

**Scout Overnight Camping:  
Guidance during the Covid-19 Pandemic – EEE Outbreak  
August 5, 2020**

Our properties are closed at this time for overnight camping but will be opening as soon as it is practical. The continued closure of our camps, however, does not mean that overnight camping is not permitted, but any troop making preparations should follow these guidelines.

1. Preference should be given to camping sites within your local area and State. Avoid travelling too far from your home area and always check local travel restrictions.
2. Quarantining for 14 days in Rhode Island is not required for Troops returning from States that have less than a 5% positivity test rate. Please refer to the RI Department of Health Website for the current listing: [Health.RI.Gov/Covid/Travel](https://health.ri.gov/covid/travel)
3. Massachusetts residents returning, or any persons travelling to Massachusetts are required to complete a Massachusetts Travel Form prior to arrival, unless you are visiting from a lower-risk State designated by the Department of Public Health. Please refer to the Massachusetts travel order website at: [Mass.Gov/info-details/Covid-19-Travel-Order](https://mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order)
4. Single-person tent camping is permitted. Tents should have at a minimum of 6 feet between them, 14 feet between tents is better. Only members of the same household should share a tent. Units should not participate in cabin camping nor use any congregate indoor meeting facilities or shelters unless absolutely necessary due to hazardous weather at this time. All Youth Protection Guidelines should be followed.
5. Food should not be shared amongst campers. Each family should bring and prepare their own food. If this is impractical, we ask that you limit the contact that individuals have with the food. We recommend one or two adult servers who sanitize their hands, wear masks and gloves and plate the food to deliver and serve to each camper- no buffet lines or congregating around the food table. Disposable dishware should be used whenever possible and properly disposed of and removed upon departure.
6. Bathroom facilities need to be monitored and sanitized on a frequent basis. Bathroom facilities must be sanitized at the beginning of the outing, 3 times each day, and at the end of the outing. Soap and water and hand sanitizer must be provided, and usage must be mandatory before meals, after using the bathroom, between activities, etc.
7. Only non-contact or low-contact activities/sports are allowed.
8. Transportation/vehicle travel should be restricted to family members per car.
9. All other guidance for Scouting activities such as group size, stable groups, social distancing, wearing of face masks, medical forms, signed "Inherent Risk of Infection" documents, etc. are mandatory in addition to the above. Follow the unit guidance document at [NCBSA.org/Coronavirus](https://ncbsa.org/coronavirus).

### **EEE Outbreak**

Additionally, as we enter late Summer and Fall, please be aware of mosquito-borne illness and restrictions in your area. EEE is very serious, so it is vital that all precautions are followed. Follow common-sense precautions such as limiting time outdoors between dusk and dawn, wearing of long sleeves/long pants and appropriate mosquito repellent. More details on mosquito-borne illness can be found at:

- [Mass.Gov/info-details/Massachusetts-Arbovirus-Update](https://mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-arbovirus-update)
- [DEM.RI.Gov/Programs/Agriculture/Mosquito-Diseases.php](https://dem.ri.gov/programs/agriculture/mosquito-diseases.php)
- [CT.Gov/Mosquito](https://ct.gov/mosquito)

Please know that the information available to us and local restrictions are evolving constantly. Do not rely on this document alone, be sure to check the Council website for updates and your local and state department of health.