	Signs along trail saying keep your distance, climb only with a few close friends, etc.	Crowds	
Only climbing with local friends on climbs well below our grades	Climb at your local crags with local friends!	Other people, fear of virus, unavoidable nature of contact with climbing - through the rock and rope.	This is a very tricky one! I have completely stopped guiding and climbing and feel funny about returning to it...
who my partners are, and how many people will be at the crags	more PSAs on brushing and cleaning holds after a session. people should clean holds and spray alcohol on the holds to disinfect after a climb. this should be SOP.	too many people from out of town	
Climb with the same partner; stay away from others or crowded crags	Educate climbers about the risks but allow them to make their own decisions. Do not close cliffs outright ?	Crowds or closures	
		strict rules telling me not to (out of respect for the organizations that are implementing/enforcing those rules)	"Safety" in this context has so many variables. If you're just climbing consistently with one partner and avoiding crowded areas, then I think risk is pretty low. If you're climbing with lots of people, risk increases.

What risks I pose to the communities I'm going into, how my decisions might impact others, how I can mitigate my impact on others, if it's a possibility I'll come in contact with others besides my climbing partner, where I might get gas, what might happen if I get hurt	y'all already seem to be doing a good job of this but really reinforcing to the climbing community that this is an evolving situation and that it's just as possible recommendations may need to be retightened in the future, that this isn't a one way street	Potential risks I pose as a possible vector into vulnerable communities	
	Minimize groups (2-4 people); limit groups at crag; require masks; encourage social distancing between groups; minimize physical interaction with surrounding community; set up mobile hand-washing stations & require use before and after entering climbing areas	Wanting to avoid crowds; wanting to avoid potentially spreading infection to surrounding community.	
Social distancing, limiting partners, climbing at uncrowded crags	Communication tips to stay safe and respect fellow climbers	Resurgence of COVID cases, direction from state government, or scientific evidence that it is unsafe to climb.	
Remain well within my difficulty comfort zone and technical skill set to minimize risk	More and/or redundant easy to see signage about status of site, risk reduction strategies and limits on numbers at one time (with or without sign in/sign out, not sure that would work or be in any way enforceable)	Formal closure, crowds, bugs and ticks, old age and injuries	Although I would have voted for formal closure, I think the board did its best to strike some balance in what has become a rapidly changing and uncertain situation
It's my understanding that stay at home orders are being eased for businesses to resume work with certain safety precautions in place. I think climbers can and should be able to climb following similar precautions (climb with people you live with, avoid crowded crags, wash hands pre/post climb, etc) California has also included climbing in a list of permissible outdoor recreation activities. I don't think the act of climbing poses any more risk to infection than walking down the street in Burlington or picking up groceries. The biggest issue early on was not partaking in a risky activity that may overburden an already burdened health care system, and as far as I can tell by looking at the numbers, Vermont is extremely fortunate to not be facing that overburdened system.	Linking to the AACs recommendations would be a great start. https://americanalpineclub.org/news/2020/5/1/climbing-in-the-covid-era	Crag-VT. I really respect you all as an organization and will respect the decision you make. I would probably have been top rope soloing or doing some easy solo bouldering all along had you not asked people to not climb.	Yes climbing is inherently risky, but I think we can get back out there with a smart approach and following AAC's recommendations I think there are 2 main things to consider with "reopening climbing." Risk of infection and risk of injury. Infection - With proper precaution, I don't think the risk of infection needs to be greater climbing, than everyday activities like grocery shopping, take-out food, or biking/walking around town, all of which have been going on in Vermont with little to no issue. Injury - while not totally avoidable, can be mitigated, as always, by being vigilante and responsible. Something we can all try and do better right now. IF something did go wrong, I don't believe our medical staff in Vermont are currently over-burdened the way some places are. I know this is may be a weird argument to make but it seems important to keep in mind the actual statistics around injury in climbing that requires third-party medical attention. It would be interesting to hear perspective from actual medical professionals on this aspect though.
I have no intention on climbing until Crag-VT gives the signal. If I were to climb soon, it would strictly be with my roommate or one partner who I know is practicing social distancing. We would drive separate cars and avoid situations that put us in close quarters (i.e. multi-pitch climbs).	Leeway for climbers that 1) live together or are limiting their climbing to just 1 or 2 partners 2) live close enough to a crag to drive there without having to stop at a gas station and 3) are consciously practicing social distancing and other safety measures (washing hands before and after leaving the house, wearing a mask, etc)	Whatever reasonable recommendations Crag-VT puts out there, I'll follow.	I feel that if the state deems golfing, tennis, and hiking safe at the moment, then climbing should be allowed as well so long as we follow the same protocols.

Advice from public health experts	I think it was really irresponsible not to close climbing areas during this pandemic, and extremely selfish of those who have been climbing, and I'm disappointed my local climbing organization didn't do this and message even clearer to the community that this is a serious issue and we should have all been staying within 10 miles of our house and not all touching things other people have been breathing all over, such as climbing holds. I personally feel the failure to do this makes climbers as a whole look like a pretty irresponsible user group with the example that was set by CRAG (not closing areas, only discouraging climbing, board members out climbing)	The fact that there is a serious public health crisis and the best thing we can do to pull our society out of this is by chilling out and avoiding unnecessary close contact with those outside of our household, as well as public spaces like climbing areas which cannot be properly cleaned.	
I'll only climb with members of my immediate household, and likely only at obscure crags.	Post "best practices" at the kiosks	The virus has not truly been contained yet. I sort of expect a spike in it once people start getting back to normal life, so I intend to wait and see if that spike happens before going to a crag where other people are touching the same holds that I am touching. It's only climbing, and it doesn't really matter in the grand scheme of things.	Climbing is a wickedly privileged activity. It has its health benefits, both physical and psychological, but if we can't see past the privileged and, frankly, pointless nature of it, then its benefits are moot.
Climb alone or with few people in secluded areas	Guide lines that take into account bouldering vs route climbing	Crowds of People	I'm taking this time to explore and clean boulders in the Bolton area, so I can maintain distance from people
Choose my partner wisely, wear a mask if climbing with someone who I haven't been quarantining with, carry hand sanitizer and use it in between climbs to be considerate of the fact that someone else probably has touched the rock	Climbers should be considerate of others who are actively trying to maintain social distance/continue safe practices related to Covid. Lots of climbers are young and may be complacent in their approaches in their return to outdoor activity, but they should be reminded that there are many climbers who are at risk or may be in close proximity with someone who is. Even if they are not among those who are at risk, they need to be considerate of this. Thank you!!	Waiting on crag VT to give the go-ahead. Having a belay partner that I know is safe to climb with and finding a way to climb safely with them.	Thank you for what you do!
Distance from home to crag, climbing only with household members, changing plans if too many people	Limiting parking in areas such as the quarry and dome to limit people at those areas, encourage climbing only with households, limit climbing groups to 2-3 and encourage social distancing and masks where appropriate	To many people	It is a personal decision to climbing, areas should remain open as long as people are acting appropriate
	People need to still keep group sizes small	size of crowds	
How crowded the crag is.	Limits on numbers at a crag	Crowding	I think self policing crag density is going to be tough.
Climbing with the same partner, staying home if feeling any symptoms, going to local crags only, no long car rides to remote areas, climbing easier than normal and minimizing risk, and making sure to avoid other parties by using other parts of a crag if able or turning back if not.	I think paying attention to local healthcare conditions is important. Vermont has been handling things very well so far. If that changes it would be important to restrict things I feel, but given current conditions in our healthcare system I think a total shutdown is not the right answer - however it likely will be if things were to get worse.	If the COVID-19 situation gets worse or if climbing will create access issues.	
Giving space to fellow climbers in the area.	Give space to anyone outside your climbing group. If two routes are next to each other, ensure there is a comfortable level of distance. Or just don't do climbs that are directly next to each other.	You telling me I can't.	

