Special Jamboree On The Internet!

School’s been canceled. Restaurants are closed. Libraries are closed. The gym’s closed. Scouts?

Still going strong!

Join us on April 3-5 for an opportunity to talk with Scouts from around the world during a special Jamboree on the Internet! This is a truly rare opportunity for Scouts and Scouters to come together, share ideas about keeping Scouting moving during this unique time, and learn first-hand from Scouts in other parts of the world what is going on in their backyards.

This will help meet requirements for Cub Scout and Scouts BSA advancement opportunities, so be sure to document your JOTI participation for credit! To learn more, click on the button below.

Learn More

Rank Advancement and COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Questions and Answers

Cub Scouting/Scouts BSA/Venturing/Sea Scouting
Rank Advancement and COVID-19

The following questions regarding advancement have arisen as

we deal with closures, cancellations, or other issues caused by the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Although there are difficulties and constraints, advancement can continue. Youth, parents, and leaders should work together to implement creative, common sense ways to facilitate advancement while adhering to the Guide to Safe Scouting and following the rules of Youth Protection training.

Please follow this link to the Guide to Advancement (GTA), which remains the primary source for information related to Scouts BSA advancement. It is referenced throughout the answers provided here.

All Scouting Programs

Q: How can advancement be tracked remotely?
A: Scouting units should use ScoutBook to record and track advancement.

To track advancement remotely, parents should:

1. Connect with their child's member profile via an invitation that the unit leader sends within ScoutBook.
2. Once a connection is made, the parent should use the Scouting app, found in both the App Store and Google Play, to stay connected with their unit.
3. The Scouting app provides parents the ability to report any advancement that was completed at home.

Go to help.scoutbook.com to learn more about how to start using ScoutBook and how to connect parents to their Scouts.

Cub Scouts

Q: May parents sign off on Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements?

A: Yes. Through July 31, 2020, parents and other adults in the Cub Scout's family, may sign off on Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements. We strongly encourage that parents use the Scouting App or ScoutBook to record completion of their child's requirements.

Q: If my den is behind in advancement due to COVID-19, can my Cub Scout continue to work on advancement through the summer?
A: Yes. Cub Scouts can continue to work on their current den's advancement through July 31, 2020. This is to provide any additional time a Cub Scout needs to complete their badge of rank; if they earn their badge of rank prior to July 31, 2020, they may advance to the next rank.

Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts

Q: May merit badge requirements or rank requirements be modified?
A: No. All requirements must be completed as written. If meetings or activities are canceled or limited, youth should continue to work on requirements as far as possible. By employing common sense and creative solutions, many requirements—even Scoutmaster conferences—can be fulfilled through videoconferencing or telephone calls.

Q: Can merit badge counseling or Nova/Supernova counseling be done using digital technologies like Zoom or WebEx?
A: Yes, registered merit badge counselors or Nova counselors/Supernova mentors may work with youth using digital platforms, ensuring that all youth protection measures noted in the Guide to Safe Scouting and BSA's social media guidelines are in place. In addition to youth protection, the advancement guidelines in GTA Section 7 are required.

Q: May time missed due to canceled unit meetings count toward active participation requirements?
A: Yes. If youth are registered and in good standing, a

disruption from COVID-19 virus can be the "noteworthy circumstance" that prevents participation. This policy has been in place for many years and is explained in GTA Topic 4.2.3.1.

Q: May time missed due to canceled unit meetings count toward position of responsibility requirements?
A: Yes. If youth are registered and unable to meet the expectations of their positions because of COVID-19 disruptions, then units may need to waive or rethink the expectations. Just as youth must not be held to unestablished expectations, they must not be held to expectations that are impossible to fulfill. See GTA Topic 4.2.3.4, "Positions of Responsibility," with its six subtopics.

Q: Does the National Council grant extensions of time to complete rank requirements beyond the 18th birthday for the Eagle or 21st birthday for Summit or Quartermaster?
A: Yes, but only for the Eagle Scout rank as described in GTA Topic 9.0.4.0 or for Venturing Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster as described in GTA Topic 4.3.3.0. Unit leadership must become familiar with the five tests under 9.0.4.0. The tests were designed to accommodate such obstacles as those presented by COVID-19 disruptions.

Q: Will youth who are not yet Life Scouts be allowed to apply for an extension to earn the Eagle Scout rank?
A. Extensions are considered only for Scouts who are Life rank. If, once a Scout achieves Life rank, it turns out that COVID-19 disruptions along the way have left them with insufficient time to complete Eagle requirements, then this may be cited when the time comes to submit an extension request.

Q: May local councils grant extensions?
A: Normally, that is not allowed. However, due to the current situation—effective immediately and through September 30, 2020—council Scout executives may grant extensions, or

delegate authority to the Council Advancement Committee to grant extensions under the following limitations:

1. It can be established that COVID-19 disruptions were the only circumstances that delayed work on Eagle Scout/Summit/Quartermaster advancement requirements, such as the service project or merit badges. If any other causes were involved, the extension request must go to the National Council following the process outlined in the GTA.
2. Extensions shall only be granted to youth in Scouts BSA who have already achieved Life rank.
3. When the council receives a COVID-19-related request for a time extension, the council reviews the request and approves it if appropriate. A written response stating the outcome of the extension request must go to the youth. If approved, the notification must be attached to the youth's Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster rank application. For Eagle, the extension must not exceed 3 months from the youth's 18th birthday; for Summit/Quartermaster, the extension must not exceed 3 months from the youth's 21st birthday.
4. Upon turning 18, the Scout must submit a completed adult application and successfully complete YPT; their participant code will now be UP for SBSA or VP for Venturing and Sea Scouting.
5. Extension requests for more than 3 months beyond the youth's 18th/21st birthday must be sent to the National Service Center following the process outlined in the GTA.

Note: A "month" in BSA advancement is defined as a day from one month to the next. For example, March 5 to April 5.

In Mayflower Council our Scout Executive has delegated the authority to grant extensions to the Council Advancement Committee. The authority for councils to grant extensions is temporary, lasting only through Sept. 30, 2020.

Q: If youth have already received an extension, can they request additional time due to COVID-19?
A: Yes. Council Scout executives may grant extensions, or delegate authority to the Council Advancement Committee to grant extensions under the limitations listed above. In Mayflower Council our Scout Executive has delegated the authority to grant extensions to the Council Advancement Committee.

Q: What should be done while an extension request is being considered?
A: Youth should continue to work on advancement in so far as they are able—e.g., independently, or over the phone or videoconference—and at Scouting activities once they resume.

Q: Are extensions required when an Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster board of review must be delayed?
A: No. Councils may grant Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster boards of review up to six months after the youth's 18th/21st birthday. See GTA Topic 8.0.3.1, "Eagle Scout Board of Review Beyond the 18th Birthday."

See also, GTA Topic 8.0.1.6, "Boards of Review Through Videoconferencing."

Q: Are electronic or digital signatures acceptable for rank advancement or for the Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster packets/applications?
A: Yes. Electronic or digital signatures will be accepted through September 30, 2020.

Q: How can a youth continue to work on advancement requirements if they don't have internet or high-speed internet for videoconferencing?
A: Youth may take a picture of their completed activity/requirement and share the work with unit leaders. In keeping with Youth Protection Training policies, all communications from youth should be sent to at least two

adults. Parents or guardians may send advancement work on behalf of their child.

Scouting At Home

Are Your Scouts At Home?

Scouting can take place anywhere – even in the comfort of your home!

Here you will find a resource hub for parents and leaders to help support Scouting at home, with stay-at-home educational activities for any Scout rank, tips for continuing to work on advancements and kid-friendly content that connects Scouting with their daily lives. We will continue to add new content and resources to this hub regularly.

Our goal is to make it easier to deliver the Scouting program by making plans more accessible to leaders and those who can help leaders like our parents.

Cub Scouts

- P.R.A.Y. is extending grade-level eligibility for Scouts to earn certain religious awards; learn more about that and ways to complete religious award requirements at home during P.R.A.Y.’s Facebook live broadcast at 2:00pm on March 24.
- The World Organization of the Scout Movement will hold a “special edition” Jamboree on the Air/Jamboree on the Internet on April 3-5.
- Consider holding a virtual pack Pinewood Derby where

Scout’s drop off their cars at the track location, cars are cleaned, and the race is done via Facebook live.

