

# DINO DISCOVERY 2026

## CAMP AMIKARO LEADER GUIDE



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## Welcome to Camp Amikaro

We are so excited to have you join us for a weekend of fun this summer at Camp Amikaro! Whether you're brand new to Cub Scouts and camping, or you've attended many camps before, Camp Amikaro is sure to offer excitement, challenge, and adventure for you and your Cub Scout(s).

**Expect an UNPARALLELED summer adventure this year!** Our theme of Take Flight will be integrated into every aspect of camp. Our 2025 program curriculum uses the latest updated Cub Scout advancement requirements, helping to keep parents and leaders ahead of the curve. In 2025 we look to further improve our STEM activities and add a Handicraft area. Of course, we will also be offering all your favorite camping activities, such as archery, BB-guns, swimming, climbing, and nature too. Our campers (and the adults) have a lot to look forward to!

In this guide, you will find the information needed to prepare for a great camping experience with your Scouts. You will find important details regarding your trip to Camp Amikaro including how to prepare for camp, what to bring to camp, and what to expect while you're there.

We hope you find the information included here helpful. Please visit [www.gocubcamping.org](http://www.gocubcamping.org) for more details and follow us on Facebook for frequent updates on Camp Amikaro. We look forward to seeing you at camp!

### Madi Carstens

Mid- America Council Camping Director

## Contact Information

Outdoor Programs Dir.	Madi Carstens	402-514-3019	<a href="mailto:madi.carstens@scouting.org">madi.carstens@scouting.org</a>
Dir. of Support Services	Christine Sammons	816-868-0815	<a href="mailto:christine.sammons@scouting.org">christine.sammons@scouting.org</a>
Member Services		402-431-9272	<a href="mailto:mac@scouting.org">mac@scouting.org</a>
Sioux City Scout Center		712-255-8846	<a href="mailto:mac@scouting.org">mac@scouting.org</a>
Grand Island Service Center		308-382-3717	<a href="mailto:mac@scouting.org">mac@scouting.org</a>
Cub Camping Webpage			<a href="http://www.GoCubCamping.org">www.GoCubCamping.org</a>

Updated February 2026

## Section 1: Pre-Camp Information

### 2026 Session Dates & Fees

Packs and individual families can register online at [www.gocubcamping.org](http://www.gocubcamping.org) and choose any session today! Cubs do not have to attend camp with their den or pack, but must have parent/ adult leadership present.

Note: In order to ensure program quality and integrity, session capacities are limited to the first 150 youth to register. No additional youth will be added to a session after it has reached 150 youth participants.

All sessions will take place at Camp Cedars outside of Fremont, NE.

Session 1: June 12- June 14

Session 4: July 10- July 12

Session 2: June 19- June 21

Session 5: July 17- July 19

Session 3: June 26- June 28

<p><b>Youth Fees</b> Registered Cub Scouts entering the 1st-5th Grade in the fall of 2025 2025 Camp Fees for Cub Scouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$160 if registered by March 12, 2026</li> <li>• \$180 if registered after March 12, 2026</li> </ul> <p>Discounts for Mid- America Council Cub Scouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10 off per youth who sells popcorn in 2025 and/or camp cards in 2026</li> <li>• \$10 off per youth whose family donates to the 2026 ICC Campaign</li> </ul>	<p><b>Adult Fees</b> Registered Pack leaders or a parent/ legal guardian</p> <p>2026 Camp Fees for Adults &amp; Leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$80</li> </ul> <p>Discounts for Mid-America Council Adults</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10 off per adult who has completed all training for their primary adult leader position</li> <li>• \$10 off per adult whose family donates to the 2026 ICC Campaign</li> </ul>
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[Camp Amikaro is only open to registered Cub Scouts, leaders and parents/ legal guardians.](#)

**Free Camp T-Shirt!** Youth whose fees are paid in full by May 5, 2026 are guaranteed to receive a free camp t-shirt if they enter their size in the online registration. After the deadline, t-shirts will be available for purchase at the camp Trading Post, with limited sizes available. Adults can add a t-shirt to their registration for \$10 or purchase it at the trading post at camp with limited sizes available.

## Camperships

No Scout should miss out on the opportunity to attend camp due to financial need. Funds are available to help Scouts who need financial assistance to attend camp. All campership information is kept confidential. Campership applications must be received online by April 5, 2026. The application will be available online January 1, 2026 at

<https://mac-bsa.org/scouting-tools/financialassistance/>.