<p>Climbing with partners you live with. No projects, all climbs are done minimizing falls and below onsite. Not climbing areas with other people. Not taking pictures of cars in the parking lot and blasting them on social media like a child who cant play with his friends because mommy said no.t</p>	<p>Risk mitigation education, minimize visitors in lots, local travel, partners you live with, hygiene education, take away access from those found acting like the walmart lady screaming about getting her haircut</p>	<p>Large crowds</p>	<p>There is most likely a higher chance of transmission in highly climbed areas. Bolton, smuggs, etc. Tiny crags with low population visit allows for climbing to continue to exist. There is evidence this virus can survive in laboratory conditions for long periods of time, however, we are seeing more people who are being diagnosed with covid getting the disease from high density populated activities in confined locations, public settings, in buildings where fomites exist undisturbed. Dont post pictures of people in parking areas, as I was not one of them, I do hike with my dogs locally and live locally utilizing the parking for more than climbing, if you want private parking make a system that only allows crag-vt members to sites with fees and possible ticketing. Otherwise if I see my vehicle I will cease to help this organization and climb as we always did before crag-vt set up their camp.</p>
<p>not carpooling with people outside of my isolation circle, stay 6 ft apart from other climbers, not touching face, be careful about eating without sanitizing hands, go to less crowded crags</p>	<p>reminders not to carpool, be careful sharing equipment, if you are going to a small rural place bring your own food so as to not deplete their resources</p>	<p>recommendations from crag vt not to go, stay at home orders, nervous to interact with people, not had the time</p>	<p>thanks for doing this!</p>
<p>If I see other cars, people, or chalked up routes I haven't been climbing. Only climbing on state land (not crag property obviously). Staying 6 ft away from others. Only climbing with my household.</p>	<p>I'd just want people to be kind to eachother I guess. I think they're been a bit of shaming I in the community regarding where some people are drawing the line with response to covid. Obviously this is a difficult time for everyone, but we don't need to be shaming eachother for choosing to climb or (in the other side) climbing in a way that discredits the work being done by people taking quarantine hyper-seriously.</p>	<p>Lots of other people, big groups</p>	<p>I've been really impressed with Crag-VTs response to this whole situation. You rock!</p>
<p>I have only been lowball bouldering at boulders that only I or a few friends know about.</p>	<p>Restrictions on numbers at crags until mid-summer. I'm not sure how this would be enforced, however.</p>	<p>If I saw more than two or three cars at any cliff I would look for another area to go to, even after stay at home restrictions are eased in the next few weeks.</p>	<p>I hope CRAG VT errs on the side of caution with easing crag restrictions in the next few weeks.</p>
<p>exercise caution and lower risk of getting injured by climbing easy grades below my level. Go climbing with a small group. Explore unpopular climbs that wont be swarmed with crowds.</p>	<p>I'd like to see you recommend groups limit numbers if climbing and climb easy terrain. Also, I'd like to see you recommend that if a climbing party is already at a route/crag, the parties that come later to climb the same routes either climb something different, climb somewhere else or weigh the level of risk and decide for themselves what is right and wrong. Kind of instituting a first come first serve sort of guideline.</p>	<p>If the cliff is crowded or the routes I planned to go on were in use.</p>	<p>As climbers, we are inherently good at measuring risk (or at least I hope most of us are). I think that climbing outside right now can be very safe if we exercise even more caution than we normally would by climbing low risk terrain, and respecting social distancing by limiting our climbing party to 1-2 people. I also think it is important to note that since we are comfortable with measuring risk, we should use that skill when scoping out what to climb during COVID-19, and not be afraid to bail if we think we shouldn't be climbing.</p>
<p>Only climbing with house hold, avoiding any popular route or crag. If people have climbed a route that day I will not climb it at all. If someone is at the wall as I walk up, head elsewhere.</p>	<p>Urge not climbing outside with people outside close circle</p>	<p>People I don't know. Anybody who looks like they don't know what they are doing</p>	<p>Governor is opening biking trails and saying it's ok to be outside (smartly) with people you don't live with. I say climbing is lower risk than many other things that have just been condoned. Let the people climb!</p>
<p>Make sure you give people around you plenty of space. Wear a mask while not on the wall. Sanitize hands after a climb. Only climb with the people you went with, don't mix groups</p>	<p>Some sort of spread sheet that people can put their names on when they are going where with how many people so you can get a rough idea of how busy a crag will be at any given time.</p>	<p>If it's packed with people.</p>	<p>If there is a delay recommended before climbing is "opened again" I think bouldering in places like smuggs and bolton where you can easily put a lot of space between people should be ok'ed before crags open, just because there is way more space for people to be moving around in a safe fashion.</p>