Cub Scout 30 Day Challenge

Introducing the 30-Day Cub Scout Challenge, a great way to keep your Scouting skills sharp without leaving home. Packed full of adventure and elective requirements, use this daily checklist as a roadmap to rank advancement.

- 30-Day Lion Challenge
- 30-Day Tiger Challenge
- 30-Day Wolf Challenge
- 30-Day Bear Challenge
- 30-Day Webelos Challenge

Advancement that can be completed at home (click to expand)**:**

Lion – Kindergarten
Animal Kingdom – This Adventure is all about community. – Required Adventure
Build it Up, Knock it Down – This Adventure is all about building. – Elective Adventure
Gizmos and Gadgets – This Adventure is all about motion, force and creating objects. – Elective Adventure
I’ll Do It Myself – This Adventure is all about being prepared. – Elective Adventure
Pick My Path – This Adventure is all about to do a good turn daily. – Elective Adventure
Ready, Set, Grow – This Adventure focuses on plants and gardens. – Elective Adventure

Tiger – First Grade
Backyard Jungle – This Adventure and is very hands-on with planting something and building birdhouses – this can be done as a solo family Adventure. – Required Adventure
My Family’s Duty to God – This is often an “at home” adventure anyway because faith beliefs in Scouting are determined by the family. – Required Adventure

Tiger Bites – An Adventure that covers food choices and preparation, manners and nutrition. – Required Adventure
Curiosity, Intrigue, and Magical Mysteries – An Adventure about magic, codes, sign language and more. – Elective Adventure
Family Stories – An Adventure about family heritage. – Elective Adventure
Sky is the Limit – Adventure all about the night sky, constellations, astronauts, etc. – Elective Adventure
Stories in Shapes – An Adventure about art. – Elective Adventure
Tiger-Safe and Smart – An Adventure all about home and neighborhood safety. – Elective Adventure
Tiger Tales – An Adventure all about story-telling, tall tales, singing. – Elective Adventure

Wolf – Second Grade
Paws on the Path – An Adventure covering hiking skills and nature and maps. – Required Adventure
Adventures in Coins – An Adventure about Coins. – Elective Adventure
Code of the Wolf – An Adventure that uses math games and secret codes. – Elective Adventure
Digging in the Past – An Adventure about dinosaurs, fossils and archaeology. – Elective Adventure
Finding Your Way – An Adventure about map and compass, hiking and a scavenger hunt. – Elective Adventure
Germs Alive – An Adventure about keeping clean and germs. – Elective Adventure
Grow Something – An Adventure about planting and make a terrarium. – Elective Adventure
Motor Away – An Adventure about cars, boats and paper airplanes. – Elective Adventure
Paws of Skill – An Adventure about fitness, sports, sporting event and obstacle courses. – Elective Adventure

Bear – Third Grade

BALOO the Builder – An Adventure covering using tools and wood tools. – Required Adventure
Bear Claws – An Adventure all about knife use and knife safety. – Required Adventure
Fellowship and Duty to God – This is often an “at home” adventure anyway because faith beliefs in Scouting are determined by the family. – Required Adventure
Paws for Action – An Adventure that’s all about history/patriotism, visiting a law enforcement facility, basic emergency preparedness, energy conservation and a cleanup service project. – Required Adventure
Bear Picnic Basket – An Adventure about cooking. – Elective Adventure
Make It Move – An Adventure about fun Engineering. – Elective Adventure
Roaring Laughter – An Adventure about Fun, Jokes, Stories and Games. – Elective Adventure
Robotics – An Adventure about robots. – Elective Adventure
Super Science – An Adventure about Fun Science experiments. – Elective Adventure
A World of Sound – An Adventure about World Music and Instruments. – Elective Adventure

Webelos & Arrow of Light – 4th & 5th Grade
Duty to God and You – This is often an “at home” adventure anyway because faith beliefs in Scouting are determined by the family. – Required Adventure
First Responder – An adventure, covering basic first aid and emergency preparedness. – Required Adventure
Adventures In Science – An Adventure about science. – Required Adventure
Art Explosion – An Adventure about art. – Elective Adventure
Aware and Care – An Adventure about Disabilities Awareness. – Elective Adventure
Build My Own Hero – An Adventure about Citizen Heroes. – Elective Adventure
Engineer – An Adventure about engineering. – Elective

Adventure
Fix It – An Adventure about home repairs. – Elective Adventure
Game Design – An Adventure about games. – Elective Adventure
Looking Back, Looking Forward – An Adventure about Your Own Timeline. – Elective Adventure
Maestro – An Adventure about music. – Elective Adventure
Moviemaking – An Adventure about moviemaking. – Elective Adventure
Project Family – An Adventure about family life. – Elective Adventure

Scouts BSA

- Conduct virtual patrol leaders council meetings via teleconference or web video conferencing. Ensure to maintain two-deep leadership throughout the virtual meeting.
- Encourage patrol leaders to communicate digitally with their patrol members.
- Conduct online merit badge counselor meetings using web video conferencing tools such as Google Hangouts, Zoom, Skype, UberConference, FreeConference or Facebook. Ensure to maintain two-deep leadership throughout the virtual meeting. Note completing a worksheet and emailing it does not constitute a "virtual discussion", rather use interactive video or phone conversations. See this post for more information.
- Hold Scoutmaster Conference using web video conferencing. Ensure to maintain two-deep leadership throughout the virtual meeting.
- P.R.A.Y. is extending grade-level eligibility for Scouts to earn certain religious awards; learn more about that and ways to complete religious award requirements at home during P.R.A.Y.'s Facebook live broadcast at 2:00pm on March 24.

- The World Organization of the Scout Movement will hold a “special edition” Jamboree on the Air/Jamboree on the Internet on April 3-5.

Scouts BSA 30 Day Challenge

Introducing the 30-Day Scouts BSA Challenge, a great way to keep your Scouting skills sharp without leaving home. Use this daily checklist as a roadmap to rank advancement.

- 30-Day Scouts BSA Challenge

Merit Badges that can be completed at home include:

- Family Life
- Personal Management
- Personal Fitness
- Reading
- American Heritage
- Pets
- Emergency Preparedness
- Public Health
- Medicine
- Radio
- Citizenship in Community
- Citizenship in Nation
- Citizenship in the World

Other things you can do:

- Plan and cook a meal for your family.
- Encourage Scouts to post online stories from history and how humanity was able to overcome such difficulties and give people hope.
- Hold a virtual gaming meet. Or use Kahoot to host an online quiz.
- Encourage Scouts to communicate with Scouts around the world. Learn about the World Organization of the Scouting Movement (WOSM). Introduce JOTA/JOTI.

- Coordinate a community-based support network. Work with your chartered organization to develop a plan. Offer your unit assistance in helping the needy.
- Post examples of how Scouts are helping the community on social media.

Venturing

Venturing BSA 30 Day Challenge

Introducing the 30-Day Venturing Challenge, a great way to keep your Venturers skills sharp without leaving home. Use this daily checklist as a roadmap to rank advancement.

- 30-Day Venturing Challenge

Looking for more at home Scouting hacks? Check out Bryan on Scouting for more great ideas and resources.

Guidance Regarding COVID-19 for Scouting Events



The Mayflower Council is excited to provide to our units the Reopening Scouting information and documentation needed for any Mayflower Council unit to re-engage in unit meetings,

activities, outings and/or service. There are some new required procedures before re-engagement can occur. Below is a 4 guidebooks for all units and registered members/families to follow prior to re-engaging at any level of participation. These documents and required forms are necessary for the protection of our members (including our youth members), volunteer leaders and chartered partners, and the Mayflower Council and the BSA. The purpose of these precautionary procedures and steps is to mitigate certain risks and liabilities that unit leaders and others may be exposed to in connection with the reopening of Scouting in Mayflower Council while facilitating the ability to provide a first-class program to the youth we serve.

