

# 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](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19).

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**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](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19).

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## 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](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19).

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## **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](http://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

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## **April 16 Update On Summer Camp Operations**

Message from our camp directors

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## **March 8 Update**

Click [here](#) to read the Mayflower Council leadership's update on Scouting and COVID-19.

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## **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](http://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

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## 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

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## 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](mailto: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

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# May 18 Update on Summer Camp Operations

Cub Scout Summer Camp Update  
Scouts BSA Summer Camp Update