I am not climbing right now. I feel like the potential to come into close contact is too great	Just continued awareness via social media and signage that distancing from people is necessary right now	The uncertainty around just how many people are infected. The lack of testing doesn't build any confidence....	
	Less restrictions for leading and similar restrictions for bouldering. At least for the next month or so.	The worry about potentially endangering others as well as the injury potential for myself that may add additional burden to the healthcare system	
There are lots of single (hard) boulders scattered about new england. Bouldering alone or with one other person does not seem to be any more risky or dangerous than staying inside my apartment with that same person. Truth is, if you are going to a v10+ (or even like v8+) boulder thats by itself in the middle of nowhere, thats A LOT different than plopping down at waimea for the day on a typical summer weekend day at rumney. Singular hard boulders exclude a LARGE majority of the interests of the new england climbing community	NUANCE PLEASE	I dont go to a cliff! There are no rope climbing areas near me!	NUANCE.
Crag choice and consistent climbing partners	Encouraging common sense tactics	The consensus among the community	
Six-fold: 1. only climb with someone I've climbed outside with before. 2. Only climb when I'm feeling healthy. That means no fever, no cough, basically tracking my health for any COVID symptoms. 3. If I've been in contact with someone with COVID-19, I won't climb with people outside of my household because I could spread it (similar to the back-at-work procedures that the Governor has released). 4. I won't push myself because I don't want to end up in an ER. 5. I still won't go too far from home (i.e. probably only keep to Bolton area; probably stay in Vermont) because I don't want to put a strain on any emergency crews outside of our community. 6. If the crag is PACKED when I get there, i.e. parking lot is full, I will not climb that day, and choose to bike or something else.	Reminders about only climbing if you're healthy (i.e. do a self-screen for COVID symptoms), only climb with people you've climbed outside with before (i.e. don't teach gym-to-crag with gym friends!), try to only climb with people in your household to slow the spread of COVID, and if it's crowded when you arrive, choose a different activity. Encourage folks to be flexible with climbing expectations and this will be baby-steps.	Crowds -- too many people when I show up at the crag. That's why I put "June 15" as my chosen date to start climbing... I'm thinking a lot of people are going to be itching to get outside NOW, and I'm willing to wait until the crowds disperse.	I'm so appreciative of CRAG-VT for being stewards and a common voice.
Only if people adhering to distancing.	Limits to the amount of people that can be at certain climbing areas. Maskings being mandatory	Worrying how others will behave and if they will follow any rules that are given .	
Climbing with known people, by ourselves, probably not carpooling	None. Let people manage their own safety with first-come/first served guidelines, probably only guideline that might make sense is a limit on group size to avoid taking over routes or sections of crag for a long period of time.	Other people	
Keep it mellow, climb in small groups, stay local.	Maybe a local distance restriction recommendation? (easy for me to say living in Richmond though...)	Too many people at the crag.	
	Asking climbers to keep their distance and use hand sanitizer...	Too many people/cars	
Small groups of people that I have already been interacting with, and leaving an area is other groups are present/asking where other groups are headed and going to a different section.	Stop shaming people for not following your recommendations. If you want to close the cliffs do so, but don't say it's a choice to climb and then tell people afterwards they made the wrong choice. Make it more clear what areas have access restrictions. When the dome parking lot was closed it was nice to see a map with areas marked as closed, and what the best alternatives were.	Excessive people, regular climbing partners not available, access to cliff/approach trail is closed.	
Small groups, lots of hand sanitizer	Reopen really slowly.	Too many people/social distancing impossible	

Climbing in pairs and limiting the number of people to crags... The only issue I see is multiple parties climbing climbs one after another	Number of people limits	Trying to follow crag-vt guidelines and avoiding the urge to start climbing too soon as to not create a relapse (may be inevitable anyways).	I think whatever the decision is from crag VT should be made clear and pointed. More than the original statement that was made saying, "now is not the time for adventure." There is too much ambiguity in that statement.
Taking initiative to not iver crowd areas, if that means move on, it means move on to less crowded spots	Trying not to be the sole arbiter on the subject.	Rain.	
Less traveled areas, only climbing with members of house hold of close by, otherwise maintaining 6 feet and keeping groups less than 6	Prepare climbers for lack of bathrooms, trash, other services. Reinforce LNT. Spread information to help Respect State and Private Land closures.	If it's crowded.	
None past again, normal (non-excessive) washing of hands.	Data driven considerations not fueled by political over reach and scare tactics and MSM plugs.	Nothing	See above.
	If crags are open limit the ammount of people	Its too hard to practice effective social distacing at a crag. They are going to become too crowded with everyone out of work and looking to get out and climb. Climbing a route after someone chances the risk of infection. When I climb I am constantly putting things in my mouth (rope, gear, etc) just dont see a way to do this effectivley especially at a busy crag	
If a crag is busy just leave and come back early another time.	No climbing in areas where access goes through private property.	Weather	Outside is where people should be. Adhere to small group guidelines and PPE as needed.
	Signage at entrance to approach, giving reminders about social distancing.	Too many cars in the lot/people at the crag	
How crowded crags are	With gyms closed, people who don't have experience climbing outside will probably try to start doing that. This is not only dangerous, but will also make crabs more crowded than they were pre-virus	Increasing infection rates, big crowds, dumb people	
who my partner is and what their social distancing looks like (job included!)	parking enforcement/guidelines as a way to limit crowding at Crags; mostly relevant for Bolton Dome Rt. 2 parking	broke my toe in early April, so I'm not putting on my climbing shoes for a couple more weeks anyway	land managers are struggling to balance access rights w/ public health. VT doing OK on this, but other states really struggling *cough* NH *cough*. I'm looking to CragVT and other member-based organizations like AMC for guidance. if Mischa would whip, I'm in... until then, I'll probably stay away from the crag
Climbing with partners or folks that I've been directly isolated with, sticking with top roping and/or minimizing the risk as much as possible	Choose a side. Staying in the grey is a waste and sends the impression that the organization can't make a decision. Saying that it is our choice but then shaming climbers publicly is pointless, dumb, a poor use of resources and social media, and has been criticized. Close the crags if you want to, or don't shame people for using the open properties.	If they were closed.	
How crowded crags are. Between early March and late April when many crags fully closed, I went occasionally, but left or changed locations if parking lots / crags were crowded	?	Bouldering, yuck.	
"out there" climbs or TR soloing, or with household members or those who've acted in similar precautionary measures as I have.	Clear and truthful communication	overcrowding and a lack of awareness/precautions by others and health of oneself	Hopefully this becomes a useful tool to gain some insight from CRAG's members and community!
If I climb anytime in the near future it will be a very off the beaten path crag where I can almost guarantee no other parties will/would have been there in days.	Encourage state locals only.... (I am an out of stater. NH)	People. Most aren't bright. Several are selfish and only think of them selves. Tons of people aren't practicing social distancing in simple daily tasks. Add in some recreation and they'll jump back into old habits	I can't wait for things to subside so I can get back to Wheeler. So much to do!