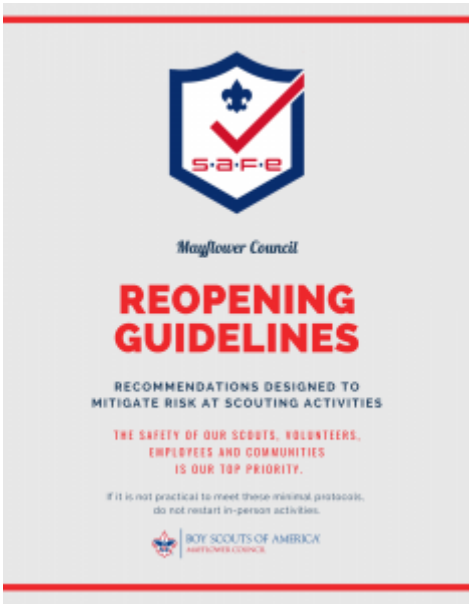
Please read and abide by these guidelines before re-engaging. If you have questions or concerns please contact us by email.

Thank you for all you do to make Scouting happen!



Guidance Documents
Updated January 22

All Scouting families and leaders are advised to download and read this guidance document before reopening Scouting.



Program Guidelines
Updated March 3, 2022

All leaders are advised to download and read the latest guidelines that are in place for Scouting meetings and activities.



Incident Reporting

In the event of sickness (including COVID-19) or accident during a unit, district or council event, units or event staff are required to complete and submit an incident report.

Latest Council Updates Concerning COVID-19

Mayflower Council, in addition to other communications, will update this web page with additional recommendations as new information becomes available.

March 3, 2022 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2022-03-03T15:36:25-05:00

March 3, 2022 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



The Mayflower Council is implementing the following changes that are effective immediately.

We continue to encourage our Scouting families and leaders to practice healthy and safe activities following recommended guidelines for COVID mitigation strategies. We are following the recommendations of the CDC, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, local healthcare officials and the Boy Scouts of America.

Mask Mandate Update

- Masks are no longer required for indoor Scouting meetings; however, masks are recommended while in large groups where social distancing is not possible.
- Scouts, leaders, and families are encouraged to practice social distancing whenever possible.
- Scouts and units must follow their chartered organization or meeting location guidelines or policies regarding the wearing of masks.
- Please note that the requirement of mask-wearing may be determined and enforced by the chartered organization or meeting location.
- Unit leadership must be aware of any local health department ordinances or requirements regarding the wearing of masks in public facilities.
- If an individual chooses to continue wearing a mask, that is perfectly acceptable.

COVID Attestation Form Update

- COVID attestation forms will no longer be required at

every Scouting meeting and activity. The forms are still available for those who would like to use them, but they are no longer required to be used.

General Guidance Update

- Any adult or youth experiencing COVID-like symptoms needs to immediately isolate and follow existing protocols.
- If a participant was exposed to COVID-19 within the last 10 days, guidance is as follows:
    - For those who are FULLY vaccinated: If you were exposed to COVID-19, participation is still allowed. Keep an eye out for symptoms for 10 days after the last contact. Participant must wear a mask around others to prevent possible transmission.
    - For those who are NOT vaccinated: If you were exposed to COVID-19, no participation is permitted for 5 days from the last contact. Keep an eye out for symptoms for 10 days after the last contact. Masks are required for participation during days 6-10.
- Unit leaders must report, within 12 hours, confirmed or strongly suspected cases of any communicable disease infections, including COVID-19, occurring during or within 48 hours after a unit meeting or activity, to incidentreport@mayflowerbsa.org using the incident report forms. Unit leaders are also required to promptly notify adult leaders and parents of all Scouts who participated in the activity, as well as the unit's chartered organization representative. Additional guidance on reporting is available here.
- No shared food or drink, for example, no buffet service or family-style service. If someone from the unit is cooking, then that person needs to plate the food for each participant. We recommend individually packaged

condiments and anything you can purchase individually packaged.

Unit Camping Update

- Cabins continue to be available for program use by units.
- While it is recommended to sleep one person per tent, it is acceptable to camp with a maximum of two people per tent. Parental permission should be obtained by the unit leader for any youth members sharing a tent.
- When sharing a tent or lean-to, individuals should sleep no closer than 6 feet from one another. Individuals sleeping next to one another or in bunk beds should be arranged to sleep head-to-toe.

Transportation Update

- Carpooling is permitted. While traveling in a vehicle to an outing or activity, face covering use is suggested, but not required. It is also recommended that windows are at least partially open to increase airflow and air exchange and air intake is in non-circulating mode.

Review the complete Mayflower Council COVID-19 Program Reopening Guidelines here. If you have specific questions, please direct your questions to covid19@mayflowerbsa.org

Thank you for doing your part to help keep our Scouts, leaders, and families healthy and safe.

January 6, 2022 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2022-01-06T11:59:24-05:00

January 6, 2022 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



The Mayflower Council remains committed to and focused on providing a safe environment for our employees, Scouts, Scouters, and volunteers. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have repeatedly taken practical steps and implemented robust measures to ensure the welfare of all which has enabled us to safely run programs over the last two years.

Due to the increase in prevalence of COVID-19 in our communities, Mayflower Council is restating the following guidelines, already in effect as of September 23, 2021.

General Guidance

- Vaccines are strongly recommended for all who are eligible.
- It is the policy of the council that face coverings **will be worn** by everyone in attendance during meetings or other indoor events. This applies to every person, youth and adult, vaccinated and unvaccinated.
- Face coverings should not be worn in or near water, while actively eating or drinking, or while sleeping. Proper social distancing should be maintained in those circumstances.
- Each member should “Be Prepared” and have an ample amount of clean and dry face masks available to wear.
- Units and members must follow any additional guidelines imposed by local municipalities or health departments, building operators, or chartered organizations.
- The Mayflower Council “Model Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist” has been updated, effective January 5, 2022.

Everyone should use this checklist prior to beginning each meeting or activity.

- Unit leaders must report, within 12 hours, confirmed or strongly suspected cases of any communicable disease infections, including COVID-19, occurring during or within 48 hours after a unit meeting or activity, to incidentreport@mayflowerbsa.org using the incident report forms. Unit leaders are also required to promptly notify adult leaders and parents of all Scouts who participated in the activity, as well as the unit's chartered organization representative. Additional guidance on reporting is available here.

Unit Camping Guidance

- Cabins continue to be available for program use by units.
- Mayflower Council strongly advises against group (congregate) sleeping inside cabins or other indoor locations. We recommend that unit overnight camping be limited to tent and lean-to sites.
- Face coverings will be worn by everyone when indoors. This applies to every person, youth and adult, vaccinated and unvaccinated.
- While it is recommended to sleep one person per tent, it is acceptable to camp with a maximum of two people per tent. Parental permission should be obtained by the unit leader for any youth members sharing a tent.
- When sharing a tent or lean-to, individuals should sleep no closer than 6 feet from one another. Individuals sleeping next to one another or in bunk beds should be arranged to sleep head-to-toe.

Transportation

While traveling in a vehicle to an outing or activity, face covering use is required. It is also recommended that windows are at least partially open to increase airflow and air exchange and air intake is in non-circulating mode.

Council Service Center
Face coverings are required for all visitors, including those who are vaccinated, in shared public areas: meeting rooms, hallways, etc.

As always, if you or someone in your family is experiencing symptoms of illness, refrain from attending **any** Scouting meetings or activities. Please continue to wash your hands and practice good hygiene at all times.

A Scout is Helpful. Let's work together to make sure that Scouting does its part to avoid contributing to an overloaded health care system.

We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary. In the meantime, all events on the calendar will continue as planned with the above guidance in addition to our guidelines and protocols. Any information about cancelations or postponements of events will be sent to those signed up as soon as it is available.

The above are simply highlights of our COVID-19 guidelines; review the complete Mayflower Council COVID-19 Program Reopening Guidelines here.

September 23, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2021-09-23T14:38:58-04:00

September 23, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



The safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees, and communities continues to be our top priority. We must continue our vigilance to assure that youth and their families are safe while they enjoy the many benefits of Scouting. Due to the increase in infection rates seen from COVID-19; the development of variants; the percentage of individuals who are not vaccinated; and the current vaccine not being able to be used in children under 12 yrs. of age, the Mayflower Council is recommending the following updated guidelines which are subject to change based upon local health department, state, CDC, and council risk management committee recommendations. Units are permitted to establish stricter standards for their unit meetings and activities if they so desire. We want everyone to feel safe and comfortable.

