

Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation – Camp Meade

COVID-19 Overview Sheet

Last Updated: 6/10/21

During this global pandemic, Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation (HMSR) is fully committed to ensuring the safety of all its campers, leaders, staff, and guests. As such, policies may change following the publication of this guide. Everyone in camp has a responsibility to protect the health and safety of everyone else. One uninformed or careless person can, in a moment, destroy the health and safety of the entire camp!

HMSR is committed to running a safe and exciting camping experience for each of our campers. Violations and breach of protocol will be taken with the utmost level of seriousness. Failure to comply with the established protocols will result in individual Scouts, adult leaders, or possibly even an entire unit being sent home from camp. Refunds will not be issued.

Pre-Camp Mitigation

Pre-arrival Precautions – Recently, PA travel restrictions have been updated to no longer require a 10-day quarantine or negative COVID-19 test before arriving in the state.

Pre-Arrival Communication and Screening - The screening process will begin with an email communication sent 2 weeks before your scheduled date to arrive. The email will outline the screening process and advise you not to come or bring any participants who have been ill, are demonstrating worrisome symptoms, have had someone in their home who has been ill recently, or who have been exposed to an individual with a confirmed COVID diagnosis.

This email will also give you tips on how to stay healthy prior to your arrival, clarify your arrival time, and the flow of our revised check-in operations.

Campers and Adults will be asked to use the BSA Pre-Travel Screening for COVID 19 for a minimum of two weeks prior to their trip to HMSR. You will be asked similar questions on your arrival at camp.

Troops and/or campers will be asked to bring some “essential” items to camp including:

- Enough masks to be able to wear a clean one daily.
- 2 small bottles of hand sanitizer.
- One pack of sanitizing wipes.
- Several small hand towels (one for each day) so that one can be clipped to their backpacks.

Transportation - HMSR encourages transportation by members of the same household, limiting carpooling where possible. If carpooling with members outside of the same family, masks must be worn. We recommend taking the temperature of each individual traveling to camp before departure as well.

Documentation - Please ensure that all Scouts, leaders, and drivers have a completed COVID-19 Screening and Camp Forms with them before departing for camp.

Vaccination Opportunities - Vaccinations allow individuals to have protective immunity without the serious side effects of contracting the disease itself. The COVID-19 vaccine is recommended because, for some individuals, becoming infected with COVID-19 can have serious, life-threatening complications. Even those who are not at a high risk of developing complications could spread the disease to friends, family, and others if infected with the virus.

Currently, COVID-19 vaccinations are available throughout the northeast region for those age 12 and over. We know not everyone attending camp this summer will have access to vaccinations, but we encourage those that can are eligible to get vaccinated, get vaccinated. With this in mind, HMSR will not be requiring vaccines for neither staff nor campers. Those that do get vaccinated will still be required to follow our other COVID-19 mitigation policies.

Changes to Check-In

Arrival at HMSR - A staff member will greet you and proceed with the screening process. This must be completed prior to continuing to your assigned site or entering any facilities to begin check-in. Signs will be posted, and staff will be assigned to the parking lot and at the Welcome Center to direct you. You will be asked to follow their instructions completely. This is not optional. Units are required to meet in the HMSR Parking lot as the first step in the check-in process. Many key aspects of check-in will be taking place at the parking lot and Welcome Center. Units should arrive at their assigned check-in time, and if possible, together as a unit. Please remain in your vehicles until instructed otherwise.

Initial Temperature Checks - Temperature checks will be taken for everyone arriving, including drivers, and COVID-19 Screening Forms will be collected. If any one person in a vehicle has a temperature of or above 100.0°F or answers YES to a screening question, the staff member will contact the Health Officer, and this may result in the entire vehicle to be sent home.

Medical Rechecks - Medical rechecks will take place at HMSR. All participants remaining in camp will receive a Medical Recheck, where their medical forms will be reviewed. Review stations will be spaced adequate apart to facilitate social distancing between participants and reviewers, while still maintaining privacy. Once approved, participants will receive their wristband to indicate their admittance to camp for the week.

General Policies

Mask Policy – Determined by the CDC as one of the best forms of prevention of COVID-19 where everyone is not fully vaccinated, personal masks are essential for your stay in camp. Masking will be required indoors and outdoors where social distancing is not possible which is defined as a 6-foot separation. Campers should bring several masks for their stay in camp. Additional masks will also be available for free as well as purchase in the Trading Post. Units are encouraged to also bring disposable masks for use as needed throughout the week.