## Refunds

Up to 80% of a Scout or Leader's fee may be refunded under one of the following circumstances:

- Individual illness or injury
- Death or serious illness in the immediate family
- Relocation of the family outside of the Mid-America Council

Refunds that meet one of these three criteria may be requested up to two weeks after the conclusion of the registered session. Refund form can be found at:

<https://247scouting.com/forms/?OrgKey=BSA326&id=937>.

Refunds that do not meet the above criteria may be granted at a lesser amount. This additional refund policy is valid only for Camp Amikaro. Contact [mac@scouting.org](mailto:mac@scouting.org) to request a refund in accordance with the following timeline:

- Cancellation before April 1 = 60% refund
- Cancellation April 2 - May 1 = 40% refund
- Cancellation after May 1 = 0% refund

Registration fees can be transferred to another session of Camp Amikaro in the same year, or to another Scout to attend Camp Amikaro in the same year. Registration fees cannot be transferred to a future year of Camp Amikaro or other events.

## Cub Scout to Adult Attendance Ratios

BSA National Standard of Two-Deep Leadership Requires these ratios		<b>Wolf &amp; Bear Scouts</b>	
		# of Scouts	# of Adults
		1-8	2
<b>Tiger Scouts**</b>		<b>Webelos/ AOL Scouts</b>	
# of Scouts	# of Adults	# of Scouts	# of Adults
1-2	1	1-10	2

\*\*Tiger Scouts must attend with their Tiger Adult Partner.

## BSA National Standard of Two-Deep Leadership

Any adult must be at least 21 years of age and a registered leader or parent/ legal guardian. National Scouting policy requires two-deep leadership (two registered adult leaders). It is not required that each Scout have their parent/guardian attend for the Scout to attend except for Tiger Cubs, which do require the attendance of their Tiger Adult Partner. All Scouts must have adult leadership from either their parents or their unit present. Scouts may not attend Camp Amikaro alone.

## Safeguarding Youth Training

**All adults must have current Safeguarding Youth Training to attend camp.** To get trained, visit [www.My.Scouting.org](http://www.My.Scouting.org). Adults will need to upload their SYT completion certificate during the online registration **before** they can complete the registration.

In the instance that a Pack does not have a second leader, we will pair those Scouts and leaders with another Pack to allow them to attend. Communication with the Camp Director or [mac@scouting.org](mailto:mac@scouting.org) prior to the arrival of camp is a MUST to be paired with another unit. **If paired with another unit, there still must be at least one leader in camp at all times from each unit. No youth may attend Camp Amikaro alone.**

**Female youth must have either a parent in attendance or a female leader from their pack. Buddy pairs must be same-gendered so a female youth must attend with either a parent or another female youth and male youth must attend with either a parent or another male youth.**

## Other Pre-Camp Information

### Pre-Camp Parent and Leaders Information

In May 2026, we will provide a pre-camp video available to all registered leaders and on our website. This video can be viewed at any time and shared with parents attending camp with your unit. The video will contain information regarding the check-in process, program details, what to bring to camp, and what to expect day-to-day while at camp. Your unit can supplement the video with unit-specific details like carpooling/ caravanning and pre-camp planning like swim checks, gear borrowing, etc.

### Accommodations

The Camp Amikaro team works hard to make our camp comfortable and accessible to those with special needs all year round. If anyone in your unit has special dietary, health, or mobility needs, we ask that you please make your needs known as soon as possible to allow time for reasonable accommodation for your requests. Be specific and indicate a contact person in case the Camp Director has any questions in meeting the accommodation. Deadline for special requests is two weeks before the start of your camp session. Please include dietary needs in the "dietary restrictions" section of the online registration. This includes food allergies, vegetarian/ vegan diets, and religious dietary needs.

**Peanut Allergy:** We recognize that the occasional Scout or Scouter may have a peanut allergy. We are not able to create a completely peanut-free environment in camp. However, peanut-free tables will be identified in the dining hall if needed or alternative peanut-free locations.

### Swim Checks

Your Den or Pack may complete swim checks prior to arriving at camp by utilizing the Unit Swim Classification Record form found online [here](#).

Please be advised when swim tests are conducted off-site prior to the camp session, the camp Aquatics Director retains the right to review or retest any or all participants. These swim tests must be conducted annually. Campers will be divided into three ability groups: non-swimmers, beginners, and swimmers. Youth and Adults must take the swim test before or at camp, or be classified as a non-swimmer.

