

North Florida Council

Fall Family Camp Weekends COVID-19 FAQ's for Packs and Families

Camping this Fall

The leadership of the North Florida Council has the health and safety of all Scouts, their families, staff, and public as our highest priority and concern. We appreciate your patience as we have been navigating this situation as best we can. We will be monitoring circumstances and adhering to guidance from the CDC, our departments of health, and other experts to determine which programs need to be adjusted. Thankfully, we have an excellent working relationship with our county's Department of Health, our Enterprise Risk Management Committee, and our national accreditation teams. Additionally, our staff and volunteers are working with these agencies and many others to ensure we are fully prepared to continue to offer the same values-based, mission-driven family camp experience we have been providing for over 100 years.

Q: Will there be special efforts made at Camp Shands to keep the camp clean and sanitized? Yes, the camp staff are and will be conducting extra cleaning efforts. All camping facilities have been deep cleaned in preparation of your arrival. We will continue to monitor the information provided to us by the Department of Health and CDC and apply best practices.

Q: How will you keep Scouts safe at family camp? Health and safety are our primary concern, it is important to us people at camp stay healthy and are well cared for if they become ill. Upon arrival at a North Florida Council Camping Property each participant will be medically screened which will include individual temperature checks and general health assessment. We will have and act on the latest information from CDC, state, and local health agencies regarding best practices on screening procedures for campers as they arrive. Weekend operations have been modified to eliminate gatherings beyond current guidelines (different approaches to flag ceremonies, dining halls, campfires, and other camp-wide events).

Q: What is BSA's policy on social distancing in a tenting environment when camping? There is no formal policy on social distancing in tents, just as there is not prohibition on tenting alone if logistics can accommodate that request. Our campsites currently accommodate separation of tents and participants can bring their own tent if desired.

Q: What kind of safety guidelines will you be following at camp? The health and safety of our participants is important to us. Camp Shands is nationally accredited and held to high standards. All participants will be required to come to camp healthy and able to participate. Unit leaders & parents will work in conjunction with camp management to ensure compliance. Health and safety guidelines provided by the state and CDC will be put into practice. Any participant that arrives at camp physically ill will not be admitted and sent home immediately.

Q: Will I have to provide any additional health information to come to camp? Yes, a pre-event screening worksheet is included in the Camp Shands COVID-19 Camp Plan of Operation and will be made available to all camp participants. Information will be shared to reservation holders as it becomes available. A current Annual Health and Medical Record is strongly recommended but alternative options are now available. See the AHMR Family 2020 Exception document in the Camp Shands COVID-19 Plan of Operation.

Q: Will there be changes to the dining hall operations? Yes, breakfast and lunch will be delivered to your campsite. Units will be assigned mealtime for dinner to limit the occupancy of the dining hall.

Q: Will there be aquatics activities? Yes, we plan to use our Aquatics Center and the waterfront. At the Aquatics Center we will have open or free swim fun. At the waterfront we plan to do aquatics boating activities (Kayaks, Canoeing)

Q: What will the check-in process look like? As is standard in previous years, each unit must check in to camp. This family camp fall season there will an additional requirement which include a pre-screening health check. These can be found at nfcscouting.org/familycamps .

Q: Will staff be screened and need to comply with state and local guidelines? YES. The event staff at will be screened the same way as each participant.

Q: Will there be specific procedures for staff or participants if they become ill or present any symptoms? Yes, NFC Camp Properties will have specific procedures to follow in the case of someone becoming ill or showing symptoms which include a quarantined area as well.

Q: Can I transfer my unit's reservation to 2021 family camp? Yes, if your unit feels it best to move their current registration due to COVID-19, we will transfer the unit reservation.