Health and Safety

**Are there restrictions on who can attend camp this summer?**
We are asking those participants with serious underlying medical conditions as outlined by the CDC to not attend camp for their own safety. Those who are in this group need to have a conversation with their medical provider when considering attending camp.

**What are the expectations for travel to and from camp?**
We encourage people to travel to and from camp as families or household groups. However, the final decision on travel arrangements will be at the discretion of each parent.

**What social distancing measures will be in place at camp this summer?**
We fully anticipate social distancing will be a part of summer camp in 2020. In addition to the measures above, we are requiring participants and staff to maintain a six-foot distance from each other at all times. We are also limiting capacities of campsites, buildings and program areas to comply with social distancing requirements.

**What will happen if we need to take shelter in a storm shelter?**
We’ve discussed this with our camp physicians and agreed that the imminent threat of a storm would take precedence over all else. When needed, we will use storm shelters as we have in the past. Social distancing is difficult in a storm shelter so we advise all participants to wear a mask while in the shelter. A roster of participants in the shelter will be maintained.

**Will participants need to be screened before they attend camp?**
Based on guidance from state and national organizations, we have developed a screening tool for all campers to use. All participants will complete the screening tool and take their temperature prior to traveling to camp. Once arriving at camp, campers will be reassessed by our onsite health officer. If a camper does not pass the recheck the entire vehicle will be asked to return home.

**How will campers and staff be monitored throughout their time at camp?**
All campers and staff will complete the screening tool on a daily basis. Temperature checks will be conducted periodically throughout the session and be led by adult participants. We are asking each unit to bring a temporal thermometer with them to camp. All camp staff will receive training in identifying basic symptoms as well as protocols for dealing with suspected illness.
What will health and sanitation look like at camp this summer?
Expect more frequent required handwashing, greater access to handwashing and hand sanitizer, additional cleaning of high touch surfaces, sanitizing program equipment between each use, elimination of self-serve dining and program supplies, as well as additional mandatory health screening protocols before travel to and once arriving at camp.

We have identified cleaning materials and are planning to have our camp staff sanitize common area buildings (shower houses, trading posts, camp lodges) twice a day, and clean program equipment between user groups. Units are expected to clean their campsite amenities, and we recommend at least twice a day for latrines and shared spaces. Camp Staff will sanitize campsites in between user groups.

How will you deal with a suspected case of COVID-19 at overnight camp?
Any individual suspected of COVID-19 would be immediately separated from the rest of the camp population. With the assistance of a parent or unit leaders, the individual will be sent to a clinic to be evaluated by a physician.
If a test is conducted, the individual and his or her unit would need to remain isolated until test results are returned. Isolation could be done in the campsite or the unit could return home to await results.

Will we be required to wear masks at camp this summer?
Based on guidance from our camp physicians we are recommending that participants wear masks when social distancing cannot be maintained or when in a shared space that includes participants who not from your unit. Participants do not need to wear masks when in the campsite with their own unit/group. We recommend bringing 3 cloth masks to camp so that they can be on a rotation of wearing and washing.

What if a participant shows symptoms of COVID-19 after camp?
Our expectation is that any participant who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 would promptly contact their physician for evaluation. If a test is administered and the results are positive for COVID-19, a public health official will contact the individual. Please discuss the individual’s involvement in a Scouting activity with them and provide Northern Star’s contact information (Kris Burbank: 612-261-2450 or kburbank@northernstar.org). Public health will reach out to us directly.

If the symptoms occur greater than 14 days after conclusion of the activity the risk of COVID related to the activity or transmission to others present at the activity would be extremely low.
What changes will there be to tenting or housing arrangements?
We are encouraging all participants to either tent with a member of their household or by themselves. Camp does have some equipment available for use, but we encourage units to utilize their own. If you are utilizing a 9x7 canvas wall tent from Camp, make sure you have mosquito netting! For the 2020 camping season, it’s okay for a parent and Scout from the same family to share a tent if they so choose.