staying away from others as much as possible and keeping my climbing within limits to minimize the possibility of injury.	Figuring out ways to minimize crowds, managing the concept of cleaning	Crowds	
I will be choosing remote areas and avoiding crags on weekend days.	Car limits on parking lots at popular areas	Crowds, changes in news reports considering infection rates in VT, significant amounts of out-of-state plates in the lot	
	Masks and appropriate social distancing should be mandatory	Fatness	
Hand sanitizer before / after climbing.	Nothing, you folks are doing great	Nothing	
	Suggested number of climbers at local cliffs. suggestions to use hand sanitizer before and after each climb	If there is a lot of people there.	
Group size, I primarily boulder and if there is a climber or climbers on the boulder that I come to climb on, I'll move on to another. For sport climbing, I feel comfortable with one other group near by. It's easy to step off the trail to the crag to make room for folks either passing by.	Less shaming. I think it is absolutely possible to climb safely now with some minor changes in behavior and has been for quite some time.	Rain and cold wind	
Won't be going to lower west that's for sure!! In all seriousness, just avoid busy crags and other climbing parties	To please be respectful of personal space	Crowds	I really appreciate the way crag vt has handled this difficult situation. It has once again made me proud to be a part of this climbing community.
Masks, limiting myself to a small team(one other person), bringing wipes, and also trying to avoid people.	I think increased awareness of safety and being conservative(not politically) as far as climbing goes. I think medical centers and first responders do not want to be put in any unnecessary situations. I think CRAGVT should also politely ask that people mask up, stay in small teams, and also be more than courteous to residents who live near certain climbing areas.	Other people not following protocol	I miss climbing a lot, but I also know that if you cannot fast from something then it owns you. I do see people at local crags in MA(where I am a refugee) and it is worrisome because they aren't listening to precautions. I think if we decide to open up, VT should set an example by trying to educate more climbers if we can on how to be responsible stewards during this time.
Not climbing yet until I feel it's safe to do so and there isn't a "rush" of climbers heading outside, I would definitely would be nervous about crowds at crags. If I were to climb in a couple weeks, we would probably start out with top-roping and only leading very easy routes.	I think the most important thing is to manage crowding. Maybe that would look like limiting the number of cars at the (more popular) parking lots to however many you think would be appropriate to properly social distance. I feel lucky that my climbing partner is my quarantine/romantic partner, but it would obviously be essential to make sure people aren't meeting up to climb outside of their households. Or if they must, make the recommendation that every one has only one partner they meet. I don't know if it would be adopted well, but one idea that could work is putting out an online general daily signup per climbing location so climbers can see how much interest may be at a certain crag and can make changes to plans as necessary. For safety and injury prevention, might be a good idea to recommend that people don't lead routes above their ability.. now is not the time to take unnecessary risks.	Too many people. Rain.	
Stay away from ppl I don't know	Open crags with warnings about social distancing	Big crowds	

Looking at community transmission rates and getting a sense for the actual danger in the community and extrapolating that to my network of contacts. Also making sure anyone I choose to come in near contact with has a similar risk management understanding/practice for contact exposure to provide reasonable control over exposure amplification.	Emphasize that climbing with new non-family unit contacts *will* be a vector for viral transmission, the extent to which is just unknown. It's a new reality we all face and that risk needs to be mitigated/managed just as rock fall, avalanche, etc. Give people the salient points with which to make more informed decisions.	An uptick in community infection rate, large crowds, or observations of lack of risk mitigation by other parties encountered at the cliffs.	
Bringing hand sanitizer and being more vocal about folks with dogs off leash :P (that's sort of a joke...sort of)	clearer messaging on CRAG-VT's dogs and groups policies	You are telling me not to	you guys are doing great, thanks for doing the right thing in tough times
Exercising once a day is critical to me. I believe that climbing in a remote spot is actually LESS risk and exposure to others than my typical daily local run (Burlington bike path).	No groups - climb local - don't queue for pitches - promote remote spots (despite some pushback for 'hey that's MY spot) - promote spots with lots of spread out climbs - discourage easily accessed spots. - hand sanitize before chalking - wear a mask	Number of people	
Is climbing important enough to me that I will jeopardize my health AND THE HEALTH OF OTHERS to satisfy that urge?	Strongly recommend/request no climbing at CRAG areas.	We're at the peak of a deadly pandemic that we don't understand and can't cure. Have patience. Think of others.	
Climb in small groups, bring hand sanitizer, no long trips	Keep up the good communication!	A dramatic spike in VT COVID cases -	
1) can I have my outing without having to step inside any commercial establishments or coming in close contact with non-partners, 2) am I maximizing my own safety while climbing, 3) can I bring a hygiene kit	Advice on lower density areas	Crowds + peregrine closures	
Number of people likely to be at the crag/ how full the parking lot is. Not climbing with more than 1 partner.	Limiting group size. Consider asking that climbers only climb for 4-6 hours at a time at more popular locations like Bolton, to facilitate more people being able to access the area without over crowding.	Listed closures or an obviously full parking lot.	
N/a	Really pushing not to climb until the state relaxes Covid regulations. Especially inexperienced climbers who are at a higher risk of getting hurt. And push the point with undergrads they have been very selfish through all of this.	State and federal suggestions. I am young and healthy and not worried about myself getting sick but i have family and friends who are. People around me who are immune compromised and considered high risk.	It's fucking selfish to climb right now. If you're continuing to climb you're acknowledging that you don't take the risk to other people seriously, and ultimately do not value their lives. Keep it in your mother fucking pants and stay home. The climbing community is already deeply problematic, continuing to climb only makes us look worse.
Dial back the grades, adjusted risk assessments, avoiding crowded/popular spots.	If the parking lot/trail head is packed, go somewhere else. Give other parties lots of space. Be conservative with decision making. In some ways these are not new pieces of advice for climbers.	Witness, bugs, hoards of other climbers, lack of desire to end up in the ER	It's a very, very... mad world
Distance from other people (parking lots) etc	Commonsense.	Too many people.	
	do not travel to climb. This can spread the virus from areas where it is heavily concentrated to those that have less concentration.	I will not be climbing at this time as community spread is still very active where I live	I encourage everyone not to fall into the trap of thinking the worst is over and everything is fine. We're in the stages now where an early re-opening could mean a much worse second wave.
None. People need to stop blowing this out of proportion.	If people can't handle normal climbing operations, they are the ones that need to change their behavior/stay home, and should not be imposing their fear on others.	Bad weather	
Trying to mitigate risk even more so as to avoid any contact with health services	Collaboration with medical professionals	As a novice, not having access to a trained individual to guide/teach from local climbing organizations	
Choosing routes a reasonable distance from other climbers, not climbing with people who have had symptoms (cough, fever, etc) in the past 2 weeks	Be smart, be respectful of social distancing	Weather, too many people	