## What to Bring

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">BSA Health History Form, Parts A &amp; B</a> (completed and current). <b>All campers- youth and adults- must have their <u>own</u> form completed.</b></li> <li>● Water bottle or hydration pack</li> <li>● Official Scout uniform shirt</li> <li>● Extra shirts, shorts, underwear, socks, etc.</li> <li>● Pajamas</li> <li>● Sweater or light jacket</li> <li>● Jeans or long pants</li> <li>● Swimming suit- see additional notes below</li> <li>● Sunblock</li> <li>● Raincoat or poncho (we strongly recommend a durable raincoat with a hood and discourage the single-use plastic ponchos)</li> <li>● Hiking boots or sturdy tennis shoes</li> <li>● Water shoes or 2<sup>nd</sup> pair for boating</li> <li>● Hat or cap</li> <li>● Bath towel</li> <li>● Toothbrush &amp; toothpaste</li> <li>● Shampoo, soap, comb</li> <li>● Mosquito repellent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sleeping bag or blankets, pillow</li> <li>● Personal tent</li> <li>● Flashlight &amp; extra batteries</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Swim check form (completed and current, see previous section for link to form)</li> <li>● Handbook</li> <li>● Paper &amp; writing utensil</li> <li>● Camera</li> <li>● Sunglasses</li> <li>● Sewing kit</li> <li>● Trash bags</li> <li>● Football, Frisbee, etc.</li> <li>● Deck of cards</li> <li>● Money for camp trading post</li> <li>● Reusable coffee cup/mug for adults</li> <li>● Lighter for campfire (adults only, please)</li> <li>● Pocket knife (Scouts must have a "Whittling Chip" or "Totin' Chip")</li> <li>● S'more sticks—s'mores will be provided on Saturday night to each campsite</li> </ul>
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### Swimsuits

Swimsuits must be safe and appropriate for the activity. For males, tight fitting swim briefs or swim bottoms short enough to allow exposure are not allowed. For females, bikinis are not allowed. Athletic-style two piece or one piece swimsuits are recommended.

"Street-clothes" are allowed. Please no loose-fitting/ bulky t-shirts or gym shorts.

### Scout Uniforms

Scout uniforms are strongly encouraged to be worn at all evening flag ceremonies and evening meals. If excessive heat occurs and the camp leadership team/ medic declares a "Red" or "Black" flag, uniforms will not be required for evening flags and will be communicated by camp staff.

## Section 2: Your Weekend at Camp

### Arrival and Check-In Procedures

Specific check-in instructions and important information regarding your session will be emailed to the registration contact during the week prior to your session. Please review and be sure to share with all families/ leaders that are attending camp with your unit. Check-in will be from 2:00pm- 5:00pm on Friday. **Do NOT arrive prior to 2:00pm.** Early arrivals are not able to be accommodated. Parking space is limited at camp so we recommend that packs carpool to camp as best as possible. Late arrivals should check-in with the staff in the Admin Building upon their arrival. The Admin Building is open until 9pm. If planning to arrive after 9pm, we recommend waiting to come to camp until the next morning to ensure safety while driving and a positive check-in and camp set-up experience.

Upon arrival to camp, each individual (youth AND adults) should have their own individual [health form](#) on hand and present it to the Camp Medic. **Do not have one person turn in all health forms at once.** Our camp Medical Staff will review these and may request a follow-up discussion with the camper or adult to go through any health concerns and/or medications they may have brought to camp.

All participants will be given wristbands upon check-in. For security, wristbands are required to be worn at all times to help verify individuals who are authorized to be on camp. Individuals without wristbands will be asked to go to the camp office.

Absolutely no vehicles will be permitted to drive into campsites. All vehicles will park in the parking lot and unload their gear. Hand carts and limited camp vehicles/ UTVs will be available to transport gear. Only camp service vehicles are allowed beyond the parking area while camp is in session. Camp staff will be available to assist with unloading/ transporting gear and setting up your campsite.

Participants with documented disabilities may be given special permission to drive to certain parts of camp only if communicating with the Camp Director prior to the start of their session. A special driving pass will be given if permitted.

Packs that pre-ordered t-shirts will be able to pick those up at the Trading Post when it is open at any time throughout the weekend. Additional t-shirts can also be purchased in the trading post for adults and youth that did not pre-order, though sizes may be limited.

## Sleeping Arrangements

Packs will be assigned a camping area upon arrival to camp. Please camp in this assigned area to help us ensure camper safety and security.

Campers will have two options for their campsites: (1) stay in a limited number of canvas tents (9' x 11') or (2) bring their own tent. This selection must be made during registration and changes can be made up to 1 week prior to your registered session.



Campers will need to bring their own sleeping items (cots/ sleeping pads, sleeping bags, etc.) whether using a canvas tent or bringing their own. **We are not able to provide any cots or sleeping gear.** If gear is needed, we recommend connecting with your local troop to discuss borrowing equipment. We recommend that all families select the same sleeping option in their registration if registering individually. Please be sure to include the number of personal tents you'll be bringing or the number of canvas tents you'll need (typically 2 people fit comfortably in a canvas tent with cots or sometimes 1 adult and 2 youth if using sleeping pads/ air mattresses).

