



Gulf Coast Council Coronavirus Update

What is the Coronavirus?

The coronavirus is one of the family of viruses that can cause symptoms like the common cold and/or flu virus. Although the immediate health risk is low according to the Center of Disease Control (CDC), we are taking precautions.

What do symptoms of Coronavirus look like?

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) can cause mild to severe respiratory symptoms such as cough, runny nose, sore throat, congestion, fatigue, shortness of breath, and fever.

We will continue to monitor the latest updates of COVID-19 with our local and state health departments, and the CDC.

The Gulf Coast Council (GCC) will announce any cancellations of district and council events/meetings after considerations of current local school system cancellation decisions.

What precautionary measures is the GCC taking at council and district events.

1. **Adult Volunteer/Parent Choice:** Any adult/parent currently signed up for any district or council event between March 13-April 30 may request a refund if the request is received in writing (email: jim.boksa@scouting.org) **prior** to the event **only**.
2. The GCC has currently enacted the mandatory long term camp **BSA Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist** verification for all youth and adult district/council activities.





BSA Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist

Has the participant had any of the following symptoms in the last 24 hours?

- Fever (100.4 F or greater)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

If the participant has fever, vomiting, OR diarrhea- HE OR SHE SHOULD STAY HOME

Has the participant had any of the following symptoms in the last 24 hours?

- Unexplained, extreme fatigue or muscle aches
- Rash
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Open Sore

If the participant has any two (or more) of these symptoms- **he or she should stay home**. If the participant has one of these symptoms, discuss any limitations and restrictions and consider having him or her stay home.

Participants who become ill should not return to the activity until they are cleared by a health-care provider.

3. Several mobile wash stations are being placed in key traffic locations around events during larger district and council events.
4. Increased sanitation efforts in common areas, buildings, and dining facilities.

What precautionary measures are suggested for local scout units

1. Based on meeting patterns, location, and meeting space consideration each charter partner should locally determine any potential change in regular meetings.
2. The GCC suggests units use the BSA Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist for youth-parent activities and **prior to departing** for unit overnight campouts.

What can Parents do to protect their family?

Parents should take the same precautions they would for any common cold or flu

- Family members need to wash their hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. (Alcohol based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol content can work in a pinch)
- Hands should be washed before eating, after using the bathroom, and when you come inside from outdoor activities that caused hands to get dirty.





- Teach children not to touch their mouth, eyes, or noses unless they just washed their hand
- Cough and/or sneeze into your elbow and not your hands
- Distance yourself from anyone coughing or sneezing.
- Encourage healthy habits, like eating healthy diet, exercising, and getting enough sleep.
- Get the flu vaccine to help prevent the flu, which is more common and can be dangerous
- **Do not send your child to school or Scouts when they are sick.**
- If you have any symptoms of the virus, seek medical attention immediately and follow the advice of your medical professional.

For additional information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from the CDC, visit this page:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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