Don't go in large groups, limit signature on a specific crag by going during the weekdays	Maybe one sign that says "cover your cough/don't climb if you're feeling ill"	Rain/ snow	I think you folks are doing great things in the climbing community and I really appreciate the efforts towards safety. The general climbing community has had a major change recently though as climbing is becoming taboo at this time. Ultimately we have to go out there at some point and live free as we do. It's up to us to stay clean, stay home if sick or hungover, etc.
Bringing hand sanitizer and making sure I'm not climbing outside of my ability level to protect others from having to rescue me if something were to happen	Love that you're engaging in this conversation	Lot of social pressure	
Am I putting myself and others at a higher risk?	share which parameters are definitive factors to decide when it's safe to climb	Accessibility to the health system in case of an accident. Risk of getting/spreading the virus	Climbing is a HUGE part of my life and I can't wait to get back to my sport, but my civic responsibility is bigger and I think giving the green light to the climbing community is premature.
Stick with the same one or two climbing partner that i trust, maintain substantial distance between myself and any other climbing groups	Clear guidelines	Overcrowded crags	All crags being opened at once would minimize crowding at the crags, which I think is the biggest danger right now
crowds, number of partners (1), approach distance (nothing too remote), difficulty, low-risk (not pushing grades/gear), etc	love the sign-in sheet idea, use clear language with guidelines - don't try to be nice, just be direct	tons of people, long approaches that would be tough to get an injured person out of, long drives	
Overcrowding, esp in areas like Upper and lower west	Continuous updates around best practices	Obvious overcrowding	
Climbing with only one other person, who is already within my small socially distanced circle. Climbing lower risk climbs where I'm not pushing limits and instead focusing on systems and safety.	Sounds impossible to conceive and monitor but it would possibly be a good idea to have an online platform for what is essentially a crag pass. Think of it as a hall pass for the area. You could allot a certain number of allowable people per crag, then offer up that many passes each day. It would be a lot of work and a pain to monitor but could help control everything. Fewer people will hit the dome if they need to check in online to do it. (Hopefully)	Large volume of climbers on that day. Typical community or ecology focused closures.	Dang this sucks for everyone! Hope anyone reading this survey is doing well. We all miss climbing a lot and I'm sure there will be much hype when crags re-open etc. You have the most experience controlling climbers and the most experience with how uncontrollable we can be. Thank you so much for managing this all so well, you have made all the right decisions and done everything in your power short of create a volunteer climbing police organization to fine people when climbing. You all rock!
I will be avoiding crowded areas and high traffic routes, and asking people to social distance.	Be considerate of others. Don't go if at all compromised with symptoms, known positive, or reconsider if you operate in COVID intensive areas (e.g. with patients and known carriers)	crowds	Thanks for all you do!
Hand sanitizer before touching rock, hand sanitizer after.	recommend safe distancing, discourage parking lot gathering	rain	
Try to find a crag with few or no other people	If a crag is so crowded people can't stay 6 feet apart then people should leave	Not being able to stay 6 feet apart from others	
1) Has Crag-VT offered clear and reasonable guidelines to help the VT climbing community act responsibly and in unison, (thank you!), 2) do I have confidence that the user group will respect these guidelines, 3) selecting less popular climbing destinations and/or odd hours to stagger visitation..	First, thank you for being proactive leaders in this unprecedented time. 2) Do not share anchors. 3) hand-sanitize before/after a pitch, 4) masks at the base of crags if others are around, 5) parking lot full? leave and come back another time, 6) don't carpool except with members of your house, 7) no tailgating for now. 8) don't share gear (that's gonna be hard for people) 9) don't bite the rope while clipping.	Crowds. Lack of clarity about how covid is transferred via holds (hence my suggestion that you recommend sanitizing before/after a pitch).	Thank you for being proactive leaders in this unprecedented time. It can be very challenging to interpret these executive orders and quickly generate best practices. To the best of your ability, I would ensure that every bit of advice you share with the user group complies wholly with the Gov's EO (helps climbers and crag-vt in the long run), and that you are reserving time to update your guidance within 24 hours of each addendum, or people will stop looking to the org as a leader and start making their own (perhaps problematic) interpretations.

If the parking lot is full of out of state plates I will go to another crag or not climb that day	Climb local! Within an hour of home is ideal	Stress on the healthcare system in case of accident	I do not believe that climbing itself poses an inherent risk of COVID spread. The fear is that people would flock to VT like they did to Tucks
Number of people at an area	Caps on number of people allowed in an area at one time, and sign in sheets at trail heads so you can see who is there before hiking in. Bonus points if people indicate what they are planning to climb on.	Too many people there. Someone on the climb I was planning to get on.	
Common sense and safe practices	Nothing in this world is black and white, don't make climbing that too	Moral/social compliance	We're ready to get outside
Area, amount of people, type of rock quality and plan for routes/risk involved	Maybe an phone app that lets you check in and out-LIVE so you can see how many people are at each climbing area before hiking in...I know this sounds ridiculous but just a thought. Also maybe restrictions on out of state climbers, but not really sure how you'd monitor this.	A lot of people	I really miss climbing and the community, but totally understand and agree with the parameters put in place right now.
	Not letting people climb	Crowds and touching gear others had touched	
only one other person, small group, mask while belaying. Avoid crowded areas, bring handsanitizer	N/A	Work mostly, and finding partners...	
Crowds, verifying partners are healthy.	Crowd management	Verifying partner is healthy, crowds	
Be extra cautious not to get hurt. See additional comments below.	For Crag VT: 1.I can't recall but maps of the area for first responders at the kiosk would be good. 2.At the Gunks they have tags at anchors indicating when a 70 meter rope is required to get to the next anchor or ground. I think it would be good for us to do the same.	The Governors mandate the weather and biting bugs!	From reading the Accidents in North American Climbing 2018 they had these 3 simple steps listed that could have prevented many accidents. 1.Make a plan and communicate the plan. Before each climb, tell your belayer if you plan to lower or rappel from the anchor, and stick to that plan. If circumstances force a change (like forgetting your rappel device) be absolutely certain your belayer understands the new plan before you weight the rope. 2.Tie a stopper knot in the belayer's end of the rope. Or tie in the belayer. Absolutely no exceptions. 3.Weight-test your system before unclipping from the anchor. Weather rappelling or lowering, find a way to test the ropes before committing to them. My advice in addition to these during the pandemic: 1.Play it safe and stay within your means and stick to what you know. 2.Where your helmet, Vermont Schist is notorious for having handholds brake off.
data/vaccine/remoteness	Well it's tough. I don't think it is safe, but realistically, people will go. Perhaps a way to communicate about time slots to limit the crowding. Really clear guidelines will help. Luckily the climbing community is conscious about safety, and can be receptive to guidance from other climbers... There are some chalks out there (haven't tried them) that are liquid and have an isopropyl alcohol base. Wonder how those will come into play now.	Lack of data/lack of a vaccine	This made me a little bit sad but it is really important so thanks for doing this!
Visiting less crowded crags and boulders, keeping appropriate distance from other parties if encountered	Advocate for common sense practices at the crag in order to minimize interactions with other climbing groups	Overcrowded crags	
Going alone/small groups, avoiding person to person contact, and avoiding crowded boulders/boulder areas	Opening of the notch rd with some restrictions	Social Stigma about whether climbing is safe	

