



# Woodruff Scout Camp

2021

COVID 19

# Operational Guidance

Revised March 9, 2021

Summer Camp will potentially look different this year than in the past because of COVID concerns. This 2021 COVID 19 Operational Guidance is to detail changes being considered to make the camp safe for both the Campers and Staff. Our goal is to safely conduct Summer Camp and offer an outdoor opportunity for Scouts to earn advancement and experience much of the adventure Summer Camp traditionally affords. The health of our Campers, Staff and our communities are of primary concern. Every Staff member, Camper and Troop must evaluate their unique circumstances and make informed decisions before choosing to attend Summer Camp at Woodruff in 2021.

Camp administration will determine whether, when and how to implement these plans, making adjustments depending on the circumstances and situation at the time camp occurs. Policies and guidelines will be developed and implemented within the guidelines from the Governor's Executive Orders, the CDC guidelines, the American Camping Association Field Guide for Camps, recommendations from the BSA National Outdoor Program group and state and local health officials, and feedback from Scout Camps that operated Summer Camps in 2020.

## **Pre-Camp Education and Messaging**

To help in preparation and decision making, Troops may be provided information about pre-camp screening processes, changes to schedules and procedures and given the opportunity to ask questions about Summer Camp plans for 2021.

- Monthly updates provide notice to units as plans and procedures are developed or changed.
- Zoom webinars may be developed to provide up to date information to Troops and give Troops the opportunity to ask questions or seek clarity on issues of concern.
- Troops are encouraged to ask questions at any time.

## **Pre-Departure Screening**

Staff, Campers, and their families will be educated about when they should stay home and when they can come to camp.

- Prior to departure from their homes, Troops will be asked to conduct a Health Status Screening. This screening serves to actively encourage Staff and Campers who are sick or have recently had a close contact with a person with COVID-19 to stay home.

## **Health Screening Upon Arrival**

As part of the check in process, all Campers and Staff will be screened upon arrival at camp.

- All arriving Campers and Staff may have their temperature taken before leaving their vehicles.
- All arriving Campers and Staff may be questioned individually on their health status. The questions will be similar to those considered during the pre-departure screening process.
- Upon clearing arrival screening, cars may proceed to the parking area.

## **Troop Check-In Process**

The arriving Troop check-in process has been streamlined to expedite movement of Campers through the main check-in area and minimize congregation of Campers near the Main Pavilion during Sunday afternoon check-in.

- Troops arriving on Saturday may be checked-in prior to Sunday afternoon thus reducing the number of Campers congregating near the Main Pavilion on Sunday afternoon.
- Arriving Troops may be assigned a Troop Guide immediately upon arrival who can escort Campers to their campsite sooner without waiting at the Main Pavilion for an adult leader to complete the check-in process.
- A streamlined check-in process is being implemented to move the adult leader checking in through the process faster for both the main and health check-in at the Main Pavilion.

## **Signs and Messaging**

- Signs may be posted in highly visible locations (e.g., program areas, dining hall, restrooms) that promote every day protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs such as by properly washing hands and properly wearing a mask.
- Remind text messaging system and daily newspaper may be used to keep people updated on measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at camp.
- Videos about behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19 may be developed to be shown on internal camp video screens to educate Campers on practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at camp.

## **Hygiene and COVID-19 Social Etiquette**

- The Sunday afternoon camp tour with the Troop Guide may include a session to teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Increased monitoring and reinforcement of handwashing during the week to ensure adherence among Campers and Staff.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in program areas where it is not feasible to have hand washing stations.
- Masks use may be encouraged for Staff and Campers when feasible and particularly at times when physical social distancing is difficult. Information may be provided to Staff and Campers on proper use, removal, and washing of masks while at camp.
- Campers may be encouraged to bring their own camp chair to use in program areas to allow better social distancing during program periods. This would reduce the density of Campers at picnic tables in program areas.

## **Morning and Evening Assemblies and Meetings**

- Depending on the case count for a given week, flag ceremonies may be limited to Staff only to prevent large group congregation.
- Depending on the case count for a given week, in lieu of morning adult leader and SPL meetings, Remind text messaging system and the daily newspaper may be used to keep people posted on daily events & announcements.
- Adult leader and SPL meetings, when held, may be moved to venues where participants can socially distance. Meeting length may be minimized to the extent possible.
- Singing or cheering may be discouraged at assemblies and especially in the dining hall and serving lines.