## Showers

Camp Cedars features private shower houses available to all campers at the North, Central, and South shower houses as well as at the pool. There are also restrooms available in the Heritage Lodge near the climbing tower and equestrian center. Campers staying in canvas tents near Cubbie Row will have access to toilets and running water at the newly remodeled nearby shower house!

## Valuables & Gear

Leaders should ask Scouts to bring as few valuables as possible to camp. Each unit is advised, if possible, to have a leader responsible for Scout's money to prevent lost/stolen money if the Scouts parents are not attending with them. Adult supervision is a MUST.

All Scouts and adults must bring a plastic or metal cup, canteen, refillable water bottle, or hydration pack which must be carried at all times in order to help prevent dehydration.

**Refer to page 8 for a full list of personal items to bring to camp.**

## Emergencies

While camp is in session, the main camp office will have someone on duty to help handle any emergency that may arise including those that may involve the camp health officer. Staff in each area also have radios that can communicate with camp leadership and the health officer at all times. Emergencies and accidents should be reported to a staff member right away. Staff and Camp Leadership are trained to handle emergencies with certain procedures.

If an emergency happens outside of camp and you need to contact someone who is at camp, please call the camp office at 402-514-3061 or the Council Camping Director at 402-514-3019.

## Section 3: Program Information

### A Typical Day at Camp

#### Morning Routine

Breakfast each morning will be an open buffet style from 7:00 am- 8:00 am. Please only take one trip through the line until seconds are called. We aim to call for seconds by 7:40 each morning and end food service around 7:50 am. You may come and go from breakfast whenever you'd like, which should give enough time for all campers to use the shower/ restroom facilities as needed. At 8:10 am all campers will assemble outside the dining hall for morning flags and announcements before classes begin.

#### Morning and Afternoon Programs

Throughout your time at camp, Scouts will travel with their group to various program stations and activities. Adult leaders may be asked to assist the staff as needed with certain activities that need extra supervision or safety precautions. Campers will be provided activity schedules, and it is essential these are followed for camp to run smoothly. Free time will be available during designated times in the camp schedule.

#### Evening Programs

Each evening will conclude with a campfire ceremony. On Friday night, the staff will put on the show with skits and songs, and on Saturday night it's the campers turn to provide the entertainment. Between dinner and campfire on Saturday night, Scouts and Adults can participate in a Scouts Own Service. Following campfire ceremonies there may be opportunities for campers to participate in a flag retirement ceremony, night sky viewing, or night hike depending on weather.

### Meals

All meals are served cafeteria style. Breakfast and lunch are come-and-go as you wish with the line closing 10 minutes prior to the end of the meal shift to allow time for all to eat and clean up their spaces. Dinner will begin immediately following evening flags. Please only take one trip through the line until seconds are called. A full menu will be published mid-April at [gocubcamping.org](http://gocubcamping.org). Please note any dietary needs in the online registration including allergies, gluten free, vegetarian, etc. Here is what a typical day's menu may look like:

<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Dinner</u>
Eggs	Chicken Sandwich	Burgers/ Hot Dogs
Sausage Links	French Fries	Vegetable Medley
Potato Wedges	Salad Bar	Peanut Butter/ Jelly
Cereal/ Fruit/ Yogurt	Peanut Butter/ Jelly	Salad Bar
Milk/ Juice	Water	Milk/ Water

## Program Offerings & Advancement

All packs/ dens will rotate to each program area throughout the weekend with all ranks participating side by side in activities. While many activities naturally offer varied levels of challenges for different age ranges/ ranks, others may require older campers to do additional activities during free time or outside of camp in order to complete the adventures for their rank. Leader/ parent assistance may be requested by staff to aid in ensuring all Scouts are participating at a level that is appropriate for their age/rank.

Program areas and activities will follow the guide below. The adventures listed in this guide may be partially or fully completed at camp depending on the adventure. Checklists will be available at camp for leaders to mark off what requirements their Scouts completed to aid in the advancement and recognition of each Scout post camp. Rotation and group schedules will be emailed the week prior to your session.

Program areas may include: Target & Range Sports (BB guns; archery), Climbing & Games, Swimming, Fishing, STEM, Nature, and Handicraft.

We know that each Scout will arrive at camp with varying comfort levels and experience with certain activities and may or may not desire to complete all activities offered at camp. We ask that leaders/ parents allow the staff to instruct and guide the Scouts through the activities and do their best to follow a "challenge by choice" approach.