I might limit myself to 2 specific partners, one at a time. Not sure yet because not climbing yet. Need to think/ discuss with partners.	I am aware some people never stopped climbing at all. I guess I'm just nervous people will be jerks and or inattentive to the extra precaution that will be advisable. I suppose these are feelings not suggestions but I think they are worth tossing out. Also highly nervous people will come from outside of Vermont considering all the restrictions in place on NH recreational access.	Desire to abide by the prevailing community ethical standards. I.e. not be a thoughtless jerk.	Might be worth looking at whatever Adirondacks is considering and do the same to keep somewhat regionally consistent.
Being okay walking away from a crowded cliff area. Taking it easy and not pushing limits on lead. Accepting that an injury will likely result is significant restrictions after a hospital visit. Climbing with a limited (1) number of partners..	Keep looking at others (American Alpine Club, National Forest Service, AMGA) to look for recommendations.	Knowledge that the "flattened curve" only means it's not currently getting worse. There are still people dying of a disease we didn't know about 1 year ago.	I believe CRAG-VT has been acting very responsibly. We are soon to enter a season in which members and board members have a financial interest in climbing being possible. I believe that the board members will be able to separate their professional desires from what is best for the community.
Climbing partners who also have been good about social distancing/only with household members.	Maybe a climbing route/area signup page to keep numbers down at busy crags?	Lack of partners, crowded crags	
	restrictions on number of people at a given crag	too many people there	
no more than two people, climbing with your household, climbing during non-peak hours/obscure crags	Climbing with your household, capacity restrictions at crags ie people should not be grouping at the base of popular routes	large groups	Climbing is inherently dangerous and consideration needs to be placed more heavily on reducing risk caused from climbing injuries/rescues that could place an increased burden on our already struggling healthcare system. I believe this will be a more important consideration as community spread continues to decrease. That said, climbers should be staying local.
Traffic in the area, whether there are climbers at the same crag, potential for injury	Guidelines for limits on the number of ppl in a given area and the acceptable distance to travel to the crag	High levels of traffic	
Regular sanitation before and after each climb.	Reminders of regular sanitation between climbs.	Population control or lack there of	Regulation and reminders of sanitation.
I have climbed once on Monday the 3rd of May. I now live in Colorado in the high country. We elected to only TR to avoid lead fall injuries.	Head count limit at crags, a check in sheet at the entrance with a running tally of how many people are at the crag. Enter only if the number is below capacity or be shamed on social media.	Many other climbers in the area. Risk of additionally strain on medical resources	There could also be a system (bring your own pen) for identifying when the last ascent of a route was.

Climbing on warmer sunnier days	Online sign up for climbing each crag to limit the number of people at each crag.	Formal closure.	I'm a doctor locally in Vermont and have been caring for covid pts/reading the literature about transmission. Outdoor climbing in small groups (5 or less) is likely safe. Physical distancing with members of your own climbing party is questionably beneficial and should be secondary to climbing safety. Face masks outdoors are likely not necessary. You would be more likely to catch covid carpooling with someone to the crag than at the crag (would be mitigated by having the windows open). It may help to limit climber groups slightly - don't climb with 4 different people each time, try to keep it with the same group. If one of the group starts feeling sick the others should quarantine/ get tested. Limit excursions at first to once a week (as you are likely to start feeling symptoms before the next time out. This also makes sure the crags don't get too crowded at first. Focus on safety at the crag- avoid requiring EMS or ED services with proper safety checks, going with experienced climbers, and not pushing your limits right now. We should also figure out some level of recommendations for guiding-- would love to see Petra Cliffs be able to offer intro to outdoor climbing classes for the plethora of gym climbers that are inevitably going to hit the crags, and the benefits of preventing injury outweigh possible covid transmission. I am willing to help formulate official recommendations if you want.
Won't be climbing until given the go-ahead	Limiting group size and masking requirements would be a good step. Not only would that mean I can climb but I'm always looking for new excuses for why I can't send and wearing a mask is perfect for that	Whether there's any reluctance from cragvt, access fund, the AAC, etc.	
I would like to see approval from crag VT. I do not want to go out and lose access for other climbers in Vermont.	Safe practices, distancing, gathering in groups.	Regulations from the governor or crag vt.	
Setting up 1-2 routes away from other parties. Not sharing gear.	Maybe easing restrictions on the crags with longer approaches and more space. For example, opening up Bolton Dome would bring substantial crowds of stir crazy climbers, whereas Bone Mountain might not see such traffic.	The serious crowding that would come with reopening a popular crag. Falcon nesting, rain.	I think there are ways we can manage climbing at this time. The best place for people to be is fresh, open air.
	None	Too many people I don't know	
Leading easy routes, top roping harder routes, stay in a group of 2	Group size limits	Strict cliff closures	
Small group of 2-3. Social distancing. Don't crowd the crag.	Somehow limit #of people at the crag.	If everyone goes out at once to same places.	Thank you for your transparency and communication through this.
avoiding any closely congested areas or larger crowds; selecting a small number of partners	I think the following guidelines, along with avoiding touching your face while climbing/before washing your hands after climbing, are good and cover most of the important pieces. Additionally, I feel it's important to emphasize avoiding travel to climb for the time being, both for limiting incoming out-of-state traffic, and avoiding traveling to other areas ourselves. www.accessfund.org/open-gate-blog/climbing-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic	larger groups, close proximity	

	Max group sizes and smaller gatherings required	Large classes at a cliff side	Safety risks are always normal. But taking extra safety precautions as to as much accidents prevention as possible. I'm more concerned about overloading the hospital anymore than already necessary. People need to be extra safe as we already know there will be errors.
Boulder or sport	None	Rain	
Who am I climbing with (pick partners you've already been exposed to, or even better, partner)? Where/when are the crowds (the fewer interactions the better (in the parking lot, on the approach, at the cliff, on the cliff)? What/how are you deciding to climb (hopefully a little more conservative the usual)?	Recommending different questions people can ask themselves to help them make conservative decisions, and continue to climb.	#1, Access being closed	
Go easy, dont push it too hard in the grades, single pitch only, close to home, lowball boulders ok.	I think CRAG is doing a great job so far, but i think there should be some kind of permit situation implemented if people start to go climbing. Free permits but only so many given out per day for highly popular destinations. Honor system, but if people are found without permits, slap em with a fine.	Other people, relatovely high risk activity, dont want to end up in hospital.	
Choose partner in household or close friends, do not climb with a wide range of people. Minimize risks, enjoy the time to get out but scale back the difficulty of routes somewhat.	Advise against seriously risky projects or things way outside comfort zone, but ask people to recognize that other climbers have different levels of experience. Take extra moments to verify safety precautions. Climb with small groups of people and don't switch up partners too much.	If the cliffs get crowded or I see other people around who are not taking distancing seriously. If they are far away, best to stay closer to home. If I can't find a climbing partner who I feel comfortable with, who has similar skills and risk tolerance.	
None, I don't think the crags should be closed	N/A	Access Fund & Crag-VT guidelines, also specific crag closures	
The main consideration is choosing the people I go out with—I wouldn't climb with people unless I am confident they've been quarantining responsibly	Reminders to keep 6+ feet of distance from other climbing parties	I will probably avoid crowded areas like Rumney or Bolton on a weekend	
Climb at very quiet crag. No group larger than 4. Hand sanitizer. Face cover for when you pass people on the trail.	Open communication. Same as always.	Travel, stay at home order	
Climbing away from others and not making contact with anyone except my partner.	Some social distancing guidelines, maybe max number of people at a crag.	Not being socially accepted to climb and seeming like a rule breaker.	
If the lot is busy I go somewhere else. Climb at less popular area's	Your doing a great job	The rain or snow and crowds	
Keeping it chill, not climbing at crag vt locations. Only climbing woth family members and not inviting outside my covid circle.	Give climbing parties space feom each other and only climbwoth the same close group. No parties bigger than 4.	Crowds and jerries	You have our full support! Ready to climb somewhere other an ethan allen and my buddies.
whether the boulder is frequently used (I'll go to the more obscure ones)	one idea/suggestion is to recommend that people climb no more than 1-2 partners beyond who they live with and adhering to the social distancing guidelines recommended by the state with other people, since that makes it less likely climbing partners affect each other and spread to others. Another suggestion is to recommend that people hand sanitize before and after climbs.	Your recommendations. No pressure! Seriously though, I really respect how CRAG-VT has taken an assertive stance and put out "no climbing" signs with super reasonable and clear framing. It has helped flatten the curve and helped people like me so eager to get out to stay home (except for lesser-known boulders, in my case)	
small group size (3-4 max), masks and sanitizer use,	Small group size, masks	Everyone is going to rush out when they're cleared to do so	

