

There is nothing Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council takes more seriously than the safety and well-being of our girls, volunteers and staff members. Here are the updates on the steps we are taking to help fight the spread of COVID-19 and comply with Gov. Northam's executive orders.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council will resume full, normal in-person activities **only after** Virginia has successfully passed out of Phase 3. As Virginia entered Phase 3 of re-opening on July 1, the state's guidelines permit social gatherings of up to 250 people; however, **GSVSC Girl Scout gatherings will remain restricted to no more than 50 people until further notice.**
- GSVSC will continue to monitor all local and national directives, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health, and Virginia Department of Health (VDH). The guidance we provide is intended to be used in conjunction with Safety Activity Checkpoints in accordance with our council's individual state and local COVID-19 circumstances which remain fluid.
- If updates from sources such as the governor's office, Centers for Disease Control or National Institutes of Health lead to changes in our evaluation of the situation, then GSVSC will communicate this information to our volunteers on our website, The GS Connections digital e-newsletter and social media.
- **In-person, day-only activities permissible.**
- **No camping or activities requiring overnight stays permitted until after Virginia has successfully passed out of the Phase 3.**
- **No overnight trips or domestic (extended) travel permitted until after Virginia has successfully passed out of the Phase 3.**
- **No International Travel until Virginia has successfully out of the Phase 3 and nonessential travel to other countries is deemed safe.**

Transportation guidelines:

- GS has adopted a **zero-transportation policy** until Virginia has safely passed out of Phase 3.
- Parents must drop off and pick up their own girls to and from all GS activities.
- Volunteers may not transport girls, other than their own, during this time.
- Individuals may not carpool; Public transportation is to be avoided.

When Girl Scouts meet in person:

- **A designated, trained volunteer must be on site to serve as point of contact to manage the following:**
 - **Confirm temperature checks;** on-site temperature checks preferred.
 - **Keep stellar attendance, contact, and health records for all participants.**
- All individuals must complete a temperature check and agree to GS Culture of Care Pledge prior to participation.
- All individuals must complete the COVID-19 Questionnaire, Participation Agreement and COVID-19 Waiver prior to participation.
- All individuals must follow Virginia's Phase 3 social distancing, face mask, disinfecting and all other guidelines outlined in this document.
- Volunteers must have cleaning supplies available and routinely clean areas before and after all in-person meetings or activities.

Required square footage for social distancing:

- Girl Scouts may not gather at the maximum number of 50 participants, if the activity or location does not make it feasible for all participants to follow social distancing.
- Volunteers are to calculate square footage needs so that all participants can properly social distance. Calculations should be based on a circle radius of six feet equal or approximate to 113 square feet per person.

Face mask guidelines:

- Everyone must wear a mask:
 - While entering, exiting, traveling through, and spending any amount of time indoors or when unable to maintain six feet of physical distance from others.
 - In any setting where individuals might raise their voice (e.g. shouting, cheering, chanting, or singing, etc.)
- When outdoors, keep a face mask on hand at all times if for any reason six feet of physical distance cannot be maintained.
- Girls may bring their own masks; have disposable masks on hand for those who need them.

Phase 3 social distancing & exposure mitigation guidelines:

Individuals with fever or temperature higher than **100.4** will not be allowed to participate until their temperature is normal for at least 72 hours; instructions should be given to follow CDC guidelines on what to do if sick.

Girl Scouts must:

- Follow all CDC preventative guidance:
 - Know the symptoms; take temperature prior to participation.
 - Stay home if sick.
 - Cough and sneeze into a tissue.
 - Have hand washing/sanitizing supplies available. Have everyone sanitize hands upon arrival, throughout (at least every 30 minutes) and just before leaving.
 - Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol when hand washing is not an option.
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth; wash or sanitize hands when touched.
 - Ensure trash baskets or bags for meeting and activity spaces are easily accessible, if not already available.
- Maintain six feet of physical distance between people who do not reside in the same household.
- Maintain at least 10 feet for any setting that includes physical activity, singing, cheering, or chanting.
- Avoid all physical contact to include:
 - Hugs, handshakes, high-fives, friendship circle or squeeze; these activities can transmit COVID-19 from person to person.
 - No shared equipment or materials such as markers, scissors, etc.
 - Sanitizing each item before and after, if equipment or supplies must be shared
- Create safe ways for members to greet and end meetings without physical contact.
- Choose games and activities to eliminate physical contact between individuals.