General Guidance

- Vaccines are strongly recommended for all who are eligible.
- **Effective Friday, September 24: Each Scout and adult, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a face covering at indoor meetings, events and activities. Face coverings are not required at outdoor Scouting meetings, events or activities.**
- Participants should not attend any activity/meeting/event if they or anyone they live with has been tested for COVID-19 or another illness and does not have the results back yet.
- All participants should follow posted capacity limits of indoor spaces. Avoid crowded or poorly ventilated indoor activities.

  Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Some local and community orders may supersede these guidelines.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control, the Delta variant causes more infections and spreads faster than

early forms of COVID-19. We must remain attentive to mitigation measures.

Unit Meetings & Activities
Unit leadership should follow local health guidelines and continue to practice social distancing in all Scouting activities. Face coverings are no longer required in outdoor settings where social distancing is incorporated. For indoor meetings and activities, face coverings are required for all youth and adults in attendance. On campouts, we recommend that if Scouts sleep more than one per tent, they sleep head to toe. Separate tenting arrangements must be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. In Cub Scouting, parents and guardians may share a tent with their family. In all other programs, youth and adults tent separately.

Face Masks at Mayflower Council Camps
While outdoors at camp, face coverings are not required. Face coverings are required to be worn indoors including inside the dining hall and all other camp buildings.

Health Assessments & Cleaning
Council activities will continue to require the pre-event screening sheet. Upon arriving at an event, this sheet will be reviewed by a member of the event staff. Event staff will clean restrooms and high traffic areas often. Program equipment will be wiped down between groups and hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout camp. We recommend all participants bring and use their own hand sanitizer and practice good hand washing hygiene.

Facility Rentals
Units and groups may continue to use council facilities by making a reservation through our online booking system. Face coverings are required to be worn indoors including inside the rental cabins except when actively eating or drinking or sleeping.

Transportation
While traveling in a vehicle to an outing or activity, face covering use is required. It is also recommended that windows are at least partially open to increase airflow and air exchange and air intake is in non-circulating mode.

Council Service Center
Face coverings are required for all visitors, including those who are vaccinated, in shared public areas: meeting rooms, hallways, etc.

The above are simply highlights of our COVID-19 guidelines; review the complete Mayflower Council COVID-19 Program Reopening Guidelines here.

June 15, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2021-09-10T10:26:56-04:00

June 15, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



On June 15, the Mayflower Council is revised its COVID-19 guidelines.

Review the most up to date Program Guidelines here. For the latest complete COVID-19 council guidance refer to www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19.

Finally, as Scouts, it is important that we demonstrate the principles of the Scout Law now more than ever before. As restrictions continue to lift, individuals within your Scout unit may have varying levels of comfort or anxiety. It is our

responsibility to be kind while being helpful and friendly and demonstrate empathy and respect to everyone, even if they have beliefs different from ours. As we move forward let's be cheerful and brave while showing obedience to the rules, regulations and guidance of the Commonwealth, Council, chartered organizations and cities/towns.

May 20, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2021-05-20T13:52:52-04:00

May 20, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



On Monday, May 17, the Baker-Polito Administration announced that all remaining COVID-19 restrictions in the Commonwealth will be lifted effective May 29. The Mayflower Council is revising our COVID-19 guidelines based on this announcement.

Highlights of the changes are as follows:

- In line with updated CDC and Commonwealth face covering guidance, the Mayflower Council will rescind the current face covering requirement for outdoor Scouting meetings, events & activities effective May 29. Face coverings will remain required indoors for all Scouting meetings, events & activities.
- The gathering limits will be rescinded.
- Lean-tos and activity pavilions at Nobscot Scout Reservation will be available for rental effective May 29. Booking for lean-tos and pavilions will open May 24.
- Cabins at Camp Resolute, Camp Squanto and Nobscot Scout

Reservation will be available for rental effective September 6. Booking for cabins will open June 1.

- Changes to summer camp operations will be announced on Monday, May 24 at our Summer Camp Update. Sign-up to attend.
- Before resuming any meetings or activities or removing face coverings, check with your charter organization to ensure they approve.

Review the most up to date Program Guidelines here. For the latest complete COVID-19 council guidance refer to www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19.

Finally, as Scouts, it is important that we demonstrate the principles of the Scout Law now more than ever before. As restrictions begin to lift, individuals within your Scout unit may have varying levels of comfort or anxiety. It is our responsibility to be kind while being helpful and friendly and demonstrate empathy and respect to everyone, even if they have beliefs different from ours. As we move forward let's be cheerful and brave while showing obedience to the rules, regulations and guidance of the Commonwealth, Council, chartered organizations and cities/towns.

April 5, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2021-04-05T18:35:49-04:00

April 5, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



Effective today, April 5, the Mayflower Council is amending

our recommendation for carpooling to and from Scouting events to be as follows:

The Mayflower Council still believes that transportation to and from activities should be made within family units and carpooling should be discouraged.

Should a unit decide to permit carpooling to and from Scouting activities, the following best practices are recommended, based on guidelines from the CDC and Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

- Youth protection guidelines must always be followed.
- Any youth who will be traveling in a vehicle with multiple individuals must have their parent's/guardian's written permission. Any adult who will be traveling in a vehicle with multiple individuals – including the driver – must give their consent.
- Each passenger in the vehicle must wear a mask covering their nose and mouth at all times while inside the vehicle. Cover coughs and sneezes. When outside of the vehicle, individuals should maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from one another.
- To increase air circulation, it is best to open windows or set the air ventilation/air conditioning on non-recirculation mode.
- Occupants should refrain from eating or drinking while in the vehicle to ensure mask use at all times. Plan to eat and drink outside of the vehicle when you are not near other people.
- Occupants should stay in the same group/vehicle for all portions of the trip, including return trip.
- For trips longer than 1 hour, every effort should be made to leave open seats between second (and third) row passengers.
- Use proper hand hygiene. Hands should be washed before and after the trip. Hand sanitizer should be used where proper hand washing is not possible.

- High touch areas inside and outside of the vehicle (door handles, seat belts, etc.) should be disinfected before and after each trip.
- Unit leaders should maintain a list of passengers in each vehicle for at least 30 days after a trip, to facilitate contact tracing.

All previously announced COVID-19 restrictions continue to be in effect. For the most up to date council guidance refer to www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19.

March 25, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations UpdateRick Riopelle2021-03-25T14:43:51-04:00

March 25, 2021 COVID-19 Council Operations Update



Monday, March 18, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced an Appendix to COVID-19 Order #63 amending gathering limits. Therefore, effective immediately, the Mayflower Council will be updating our Scouting group size limits to the following:

- Gatherings at Private Residences:
  - Indoor gatherings at private residences and in other places not falling within the definition of an event venue or public setting are limited to a maximum of 10 people.
  - Outdoor gatherings at private residences and in other places not falling within the definition of an event venue or public setting are limited to a

maximum of 25 people.

- Gatherings at Event Venues and in Public Settings:
  - Indoor gatherings at event venues or in public settings are limited to a maximum of 100 people.
  - Outdoor gatherings at event venues or in public settings are limited to a maximum of 150 persons in a single venue or space.

In addition to the capacity restrictions specified above, **all participants in indoor and outdoor gatherings**, including gatherings at private residences, **must maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance from every other participant** in the gathering, except where participants are members of the same household.

On Friday, March 26, we are updating our council camping restrictions to remove the 12 person maximum per campsite and increasing the maximum number of campers allowed in our camps. Cabins will remain closed at this time.

All previously announced COVID-19 restrictions continue to be in effect. For the most up to date council guidance refer to www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19.

January 22, 2021 UpdateRick Riopelle2021-01-22T14:10:31-05:00

January 22, 2021 Update



Yesterday, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced that the stay at home order would expire on Monday, January 25 at 5am. Therefore, effective Monday,

January 25, 2021, the Mayflower Council will be reopening our three camps to overnight outdoor camping. Camp Resolute and Nobscot Scout Reservation will be open for weekday and weekend overnight camping and Camp Squanto will be open for weekend overnight camping. Our camps will also continue to be available for day use and cabins will remain unavailable for the foreseeable future.

