

## **Water Quality Association – COVID-19 Policy & Release**

Based on the latest guidance from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), face coverings will be required for all in person participants, whether fully vaccinated or not, with exceptions for brief periods when actively eating or drinking.

Face coverings will be available for any individual who wishes to wear one and does not have their own. According to CDC guidance, an effective face covering is a mask or any secured cloth that covers the nose and mouth and fits snugly under the chin. A face shield can be worn along with a face covering, but not in place of one. Face coverings with exhaust valves or vents, or made with mesh or lace type fabric, are not allowed.

Social distancing, also called physical distancing, will be encouraged. Decreasing the frequency of contact will help reduce the risk of spreading disease. Other preventative actions include avoiding touching your face and frequently washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Every individual participating in-person will be required to undergo a health screening. In light of the ongoing spread of COVID-19, individuals who fall within any of the categories below should not participate in in-person events. By attending a WQA event, you certify that you do not fall into any of the following categories:

- Individuals who currently or within the past fourteen (14) days have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, among others;
- Individuals who believe that they may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are not yet cleared as non-contagious by state or local public health authorities or the health care team responsible for their treatment.

In-person participants, exhibitors, and vendors agree to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and contact WQA at MYLC@wqa.org if he/she experiences symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 within fourteen (14) days of attending the 2021 Mid-Year Leadership Conference.

### **RELEASE:**

I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless the Water Quality Association (WQA) and its affiliates, including their respective employees, officers, directors, agents, and/or representatives, from any claim or cause of action, including all liabilities, penalties, losses, damages, costs, or expenses of any kind, arising out of or relating to exposure to COVID-19. I agree that the foregoing release, discharge, and covenants apply even when WQA or its affiliate directly or indirectly caused injury, losses, or other harm related to COVID-19, whether by negligent acts or omissions, and whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any WQA (or affiliate) program. This release is binding on my heirs, administrators, executors, successors and assigns.