

COVID-19 Troop/Service Unit Camp Guidelines – March 14, 2022

These guidelines should be followed for day and overnight camp events. Please continue to consult the COVID-19 Updates page on our website ([COVID 19 Updates](#)) for the most current information. If you have any questions, please contact us at info@gscwm.org.

Camp Guidelines

Preparing for Camp

- Activity & Travel requests must be submitted in advance of the activity, allowing adequate time for approval.
- It is imperative to take all safety precautions when girls travel in motor vehicles. Since the risk of COVID-19 transmission is high when people are in close proximity and in a closed-in area for more than ten minutes, girls from different households are discouraged from carpooling.
 - Parents must be notified ahead of time if girls will be in a car together.
 - Each person must complete the [Screening Form](#).
 - Completed forms must be retained for the duration of the membership year or for three months if the activity is held in August or September. Forms must be shredded after the retention period.
 - Space girls out as much as possible to avoid crowding.
 - Keep car windows at least partially open to circulate fresh air.
- Arrival times should be staggered to minimize family/camper overlap.
- Non-essential visitors, who are not vaccinated (including parents or other individuals with no essential purpose for coming onsite) should be limited to the maximum extent possible. Essential visitors could include, for example, instructors, vendors, parents picking up children, local board of health/department of public health, or accreditation members.
- If a camper feels ill during the camp day or has COVID-19 symptoms, they will be separated from other campers and the parent/guardian or emergency contact must be notified and instructed to pick up their camper

Group Size

- “Day Camp” guidelines apply to any activity for 25 or more girls that lasts more than two hours. Day camp “Unit” (cohort) size must be 25 or fewer girls plus the required adults to meet safety ratios but there can be multiple units.
- Overnight “Unit” (cohort) size must be 12 or fewer girls plus the required adults to meet safety ratios. There can be multiple units.
- Units, including adults, should stay together throughout the day (no mixing of people from different units/groups).
 - Each unit/group must be physically separated from other units (e.g. each unit in a different location on the site).

Standard COVID-19 Protocols

- Nobody should attend if they are showing any signs of illness. Each attendee must submit a COVID-19 Screening Form ([Screening Form](#)) upon arrival.
 - Completed forms must be retained for the duration of the membership year. Forms must be shredded after the retention period.
- Masks must be properly worn by all (vaccinated and unvaccinated) in GSCWM camp buildings, except when eating, drinking, or sleeping. Girls and adults who are not fully vaccinated and boosted are strongly encouraged, but not required, to wear masks and maintain social distancing of at least three-feet when outdoors.
 - Extra masks should be available in case a camper's mask is soiled or unusable.
- All participants must wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Wash when they arrive, before eating, after using the restroom, and after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - Hand sanitizer needs to be available for all and it is preferable for each person to bring and use their own. Hand sanitizer (must be at least 60% alcohol and must NOT contain methanol) can be used, IF soap and water is not available. Parents/guardians must provide written permission for their daughter to use hand sanitizer.
- Personal items (e.g. hats, brushes, hair ties, towels) and drinking containers must not be shared.
- Disinfectant wipes or spray with paper towels need to be available and used to wipe down high-touch areas (door handles, chairs, tables, etc.) before and after use.

Program Activities; Food/Snacks; Sleeping Areas

- For many, singing at camp is an integral part of the experience. During the pandemic, girls are encouraged to wear masks while singing and especially loud songs and shouting should be discouraged to limit the spread of the aerosolized virus. Consider adding motions to songs or singing in sign language. Creativity is fun!
- Shared supplies and equipment should be wiped after group use with sanitizing wipes. Personal items (hair ties, brushes, towels, etc.) and drink containers must not be shared.
- Groups using program equipment (e.g. archery & boats) need to be small enough to allow thorough disinfecting between each camper's use and still allow sufficient time for girls to enjoy the activity.
- No shared cooking or serving utensils for food are allowed (no buffets/pot lucks or self-service). Girls should bring their own lunch or snack from home (no sharing) or pre-packaged food/snacks can be provided. Adults handling food items must wear disposable gloves.
 - Staff must prepare and serve all meals
 - Self-serve buffets, including salad bars, and family-style meals are not allowed
 - Campers can have S'mores and individually cooked campfire meals if adults wearing gloves distribute the ingredients
- Sleeping areas are restricted to those in the same unit
 - Beds are placed so that individual heads are at least six feet apart. Most tents at GSCWM camps will sleep four, with this restriction.
 - Ventilation is maximized as much as possible (open windows, doors, tent flaps)
 - Face coverings/masks should **not** be worn while sleeping