SEE HIGHLIGHTED UPDATES IN RED TEXT.

Dear Erie Shores Council Scouting Family,

As we continue to be patient and prepared during this National Emergency, here is an update of the Erie Shores Council operations regarding COVID-19.

Please continue to watch your email, council website www.erieshorescouncil.org/covid-19 and social media www.facebook.com/erieshorescouncil/ for updates.

**Jadel Leadership Center**
The Jadel Leadership Center & Iott Scout Shop are still closed until further notice. We look forward to opening sometime in May in accordance with pending directives from State of Ohio Health Department. All ESC staff are available to meet virtually, respond to emails, make calls as able, and continue daily business to best serve our volunteers remotely. If you need to conduct business with the Council Staff, please do so preferably by email.

**District and Council Events**
All district and council in-person events are now postponed or cancelled through Sunday, May 17. We encourage District Committee, Commissioner, and Roundtable meetings to be held in a virtual environment. We may need to extend this period as more information becomes available from our state leaders.

As District and Council Events begin to be rescheduled for months future, remember that we may not be able to hold every single event in 2020 and therefore may have to wait until 2021 for that event to occur again. We are looking at several events to reschedule to August, and those announcements will be handled via email, website, and Facebook.

**Unit Meetings & Events**
Unit leadership must follow State of Ohio and CDC guidelines in response to COVID-19. We highly recommend using web technology for your Den, Pack, Patrol, Troop, Crew, and Post meetings. Many of our local Units created several great successes in the past few weeks with their meetings, and many are starting new learning opportunities with Nova Awards, many activities in their handbooks, and merit badges. Adult leaders should continue their training at my.scouting.org.

All units should comply with their charter organization’s policy on meetings and gatherings regarding unit-level activities. Our Scouts’ safety should be our number one priority. Please utilize guidance provided by the CDC, your local authorities, and chartering organizations in determining whether to cancel or postpone your events.
Scouting at Home
Have you started the “Scouting at Home 419 Challenge” yet? This is an awesome six-week challenge that has many of our local Scouting families engaging some great adventures, fun, and making memories together. You can find more info and sign up at www.erieshorescouncil.org/Challenge-Signup. We look forward to the “Erie Shores Council Camp-In” on May 16-17.

Stay connected with other volunteers by joining these Facebook groups:
ESC Scouting at Home – Cub Scouts https://www.facebook.com/groups/HomeScoutingCubScouts
ESC Scouting at Home – Scouts BSA https://www.facebook.com/groups/HomeScoutingScoutsBSA

Council staff & volunteers have gathered some great supplemental programming to inspire and challenge our local Scouts & families. See more info at www.erieshorescouncil.org/at-home.

You can also check resources from our National Council at www.scouting.org/scoutingathome/.

Camp Miakonda and Camp Frontier
Both camps are closed March 18 to May 17. This includes hiking, camping, and all unit, district, and council events either postponed or cancelled. Units will be able to change their reservation based upon availability, and the reservation holder will be credited the amount to be used within the next year. Both camps had previously been closed through May 10, and we are extending that by just seven more days (to May 17) at this point. We are remaining flexible in the hopes that we can have some events at the end of May. These decisions will be made and communicated in early May, no later than May 15.

Summer Camp Update
Summer camp preparations with staff & program & facilities are still underway. All Early Bird payment and reservation deadlines have been extended (PSR to June 1, Miakonda CDC to June 4, and White Star Park to June 22.) The Summer Camping and Outdoor Adventure Refund Policy was revised in a separate announcement made on March 20.

We are using a multi-step decision-making process for 2020 Summer Camps. Some of the steps are determining if summer camps will be legal (based on state directives for gatherings of people), safe (based on recommendations from the health department), and viable based on available resources such as staff, equipment, and more.

Decisions will be communicated in May. We are working on several different “if-then scenarios” for each camp based on directives and recommendations from the state. As always, safety is our highest priority – closely followed by learning and fun. Our objective is to help you and your Scouts have a great summer adventure so they can keep advancing their next steps on the Scouting Trail.
As Scouts and Scouters, I know we will all use the principles of the Scout Oath and Law, along with our Slogan and Motto to guide us though these challenging times.

Please know that we look forward to resuming normal Scouting activities as quickly as possible!

Be Prepared,

James D. Wilson
Council Board President
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Erie Shores Council

Alan Bernard
Council Commissioner
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Erie Shores Council

Edward A. Caldwell
Scout Executive/CEO
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Erie Shores Council

P.S. This message was distributed to the largest set of email addresses available to us. If you did not receive the original message via email, please update your email address with Erie Shores Council by clicking here.