Will units be required to bring any additional PPE or cleaning materials?
As answered above, masks are required at some points during the week. Troops are also encouraged to bring additional hand sanitizer, sanitizing sprays, wipes and towels for use in the campsite.

Group and Campsite Organization

Can we have adult leaders who stay for a partial week?
Using best practice guidance to reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus, we’re asking that units maintain the same adult leadership throughout the entire session instead of a rotation of leaders. If this is not possible, we ask that you limit the amount of changes necessary and encourage that rotating adult leaders be from the same household as a youth already at camp.

Will there be limits on group size or capacities at camp?
Overall camp capacities as well as group sizes will be adjusted to follow emerging guidelines from the Departments of Health and Centers for Disease Control.

Based on information gathered, we are planning for campsites to be split into individual sections that house a patrol of 10 participants. Each patrol of 10 will do all activities together throughout the entire camp session. We are asking that each unit make patrols as close to 10 as possible, and to have the minimum number of patrols as possible. If you need to have a small patrol, we would like you to first have your smallest patrol be adult leaders, and then secondly make your older Scouts smaller groups.

Multiple groups of 10 can set up in a campsite. Each group should set up with either a physical barrier or 30 feet apart from another group.

Social distancing within each group is expected. Our health supervisors believe at some point this summer groups will be able to function more like households. At a later date, our health supervisors are optimistic that Troops and Crews will be able to function more like households.
Please also note, if an adult leader is driving a youth not from their household, that car will be in the same group for the week. Plan your carpools accordingly if parents are not driving kids to camp.

Examples:
If you have 16 Scouts and 6 adults, we would recommend two groups of 8 Scouts and 2 adults, and then a 3rd group of 2 Adults. You may want to make one group of 10 Scouts, and one group of 6 Scouts, this is okay. **Please do not make** two groups of 5 and one group of 6.

If you have 29 Scouts and 4 Adults, we would recommend 3 groups of Scouts being 10/10/9 and a 4th group of adults be group 4.

Program

**What will the schedule look like?**
Our camp schedule will be adjusted so that units will participate in all activities as a unit and patrol and not as individuals. If your Troop or Patrol goes to the beach or to the shooting range it will be during a specific scheduled time for your unit. Free time programs where Scouts travel in buddy pairs like open shoot, open climbing, and open swim are not on the camp schedule this season. Additionally, large group gatherings such as assemblies and campfires will be replaced with unit level versions in your campsite.

We are planning for four 2-hour program blocks each day, Monday through Friday. Each unit’s schedule will be unique from every other unit. During these four hour program blocks is when older Scout, unit activities, and merit badges will happen.

**What will merit badges work?**
Merit badges will be taught in two ways. 1 - hybrid learning style within these program requests. For example, a Scout seeking canoeing merit badge can complete requirements individually within the campsite or prior to camp, and then demonstrate the physical skills during a unit canoeing program with the merit badge counselor. 2 – Camp counselor coming to your campsite to deliver a badge to your group or units.

**How will Unit Activities work?**
Scouts will sometimes do these activities as pods, and sometimes do these activities as a unit staying distant from other groups.
Are older Scout programs still available?
Yes. Older Scout programs are being changed to be available at a unit level, not as individuals. As shared above, these programs will be a part of the lengthened program blocks.

Off-camp older Scout programs will not operate, but some on-camp ones will. Examples under consideration include Scouts staying in their groups of 10 and heading to the Tree Houses for spar pole climbing and the obstacle course. Or within their groups of 10, using camps mountain bikes and going on a guided trek on some of our awesome trails.

All currently accepted reservations for weeklong programs at camp are cancelled as we work to build our new model. When we have finalized program opportunities, we will be sending out new explanations and asking units to rank their program preferences in order to create a unique schedule.

We are removing the age tiers from our older Scout programs to accommodate groups of 10 to be able to do these activities together. The only restrictions a Scout may have in doing an older Scout program would be age guidelines in the guide to safe Scouting.

How does our patrol sign up for programs?
The Camping Director is planning to send out the registration form on June 12th for Patrols to start reviewing and planning. Stay tuned!

