

Scouting America

New Hampshire

Subject: Ensuring Camper Safety at Camp Carpenter and Griswold Scout Reservation

Dear Scouting Family,

At Scouting America New Hampshire, the safety and well-being of our Scouts is our highest priority. As we prepare for another exciting season at Camp Carpenter and Griswold Scout Reservation, we want to share the comprehensive safety protocols and staff training initiatives in place to ensure a secure and enriching camping experience for all participants.

Accreditation and Compliance

Our camps adhere to the highest national safety standards, ensuring a safe and enriching environment for every camper. These accreditations and compliance measures include:

- **National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP):** We meet or exceed all Scouting America requirements to ensure program quality, risk management, and youth safety.
- **American Camp Association (ACA) Accreditation:** Our camps comply with over 300 industry-established health and safety standards, ensuring that our facilities and programming meet the highest benchmarks.
- **NH State Health Permits and Inspections:** The council operates both camps under state health permits and undergoes regular inspections to ensure compliance with full health and safety regulations. These inspections cover everything from water quality to kitchen sanitation and medical preparedness.
- **Facility Inspections and Safe Equipment:** Routine inspections ensure all structures, program areas, and equipment meet safety standards and are in excellent working condition. This includes play areas, ATV courses, high-adventure elements, ropes courses, shooting ranges, the horsemanship area, and aquatics facilities. Any identified hazards are immediately addressed to maintain a secure environment.

Staff Training and Certification

To maintain the highest levels of safety and preparedness, our staff undergo rigorous training programs covering all key operational areas:

- **National Rifle Association (NRA) Safety Standards:** NRA-certified range safety officers and instructors supervise all shooting sports activities, ensuring that firearm handling and range operations follow strict safety guidelines.
- **Scouting America National Camp Staff Accreditation:** The camp's leadership in key program areas attends a comprehensive one-week training to learn the operational and safety standards of Scouting America camping programs. This includes the Camp Director, Program Directors, and Area Leaders in COPE/Climbing, Aquatics, Ecology, Scoutcraft, and Shooting Sports.
- **Lifeguard Training & Aquatics Safety:** Our waterfront staff are certified in American Red Cross Lifeguard Standards and comply with all ACA and NCAP safety protocols. Regular in-service training is conducted throughout the season to keep skills sharp and readiness high.
- **CPR & First Aid Certification:** All key camp staff, including program directors and area leads, are certified in CPR and First Aid to respond swiftly in emergency situations. Annual refresher courses ensure staff remain competent in administering immediate care.
- **ServSafe Food Safety Certification:** Our food service personnel are trained in proper food handling, sanitation, and allergy awareness to ensure the highest standards of meal safety. We also accommodate special dietary needs and allergy concerns with strict food safety protocols.

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- **Youth Protection Training:** All staff and adult volunteers complete Scouting America's Youth Protection Training, reinforcing our commitment to creating a safe and respectful environment. Policies include two-deep leadership, no one-on-one contact between adults and youth, and mandatory reporting of any suspected abuse.
- **Youth Protection Standards & Background Checks:** Every staff member and volunteer undergoes a thorough background check before being approved to work at camp. We adhere to strict policies to ensure all individuals interacting with Scouts meet high ethical and professional standards.

Emergency Preparedness and Risk Management

We take a proactive approach to risk management and emergency preparedness to ensure that our camps operate at the highest level of safety:

- **Medical Support:** Each camp has a dedicated health officer and on-site first aid stations, ensuring immediate response to any medical needs. Additionally, Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are placed in key program areas to provide immediate assistance during a cardiac emergency.
- **Emergency Action Plans (EAPs):** We regularly review and update emergency response plans for severe weather, fire, lost camper scenarios, and medical emergencies. Staff members are trained to execute these plans efficiently to ensure a swift and organized response.
- **Continuous Staff Development:** In addition to initial training, we conduct ongoing safety drills, scenario-based training, and refresher courses throughout the camp season to keep staff fully prepared for any situation.

Commitment to a Safe and Enjoyable Experience

We are dedicated to providing every camper with a safe, fun, and adventure-filled experience. Our commitment to safety extends beyond training and compliance—it is a core value that guides everything we do. By fostering an environment of vigilance for safety, preparedness, and care culture, we ensure that Scouts can explore, learn, and grow in a secure and supportive environment.

Lastly, we appreciate our partnership with hundreds of dedicated and trained adult volunteers who reinforce these safety measures at camp with the Scouts as they participate in camp. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your dedication to Scouting and for entrusting us with the care and development of your Scouts.

Yours in Scouting,
Jay Garee



Scout Executive and CEO

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