only climbing solo or with member of my immediate household. disinfect hands before and after each climb if at a public climbing area that is being used by other parties. wear a mask at the crag and on the trail if there are other people using the same area.	disinfect hands before and after each climb if at a shared cliff. wear a mask if there are other people at the base of the cliff. keep good social distance. That includes your dog. Don't pet someone else's dog and don't let your dog invade anyone's 6ft personal space. be polite on the trail and step well off the trail to let people pass. If trail is busy wear a mask. don't climb with people outside of your household. don't leave the state to climb and don't come here from out of state to climb unless you quarantine 14 days when you arrive here.	if its too busy I satay away and go somewhere more remote.	
Social distancing, climbing well below my limit, primarily top roping, going during off hours, wearing PPE, anything else I can do to make the community safer.	There really needs to be a protocol for minimizing how many folks will be climbing at any given time. As soon as climbing is allowed, folks are going to rush to the crag because they've been inside for so long.	Crowds of people who are all clamoring to climb after being stuck inside, and who have driven from more populated areas.	
Seeking out less crowded cliffs, assessing risk and climbing conservatively, choosing partners that I already live with or are close to	phew-maybe pushing folks to seek out less crowded cliffs overall, and if a crag is crowded go to another cliff or another section of a cliff. Climb in the sun! Being conservative, maybe avoiding those R-rated climbs... Keeping group size down. Climbing with housemates/close friends.	Probably just large crowds, or not having a partner that I want to cross contaminate gear with.	Overall I think that climbing can be really safe right now, but just needs to be approached with intention
Keeping groups small and consistent (not climbing w multiple groups of people), waiting to be sure the healthcare system can take any potential impact climbing could cause without it being a burden	Publicly recommending a plan in regards to social distancing & the healthcare system. It was really helpful to hear CRAG-VT's recommendation not to climb as it helped a lot in personal decision making during the stay at home order	CRAG-VT or some other organization recommending against it or closing access	Thanks for all you guys do!
My significant other and I found a boulder that is off piste. We are cleaning and the only ones climbing on it. Climbing itself is no more dangerous than pre-covid but the risks of crowds, using the same holds, sharing gear and belays with persons outside your family pose risks.	People should limit who they climb with to a consistent partner. Belayers should wear masks. Hand washing/hand sanitizer promoted. No more than one party per boulder or per climb. If it's crowded, go somewhere else or climb a different day. Consider having a registration process for areas such as Bolton Dome to limit the number of climbers / day	Not wanting to be with the throngs of desperate climbers many of whom I anticipate will not mask, wash hands or be responsible/respectful	
I have not been climbing out of respect for landowners, healthcare workers, and access organization guidance. But I love access from a popular climbing area and have observed that many people have ignored the signs, trail and land closures, and advice not to climb this whole time so if more people start going out to climb now I believe that is understandable but will become very crowded and riskier.	You are doing a great job. Your guidance is wonderful and I am sure whatever you come up with will make sense as long as you understand that only some people will read the signs or follow the advice. You are still helping to decrease overall risk and burden on the healthcare system just by raising awareness.	Crowds of people that I do not believe will be taking proper precautions for social distancing and limiting connection with infected people at the crag or anywhere else based on what I have been seeing over the past several weeks by my house.	Thanks for all you do.
Avoid others. It's that easy.	Don't be overly afraid of the virus	Police	https://youtu.be/EAa8FLInSc
Staying local and choosing less-utilized climbing areas; trad climbing more; climbing easier to reduce the chance of injury	Info on what areas are less busy and standard guidelines for "when there are X number of cars in the parking lot we advise you to try again another day" or for certain areas to remain closed if they cannot be kept sufficiently under-populated for social distancing	Too many people. Local rules (ie. Rumney is certainly off-limits for both reasons)	Thank you!
When crag says it's okay	No large groups improved access trails	Finishing schoolwork	

Choosing crags and timing to minimize interactions with others.	I'm not sure it's CRAG-VT's role to make recommendations beyond "we request that all climbers comply with the governor's orders regarding social distancing. With all due respect, anything further is not your area of expertise.	Inability to avoid other climbers or orders from the governor or well informed public health officials that preclude it. I don't expect any such orders to specifically list climbing, but it's not difficult to extrapolate the ways in which other statements on outdoor recreation apply.	I found CRAG-VT's position on the stay at home order to be vague and ineffectual. If you believed climbing during the stay at home order was inconsistent with the governor's orders, or posed an unacceptable public health risk (both completely reasonable positions in my view), then I believe you should have stated clearly and directly that you were fully closing CRAG-VT properties. The "now is not the time to seek climbing adventures" approach seemed indecisive and conflict-averse to me. Even if I'd disagreed, I for one would have respected and honored such closures. As it was, I chose to avoid all CRAG-VT properties anyway, but did swing by trailheads and parking lots on occasion out of curiosity. Literally every time I did so there were multiple cars. The soft, implied closure didn't appear to work. Finally, I recognize the difficult position you were, and to some extent remain, in. It's easy to criticize when one doesn't have to make the tough calls, so thank you for the care and attention that obviously went into your decision-making. I don't fully agree with the approach you chose, but do fully respect your efforts, so thank you.
	Regular updates with changing recommendations!	Concern of large crowds	
I'm currently only climbing at small, hidden crags without other parties present.	Unsure	Other people	
Not sharing boulders or crag sections if there are other groups there already	Sign in at more crag properties to get a sense of who's already there	If things get worse in VT or if the crags are significantly crowded, not into going to cliffs/rocks on private land right for a little bit now out of respect for the land owners who may already be wary of shaggy hippies on their land grabbing rocks	I think VT is set up really well to reopen slowly, but with everything right now it's liable to change and it's ok if things need to be rolled back on.
How many people area there, is my partner on the same page, hand sanitizer in pack, possibly soap and water if particular route is a busy one, washing hands after, Climbing smart	Shame via social media for ones lacking common sense.;	Too many people, not close to home. Mainly work ;)	Really it's the rock and hands on it, then the congestion, but if people can be smart and be willing to adapt or change game Plans it's doable
I have been going to places that are either never used or rarely used.	Just to have hand sanitizer with you at all times and to use it after you climb. And to also stick to social distancing guidelines. Not go to popular crags	My college finals	
Population at the crag, condition of trails, not taking unnecessary risks, closures due to wildlife	Encourage people to spread out, wear masks, helmets, respect neighbors/parking	Trying to respect the community guidelines	
Mask, hand sanitizer. Open to suggestions	Hard to really say. Perhaps some sort of limit on crag occupancy, although I understand that's very hard to enforce.	Crowds. Peregrines. People without masks on. People sneezing/coughing.	I feel like chalk is a major contamination issue but once again it's really hard to regulate that type of thing.
Not pushing my boundaries—extra cautious, easy grades.	I'd like an acknowledgement that climbing is "essential." Certainly as essential as some things the government has deemed essential. I'd like some organized body to point out that "travel" does not mean driving in cars—which can be done with literally no human contact for thousands of miles—but refers to planes and trains where you instantly increase your epidemiological cohorts by many orders of magnitude. I'd like you to point out that climbers are generally excellent risk managers, and that good risk management is about judgment, not blind rule-following.	Crowds.	