The number of units that we can accommodate at our camps for overnight camping will be reduced in order to comply with the 25% capacity restrictions imposed by the Commonwealth thru at least February 8, 2021. Occupancy of each campsite remains limited to a maximum of 12 occupants per campsite.

The following size limits for gatherings remain in effect: indoor gatherings are limited to 10 people and outdoor gatherings are limited to 25 people.

All previously announced COVID-19 restrictions continue to be in effect. For the most up to date council guidance refer to www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19.

November 3, 2020 UpdateRick Riopelle2020-11-03T18:40:33-05:00

November 3, 2020 Update

Dear Scouting Family,

Yesterday, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced COVID-19 Executive Order #54 which states that, effective Friday, November 6th, there will be a stay at home advisory for the hours between 10pm and 5am. Governor Baker also implemented additional limitations on gatherings in outdoor venues.

Therefore, effective Friday, November 6, 2020, the Mayflower Council will be closing our three camps to overnight camping until further notice. Our camp will remain available for day use and cabins will remain unavailable for the foreseeable

future. Units with current overnight reservations will be contacted to determine if your unit would prefer to transition their reservation to “day only,” or simply cancel.

The order also reduced the size limit for gatherings at private residences: indoor gatherings at private residences are limited to 10 people and outdoor gatherings at private residences are limited to 25 people. The limit on gatherings held in public spaces and at event venues remains the same. It also requires that all gatherings (regardless of size or location) must end and disperse by 9:30 PM.

All previously announced COVID-19 restrictions continue to be in effect. For the most up to date council guidance refer to www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19.

The new COVID-19 restrictions continue to make delivery of a quality outdoor Scouting program difficult. These restrictions have us facing a complicated environment for Scouting. We are challenged with recruitment, training, cancelled events, finding appropriate places to meet and parents who are concerned about their children being around others. Additionally, school is not normal, home is not normal and we are restricted from friends and activities as we navigate this uncertain landscape. We can, however, still give youth an amazing program.

To help keep Scouting going our council has created the virtual Yeti Cubs program that sends a weekly email to every Cub Scout family to help keep their child on track with Cub Scout advancement, monthly virtual pack meetings, virtual merit badge classes, and quarterly virtual campfires. Our training team has also offered a wildly popular best practices for conducting virtual meetings; and will be offering an updated version soon. We continue to develop COVID-19 friendly methods to bring Scouting to our membership.

In all that is currently going on in the world, it would be

easy to throw up our hands and declare it just too tough. However, our youth need leadership. Our youth need you. Keep calm and continue Scouting! Thanks for all you do, no matter how tough.

Yours in Scouting,

Mike Rotar, Council President
Josh Paulin, Council Commissioner
Bryan Feather, Scout Executive / CEO

August 7, 2020 UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:31:23-04:00

August 7, 2020 Update

Today the Mayflower Council leadership has amended the following guidelines: the maximum group size allowed at Scouting meetings and activities to mirror that of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Phase III, Step I and the availability of our camp properties. The revised guidelines are as follows:

- Group Meetings:
    - Indoor gatherings are limited to 8 persons per 1,000 square feet of accessible, indoor floor space and never more than 25 persons in a single enclosed, indoor space.
    - Outdoor gatherings are limited to 25% of the maximum permitted occupancy of the facility or 8 persons per 1,000 square feet and never more than 50 persons in a single outdoor space.
        - Gatherings subject to this limitation include: community, civic, public, leisure, sporting events, concerts, conferences, conventions, fundraisers, fairs, festivals, road races, and other similar events or activities. These restrictions apply to gatherings in all public and private venues

and locations in the Commonwealth, including private homes, backyards, parks, athletic fields, and parking lots.

- Camp Resolute & Nobscot Scout Reservation are available for tent camping on both weekdays and weekends. Camp Squanto is open for tent camping on weekends only. Adventure Day Camp at Camp Resolute is open solely for programs hosted by the Mayflower Council in June, July & August. It is important to note that the revised gathering sizes do not apply when camping at our camp properties. Our camp properties are subject to sector-specific rules that are more stringent.

Review our revised Program Guidelines for the complete list of guidelines that are in place for Scouting meetings and activities.

July 16, 2020 UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:31:13-04:00

July 16, 2020 Update

Today the Mayflower Council leadership has amended the following guidelines: the maximum group size allowed at Scouting meetings and activities to mirror that of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Phase III, Step I and the availability of our camp properties. The revised guidelines are in red:

- **Before resuming any meetings or activities, check with your charter organization to ensure they approve.** Some charter organizations are not opening their facilities for meetings or have imposed additional restrictions on group meetings and activities. Rules or guidance from your charter organization must be followed. Please respect their wishes.
- Currently Camp Resolute & Nobscot Scout Reservation are available for tent camping on both weekdays and weekends. Camp Squanto will be open for tent camping

beginning on August 1. Adventure Day Camp at Camp Resolute is open solely for programs hosted by the Mayflower Council in June, July & August. It is important to note that the revised gathering sizes do not apply when camping at our camp properties. Our camp properties are subject to sector-specific rules that are more stringent.

- Individuals at higher risk of severe illness (older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions) should consult their physician prior to participation in any group activities.
- All participants should review their current health prior to participating in any activity. Individuals with temperatures higher than 100.4 and other symptoms of COVID-19 should not participate.
- All units must keep a detailed roster of participants for all meetings and activities, so they are prepared in the event that contact tracing is required.
- All individuals who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 must quarantine for 14-days prior to participation in any Scouting activity.
- Outdoor meetings are highly encouraged.
- All persons should remain at least six feet apart to the greatest extent possible, both inside and outside.
- Group Meetings:
    - **Indoor gatherings are limited to 8 persons per 1,000 square feet** of accessible, indoor floor space and **never more than 25 persons** in a single enclosed, indoor space.
    - **Outdoor gatherings in enclosed, permitted or leased spaces are limited to 25% of the maximum permitted occupancy of the facility or 8 persons per 1,000 square feet and never more than 100 persons** in a single outdoor space that is enclosed, permitted or leased.
    - **Outdoor gatherings in unenclosed spaces are not subject to capacity limitations.**

        - *Gatherings in Unenclosed Spaces*: Outdoor gatherings that are not subject to the capacity limitations above, such as those in a park, backyard, athletic field, or parking lot are permitted, provided that the type of gathering is not prohibited in the list below.
        - *Prohibited Activities*: Street festivals, agricultural festivals, walk-a-thons, road races and bike races, and other outdoor, organized athletic or recreational events that gather large numbers of participants or spectators outdoors are prohibited until further notice.
- We encourage you to postpone any large meetings or activities and continue virtual gatherings where possible, utilizing conference calls or online video conferencing.
- Transportation to and from activities should be made within family units. Carpooling should be discouraged.
- Each Scout and adult are required to wear a face covering.
- Handwashing and sanitation of shared supplies must be done between use.
- Sleeping arrangements on camping trips should be limited to one person per tent, unless they are family.
- Families/siblings do not need to maintain social distancing for transportation, sleeping, or meetings.
- Six foot distancing should be maintained when practical during hikes, bike rides, and other follow the leader activities.
- All local, state, and federal safety guidelines should be followed. Please review guidelines for not only your unit’s meeting location, but the location of any camping/activity destination.
- Ensure all Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection guidelines are adhered to.

- It is recommended that these guidelines be shared with each member of your unit and posted during all meetings and activities. Units should obtain written permission from parents stating that they have reviewed these guidelines and consent to having their child participate in Scouting activities. Keep these permissions with the unit health forms.

July 2 Update on Scouts BSA Summer Resident CampRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:31:01-04:00

July 2 Update on Scouts BSA Summer Resident Camp

Scouts BSA Summer Resident Camp Cancelled

June 11, 2020 UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:30:49-04:00

June 11, 2020 Update

Dear Scouting Family,

The Mayflower Council leadership is committed to resuming Scouting's in-person meetings and activities as our Commonwealth, local authorities and the Council's COVID-19 Task Force deem it safe to do so. At this time, our Commonwealth remains in Stage Two of the Reopening Massachusetts four phase plan issued by Governor Baker.

