Dear Scouting Family,

Your safety and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is the Central Minnesota Council’s top priority. Because COVID-19, we are taking additional precautions at camp on top of our long-established health and safety measures.

First, our council health supervisor, Dr. Richard Kubicka, and our First Aider, Rich Diedrichsen, are informing us on the guidelines given by state and local health departments to ensure we are aware of and follow their recommendations to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 at camp.

Our mitigation plan includes:

* Pre-attendance information, see **Pre-Event Education** attached,including a health screening conducted by your unit or family prior to travel to our camp, including a temperature check.
* Health screening upon your arrival, see **At Camp,** conducted by our camp health officers, which will also include a temperature check using a touchless infrared thermometer
	+ Note: should anyone in the unit not pass the arrival screening, anyone who traveled with in the vehicle them will not be allowed to enter camp.
* Limits on visitors in camp. Visitors will be screened on check-in or be asked to leave camp.
* Limiting the size of our theme groups to meet the recommendations of the CDC
* Hygiene reminders throughout camp experience.
* Extra handwashing /sanitizer stations throughout camp.
* All programs and CITs will be tenting, the castle will not be used for communal sleeping
* Modified meal plans that may include shifts or food delivered to theme areas.
* Dedicated staff to clean and disinfect program surfaces and shared program equipment.
* An emergency response plan that includes isolation and quarantine protocol should a person at camp develop symptoms of COVID-19 or other communicable disease. (proposed: dedicated rooms in castle with separate bathroom facilities)
* Follow-ups with each unit one week and two weeks after the unit leaves camp to determine if any participants have developed symptoms.

These precautions are important, but they do not remove the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while at camp. Some people with COVID-19 show no signs or symptoms of illness but can still spread the virus, and people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. These factors mean that an infected person may pass the required health screenings and be allowed into camp.

We also know the very nature of camp makes social distancing difficult in many situations and impossible in others.

Information from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. *If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to attending camp.*

We know that each staff member, volunteer, and Scouting family has a unique set of circumstances to consider when deciding whether to attend camp. We hope this information will be helpful as you make those choices.

**Pre-Event Education and Medical Self-Screening Tool**

This tool is to assist leaders and parents in identifying potentially communicable diseases in advance of event participation. The self-screening process is designed to be used with each participant to review their current health status before departing for an event. Similar questions will be asked of participants on arrival at camp.

Has the participant had any of the following within the last 72 hours?

✓ Fever of 100.4○ F or higher

✓ Vomiting

✓ Difficulty Breathing

✓ Diarrhea

✓ Contact with someone known to have a communicable disease

✓ Encourage anyone who is sick to stay home

***If the participant has one or more of these, he or she should stay home. A 100% refund will be given.***

Has the participant had any of the following symptoms within the last 24 hours?

✓ Unexplained extreme fatigue or muscle aches

✓ Rash

✓ Cough

✓ Sore throat

✓ Open sore

If the participant has experienced two or more of these symptoms he or she should stay home. If they have one of these symptoms, consider having him or her stay home. If the Scout does participate in the event, activity limitations or medical restrictions should be clearly documented on the participant’s medical form.

Participants who become ill at the event will not be allowed to return until they are cleared by a healthcare provider.

**At Camp**

We are in the process of developing and implementing procedures to check for signs and symptoms in participants and employees daily and upon arrival. Our plan includes

✓ Implementing enhanced screening for participants and employees who have recently been present in areas of high transmission, including temperature checks and symptom monitoring

✓ Plan for the event that participants or employees get sick

✓ Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures

✓ Be ready to consult with the local health authorities if there are cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area

Sincerely,

Central Minnesota Council