



Scouting Through COVID Top 10 Guidelines for Unit, District, and Council Activities*

With planning, Scouting can be safe during COVID.
Staying vigilant and informed are key.

1. Communicate with your Chartered Organization to learn what requirements they might have in place, and to engage them in your plan.
2. Refer to Vermont's Be Smart, Stay Safe guidance at [9.1 Sports/Organized Sports](#). State officials have permitted our organized Scouting programs to operate provided our leaders uphold all aspects of these changing guidelines.
3. In choosing your location, check Section 5 of [9.1 Sports/Organized Sports](#) guidance for current facility square footage requirements and maximum participant counts.
4. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or questionable exposure must stay home. The [GMC Pre-Event Screening Checklist](#) is a tool for communicating this to participants, and for documenting compliance.
5. The *Checklist* is a required document for District and Council events to aid in contact tracing, if necessary, as required by the Health Department. Units are encouraged to use this tool, as well.
6. Individuals must wear a cloth mask covering nose and mouth when indoors, and outdoors when physical distancing (at least 6 feet between non-family members) cannot be maintained. Those who refuse to comply must leave.
7. There must be facilities or supplies to allow for frequent hand washing and/or sanitizing, and frequent reminders to do so.
8. Shared equipment and surfaces must be sanitized frequently.
9. Camping: tents must be set up 6 feet apart, and each person must have their own tent, unless a family unit. The *Guide to Safe Scouting* applies.
10. Dining: Avoid serving styles where diners use shared utensils and condiments; discontinue use of group beverage dispensers.

All must adhere to the guidance provided by the State of Vermont and VT Department of Health.

In the event that a participant tests positive for COVID-19, or if you believe a close contact situation [as defined by the CDC](#) has occurred, please:

- Call the Health Department at 802-863-7240 to determine next steps.
- Gather as much information as possible about the situation using the [BSA Incident Reporting Tool](#).
- Notify Scout Executive Mark Saxon at mark.saxon@scouting.org as soon as possible.
- Aid in communicating and reinforcing Health Department and BSA guidance to families until the risk has passed.

* Operations at our Council-owned properties may be subject to more stringent guidelines.