*Advancement & Program Guide: Coming Spring 2026!*

### Webelos Outback & Arrow of Light Adventure

Due to changes with the Cub Scout program and advancement track beginning June 1, 2024, we have decided to remove the Webelos Outback & Arrow of Light Adventure programs from our camp program. We encourage all Webelos and AOL scouts to still attend Camp Amikaro and enjoy the activities throughout camp. Webelos & AOL Scouts will still be able to complete several elective adventures while at camp.

## Camp Schedule

### Friday

2:00 PM	Check-In & Swim Tests Begin	Administration Building
5:00 PM	Check-In Ends	
5:30 PM	Swim Tests End	
5:45 PM	Flags	Dining Hall Flag
6:00- 6:30 PM	Dinner	Dining Hall
7:30 PM	Campfire	Amphitheater
10:00 PM	Lights Out	

### Saturday

7:00- 7:50 AM	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:00 AM	Morning Flags	Dining Hall Flag
8:30- 9:30 AM	First Period	Activity Areas
9:45- 10:45 AM	Second Period	Activity Areas
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Third Period	Activity Areas
12:00- 12:45 PM	Lunch	Dining Hall
1:30- 2:30 PM	Fourth Period	Activity Areas
2:45- 3:45 PM	Fifth Period	Activity Areas
4:15- 5:15 PM	Free Time	Activity Areas
5:50 PM	Evening Flags	Dining Hall Flag
6:00 PM	Dinner	Dining Hall
7:15 PM	Scouts' Own Worship Service	Rotary Pavilion
8:00 PM	Campfire	Amphitheater
9:00 PM	S'mores	Campsites
10:00 PM	Lights Out	

### Sunday

7:00- 7:50 AM	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:00 AM	Morning Flags	Dining Hall Flag
8:30- 9:30 AM	Sixth Period	Activity Areas
9:45- 10:45 AM	Seventh Period	Activity Areas
11:00- 11:50 AM	Free Time	Activity Areas
12:00- 1:00 PM	Lunch	Dining Hall
1:00 PM	Check Out Begins	Administration Building
2:00 PM	All Campers Depart	

## Section 4: After Camp

### Campsite Clean-Up and Check-Out

On Sunday, all campers should pack their belongings and depart camp by 2:00pm. While there are activities scheduled Sunday morning and we would love the chance to offer the full experience to all of our campers, we understand that some families may need to depart camp earlier than Sunday afternoon. Once you are packed and ready to head home, please stop in the Administration Building to check out and collect your health forms. DO NOT check out before you are ready to depart camp- the Administration Building is your last stop.

While cleaning up, please keep in mind the Leave No Trace Principles and do your best to leave the campsite in the best condition possible for the next campers who will utilize it. If there are any facility concerns or issues in your campsite, please notify any Camp Staff member as soon as possible, and definitely before departing camp, so we can ensure it gets taken care of in a timely manner. Trash cans with additional trash bags can be found in each campsite as well as at the Trading Post, Dining Hall, and Administration Building.

### Evaluations

Your feedback and comments on your experience at camp are very important to us. Paper evaluations can be found in the Administration Building throughout the weekend. Electronic evaluations will be sent out the week following your session. Please take a few minutes either at camp or during the week following camp to provide us with your feedback on your experience in areas like program, facilities, food, etc. Your comments will help us to improve the best experience for other campers this summer and in the summers to come.

### Camp Amikaro 2027

We hope you have a blast at Camp Amikaro this summer and want to come back again in the future! Registration for 2027 will open in the fall of 2026. Save the date for which session your pack will be attending!

June 18-20; June 25-27; July 9-11; July 16-18; July 23-25

The 2027 Registration can be found at [www.gocubcamping.org](http://www.gocubcamping.org) starting in the fall of 2026.

## Section 5: Health & Safety

### Insurance

The Mid-America Council has purchased the National Boy Scouts of America Council Accident & Sickness Insurance Plan, which will cover all registered Mid-America Council Pack, Troop, and/or Crew members for both accidents and illnesses that manifest during participation in Scouting activities. All out-of-council units and other groups or individuals attending camp will not be covered by the Mid-America Council plan.

### Health Forms

All campers, including adults, MUST bring a copy of their BSA Annual Health & Medical Record with parts A & B completed within the past 12 months. Please use this form found online [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001\\_AB.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf) and bring it to camp. There are no waivers nor exceptions. Each individual should have their own health form available to turn in during check in. Do not list more than one person on the form. Health forms should be picked up before leaving camp. Health forms not picked up from camp will be shredded.