On Monday, June 15th the Mayflower Council's district and council activities, as well as Scout unit meetings and activities, are permitted to resume in-person, with limitations. Many of you have been looking forward to being able to gather together again to work on advancement, go camping, and complete service projects; but we also want to ensure these activities are being done as safely as possible.

In order to mitigate the health risk of spreading COVID-19 to our volunteers, staff, and Scouts, the Mayflower Council is providing the following guidelines. These recommendations are

designed to mitigate risk, but all participants need to be aware that any activity puts them at some risk of exposure. Please remember that some who are exposed to COVID-19 could be asymptomatic. If a person becomes infected, they may become asymptomatic carriers and could infect other people unknowingly.

- **Before resuming any meetings or activities, check with your charter organization to ensure they approve.** Some charter organizations are not opening their facilities for meetings or have imposed additional restrictions on group meetings and activities. Rules or guidance from your charter organization must be followed. Please respect their wishes.
- **Currently Camp Squanto & Adventure Day Camp at Camp Resolute will be open solely for programs hosted by the Mayflower Council in June, July & August.** We intend to open Camp Resolute and Nobscot Scout Reservation for tent camping later in the month and will share additional information on our website as soon as it is available.
- Individuals at higher risk of severe illness (older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions) should consult their physician prior to participation in any group activities.
- All participants should review their current health prior to participating in any activity. Individuals with temperatures higher than 100.4 and other symptoms of COVID-19 should not participate.
- All units must keep a detailed roster of participants for all meetings and activities, so they are prepared in the event that contact tracing is required.
- All individuals who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 must quarantine for 14-days prior to participation in any Scouting activity.
- Outdoor meetings are highly encouraged.
- All persons should remain at least six feet apart to the

greatest extent possible, both inside and outside.

- **Group meeting size must be limited to no more than 10 people** (8 youth and 2 adults). While we realize there are a number of troops and packs with more than 10 youth, this number is set by the Commonwealth to allow for appropriate social distancing and efficient contact tracing in the event of potential exposure. Activities done in small groups (den meetings and patrol meetings) are preferable.
- We encourage you to postpone any large meetings or activities and continue virtual gatherings where possible, utilizing conference calls or online video conferencing.
- Transportation to and from activities should be made within family units. Carpooling should be discouraged.
- Each Scout and adult are required to wear a face covering.
- Handwashing and sanitation of shared supplies must be done between use.
- Sleeping arrangements on camping trips should be limited to one person per tent, unless they are family.
- Families/siblings do not need to maintain social distancing for transportation, sleeping, or meetings.
- Six foot distancing should be maintained when practical during hikes, bike rides, and other follow the leader activities.
- All local, state, and federal safety guidelines should be followed. Please review guidelines for not only your unit’s meeting location, but the location of any camping/activity destination.
- Ensure all Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection guidelines are adhered to.
- It is recommended that these guidelines be shared with each member of your unit and posted during all meetings and activities. Units should obtain written permission from parents stating that they have reviewed these guidelines and consent to having their child participate

in Scouting activities. Keep these permissions with the unit health forms.

Finally, as Scouts, it is important that we demonstrate the principles of the Scout Law now more than ever before. As restrictions begin to lift, individuals within your Scout unit may have varying levels of comfort or anxiety. It is our responsibility to be kind while being helpful and friendly and demonstrate empathy and respect to everyone, even if they have beliefs different than ours. As we move forward let’s be cheerful and brave while showing obedience to the rules, regulations and guidance of our Commonwealth, Mayflower Council, and chartered organizations.

Take care and be well,

Mike Rotar
Council President

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

May 25 Council UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:30:37-04:00

May 25 Council Update

Dear Scouting Family:

We hope that you are safe and healthy during this challenging time. Over the past several months, your Council leadership has been carefully monitoring the impact COVID-19 has had on our communities and on our Scouting program. While we are hopeful that restrictions will soon be adjusted to allow for some version of face-to-face Scouting meetings and outdoor activities, we are not quite there at this time. State guidelines still limit group size to no more than 10 people

and camping, parks and select sports are planned to reopen in Phase 2. **For the safety of our Scouts, Scouters and community, we are extending the suspension of all face-to-face meetings, events, activities, trips and our property closures through June 15th, which is consistent with the phased reopening of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

Council leadership will revisit our restrictions again when information on Phase 2 is released by Governor Baker. At that time, we will provide information on approved activities that will best protect our Scouting family while continuing to follow the guidance of our local, state, and national authorities.

We are excited about the future and look forward to re-engaging in weekly unit meetings and the outdoor programs that we all know and love. These programs may look a little different, as we work to mitigate risk, but we are confident in the Scouting spirit and the tremendous value our program provides to the young people we serve.

We look forward to seeing you on the Scouting trail soon!

Mike Rotar
Council President

Joshua Paulin
Council Commissioner

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

May 18 Update on Summer Camp OperationsRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:30:25-04:00

May 18 Update on Summer Camp Operations

Cub Scout Summer Camp Update
Scouts BSA Summer Camp Update

April 24 Council UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:36:19-04:00

April 24 Council Update

Dear Scouting Family:

We hope that you remain safe and well during these unusual times. Like you, we are carefully monitoring the impact COVID-19 has on our communities and the guidance from our public officials, especially mandatory closure dates. **For the safety of our Scouts, Scouters and community, we are extending our closures through May 31.**

This means all in-person Scouting activities of any type remain prohibited through May 31. We have previously communicated that our guidance supersedes all other Scouting guidance, including that from the National Council Boy Scouts of America. Should any guidance from your chartered organization or your local health department be more restrictive, please also follow those restrictions.

We are inspired by our Scouting families for their determination to continue Scouting during these challenging times. Whether it is virtual meetings and activities or making cheerful cards for the elderly in nursing homes, Scouting continues to thrive across the communities in our council. Our Scouting at Home page has support for all our programs. These activities will help Scouts earn our new Scouting at Home Award patch, which you can learn more about here. We'd love to hear any ideas or resources you have, please share them with us at scoutingathome@mayflowerbsa.org or on our Facebook page.

We are hosting a plethora of virtual meetings, events and activities to keep our Scouts active. For our Scouts BSA members we have launched virtual merit badges, beginning in May we will offer our Cub Scouts weekly den meetings, for our entire Scouting family we're hosting our second virtual

campfire as well as a Camping At Home Challenge, and we're excited about the National Camp-in on May 2.

Our teams at Camp Resolute, Adventure Day Camp and Camp Squanto are excited to welcome you this summer and we anticipate a fantastic experience. **There is no risk for families and units of losing money by signing up for Mayflower Camps now.** In the event that camp does not open or has a shortened season due to COVID-19 and your troop or campers are unable to attend during your scheduled time, all camp fees paid will be refunded. Read more about summer camp here.

We are all learning new ways to do Scouting and are succeeding. In many ways, this crisis has brought all of us closer together even from a distance. For over a century, Scouting has been all about being prepared. In a sense, we have been preparing for times like these for over 110 years. Our Scout motto of "Be Prepared" tells us that we are ready for this challenge.

Thank you for all that you do for Scouting.

Yours in Scouting,

Mike Rotar, Council President
Josh Paulin, Council Commissioner
Bryan Feather, Scout Executive

April 16 Update On Summer Camp OperationsRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:29:55-04:00

April 16 Update On Summer Camp Operations

Message from our camp directors

March 26 Council UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:27:35-04:00

March 26 Council Update

We hope this letter finds you and your family well during

these unprecedented times. Everyone has spent the last several days and weeks learning about COVID-19 (coronavirus) and how it's affecting our community. Families are adjusting to stay-at-home advisories and coping with school closures.

The Mayflower Council priority is to keep our Scouts, volunteers, staff, and their families safe as well as demonstrate good citizenship in our communities by considering the needs of those around us.

