

Mayflower Council Moves to New Headquarters

Mayflower Council, Inc, Boy Scouts of America, announced that they have acquired an office building in Milford, MA to serve as their new Service Center headquarters. The building, located at 83 Cedar Street, Milford, will provide 8,100 sq. ft. of office and meeting space for the Council's 17 professional and support staff.

Cranberry Harbors September Roundtable

Slides, Flyers and Handouts from our September 2 Roundtable are posted for download and use here. Thank you for your participation.

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September Training Newsletter

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Pandemic Update

Mayflower Council suspended all in-person training courses in the spring. We'd love to be back out there delivering in-person training sessions all across the council now, but until the pandemic is under control, we're operating in a modified capacity to minimize risk to our participants, our trainers, and their families.

Right now, we offer two main avenues for training:

1. **Online training from the BSA:** It's available 24/7 at <https://my.scouting.org>. We know it's not as interactive as in-person training, but it's the most convenient option. Right now, it's also the safest.
 - o If you need to renew your **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**, this is the way to do it.
 - o You can complete **Position-Specific Training** (for the "Trained" patch) for almost every Scouting position through BSA online.
2. **Local webinars:** Our volunteer trainers are continuing to run a series of online training sessions. Please see the calendar at right, and check the weekly Mayflower Council news email for additions to the list. These sessions include:
 - o "Live" versions of certain **Position-Specific Training** courses. For example, we'll run basic training for Cub Scout leaders this fall. It's a good way to (virtually) meet fellow leaders, share ideas, and be able to ask questions.
 - o Webinars on **other timely topics of interest** (see "Scoutbook" training, for example).

There are a few things we can't do. For example, National does not allow us to create our own "webinar" versions of IOLS, BALOO, or YPT. IOLS and BALOO are outdoor camping skills courses where it's just not possible to achieve the learning objectives without a hands-on outdoor component. As for first aid training, we follow the policies of the American Red Cross, which still requires in-person skill verification to get (re)certified.

We are investigating whether we can run IOLS or BALOO later this fall. Obviously there would be many modifications in terms of numbers, facilities, equipment, and group teaching to be able to do it safely. A team of volunteers is currently reviewing whether it's possible to do this while staying true to the goals and requirements of the training. We're also following news from National (which is testing an IOLS "hybrid" course) and other nearby councils (some have canceled altogether; others are trying to plan limited fall offerings). We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we try to fulfill our mission without putting people at risk.

Upcoming Online Opportunities



* = pre-registration required * = online registration open
* = counts toward basic requirements for adults

- Sept 3* New Member Coordinator Workshop
- Sept 8* Tips for Success with Scoutbook
- Sept 27* Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 1 of 2)

Dates to be announced:

- Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 2 of 2)
- "Be A Scout"/Membership Tools
- Den Chief Workshop (*maybe... working on it*)
- Merit Badge Counselor Training

Changes to My.Scouting Interface... But Records Have Not Been Lost!

In late spring, the BSA rolled out some changes to the way you find training courses on My.Scouting. The point of this reorganization was to group individual training segments into a "learning plan" for each position, make it easier to find segments you still need to take (for example, Hazardous Weather isn't hidden in a different place like it used to be), and have credit carry over so you don't have to take the same segment twice for two different positions.

Many Scouters noticed that after this change, their "learning plans" did not list all their previous completions. We heard a lot of questions and concerns about this. Our contacts at National confirmed that this is a known problem, and they were not able to transfer all those completions when they made the switch. **But there's good news!** The training you took in the past **will** still show up on your official record—which is what really counts. Here's how to check your official record:

1. Go to <https://my.scouting.org>.
2. From the menu, choose "My Training."
3. Click "Completions."

We checked this for everyone who asked, and the official records still looked complete. The main case where this won't work is if you have two different My.Scouting accounts or member IDs that still need to be merged.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration: www.mayflowerbsa.org/training
- BSA online training: <https://my.scouting.org>
- Council training chair: Chris Lamie: chris.lamie@gmail.com
- Staff contact: Kat Nussbaumer: kat@mayflowerbsa.org

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

Swim Tests

Do you need your BSA Swim test? Join us at Camp Resolute or Camp Squanto. We have three dates available. Space is limited.

September 5th – 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

September 8th – 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

September 9th – 5:30 – 7:00 pm

- Each registrant will be given a time slot in 15 min increments and must adhere to COVID restrictions.
- Please arrive on time and in your bathing suit, there are no changing areas.
- Be prepared to do your swim test and immediately exit the water, there is no free swim time.
- Please wear a mask at all times when not in the water and maintain social distancing.
- Upon arrival there will be a pre-screening of COVID related questions.

The various components of each test evaluate the several skills essential to the minimum level of swimming ability. Each step of the test is important and must be followed as listed below:

SWIMMER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the individual's head in depth, level off, and begin swimming. Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting backstroke (elementary backstroke). The 100 yards must be swum continuously and

include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

BEGINNER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the individual's head in depth, level off, swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming as before, and return to the starting place.

NON-SWIMMER TEST:

This is reserved for anyone that attempts one of the swim tests above and does not complete it to a satisfactory degree, subject to the test's administrator (Lifeguard or Scout Leader). Anyone who does not attend swim tests is automatically assigned a "Non-Swimmer" classification. Please do not sign up for these swim tests if you are planning to attempt a non-swimmer test, you will be sent home.

Guide to Safe Scouting; what do Swimmers vs Beginners vs Non-Swimmers do?

Guide to Safe Scouting online version

Age appropriate Guidelines for Scouting activities

Sign Up For Camp Resolute

Sign Up For Camp Squanto

The Scout Shop Uniform Sale Is Back

This uniform sale helps you save on essential elements of the Scouting experience as a new Scouting year begins.

New Video Resources Can Help Den Leaders

With the pandemic limiting some in-person activities, these videos offer an easy-to-deliver virtual alternative for leaders. Your Content Goes Here

Member Care Transitioning Support to Council

On Sept. 1, Member Care Contact Center will shift to serve council employees so they can address local volunteer needs.

Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scouts Update

Those connected to the process for the inaugural class of female Eagle Scouts should review the updated guidance.

Mayflower Council August Roundtable

Thank you everyone that attended the Council-wide roundtable held on Thursday, August 20.

Below are the slide presentations from each of the sessions that you can now download.

Opening Announcements

Cub Scouts

How to Meet: Den Leader Outdoor COVID Meeting Guide

Keep Your Pack Sound: Fundraising with COVID Restrictions

Scouts BSA

Rank Advancement in the Virtual World: Scout to First Class

Rank Advancement in the Virtual World: Star to Eagle

Council-wide Art Contest

Show off your inner Norman Rockwell!

Do you have an eye for artwork? Do you want to have your work recognized by the council for a whole year? Get creative and

use your favorite style of art, whether it is pop art, expressionism, cartoon, black and white, color, whatever you like.

We will pick 5 ultimate winners, one from each of the divisions (Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venture, Explorers, and Ship). Winners will have their submission framed and displayed at the Council Service Center for a whole year, featured on the Council website, and will receive a special shout out in Mayflower Today and facebook!

Entries due by September 30, 2020.

For detailed contest rules and to submit your artwork please visit the link below!

Submit Your Artwork