### Medical Record Keeping

In 2026, Camp Amikaro will no longer collect medications from Scouts and leaders. Units/families will be responsible for providing a locked container to store all medications and must document medication usage within their campsite and units. A limited number of locked containers will be available to borrow if a unit needs. Families may also choose to keep medication locked in their vehicle. OTC medications given by the Camp Medic will be documented in the camp first aid log book. It's encouraged for parents to complete the Prescription Medication Record to be reviewed by the unit leadership administering the medications at camp.

### Security Gates

There are three security gates throughout our camp. The main entrance gate will be open from 6am- 10pm. Vehicles can depart camp between 10pm- 6am, but will not be able to get back in during this time. The gates outside the pool and the entrance to Heritage Hill will remain closed at all times. Only authorized personnel can open these gates. Please make prior arrangements for late or early arrival/departure to camp or if you are needing limited driving privileges due to a documented disability or injury.

## Vehicles in Camp

The maximum speed limit on camp roads is 5 mph. No person under 18 may operate a motor vehicle within Camp Cedars. All vehicles must be parked in the long-term parking lot, except as authorized by the Camp Director or the Camp Ranger. Roads beyond the parking lot gate are for the use of camp and authorized vehicles only. Permission to drive beyond the gate must be granted by the Camp Director or approved designee and the vehicle must display a vehicle pass. All occupants of a truck must ride in the cab and must wear seat belts. **Absolutely no one will be allowed to ride in the bed of pick up trucks at any time.** Vehicle traffic between the main camp parking lot and the Heritage area (Heritage lodge, Equestrian, Ropes, and Campsites) is prohibited unless permission to drive is given by the camp administration.

## General Camp Policies

- Platte River: The River and its shoreline are off limits to Scouts and leaders unless involved with the program.
- Ravines: Caution should be exercised when hiking on the remote trails. There are a number of deep ravines.
- Shirts and closed-toed shoes must be worn at all times. The only exception is when in the shower or at the pool. Shirts and closed-toed shoes must be worn when going to/ leaving the pool, shower house, and lakefront.

## The "S" Rules

- Stay with a buddy.
- Stay within camp boundaries.
- Sanitation – scrub with soap!
- Stay out of other people's stuff. Permission must be given to enter another's sleeping area.
- Sticks & stones stay on the ground.

## Communicable Diseases

The leadership of the Mid-America Council has the health and safety of all Scouts, their families, staff, and general public as our highest priority and concern. Each individual and family must make the choice if the safety guidelines implemented make it suitable for them and/or their Scout to participate. The guidelines as outlined below have been

developed using recommendations from the CDC, conversations with local health officials and medical professionals, review by our risk management committee, and input from unit leadership.

Items are subject to change and will be updated promptly as local guidelines change. Three Rivers Public Health Department is the local guidelines that Camp Cedars abides by.

At this time, Camp Cedars will not be taking temperatures of individuals upon arrival to camp or regularly scheduled times during the camp sessions. If needed, routine temperature taking may be necessary as determined by the camp Health Officer and Camp Leadership in conjunction with the Council's Health Supervisor.

All participants, volunteers, and staff must pass the Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist during the check-in process.

All participants must be fever free for 24 hours prior to arriving at camp without the use of NSAIDs or other fever-reducing medications (i.e. Tylenol, Advil, etc.)

We understand that some Scouts may become ill while at camp for a number of reasons. In order to limit the spread of communicable and infectious diseases, a Scout may be quarantined/ isolated or sent home at the discretion of the Camp Health Officer if the following symptoms are present: vomiting, diarrhea, sustained fever, sharp or consistent abdominal pains, sustained coughing and/or trouble breathing.

## Alcohol and Drugs

There are absolutely no alcoholic beverages or unapproved drugs allowed, or to be consumed, at camp. Anyone violating this policy will be asked to leave immediately and, if applicable, the appropriate law enforcement agency will be contacted. Prescription drugs need to be noted on your health form and checked in by the Camp Health Officer.

## Use of Tobacco Products

In accordance with Federal law, no one under the age of 21 may use tobacco products of any kind while at Camp Cedars. BSA Policy states that leaders should refrain from using tobacco products in the presence of Scouts. This includes Smoking and Vaping. The only smoking/vaping area is in the main parking lot.

## Knives

Bear, Webelos, and AOL Scouts must have earned the knife safety adventure that correlates with their current rank in order to use a knife at camp. Blades may not be longer than four inches and must fold. Sheath knives are not permitted for any youth or adult at camp. Cub Scouts must have an adult leader or parent present to buy a knife in the Trading Post.