## **Program change considerations**

### **Program Changes**

- Class sizes may be reduced to allow adequate spacing in program areas.
- Depending on case counts and weekly attendance, indoor classes may be moved to outdoor venues to provide better ventilation and appropriate spacing for Campers. Campers and Staff should wear masks during all indoor activities where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Troops may be requested to combine all Scouts taking a merit badge into the same session where possible to reduce cross cohort exposure.
- Shared equipment in areas such as Aquatics, Shooting Sports and Climbing may be subject to additional cleaning and sanitation procedures.
- For Aquatics activities including merit badges and free swim and boating where possible each Camper “buddy” should be from that Camper’s Troop or campsite.
- Social distancing while waiting to enter the Aquatics area and around the Buddy Board may be enforced.
- Depending on the case count, the GaGa Pits may be subject to closing as social distancing cannot be assured.

### **Polar Bear Swim**

- Depending on weekly attendance, times may be assigned for the Thursday Polar Bear Swim to stagger attendance and reduce crowd size at the waterfront.

### **Campfire Programs**

- For Opening and Closing Campfire programs and the Flag Retirement Service, Troops may be spaced out in the Amphitheater to achieve social distancing spacing.

## **Camper Tenting and Staff Housing**

- The Woodruff wall tents all have both front and back flaps and can accommodate 2 Campers per tent.
- Beds should be aligned so that Campers and Staff sleep head to toe.
- Campers may be encouraged to sleep with the flap nearest their head open.
- Campers have the option to pitch their own tents in their campsite to allow single occupancy tenting.
- Hammock camping is allowed if in compliance with BSA hammock camping safety recommendations (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/hammock-camping>).
- Staff cabin access may be limited to only individuals who reside in that cabin. Visitors, including other Staff would not be allowed in Staff cabins other than their own. The Staff Lodge would be limited to residents of the Staff Lodge.
- Staff cabins and the Staff Lodge may be subject to a thorough cleaning and disinfecting no less frequently than once a week.
- Staff Night Off Policies – Depending on case levels, all Staff may be restricted to camp during the week unless special permission to leave is received from the Camp Director.

## **Restricted Visitors Policy**

- Depending on case counts, non-registered Campers or Staff may be restricted from camp. Visitors arriving to drop off or pick-up Campers may be limited to the main parking area unless otherwise approved by the Camp Director.
- Depending on case counts, the Friday evening dinner and campfire may be restricted to only registered Campers and Staff.

## **Trading Post and Snack Bar**

- Depending on case counts, the Trading Post may restrict the number of customers in the store at one time.
- The Snack Bar line may be managed to enforce social distancing for Campers while waiting in line.
- The Trading Post doors and Trading Post and Snack Bar counters should be regularly sanitized.

## **Dining Hall & Meal Changes**

As one of the main indoor areas on camp, efforts may be made to reduce the number of meals served in the dining hall, the number of occupants in the dining hall at one time and the duration that occupants are in the dining hall. Troops requesting outside dining may be assigned seating in the Carlock Pavilion or allowed to eat in Mack Mountain Studio or on the Rizor Heart of Camp porch.

### **Breakfast**

- Monday through Friday breakfast will be served in the Dining Hall.
- Food will still be “what you want to eat” and “all you can eat” style through multiple lines but will be served by Staff.
- One way traffic patterns may be developed for doorways and dish drop.
- Full use of Carlock Pavilion for dining maximizes outside dining.
- Prepackaged cutlery may be made available as an option for Troops to use.
- Utilize hard plates and bowls but all must be sanitized after use.
- All Servers will wear masks while serving.
- No self-service except for prepackaged single serve foods.
- One service dining assures no sharing of tables by groups during week.
- Staff will assure tables are sanitized after each breakfast meal service.

### **Lunch**

- Lunches will be served remotely around camp via kiosks.
- Number of kiosks each week may vary based on camper load.
- Menu to feature individually pre-wrapped entre and choices of individually wrapped items such as chips, vegetables, and cookies for a “to-go” dining experience.
- Staff will serve all items at all kiosks.
- No Campers will eat inside during lunch.

## **Dinner**

- Sunday dinner may be delivered to each troop in their campsite for self-service and dining “in-site”.
- Monday through Thursday dinner may be served in the Dining Hall.
- Thursday evening Adult Steak Dinner will remain in the Main Pavilion reducing the inside dining at the dining hall on Thursday.
- Friday dinner is served in “grab-and-go” boxes as traditionally occurs.
- Food will still be “what you want to eat” and “all you can eat” style through multiple lines but will be served by Staff.
- Prepare and serve only pre-plated salads.
- One way traffic patterns may be developed for doorways and dish drop.
- Full use of Carlock Pavilion for dining maximizes outside dining.
- Prepackaged cutlery may be made available as an option for Troops to use.
- Utilize hard plates and bowls but all must be sanitized after use.
- All Servers will wear masks while serving.
- No self-service except for prepackaged single serve foods.
- One service dining assures no sharing of tables by groups during week.
- Staff will assure tables are sanitized after each dinner meal service.

## **More information**

- The Atlanta Area Council Safety and Health Committee has additional information at <https://www.atlantabsa.org/safety-health>.