



**Susquehanna Council BSA Guidance to Units and Charter Organizations
for in-person Scouting Activities
June 21, 2020**

This document is intended to guide unit leaders and their chartering organizations as to activities approved by the Susquehanna Council, BSA. Activities in contravention to this guidance, or the regulations and guidance issued from time to time by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the Governor, Department of Health, Emergency Management Agency, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, are NOT considered to be sanctioned activities on behalf of the Council. For any questions about this document, please contact your unit's District Executive.

Fundamental principles:

Follow all appropriate rules from the Governor as to allowed activities in the current "stage" (red, yellow, green) for the unit's home County – if the activity will take place in a different County, the more-restrictive rules apply even if going to a less-restrictive location.

Follow the guidance of the Commonwealth and CDC as to activity restrictions (group size, etc.) and risk mitigation techniques.

Communicate, in detail, your plans to the Scouts and their families, including the proposed activities, timelines, and accelerated sanitizing and distancing measures to be taken. In this communication, say what you'll do - and then do what you say!

In-person unit meetings may take place, but they must adhere to the Commonwealth's orders as to maximum group size and distancing requirements for the unit's home County.

At the start of an activity (or day of multiple activities), take and document the temperature of every participant (youth and adult), and question each participant to ensure that they feel well and are not experiencing any symptoms; if an individual feels unwell, physically exhibits any symptoms, or his/her temperature exceeds 100 degrees F (37.8C), they must go home and not attend the activity. Pre-event screening tools - <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/pre-event-medical-screening/>

Face coverings must be worn by all participants throughout the activity or day; strenuous physical activity (running, heavy exercise) is strongly discouraged. Hiking, biking, boating and swimming in a guarded area are acceptable activities.

Support healthy hygiene – provide soap and paper towels if water will be available; provide hand sanitizer and require its use.



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All participants should follow the six-foot distance rules, including low-density transportation to/from the activity.

Travel to and from activities is best done by the individual families. When this is not possible, the driver and daughter/son should use the front seats and one unrelated Scout in the back seat - all wearing masks - in a passenger car. In an SUV or van, driver and daughter/son should use the front seats and other passengers should be limited to one person per row.

For meals/snacks during the activities, individually bagged meals should be provided, along with disposable plates, cups, napkins, etc. For a cooked meal, one designated person should serve the common items instead of allowing each participant to handle the serving utensils.

Small-group activities should be encouraged (Dens vs. Packs; Patrols vs. whole Troop), or at least divide the participants into these smaller groups – and physically separate the groups - throughout the activity.

Overnight trips – Per the Governor’s orders, overnight camping may occur only within Counties in the Green phase (refer to item #1). If appropriately staying out overnight, tents may be shared ONLY by family members; temperatures of each participant must be taken and documented again on the second and subsequent mornings.

Adherence to Safe Scouting and Youth Protection guidelines MUST be observed.

If a participant becomes ill or injured in any way during the activity, the individual should be physically distanced from others, and transportation home (if no ambulance is required) must be provided by a family member. Incident Reporting - <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report>



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