Bear Creek Scout Reservation

COVID – 19 Operating Plan

This plan has been assembled with input from doctors and other medical professionals, health and safety professionals, community leaders, and many others. The health and well-being of our scouts, leaders, and camp staff is the highest priority of Alamo Area Council leadership; therefore, this plan is subject to change as our understanding of this pandemic grows.

Pre-opening Updates

- Scouts BSA summer camp and Akela Adventure resident camp will have numbers of participants purposely reduced in order to ensure that all youth, adults, and staff have a safe and fun camping experience. Session 1 of Scouts BSA camp will be limited to 150 scouts. Sessions 2 and 3 will be limited to 250 scouts. Akela Adventure will be limited to 250 total people (parents and webelos). This will reduce crowding in campsites as well as at restrooms, the dining hall, and other common areas.

- Medical screenings will be done at an off camp location in Kerrville or Hunt (probably the park in Hunt). If any scout or leader arrives at the medical screening exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, it will be assumed that the entire unit is likely exposed and will result in the entire unit being sent home.

- A COVID-19 “At-Risk” Camp Participant Statement will be collected for every camper, youth and adult. Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist will be provided to each participant prior to camp and used to prepare attendees for their time at camp. (See Appendix for both documents.)

- All camping facilities used during each session/week of camp will receive an extensive cleaning from our camp staff and adult volunteers. Also, prior to the next session/week of camp.

Additional Cleaning Procedures

Below are the areas identified for enhanced cleaning.

- Pools – Cleaning of changing rooms after each rotation, class, etc.
- Dining Hall – Staff cleans table surfaces, serving surfaces, doors, restrooms at dining hall, etc. after each meal rotation.
• Restrooms and showers will be cleaned daily by the staff. Additionally, the camp quartermasters will disinfect all contact surfaces twice per day.
• Staff Quarters - Staff members will be expected to clean their own specific living area at least daily. Camp management will inspect to ensure that all staff specific quarters, housing, restrooms, etc. are cleaned at least daily. All staff specific quarters, housing, restrooms, etc. will be thoroughly cleaned by staff and/or adult volunteers in between sessions/weeks.
• Kitchen - Kitchen staff will thoroughly clean all used kitchen surfaces throughout the day.
• Tents - Camp tents will be exposed to ultraviolet light and left to “air out” between sessions. Summer temperatures will exceed 80 degree most days.

**New Dining Hall Procedures**
• As per state guidance, disposable trays, cups, and eating utensils will be used for all meals.
• Half of the tables and benches will be removed to allow for distancing between troops. If needed, meals will be served in two shifts.
• Instead of assembling for flags, troops will gather at designated spots around the dining hall. They will then be called, one troop at a time to the serving line. This will ensure spacing between troops.
• Salad and fruit bars will be removed. Salads and fruits will be distributed by the staff.
• Pitchers will be placed at each table for drinks.
• All personnel serving food will wear masks, gloves, and hair nets (hats).
• Staff will clean/disinfect tables between uses.

**Procedures for Camp Wide Gatherings**
• Flag ceremonies will be held in the program valley. Scouts will gather in formation with their troop. Distancing will be enforced between troops.
• Opening and closing campfires, OA Callout will utilize the stage from council-wide campout. Distancing between troops will be encouraged.

**Procedures for Merit Badge Classes and Other Programs**
• Picnic tables will be removed from the merit badge class location. Scouts are advised to bring a light camp chair or pad to sit on while maintaining social distancing.
• Common program equipment (rifles, bows, canoes, life jackets, etc.) will be sanitized between uses as prescribed by CDC or other agency guidance.
• Scouts in merit badges at the pool will be strongly encouraged to wear their swim wear to and from class, greatly reducing the changing room loads.
• Due to very restrictive guidance for off camp excursions, Guad Squad will be canceled.
• COPE will be scaled back to limit/reduce contact between participants.

Trading Post

• Scouts and staff will be required to wear masks in the trading post.
• We will enforce a limit of 6 people in the trading post at one time.

General Health Procedures

• Hand sanitizer dispensers will be in every program area. Scouts will be encouraged to use it before and after every class.
• Participants presenting with symptoms of COVID-19 will be temporarily quarantined and sent home immediately.
• Anyone entering the health lodge for medical treatment, regardless of the situation, shall have screening/temperature check prior to leaving the medical lodge.
• All parents must fill out a “Commitment to Transport” that requires their written acceptance that they will provide transport for their youth should that youth be identified as someone who needs to be sent home. (See Appendix)
• There will be no family visitors during the camp session. Changing leaders during the week is discouraged, but if a unit must change adults during the week, each new adult will need to check in at the office and complete pre-screening procedures.
• There will be no Family Night/Activities held this summer.
• Once an individual (youth or adult) has checked in to camp they should not plan to leave the property. Readmittance to camp will be on a very limited basis and units should plan accordingly.
• A Scout or leader is encouraged to bring their own supply of hand sanitizer, face mask, and /or gloves as they deem necessary.

