

Facility Usage Guidelines of Ogasawara Field Research Station On the Prevention of Novel Coronavirus Infection (COVID-19)

Confirmed diagnosis and any treatment of Novel Coronavirus cannot be made in Ogasawara. Once an onset or cluster occurs in the islands, it may lead to the dysfunction of the islands and a fatal impact on the conservation of its natural environment and industry. Therefore, we have established the facility usage guidelines for Ogasawara Field Research Station as below to ensure to prevent the spread of the Novel Coronavirus. Even for the matters not shown in the guidelines, facility users should take appropriate measures according to the situation, based on their independent judgment.

1. Purpose of these guidelines

- (1) To minimize the risk of introducing the virus into Ogasawara
- (2) To minimize the risk of spreading the virus to others

2. Infection prevention before departure

The following self-infection prevention measures and health management should be well taken at least two weeks before the scheduled departure date of Ogasawara-maru.

- (1) Refrain from any non-essential and non-urgent outings and meetings as much as possible.
- (2) Wear a mask and have sufficient physical distancing for any essential outings and meetings.
- (3) Keep records of your body temperature (once in the morning and at night) and physical condition (having or not having cold symptoms, fatigue, taste disorder, etc.).
- (4) Cancel the trip to Ogasawara if you have been in close contact with an infected person, or you have any suspected symptoms of the virus before the departure.

3. Restriction of facility usage

- (1) The maximum number of research groups that can use the Ogasawara Field Research Station within the same period is two. One person shall be counted as one group if the research is considered as an independent one.
- (2) Facility users are not allowed to stay in other accommodation facilities.
- (3) Refrain from contacting another research group, Ogasawara residents, and tourists, etc. for the first two weeks from the arrival. (This also includes eating out and shopping.) In principle, no one will be permitted to join the group in midway.
- (4) To book the Facility, contact the Contact person for application (Dr. Hidetoshi Kato in the Makino Herbarium at katohide@tmu.ac.jp) in advance and explain the necessity of the visit to the Facility (the reason for using the Facility and why this has to be done in such period). The group that has been permitted first has priority, but the Committee shall not prevent any direct negotiations among groups that are made before a visit.
- (5) Facility and equipment usage
 - a. Facility users should use alcohol spray to disinfect their hands when entering and leaving each room and the entrance. The Ogasawara Research Committee will prepare rubbing alcohol and its containers for indoor use; however, portable containers for outdoor use should be prepared by each facility user/group.

- b. Indoor room slippers/sandals should be prepared and brought by each facility user. (Name must be written on them.)
 - c. Facility users should keep records of date and time to use each room in the Record book.
 - d. <Experiment rooms, the library, and the specimen production room>
Keep the “one room per group” policy to avoid overcrowding. The maximum number of people in the group that can use a room at the same time is two for the experiment room II, the library, and the specimen production room, and four for the experiment room I.
 - e. <Resting rooms>
Keep the “one room per person” policy to avoid close contact; however, the small resting room can be used with two persons and the large resting room with up to three persons in the same group, only if the room can be partitioned off by curtains, etc.
 - f. <Bathroom and washroom>
Do not share with another research group wherever possible. Disinfect the doorknobs and toilet seats with rubbing alcohol.
 - g. <Washing machines and clothes drying place (second-floor balcony)>
Do not share with another research group wherever possible.
 - h. <Dining room>
Do not share the space, refrigerator, tableware, etc. with another research group. Arrange for the time to use the dining room in advance to avoid overlapping (e.g., 7 to 8 o’clock for Group A and 8 to 9 o’clock for Group B). Refrain from talking as much as possible during cooking and eating.
- (6) Facility users should keep records of their body temperature (once in the morning and at night), physical condition (having or not having cold symptoms, fatigue, taste disorder, etc.), and any meetings/contacts outside the Facility during their stay.

These guidelines shall be applicable until the end of August when the risk of infection arises with many tourists coming to the islands and will be revised appropriately after September based on the situation.

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Added on August 20, 2020

In light of the Coronavirus infection situation in Tokyo, the effective period of these guidelines shall be extended to the end of September.

These guidelines are to be reviewed after October, taking into consideration the trial status of PCR tests at the time of boarding on the Ogasawara-Maru.