

Camp Gorton COVID-19 Protocols for Camp Participants

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.

Our council leadership is coordinating with our 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:

- Health screening conducted by your unit prior to travel to camp utilizing the [FRC Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist](#).
- COVID-19 vaccination records will be encouraged to be shared on the AMHR as an "Other" vaccination. In accordance with NYS Department of Health Guidance, vaccination status will be used in the event of a close contact at camp to determine if an attendee may remain in camp.
- All Scouts, adults, and visitors to camp are required to have a negative COVID-19 test result (PCR or NAAT) that was performed on a specimen (e.g., swab) collected within 72 hours prior to arrival at the camp or a negative test result on a rapid antigen test (including at home self-tests) collected within six hours prior to arrival at camp. Scouts and adults with confirmed COVID-19 in the previous 3 months will be excluded from pre-camp testing if not symptomatic.
- Health screening upon arrival at camp will be conducted by our camp health officers.
- All visitors will be screened upon arrival and before entry to camp.
- Masks are required in the Health Office as it is considered to be a healthcare facility by the NYS Department of Health.
- Daily temperature checks will be conducted.
- Use of hand sanitizer is required when entering the dining hall.
- Hygiene reminders will be posted throughout camp.
- Tentmates will be required to sleep head to toe to maintain distance while sleeping.
- Extra handwashing /sanitizer stations will be provided 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.
- Food service will follow health department guidelines. This may include designated group sizes, no self-service areas, food service staff will plate all food, assigned mealtimes adjusted for group sizes.
- Shared facilities such as latrines and showers will be provided with sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes 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.
- An emergency response plan that includes isolation and quarantine protocol should a person at camp develop symptoms of COVID-19 or other communicable disease.

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.*