Staff Procedures

• Staff will be screened upon arrival and daily during the summer for symptoms of COVID-19.
• Staff will continue to receive one evening off per week; however, they will not be allowed to leave camp. Accordingly, staff should come with enough supplies to last the week. Be prepared to do laundry if needed.
• On weekends, staff may leave camp; however, they must avoid high risk areas. No movie theatres (if they open), no venues that may have large crowds.

• All staff will attend a general session in which identifying the signs of COVID-19 and preventing the spread of COVID-19 are discussed. Finally, all staff will attend a general session that outlines all 2020 policies towards COVID-19 prevention (i.e. cleaning, social distancing, etc.) is discussed to ensure staff follow policies.

COVID-19 “At-Risk” Camp Participant Statement
MUST BE COMPLETED AND BROUGHT TO CAMP

Name__________________________________  Unit Type & Number __________________

Your safety and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is the Alamo 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 camp this summer.

Our council leaders continue to 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 camp.

Our mitigation plan includes:

- Pre-attendance education,
- Health screening conducted by your unit prior to travel to our camp, including a temperature check.
- Health screening upon your arrival in Kerrville (before arriving at camp) conducted by our camp health officers, which will also include a temperature check.
  - Note: should anyone in the unit not pass the arrival screening, the entire unit will not be allowed to enter camp.
- Limitations on visitors in camp.
- Hygiene reminders while at camp.
- Extra handwashing/sanitizer stations throughout camp
- Dedicated staff to clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces and shared program equipment
- An emergency response plan that includes an isolation and quarantine protocol should a person at camp develop symptoms of COVID-19 or other communicable disease
- Check-ins with each unit one week and two weeks after the unit leaves camp to determine if any participants have developed symptoms.

These precautions are important, but these efforts cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while at camp. Experts have said that people with COVID-19 may show no signs or symptoms of illness, but can still spread the virus, and people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. The fact is that someone with COVID-19 may pass the required health screenings and be allowed to camp.

We also know the very nature of camp makes social distancing difficult in many situations and impossible in others.

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 camp.

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

____________________________________  __________________
Signature of Parent / Guardian / Adult  Date
Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist

Use this checklist to assist in identifying potentially communicable diseases before event participation.
The intent of this checklist is to review with each youth and adult participant their current health status, both before departure and upon arrival at the event. Anyone entering a camp or event — including visitors, vendors, etc. — should be screened using this checklist.

☑ Yes ☐ No  Have you been in contact with anyone who has COVID-19?
☑ Yes ☐ No  Have you or anyone you have been in close contact with traveled on a cruise ship, internationally, or to an area with a known communicable disease outbreak in the last 14 days?

If the answer is “yes” to either of these questions, the participant must stay home.

☑ Yes ☐ No  Are you in a higher-risk category as defined by the CDC guidelines?
If the answer is “yes” to this question, we recommend that you stay home. Should you choose to participate, you must have approval from your healthcare provider and then proceed to the symptom decision tree below.

If the above answers are “no,” proceed to this symptom decision tree.

- Shortness of breath
- New or worsening dry cough
- Fever of 100.4° or greater
- Flu-like symptoms
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell

☑ Cough
☑ Unexplained extreme fatigue or muscle aches
☑ Rash
☑ Sore throat
☑ Open sore

YES to any TWO or more symptoms

THE PARTICIPANT MUST STAY HOME
These symptoms are associated with communicable diseases and the participant MUST stay home until medically cleared by their health care provider.
Parents Commitment to Transport
To Be Submitted Upon Arrival To Camp

I understand that at any time during my child’s stay at Bear Creek Scout Reservation I may be called on to transport my camper from camp for medical reasons. I commit to be available by phone for the entire session my scout is at camp should I need to be contacted by camp or troop leadership. Furthermore, I agree to pick up my scout within 10 hours of being contacted by the camp or troop leaders. I will also provide a second contact should unforeseen circumstances make me unavailable.

__________________________________                                             _________________
Scout Name                                      Unit Number

__________________________________
Signed                                      Date

__________________________________
Primary contact name                                      Phone #

__________________________________
Secondary contact                                      Phone #