



January 7, 2020

Safety Procedure Update for Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico – Updated 1-7-20

These changes apply only in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, MX.

We want you to know that Amor has always been proactive about safety matters. Since 1980, Amor has worked hard to provide the best security and safety for all individuals involved in our ministry. Amor considers the safety of our groups and team members its first priority. Everything we do regarding security and safety is preventative and proactive.

Amor has built a strong presence in Mexico over these past 40 years through excellent relations with the local government, the police and the communities we serve. Because of these relationships we are equipped to deal with any and all safety issues that might arise.

Guidelines for Increased Safety in Puerto Peñasco:

We seek to provide our groups with an Amor Impact Trip that supports the work of the local church while allowing those groups to have a rich, meaningful, and effective experience uniquely designed by you.

In order to limit exposure to known risks, we ask that groups work within our outlined recommendations to travel safely while in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico.

Arrival & Going into Mexico:

- If meeting in the US, groups must arrive at the check-in prepared (i.e., fully fueled, Mexican insurance obtained, and completed paperwork) to cross the border with enough time to get from the meeting location to camp by dusk or 6pm, whichever is earlier.
- Amor is recommending that groups travel to Puerto Peñasco in caravans or arrange an escort to camp with their Amor Trip Coordinator at agreed upon times.
- Changes in border procedures have increased wait times at Customs at the border. Please off-load all donations and prohibited items prior to crossing the border to prevent delays or being turned back. Clearance can range from 30 minutes to 2 hours before travel time to camp. Please plan accordingly.

Returning to the U.S.:

- Groups may request an Amor Representative to escort the group from camp/work site to the border line.
- Groups must leave camp/work site in order to arrive at the border line by 6 p.m. or dusk, whichever is sooner.



- In the event of an emergency requiring a trip to the U.S., an Amor representative will be assigned to escort your vehicle(s) to the border line. While in Mexico, groups should:
- Inform Amor Field Representative of any intended travel, preferably the evening prior to such travel.
- Limit travel solely to the route given to and from camp each day.
- Refrain from traveling in vehicles alone to/from camp, stores, or border. Instead, travel in groups of two or more individuals.
- Return to the camp each evening by 6pm or dusk, whichever is earlier, and remain at camp.
- Avoid going to tourist areas (mercados, beaches, etc) which represent a safety risk.
- Amor highly recommends that groups refrain from visiting prior work sites in communities where Amor is not currently working. Please inform your Amor Field Representative well in-advance if you intend to visit a previous worksite.
- Stay within eyesight of your group at all times and do not allow individuals to walk around the communities or walk alone anywhere off the work site. If walking, travel in groups of three or more and remain within eyesight of the work site.
- Please, do not invite the family for whom you are building back to camp if they cannot provide their own transportation home that same evening. Amor supports group's needs and will provide escorts for trips to the grocery store or from camp to worksite at any time. As a courtesy, we ask that you notify your field representative if you decide to disregard these guidelines. If you do so, Amor cannot guarantee that we will have the ability to assist you. We are more convinced than ever that there is work to do in the communities of Mexico and that God still desires us to serve there. We continue to have faith in God as he directs our steps into the areas in which we serve as we work together to bring hope to those in need. We ask that you continue to pray for the families we work alongside in Mexico.