



Mayflower Council

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

RECOMMENDATIONS DESIGNED TO
MITIGATE RISK AT SCOUTING ACTIVITIES

THE SAFETY OF OUR SCOUTS, VOLUNTEERS,
EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITIES
IS OUR TOP PRIORITY.

If it is not practical to meet these minimal protocols,
do not restart in-person activities.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MAYFLOWER COUNCIL

Program Reopening Guidelines

March 3, 2022

In an effort 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.

Consequently, it is critical that good health and safety practices be followed in all situations. Accordingly effective immediately:

General Guidance

- **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.
- Vaccines and boosters are strongly recommended for all who are eligible.
- All participants should review their current health prior to participating in any activity.
- 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. 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 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.
- Outdoor meetings continue to be highly encouraged.
- Social distancing, of six feet, should be kept between yourself and other people who are not from your household.
- When appropriate, we encourage you to continue virtual gatherings, utilizing conference calls or online video conferencing.

- 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.

Mask Mandate

- 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.

Transportation Guidelines

- 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.
 - 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.

Unit Camping

- Cabin camping is permissible by units to their maximum capacity.
- On campouts, we recommend that if Scouts sleep more than one per tent, they sleep head to toe or no closer than 6 feet from one another. 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.
- Handwashing and sanitation of shared supplies must be done between use.
- Six foot social distancing should be maintained when practical during hikes, bike rides, and other follow the leader activities.
- Ensure all Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection guidelines are adhered to.
- 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.

Finally, as Scouts, it is important that we demonstrate the principles of the Scout Law now more than ever before. As life begins to return to a new normal, 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.