When meeting in public spaces:

- Meeting outdoors is preferred over meeting indoors; local parks or outdoor community or church pavilions are encouraged.
- Meetings not permissible in fitness centers or commercial gyms.
- Girl Scouts must obtain advance permission from the owner of the location or facilities being used.
- Schools or churches may not permit outside groups on premises, so always check and confirm ahead of time.
- When meetings in public facilities, ask the facility in advance:
 - Is the space cleaned and are touch surfaces (door knobs/handles, light switches, counter tops, tabletops, chairs, handrails, restrooms, toilets, floors, etc.) sanitized at least daily
 - Who else uses the space (how often, what size is the group)? Is the space cleaned between groups?
 - What type of faucets and soap dispensers are available in the restroom (sensory or manual)?
 - Does the facility follow CDC and state health department guidelines?

Disinfecting:

Girl Scouts are to supplement public facility cleaning practices by:

- Arriving a minimum of 20 mins prior to wipe down and sanitize touch surfaces to prep space for Girl Scout activities.
- Allowing time after to sanitize and wipe down touch surfaces and **leave the meeting space better than found.**
- Using a household cleaner (see EPA's list of effective cleaners approved for use against COVID-19.)
- Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched (tabletops, chairs, equipment, etc.)

First Aid Supplies:

- Should include COVID-19 prevention items including hand sanitizer (at least 60 percent alcohol), tissues, disposable face masks and disinfectants.
- Disposable or no-contact thermometers if not cost-prohibitive; however, parents are to check temperatures before allowing their girl(s) to join in-person GS activities.

Food and drinks:

When meeting in person:

- Volunteers are not to provide food or drinks. If the event is a family gathering, then each family should provide their own food and drinks.
- Do not share food and drinks with others outside of a family unit.
- Do not drink from water fountains. Girls and volunteers should each bring their own bottles of water.

What to do if someone begins to exhibit symptoms at in-person meeting:

- **Isolate and safely transport those who are sick.** Immediately notify the person's emergency contact. Review and follow CDC guidance for caring for yourself or others who are sick.
 - **Clean and disinfect.** Close off areas used by sick person. Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. Do not use area until after cleaning & disinfecting.
 - **Advise sick individuals of home Isolation criteria.** Sick individuals are not return to Girl Scouts until they have met CDC's criteria to discontinue home isolation.
 - **Gather attendance records and required documentation.**
 - **Promptly notify council.**
 - Refer to **Guidelines for reporting and communicating a positive COVID-19 test or known exposure.**
- Girl, volunteer, and staff **health information is private and strictly confidential.**
 - In the event of a COVID-19 positive test result or known exposure to someone who has tested positive to COVID-19, do not contact the parents or troop members.
 - **Promptly contact a GSVSC council staff member in this situation at 540-777-5100 or contact the council emergency number after hours: 1-540-598-0974.**
 - Volunteers responsible for the troop, group, or service unit gathering, where participants had a known exposure to COVID-19, will be asked to submit copies of required documents to council:
 - Meeting, activity, event or gathering attendance records
 - Participant health forms
 - Signed COVID-19 Questionnaire and Participation Agreements and COVID-19 Waivers
 - A council staff member (**NOT volunteers**) will be responsible for taking the necessary steps to to correctly handle the situation:
 - Confirm and trace the positive tester
 - Notify volunteers or parents of anyone who may have been exposed or impacted by a positive test result
 - Notify the facility of where a troop or group has met
 - Alert the Virginia Department of Health.

QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE?

Please contact Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council at info@gsvsc.org or 540-777-5100.