As the threat of COVID-19 increases, most states, local governments, and school districts have either issued or extended stay-at-home advisories. **As a result, we are extending the stoppage of all Council, district and unit face-to-face Scout activities, face-to-face meetings, as well as Camps and Council Service Center closures through April 30.** As a reminder:

- **All face-to-face Scouting activities are canceled effective immediately through April 30.** This includes unit meetings (including patrol and den meetings), campouts, activities, trips, Pinewood Derbies, Blue and Gold Dinners, in-person fundraisers, service projects, Court of Honors (including for Eagle Scouts), etc. Please continue to work with your Scouts via digital and electronic methods whenever possible.
- **All face-to-face council-level and district-level events and meetings are canceled through April 30.** This includes Roundtable, training events and committee meetings. Please use all digital and electronic means available to conduct your meetings.
- **All Council Camps are closed through April 30.**
- **The Council Service Centers are closed through April 30.** Our staff will be working remotely and respond to all calls, emails and postal mail.

This is most certainly a fluid situation. We will continue to align with best practices and policies set forth by state and

local governments, municipalities, and schools. In the future, restrictions may be reduced or lifted within areas of the council thereby restoring Scout activities, face-to-face meetings, and the reopening of council service centers and camps in that area. Should changes to closures be warranted, we will promptly communicate with you.

We have been working to identify and encourage opportunities for Scouts to continue meeting with their units virtually, learn new skills, earn merit badges and advancements, and – most importantly – to do their part in giving back to their communities. We wanted to share with you some resources we've gathered that you might find helpful while planning activities at home for your families and staying up-to-date with Scouting during this pandemic. Click here for our most current list of resources.

Together, we can help flatten the curve of this rapidly spreading virus and keep everyone safe. Stay positive, have faith, and know the health and well-being of our Scouts, volunteers, staff, and their families are our number one priority!

Take care and be well,

Mike Rotar
Council President

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive

March 12 Council UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:27:20-04:00

March 12 Council Update

As we informed you in our email on March 9th, we have been

monitoring the situation regarding the COVID-19 “Coronavirus”. Since then, the situation has worsened: the World Health Organization has upgraded the virus to pandemic level and Governor Charlie Baker has declared a state of emergency. Therefore, **effective immediately, we are suspending all council and district in-person group meetings, trainings, activities, events, etc. through April 7.** We ask districts and committees to conduct their work virtually where possible to help carry on the important work of service to our youth.

We recommend that individual units suspend in-person meetings and activities, and to leverage technology to deliver the program to our youth during this time. While the majority of youth are at low risk from this illness, limiting group exposure can help to slow the spread of COVID-19 to at-risk members of our community. Community service comes in many forms. This course of action ensures that we do our part to protect others in our community-at-large and is in keeping with the values embodied in the Scout Oath and Law.

We encourage you to take standard precautions outlined by the CDC, including hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home if you are ill. Please visit this page for additional
information: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

For the latest information, please refer to our website. This includes a list of postponed or rescheduled events, and links to recommendations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

As always, we will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed.

Thank you for your understanding,

Mike Rotar
Council President

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive

March 8 UpdateRick Riopelle2020-08-23T19:27:10-04:00

March 8 Update

Click here to read the Mayflower Council leadership's update on Scouting and COVID-19.

What to Do if You Think You're Sick

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and may have had contact with a person with COVID-19 or recently traveled to countries with apparent community spread, call your health care provider or local public health department first before seeking medical care so that appropriate precautions can be taken. Do not attend any Scouting meeting, event or activity.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is working closely with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide updated information about the novel coronavirus outbreak. Visit their website for the most up to date information.

BSA Polices 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.

Merit Badge University Postponed

In light of the emergent developments concerning COVID-19, **we will not be able to hold the second weekend of this year's Merit Badge University (MBU) on March 21st** at the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School.

The safety of our Scouts, Scouters, counselors, and staff is of paramount importance to us. We are also mindful that it is essential that we all do our part to minimize the risk of community spread. While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) advise that the risk of infection in Massachusetts remains low, out of an abundance of caution and in service to the public health we have concluded that it is best not to proceed with the second weekend of the MBU event at this time.

As might be expected with such a fluid set of circumstances, **we cannot give you a definitive date when or if the MBU will be rescheduled.** Our primary consideration when determining whether/when to proceed will be informed by the guidance of the CDC and MDPH regarding the resumption of large community events. We will be in touch when the picture is clearer and we can provide more definite information.

We encourage you to take standard precautions outlined by the CDC, including hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home if you are ill. Please visit this page for additional information: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

If you have questions or would like further information,

please email us.

Important Note About Coronavirus and Scouting

Dear Scouting Families,

Recent concern regarding the COVID-19 (coronavirus) has generated much public attention and has caused significant change in travel, personal interactions and in guidelines prescribed by health officials for how to address the growing concern.

As an organization, we have discussed the best approach based on what we know today. At this point in time, we are proceeding forward with all scheduled meetings and events while following the guidelines and advise of medical professionals to help minimize risk to our general membership. Conducting our program elements is key to the success of Scouting but we are also aware of the concern from the general public. If at any point direction changes from state or local leaders, we will revisit and share updates with the council membership.

Recommended steps to remain healthy during this cold and flu season based on recommendations from the World Health Organization and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These precautions include:

- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water or clean them with an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick (this may include avoiding shaking hands or other customary

greetings).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Maintain at least three feet (one meter) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Please visit this page for additional information: www.cdc.gov/ coronavirus/2019-ncov/index. html

If any individuals are uncomfortable attending a meeting or event, we don't want anyone to feel pressure to attend. Each person can make the decision that they feel is in their best interest.

We hope that these preventative measures help to limit the risk and keep our youth and volunteers safe and healthy.

Yours in Scouting,

Michael Rotar
Council President

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

March Training Newsletter

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MAYFLOWER COUNCIL

Training News
March 2020

March is "Fix Your Training Record" Month

The records show that about half of our volunteers aren't fully trained for their Scouting positions... but we know more than a few people have courses missing from their records. This could happen for many reasons: a longtime volunteer who got trained before the BSA started putting these things in a database, a course you took recently that never got reported, training you took before you were a registered leader (so we couldn't give you credit at the time), etc. Whatever the reason, this can be fixed!

This month, let's work together to clean up all those old missing records so you can get credit and we can stop nagging you about training you've already taken!

Please start by logging into https://my.scouting.org. Check your training completions. If something is missing, please contact your district training chair. If you're not sure who that is, contact the council training chair (see below, right side) to start. In general, we'll ask for proof in the form of a certificate or course director confirmation.

Upcoming Opportunities



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

----------Scout Leader Skills----------

Mar 7	°*	Scoutmaster/ASM Pos.-Spec. *(Easton @MBU)*
Mar 14	°	Outdoor Ethics Guide Training *(Canton)*
Mar 21	°*	Troop Cmtee. Position-Spec. *(Easton @MBU)*
Mar 21	*	Youth Protection *(Easton @MBU)*
Mar 27-29, Apr 25-26	°*	Wood Badge
Apr 4-5	°*	IOLS for Scouts BSA/Venturing *(Plymouth)*
Apr 23	*	Youth Protection *(Whitman)*
Apr 25-26	°*	BALOO for Cub Leaders *(Bolton)*
May 2	˙	Cub Leader Position-Specific *(location TBA)*
May 16-17	°*	Leave No Trace Trainer Training *(Sudbury)*

Check council website for registration deadlines. Some are a week or more in advance, especially for overnights.

----------First Aid----------

Mar 7	°*	CPR/AED *(Easton @MBU)*
Mar 10	°*	CPR/AED *(Sudbury)*
Mar 14-15	°*	Wilderness and Remote First Aid *(Plymouth)*
Mar 21	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Easton @MBU)*
Mar 24	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Sudbury)*
Apr 14	°*	CPR/AED *(Sudbury)*
Apr 18-19	°*	Wilderness and Remote First Aid *(Plymouth)*
Apr 28	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Sudbury)*
May 2-3	°*	Wilderness and Remote First Aid *(Bolton)*

Training Recognition Knots

Have you seen adult leaders wearing the knots below? These knots are our way of recognizing leaders who've taken training and put it to use. Earning and wearing a knot is a great way to show Scouts and parents that their leaders have invested their time in learning how to run a strong Scouting program.



This knot (the "key") can be earned by a unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, etc.) after three years of service.



This knot can be earned by any registered adult leader in a unit. Requirements include two years of service.



