

Camp Gorton COVID-19 Protocols and Risk Acknowledgement for Camp Participants
Tentative until further direction from the NY State Department of Health

Your safety and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is the Five Rivers Council's top priority. In light of COVID-19, we are taking additional precautions at camp on top of our long-established health and safety measures.

First, our council health supervisor, Peter Parkin MD is coordinating with the Camp Leadership team and the New York State Department of Health to ensure we are aware of and follow their guidance to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 at camp.

Our mitigation plan includes:

- Pre-attendance education including a COVID-19 risk acknowledgement form. Customers in at risk categories will be asked to provide clearance from a physician to attend.
- Health screening conducted by your unit prior to travel to our camp, including a temperature check. COVID-19 vaccination records will be encouraged to be shared.
- Request that units follow best practices in transit to camp (facemasks, distancing, etc.)
- Health screening upon your arrival at camp conducted by our camp health officers, which will also include a temperature check.
 - Note: should anyone in the unit not pass the arrival screening, the entire unit will not be allowed to enter camp.
- All visitors will be screened upon arrival before entry to camp.
- Hygiene reminders throughout camp experience.
- Daily temperature checks will likely be necessary, and this will be at the direction of the New York State Department of Health.
- Troops will be requested to camp their scouts in small groups when possible, by patrol. Single occupancy of tents will be required. Related campers from the same household will be able to share a tent. Units are encouraged to bring their own tents. The camp will be able to provide at least two leader tents per unit.
- Classes will be conducted with personal distancing in an outdoor environment. Inclement weather contingencies will allow for social distancing guidelines.
- Hand wash stations will be added in front of the dining hall.
- Extra handwashing /sanitizer stations throughout camp including disinfectant wipes at all outhouses.
- Program areas will utilize disinfectant wipes or 10% bleach solution spray to clean areas between groups.
- Shared program equipment such as firearms and hand tools will be disinfected between users, class periods, and sessions.
- Full unit attendance at Flag assemblies is not required. All units must send at least two Scouts to report the status of the unit. Staff will attend to ceremonies which may be observed from remote distances by the remainder of the unit if so desired.
- Food service will follow health department guidelines. This may include designated group sizes, no self-service areas, food service staff dishing up portions, assigned mealtimes adjusted for group sizes.
- Shared facilities such as latrines and showers will be provided with sanitizer, bleach wipes and spray for personal use. Staff will provide janitorial services on an accelerated basis daily to these

shared spaces and other gathering areas such as trading post and administration areas to disinfect each space.

- The trading post will use distancing at the window service area and restrict occupancy in the main retail area. Additional time for visiting the trading post will be scheduled.
- Dedicated staff to clean and disinfect high-touch 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.
- Check-ins 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) 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.

I have read and acknowledge the contents of this form. I understand that participating in Camp Gorton activities this summer may expose me to the COVID-19 virus.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature (if under 18): _____ Date: _____