



March 12, 2020

**\*\*Coronavirus Update\*\***

Dear Scouts, Scouters, Family Members and Supporters.

As always, your safety and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is our top priority. We know there are questions and concerns about how COVID-19, commonly known as the coronavirus, could affect local Scouting programs in Inland Northwest Council. Please know that we are monitoring developments regarding COVID-19 both locally and through the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov).

At 6:00pm, March 12, 2020, the Inland Northwest Council Risk Management Team met and discussed the way forward for upcoming Scouting events. The team included several Subject Matter Experts who in their profession have been dealing with COVID-19 Pandemic in both government and private sectors. The meeting was also attended by the Council Key 3 leadership, district leadership and the event planners.

At the recommendation of the Council Risk Management Team and approval of the Council Key 3 Leadership, the below events are hereby postponed. All efforts will be made to reschedule these events as soon as there is appropriate easement of the current pandemic. While this will be disappointing to the participants, the council leadership must err on the side of caution. The safety of our youth and adult volunteers must be our priority.

Postponed Events:

Date	Event	Location
March 14, 2020	Three Rivers MB College	Whitworth U.
March 14, 2020	Adult Leader Training	Whitworth U.
March 14, 2020	Commissioner Training	Whitworth U.
March 14, 2020	Mtn Lake Volunteer Luncheon	CDA Bible Church
March 14, 2020	R&R Merit Badge College	WSU, Pullman

The NRA classes on March 14th and 15th have less than 12 people and will still be held at the council office. The Risk Management Committee did not decide on the CDA Leadership Breakfast scheduled for March 18th; opting to have further discussion first.

Furthermore, the Risk Management Team only addressed the immediate upcoming events but in the coming week will address the other scheduled events in March, April and May. Decisions about unit meetings and activities should be made by unit leadership and chartering organizations based on the unit's individual circumstances and current CDC and local health department guidelines.

These are trying times for the Inland Northwest Council and our communities. We truly appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we move forward.

Yours in Scouting,

Karen Meier  
Scout Executive

### **BSA Policies to Prevent the Spread of Illness**

The Boy Scouts of America continues to have policies and procedures in place that help protect participants from contracting an illness at large Scouting events. These include the [Annual Health and Medical Record](#) and the [Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist](#).

### **Everyday Preventive Measures**

Even with those important policies in place, it is critical that we all take these everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases:

- **Stay home when you feel sick.**
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and wash your hands before and after doing so.
- **Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve/elbow, not your hands.**
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Do not share personal items such as cups, water bottles, eating utensils, etc.
- Avoid shaking hands.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.** If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

**If you have a fever, cough, or other symptoms associated with COVID-19, or if you believe you may have been exposed to COVID-19, you should isolate and not attend any Scouting events. People who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider immediately.**

Should you have any questions or concerns about a specific upcoming event or activity, please reach out to your local district executive. We will do everything we can to answer your question using the information available to us.