I am very worried that we are going to see a rapid increase in climbers who try to socially distance by everyone taking separate cars resulting in an overwhelming of the crags parking spaces	If you are going climbing, do it with people in your household.	We're opening up too soon, I'm young so I'm not as at risk but people are going to die. The governor is still a republican, not as bad as most but he's willing to risk lives for the economy.	Not encourage people to go out to the crags before it's absolutely safe because it will create an unsafe mindset
	C	A bunch of ppl	
Mindful self awareness of my actions & avoiding crowded belay areas	Encourage Common sense practices for all climbers regarding hygiene & groups until data exists showing we are clear.	Not much	Thanks for caring enough to ask our thoughts!
Timing of bug season. Junk shows at the dome and inconsiderate crowds in general. Sticking to less visited areas.	It's unclear what role crag plays, or wants to play. Social media influencer? Concerned landowner? Wise steward? Authoritative omniscient overlord?	Proximity to others	
See how many people are around and not go if the trailhead is full or if there are a lot of people at the crag.	Sanitize your hands before each climb.	# of people at the cliff.	
Minimal travel.	none, the responsibility of risk mitigation is with the climber.	Rain	
avoiding groups or high density crags, avoiding higher risk climbs,	practical advice for the community on returning to climbing	none	
I hope to start climbing in the near future and will probably only climbing with my girlfriend who I live with. I will climb conservatively. And I will try to avoid crowded crags.	?	Crowded crags.	I really appreciate yall taking the time to try and create a united front for this.
Staying away from people...especially those that like to spit and snot-rocket.	Hand washing options at parking lots.	too soon to socialize.	
Crowding/spacing. Bringing sanitizer to the crag. Wearing a face mask as possible/appropriate. Limiting the range of people I climb with.	I feel CRAG-VT needs to be prepared for a long-range situation which may improve at times, decline at others. CRAG needs to get away from the idea of any dates for "opening" or "closing" CRAGS (yes, I know CRAG simply recommends, but that's the message) and needs to focus on indicators that influence its position and needs to focus on behavior messaging, in terms of how to appropriately climb (which I feel is what we're currently doing).	Waiting for stabilization/continuation of COVID indicators (new cases in our area).	Things look good in VT; however, we are less than 6hrs from the global epicenter of this pandemic. We live in a state that lives on tourism, so eventually we will need to accept the fact that a lot of people from affected areas will come up here. For the immediate future, we should try to develop kind but clear communications stressing that we don't want their presence--not because of a "locals only" coolness, but for health and safety of our state.
Only climbing at remote cliffs or with low crowds and with one consistent climbing partner. With partner who practices social distancing, possibly wearing Buff/mask at belay and anchors	Limit number of climbers at popular cliffs, it's better for the environmental carrying capacity of the site anyway. Maybe set limits on number of parking spots. Only one party on each route, don't climb a route if someone just climbed it.	crowded	thanks for all your work and guidance during this time and for your efforts enforcing restrictions
Going to obscure/low volume crags and only climbing with people I've been quarantining with	Perhaps a sign in and suggested cap for high volume crags like the dome and lower west	A significant rise in covid cases or high number of cars in the crag's parking lot	
	Definitely abundant and remarkably clear communications. Sign-in sheets 100%. If we choose to "ease" back into climbing, emphasize the "ease" part. Suggest that instead of climbing 5 days a week, maybe... 1 or 2 days.	Crowds. In-the-moment behavior of other parties even if not "crowded."	
When mountain rescue services are less limited by COVID19 PPE protocols	Please let people know that mountain rescue teams have to follow stringent COVID19 protocols and the risks to first responders from COVID19 are important considerations.	Not wanting to burden other first responders.	I suggest you consult the VT State SAR coordinator for guidance.
Personal safety and safety of others	Sponsored climbs as only groups at sites.. posted signs and clear instruction for groups to stay apart	Crowds, possibility of needing hospital treatment if hurt	
Number of cars at trailhead	Relaxing restrictions	Number of people and concern for rescuers	

Climbing only with my spouse.	Encourage compliance with policies on state land and maintain consistency with them,	Closures, advice from CragVT, and hesitation around touching ropes, draws, and pro handled by sweaty partners (as much as I miss them!)	Nice work so far on all this! I appreciate that you've been promoting a reasonable strategy and representing our user group well. Thanks.
	1-2 group per wall	Cars in parking lot	
Limited number of trusted partners, still practice social distancing as much as possible, climbing easier/safer routes and maybe more TR than trad for early season	Parties of 2, giving space at the crag, etc	Lots of weak sauce due to not climbing in way too long. Hangboards can only maintain a minimal baseline!	Thanks for all you're doing!
All of the same things stated above.	1. Enforceable limited access at popular areas. A CRAG-VT volunteer at trailheads taking a headcount and not allowing more than "X" climbers at a time. Of course not truly enforceable, but an honest attempt. 2. Maybe volunteer floaters at those crags checking on how climbers are doing self-policing within the guidelines 3. Must be very well-publicized in advance.	Just respecting the guidelines already out there, recommended by the AF and AAC	It feels like the longer this goes on the harder it will be for many climbers to resist climbing - myself included. Provided the crisis curve flattens or declines and the medical resources in regions where we like to climb are prepared to handle emergencies, I think it is reasonable to slowly open some climbing areas and/or provide new, reasonable guidelines to climbers. However, if the virus resurges, I think we have to respect the current restrictions.
	Actual data regarding the danger of close contact	People, music, dogs, babies	
Limiting exposure to people, only going with a housemate	Clear guidelines as to what is open and closed	Number of people present at the cliff	