## Personal Range Sports Equipment

All personal firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment must be left at home. Camp will provide all necessary equipment in the Range Sports area.

## Pets and Wildlife

**Absolutely no pets are allowed at camp.** Exceptions may be made for registered service animals. Please contact [mac@scouting.org](mailto:mac@scouting.org) for questions regarding service animals prior to your session at camp. Emotional support animals are not allowed at camp. Wildlife is a part of camp. Expect to see deer, raccoons, and other creatures. Do not attempt to touch or feed any wildlife. Report any wildlife that behaves in a strange manner to a staff member. This includes showing no fear of humans, biting, scratching, etc.

## Liquid Fuels

Not permitted at Camp Cedars.

## Flames in Tents/Campfires

There will be no flames or heating elements of any kind in tents. Conditions permitting, campfires or cooking fires are the only open fires allowed in the campsites. These fires must be attended while they are burning. All campfires must have appropriate fire-doubling materials nearby. Units should utilize the Unit Fireguard Chart posted on each campsites bulletin board. The fire danger sign located on the west side of the Rotary Pavilion will notify campers of current fire danger levels.

## Theft

Camp Cedars is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Campers are encouraged to leave items of high value at home when possible. Leaders are encouraged to closely monitor cell phones, money, and other valuables while at camp. Individual money envelopes should be

clearly labeled with the Scouts name and pack number. There is zero tolerance for theft. If a camper is found to have stolen from another camper, disciplinary action will be taken as determined by camp and unit leadership. This may result in dismissal from camp.

## Lost & Found

While at camp, Lost & Found bins can be found in program areas, the Dining Hall, and the Administration Building. Lost & found items will be collected at the end of each session. Pictures will be taken and sent to all registrations. Items will be kept until the end of summer at the Durham Scout Center in Omaha, NE for pick up. At the end of the summer, unclaimed items will be donated. Items labeled with Scout name, unit number, and phone number have the highest chance of return.

## Safeguarding Youth

Adult leaders and youth members share the responsibility for the safety of all participants in the program, including adherence to Safeguarding Youth policies. Adult leaders are responsible for monitoring behavior and intervening when necessary. All Camp Staff, Adult Leaders, and Volunteers must complete Safeguarding Youth Training before arriving at camp. This training must be valid through the end of their camp session. If a Youth Protection violation occurs, the Camp Director must be notified immediately.

## Buddy System

Following the guidance of Safeguarding Youth, the buddy system between Scouts should be used at all times. A buddy pair should be Scouts of the same gender and no more than a three year age difference between scouts. An adult leader is not a buddy for a Scout, unless they are the parent/ legal guardian (ONLY for Cub Scouts). Tenting buddies should be the same gender and no more than two years apart.

## Unapproved departure from Camp

All campers will check-in upon arrival to camp. In the case of an individual needing to leave camp early, they must check-out from the Administration building. If/when they return to camp they will need to check back in at the Administration building. If a Scout attempts to leave camp without approval from Unit/ Camp leadership, the Camp Leadership may take disciplinary action as needed including dismissal from camp for the remainder of the camp session.

## Bicycles in Camp

Bicycles are permitted for youth, camp staff, and adult leaders with the following rules enforced in camp. Failure to follow these rules may result in a bike being removed from the rider's possession. The ability to use bicycles in camp is a privilege and not a right.

- A helmet must be worn (and fastened) by the rider at all times and each bicycle is permitted to have a maximum of one rider.
- Riders are expected to know the rules of the road for bicycles as stated in the Guide to Safe Scouting.
- Bicycles are for use on camp roads only and not permitted to be used on any trails or in campsites. When not in use, bicycles are expected to be parked off roadways and trails in such a way as to not impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- Camp Cedars is not responsible for personal bicycles in camp, they are the sole responsibility of the owner

## Discipline

Parents/ adult leaders are responsible for the discipline and good order of their Pack. The camp staff will not assume the responsibility for, or interfere with, unit discipline unless it directly involves the health and safety of Scouts or affects camp operation. The Camp Director must be informed of any problem encountered by a staff member or adult leader. The Camp Director may refer a Scout's discipline problems to the parent/ adult leaders for resolution. No initiation or hazing is permitted in camp. If adult leaders are unwilling or unable to control their Scouts, the Camp Director may require the entire unit to leave camp.

## Dismissal from Camp

If a Scout, leader, or an entire unit is sent home from camp for disciplinary reasons or violation of camp policies, there will be no refund or transfer of any camp fees.