This knot can be earned by any Den Leader from Lion through Webelos/AOL. Requirements include one year of service.

Visit www.scouting.org/training/adult.aspx and scroll down to "Training Awards" to get the application forms with the requirements. Some of the requirements include helping your unit earn the Journey to Excellence award.



The Unit Leader's Award of Merit is also available. It can be earned by the unit leader at every level. Learn more at www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/unit-leader.

How to apply: Each form must be signed by your unit committee chair. Submit scanned or electronic applications to awards@mayflowerbsa.org. They will be routed for approval.

When are knots presented? They can be presented at any time of year. Knots can be given at a district dinner or roundtable, a unit event, or a regular unit meeting.

Climbing and COPE Training

Are you interested in becoming a certified climbing or COPE instructor? Our neighbors at Spirit of Adventure Council are running a course for our area on May 29–31 and June 12–14. Age 15 and up. To register, visit www.scoutspirit.org and visit their council calendar.

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:* Rick Riopelle: rick@mayflowerbsa.org

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

Page 2: **In-Person Training We Offer**

The success of every Scouting program depends on having well-trained leaders. They not only bring a quality program to their units, but they also have more fun doing it. Everything we do in Scouting has a purpose. Training is the key to recognizing, understanding, and achieving the purpose behind every activity. **If you're a registered leader, there's a training course for you!**

Course	What it is	Who it's for	Time	When and where
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	A hands-on intro to outdoor skills for the Cub program, taught on an overnight campout. If your pack goes camping, at least one BALOO-trained adult must be there.	Cub Scout adults	1.5 days	2–3 times/year, spring and fall. Various camps.
Cub Leader Position-Specific Training (PST)	Classroom overview of the Cub Scouting program, advancement, leader roles, and resources to help you run a strong program. (Also available online.)	Cub Scout adults	4 hours	At least 4 times a year, mostly fall. Locations vary.
CPR/AED	American Red Cross certification in CPR and AED (defibrillator) use, valid for two years.	Adults and capable youth	3.5 hours	8+ times/year, often Nobscot or Canton.
Den Chief Training	Roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief. Includes tips, games, songs, and other fun activities for working with Cub Scouts. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA and Venturing youth	2–3 hours	4–6 times/year, mostly fall. Locations vary.
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)	Overnight intro to skills like map/compass, woods tools, cooking, and knots/lashings. Learn new skills, reinforce old ones, and build confidence to teach.	Scouts BSA and Venturing adults	1.5 days	2–3 times/year, spring and fall. Various camps.
Leave No Trace Trainer Training	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Leave No Trace and advanced camping methods.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	Spring and maybe fall at BSA camps.
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Ideal for youth who aspire to Senior Patrol Leader, ASPL, or other key leadership positions.	Scouts BSA and Venturing youth	1 week	2 times each summer: Squanto and Resolute.
Red Cross First Aid	American Red Cross certification in basic first aid skills, valid for two years.	Adults and capable youth	3.5 hours	8+ times/year, often Nobscot or Canton.
Scoutmaster/ ASM PST	Fundamentals of running a successful youth-led troop, patrol method, and more. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	4–5 hours	6+ times/year. Locations vary.
Troop Committee PST	Learn how an effective Troop Committee can support a successful youth-led troop. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	2–3 hours	A few times/year. Locations vary.
Wilderness and Remote First Aid	Hands-on training to treat injuries in the backcountry. American Red Cross certification valid for two years.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	5 times/year: Nobscot/Squanto.
Wood Badge	The BSA's premier leadership skills course. Grow as a leader, apply leadership concepts and methods, and gain inspiration to deliver the promise of Scouting.	All adults	2 week-ends	1 or 2 times/year, at BSA camps.

Our in-person courses are organized and taught by trained volunteers who have been "in your shoes." Live training is a great way to meet fellow leaders, share ideas, get answers to questions, and get a chance to practice key skills. We try to offer these courses at a variety of times and locations, but we can also add certain courses on demand, if requested.

We offer other courses periodically, too. You can also take many training courses online at https://my.scouting.org. For most Scouting positions, online training covers all the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position and wear the Trained patch. See the requirements for your position in our Quick Guides at www.mayflowerbsa.org/training.

COPE and Climbing Course

Would you like to learn how you can safely manage or staff Cope and Climbing programs for your camp, district or unit? Join fellow Scouters this spring for a 2 weekend training course on 5/29-31 and 6/12-14. The Spirit of Adventure Council is hosting this training. It will be held at Base Camp, 411 Unquity Road, Milton, MA.

This course will help you to solidify your climbing knowledge and skills. It will cover current policies and standards of the Boy Scouts of America climbing program.

This course is intended for anyone 15 years of age or older (age exceptions with course leaders consent).

While there is an advantage to having a climbing background, one is not required.

You are welcome to bring your own climbing gear (harness, helmet and climbing shoes), but it is not required. All gear that is required for the completion of this course will be provided.

Upon successful completion of this course, based on experience, judgement and skill displayed, you will receive a certificate as a "BSA Climbing/Cope Instructor 1 (good for 1 year) or 2 (good for 3 years). Previously trained level 1 or 2 may use this course to be re-evaluated.

Lodging and meals for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday are included.

The cost for this course is: $125.00

For more information, please contact Mike Jones.

Example of Weekend Syllabus
Register Here







An Important Update from the Mayflower Council

Dear Scouting Community,

Today, the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy to achieve two key objectives: equitably compensate victims who were harmed during their time in Scouting and continue to carry out Scouting's mission for years to come.

I want to highlight important points that are most relevant to the Mayflower Council:

- **The Mayflower Council has not filed for bankruptcy.** Our Council is legally separate, distinct and financially independent from the national organization.
- **Scouting programs will continue**. This means that unit meetings and activities, district and council events, other Scouting adventures and countless service projects will take place as usual. In short, we expect no changes to the local Scouting experience in the Mayflower Council.
- **Scouting is safer now than ever before**. Over many years, we've developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization. I can also assure you that our volunteers and employees take youth protection extremely seriously and do their part to help keep kids safe.
- **Restricted donations – past, present or future – can only be used for their designated purpose**. In addition, Friends of Scouting (FOS) and other annual donations made to our Council will continue to fund necessary day-to-day expenses that are critical to local Scouting programs.

While we do not anticipate the national organization's bankruptcy filing will have any direct impact on the local Scouting experience or your involvement with our Council, I understand you may still have questions about these issues and things you will see in the news. To that end, the national organization has established a dedicated restructuring website, www.BSArestructuring.org.

This site includes a helpful Resources page, where you will find a short video explaining what Chapter 11 means for Scouting, as well as a FAQ. The site's Milestones page will be your best source for the latest updates throughout this process.

If you have any questions about local Scouting, you can always feel free to reach out directly to me or your usual contact within our Council.

Through your engagement and dedication to Scouting, the Mayflower Council will continue to bring adventures, values and lifelong benefits to youth and our communities for generations to come. Thank you for your trust and support as we continue this important mission.

Yours in Scouting,



Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

Buy a Patch & Help Scouts in Australia

When disaster strikes, Scouts step up.

They've been there after tornadoes, wildfires and hurricanes destroyed homes and uprooted lives in communities across our country.

This time, even though the disaster is a little farther from home, it affects the Scouting family all the same.

Scouts Australia is selling patches to benefit Scouts who lost their homes in the country's devastating wildfires. Their goal: to make sure these Scouts can "remain connected to Scouting as they work through this traumatic period," according to Scouts Australia's official site.

Like the Boy Scouts of America, Scouts Australia is a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. There are more than 50 million Scouts across 171 countries, and these Aussie Scouts wear the purple World Crest just like we do.

Many BSA members were able to meet Australian Scouts at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree, held last summer at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia.

About the council patch order patch
The Mayflower Council is pleased to provide an opportunity for Scouts, Scouters, units and friends o order patches as part of group purchase to reduce shipping costs from Australia. The patches cost $4 dollars each and include shipping to you once they are received. Click here to order your patches now. Order deadline is 11:59pm on February 28.

100% of the proceeds will benefit Scouts Australia.

"Australian Scouts thank our international Scouting friends for your support during this difficult time," a message on the order page says.