Food Service
Due to group sizes and social distancing requirements, units will be cooking food in their campsite. Camp will be delivering all ingredients, portioned for your campsite, 45-60 minutes prior to the mealtime. There will be instructions included with each meal to help Scouts know how to prepare the meal. We are using the Voyageur Menu 2020 as our baseline menu. We are also drafting a low-cook menu that will give Scouts one meal a day that is easy to assemble. Dietary restrictions will be the same as previous years, and Scouts who bring their own food will receive the limited service fee. The new menu will be published 6/22.

Each campsite has a food service container for the unit to use. If you’re anticipating overflow, please utilize your unit trailer or locked vehicles to follow living with animals’ guidelines.

We will ask all groups that can provide their own patrol boxes and gear to do so but our inventory of equipment is available for those that cannot. Additionally, each group will receive a staple crate full of snacks and basic items like salt and pepper, peanut butter and jelly. You can replenish this crate at each meal by submitting a request to our food staff. Make sure Scouts bring their own mess kits!
Is All Star (Independent Scouts Camping) still available?
All-Star is cancelled. As our model is built upon Scouts coming from similar communities, we feel bringing Scouts together from different communities is counter to our plan. We will continue to monitor guidelines and if we are able to operate an All Star program, we will re-open this program.

What is happening with Counselor in Training (CIT) Programs?
At Many Point, CIT’s are doing their training week from July 5-12. After training, CIT’s will be joining one subcamp for the remainder of the season. If you are a currently registered CIT, email Emily @ EHeidelberg@northernstar.org to let her know if you’d like to cancel or be in this session.

At Tomahawk, the 1st session of CIT’s has been cancelled. To be moved to session 2 or 3, please email Emily @ EHeidelberg@northernstar.org to let her know if you’d like to cancel or be in this session.

Reservation Policies & Miscellaneous

Deadlines
Our full payment deadline has been shifted to June 15th. Please submit the estimate attendance survey by June 8th.

Refunds
In the unfortunate circumstance that camps are forced to close this summer, units will be given a choice to credit all fees paid toward a future reservation or receive a full refund.

We want to ensure that all families feel safe and comfortable sending their children to camp this summer. If a family decides to no longer attend camp due to health risk, we will refund all fees paid if the request is received by our office at least one week in advance of the start of their camp session. Requests outside of this timeframe will be evaluated individually.

2021 Reservations
Any cancellation for 2020 does not impact 2021. If you’d like to cancel, please indicate so through the estimated attendance survey sent out by the Camping Director. 2021 Reservations are being taken on a first come, first served basis.

What is happening with Pre-Order T-shirts?
T-shirt orders have not been produced yet. Heritage Embroidery and Design will reach out directly to you to confirm that you still want to proceed with your order before they print any shirts. You will have an opportunity to cancel your order at that time for a full refund. If you would like to cancel your order now you can contact Heritage Embroidery and Design at Ben@hedusa.com

Many Point Scout Camp
41408 Many Point Scout Camp Rd
Ponsford MN 56575
612-261-2460
What is happening to Family Camp?
As we’ve redesigning our 2020 Program in light of COVID, we had to make some very difficult decisions in regard to Family Camp. This season, Families will need to bring their own fun and entertainment for the week. The beach will most likely be available for private swimming (not life-guarded), and the lodge will be open for Families to relax in. It is our goal for our two Family Camp Staff to be able to provide a program or two each day, but we know that their main focus will be on the cleanliness of the common areas (lodge, restrooms, shower buildings) and are still working on their daily schedule.

We fully intend to staff family camp again in 2021, as we value developing Family togetherness.

If you’re planning on coming, please submit full payment, due June 15. Our fees are remaining the same. As a reminder, if camp is cancelled due to COVID, a full refund, including deposits, will be provided. Additionally, if you change your mind up to one week prior on coming due to safety, you will also receive a full refund. Refund requests received outside this time frame will be handled on an individual basis.