## Non-Scout Participants

All youth attendees of Camp Amikaro must be registered members of the BSA. Youth participants must be at least entering the 1st grade the coming fall and registered in a pack. Siblings are not allowed to attend Camp Amikaro for any reason. Families are welcome to attend one of our Family Weekend campouts throughout the year.

## Weather

The weather at camp is unpredictable throughout the summer months. Everything from warm summer days, thunderstorms, and cold nights are considered normal. Be prepared. Don't forget coats, rain gear, and warm sleeping bags, or bring an extra blanket. Check the forecast before leaving for camp. Camp will not be canceled due to predicted inclement weather, though some activities may not be able to run as planned if thunder and lightning are present. Alternative activities will be available in those instances. The Camp Director and Program Director are constantly watching the weather through multiple different sources. In the event of a severe weather emergency, the sirens will sound and Camp Staff will guide campers to the nearest shelter. Please review the shelter locations shown on the maps in this guide and posted at camp with your Scouts upon arrival to camp.

## Appendix & Dates to Remember

### Dates to Remember

January 1	Campership application opens for MAC Scouts
March 12	Early Bird Deadline- Save \$20/ youth!
April 5	Campership deadline for MAC Scouts
May 5	Free t-shirt for all youth paid in full
June & July	Fun at camp!
Fall 2026	2027 Camp Registration Opens



## Tenting Tips

A good tent set up can really make or break your camping experience. We want you to have a great time at Camp Amikaro, so we've compiled a few tips to help you whether you are an expert camper or this is your first time! This information is geared towards campers bringing their own personal tents. If you'll be camping in a canvas platform tent, check out Section 2 of this leader's guide.

### Get familiar with your equipment

Check-in day can get a little hectic, so it'll help to have some experience setting up the tent. Before your weekend at camp, take your family to the backyard or even push that couch to the side and set up your tent indoors. Make sure your tent has all of its parts and pieces in good order and that you know how to set it up. This is a great chance to dust off last year's dirt, make any repairs or replacements, and get your Scouts involved too! Do you have your rain fly, ground cloth, all the poles and enough tent stakes? **Tip:** upgrade to heavier duty tent stakes (and pack a few extras) with a plastic or rubber mallet too.

#### A Note on Rain Flies and Ground Cloths

Weather in the midwest can be wildly unpredictable and a sunny cloud-free day can quickly turn into a stormy night. It's always a good idea to bring your rain fly and even if you don't think you'll need it, have it close by to put on quickly. **Tip:** attach your rain fly to one side of the tent, and tuck it next to the tent so you can easily unfold it and only have to attach one side if the weather does take a turn.

You should always use a ground cloth to help protect the bottom of your tent from the rough ground and moisture that can build up overnight. You want to make sure your ground cloth is completely underneath your tent and doesn't stick out on any edges. If it does stick out, any rain that falls will roll down and get trapped between the tarp and the bottom of your tent. Some tents may come with a ground cloth specific to your tent. You can also use a normal tarp or a thick plastic sheet, like one you'd lay down when painting your house. When you set up your tent at home, cut the plastic sheet to be just slightly smaller than your tent floor.

### Picking a good spot

On a hot sunny day, you might be tempted to set up your tent under the shade of our big trees out at camp. But, take a look up! Are there branches up above that could fall on you? Avoid setting up your tents under or near trees as tempting as it might be. Look for a spot

that is as flat as possible and gives you plenty of space away from trees. Also, don't set up too close to a campfire, latrine, or in a walking path.

## What other gear do I need?

Make sure to bring sleeping bags, cots/ sleeping pads, and pillows. Camp Amikaro does not provide any of this personal sleeping gear. The campsites also do not have electricity so you won't be able to plug in an air pump to inflate your air mattress. Some air pumps are battery operated. You might also want a lantern to hang in your tent, but a normal flashlight would be just fine too.

## What if I don't have all this gear?

Personal camping gear can be a big investment for your family, and there are so many brands and types to choose from. If you don't already have this gear, there's certainly no need to go out and buy it all. Your pack may have some gear for families to borrow, or other families may have extras to share. Also check with your local Troops. Most of them have lots of gear and would likely be willing to let you borrow it. Plus, it would be a great chance for the older Scouts to teach your Cubs how to use it. If you still can't find the gear you need, please reach out to us at [mac@scouting.org](mailto:mac@scouting.org). We do have some gear that we'd be happy to let you borrow if needed. If you're interested in buying family gear, stores like Scheels, REI, or other local camping stores are great resources for products and knowledge.

**Tip:** Each rank has an adventure related to outdoor camping and going on a campout. Review the requirements to help you plan and prepare for your trip. Some requirements to earn the adventure must be done before the trip in the planning phases, and some during or after the trip.