

Atlanta Area Council
COVID-19 Statement & Acknowledgement

The well-being and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is the Atlanta Area Council's top priority. While there is still much uncertainty regarding COVID-19, we are monitoring the information provided by health experts and government agencies to help keep safe those who choose to come to a scouting event this summer.

Our council health supervisor, Dr. Jeremy Ackerman, is helping us coordinate with state and local health departments to ensure we are informed of and comply with their guidance to mitigate the risks of COVID-19 being contracted at a camp or at other events. We recommend that each unit or event create a COVID-19 mitigation plan to reduce risk of exposure during Scout activities.

Your mitigation plan should include provisions that address:

- Pre-attendance education. (Know the risks and best prevention practices.)
- Health screening conducted prior to travel to an event.
- Limitations of visitors while at an event.
- Hygiene awareness while at an event.
- Use of extra handwashing /sanitizer stations at the event.
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces and shared program equipment.
- Having planned check-ins with event leaders one week and two weeks after the event to determine if anyone has developed symptoms.

You should follow your event's Emergency Response Plan (ERP), which should be a part of planning any outing, and make sure that it is up-to-date and addresses new concerns raised by COVID-19.

Screening precautions are important but cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or other illnesses while at an event. Experts have said that people with COVID-19 may show no signs or symptoms of illness but can still spread the virus. Other people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. Even with these precautions, someone with COVID-19 may be allowed at an event. We also recognize the very nature of events makes social distancing difficult in many situations and impossible in others. Even with all the efforts to reduce transmission, it may be possible for someone to be exposed to COVID-19 while at an event.

Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. *If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to attending an event.*

Every event collectively, as well as each individual staff member, volunteer, and Scouting family must evaluate their unique circumstances and make an informed decision before attending an event. We hope this information will be helpful as you make that choice.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature if under 18:

11.03.2021