



Suffolk County Council Boy Scouts of America COVID-19 Unit Activity Guide (Updated 10/7/2021)

Stay healthy, Be safe, and Have Fun!

Youth group overnight camping is allowed per NYS and Suffolk County Departments of Health subject to certain CDC requirements. The threat of COVID-19 has been greatly reduced, but not eliminated. We strongly encourage the use of masks at all indoor Scouting activities.

For your unit's Scouting activities, the BSA National Council has provided a restart guide. You can download it here by clicking on [Restart Scouting Checklist](#) Additional Suffolk County Council unit activity guidelines are listed below. For more information on COVID-19 guidelines, check the following links for the State of New York, BSA National, CDC, and Suffolk County Council for staying current on COVID-19 requirements:

- Your District Safety Champions are your Suffolk County Council primary source for answers to your COVID-19 questions and any other safety related questions. They are listed along with contact information at the bottom of the Suffolk County Council [Scouting Safely](#) webpage.
- New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) [What You Need to Know](#) webpage.
- [BSA National COVID-19 FAQ webpage](#) (Includes additional COVID-19 related answers on Camping this Fall/Winter and Advancement).
- [CDC Things You Need to Know About the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Safer Travel Tips for families with unvaccinated children](#)

Additionally, the Suffolk County Council Service Center and Scout Shop are open for business. The hours are Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm for the service center, 10 am – 5pm for the Scout Shop. The store is also open Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Baiting Hollow Scout Camp is open and will be operating amazing programs year-round. Be sure to check out Baiting Hollow Scout Camp for more information.

The New York State Department of Health has released restrictions since 70% of the adult population is now vaccinated.

Our COVID-19 guidelines are based on State of New York Department of Health (NYSDOH) requirements & CDC. Before beginning any unit event, please have the latest information available from the State of New York, understanding that this can and may possibly change from week to week. Currently:

- All BSA Youth Protection guidelines are to be adhered to.
- Involve the key leaders of your Chartered Organization to get their input and approval for in-person meeting plans and determining mask requirements.
- Be sure you have parent permission for all events. No prescreening form is necessary, but units should keep rosters of participants who attend the event in case of the need for contact tracing.
- We strongly encourage the use of face masks and social distancing for individuals not vaccinated when meeting in-person and indoors per CDC guidelines. If a venue requires a face mask, all participants must comply regardless of vaccination status. Units should determine when masks are required for venues that have not implemented a mask mandate.
- Anyone who is sick or exhibiting any symptoms of the coronavirus must stay home or will be sent home.
- Have adequate sanitation supplies on hand.
- Groups may share food and drink incorporating all sanitation and safe food handling procedures.
- Be vigilant in ensuring everyone washes their hands thoroughly and maintains physical distancing.

