

## COVID-19 Camp Participant Statement

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 camp this summer or participate in other Scouting activities.

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 camp. We require that each council or district activity create a COVID-19 mitigation plan to reduce risk of exposure during Scout activities.

The mitigation plan should include provisions that address:

- Pre-attendance education
- Health screening conducted by your unit prior to travel to camp
- Limitations of visitors while in camp
- Hygiene reminders while at camp
- Extra handwashing /sanitizer stations throughout camp
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces and shared program equipment
- Having planned check-ins with each participant one week and two weeks after the unit leaves camp to determine if anyone has developed symptoms

Screening precautions are important but cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or other illnesses 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. Other people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. Even with these precautions, someone with COVID-19 may be allowed into camp. We also recognize the very nature of camp 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 camp.

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