Masks will not be required while, eating, sleeping or participation in water-based activities.

Dining Procedures – Our objective is to deliver a full meal-time experience while operating within the guidelines recommended by the CDC and the PA Health Department.

The staff will prepare the food at the Willits Dining Hall and kitchen. Our staff will be following all the ServSafe policies and procedures as well as following the CDC procedures for commercial kitchens.

- All high-touch surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized after each use.
- No visitors or family members for Friday Chicken BBQ.
- All staff will wear masks in the kitchen and change into a clean tee shirt provided and apron.
- Meals will be served as a carry out service.
- Breakfast will include cereal, milk, juice, yogurt, and a hot option that will be picked up at the Dining Hall.
- Lunch will be grab and go from the Dining Hall. Campers and adults can eat outside on the grass, at pavilions, or their site.
- Dinner will be a hot meal that will be picked up at the Dining Hall.

Please note that troops will be allowed to keep one vehicle in camp to pick up their meals.

Visitors - All visitors must sign-in at the camp office immediately upon arrival, have their BSA Medical Part A & B form, and utilize the COVID-19 Screening Form. The staff member on duty will collect their COVID-19 screening form and take their temperature. All visitors must sign-out at the camp office when leaving. **The camp will not conduct an organized camp visitor's night.** Your unit is encouraged to caution parents and guests from coming to camp throughout the week. The Camp Director retains the right to prohibit visitors in camp.

Daily Temperature Checks - It is the responsibility of the unit to take each participant's temperature each morning before breakfast. Any individual temperature above 100.0°F will need to contact the Health Officer immediately and this may result in that participant being sent home from camp, no exceptions. Completion of this should be noted on your unit's Campsite Inspection Chart for review by your Program Commissioner daily. Troop Leaders will be asked to bring their own no-touch thermometer and monitor their groups temperatures daily. If they do not have a thermometer the Health Officer will set up a time when they can meet for temperature checks.

COVID-19 Emergency Procedures - Any individual showing symptoms of COVID-19 must be escorted directly to the Health Lodge immediately. Additional areas for isolating these individuals will be made available. Our Health Officers, following standing orders from the medical professionals on our Health & Safety Committee, will evaluate the individual. In any case, any individual presumed to be positive will be sent home immediately, including camp staff.

Site Operations

A scheduled cleaning regimen will take place in sites and conducted by the adults in the site.

The following sanitizing solutions will be provided:

- Sani-Quat Sanitizer – to be used on hard surfaces such as light switches, doorknobs, sink handles, toilet seats etc.
- Cleaning Solution – used for cleaning and sanitizing at the end of the week.
- Sanitizing Wipes – can be used for sensitive surfaces.
- Soap and water

Adults should ensure daily cleaning of touchable surfaces in their sites often.

Campsite Latrines – The bleach sanitizing spray should be used at least twice a day. Instructions will be provided.

Tenting – We are still encouraging our troops to tent one Scout per tent but understand there may be situations where that will not work. If two Scouts are planning to share a tent at HMSR, be sure to follow the [BSA's Barriers to Abuse policies](#) and we require sleeping “head-to-toe”. Siblings may share a tent together, but parents may not share a tent with their daughter or son.

Camp Meade and Camp DuPortail – Our expectation this summer is that our camps at HMSR – Camp Meade and Camp DuPortail – will remain separate and distinct program areas. We ask that you remain within your camp, so we can follow all Covid protocols. Each leadership group will be required to follow these policies to ensure a safe and enjoyable summer each and every day.

Cleaning & Sanitation

Campsite Latrines – See above.

Shower Houses - Public restrooms and showers will be cleaned and sanitized twice daily by HMSR staff. Times will be assigned for showering during your check-in process. Adults may be asked to assist with the cleaning process. Staff will also periodically sanitize the shower rooms with the fogger and allow to air dry throughout the day.

Handwashing Stations - Sinks will be added to program areas to help reinforce the importance of handwashing. The locations of sinks will be pointed out during your camp orientation. All sites and program areas will be provided with soap, and instructions for proper handwashing procedures. Due to the location of the sinks, we will only provide paper towels in locations that allow.

Preventative Steps and Precautions

Mandatory Reporting of Illness - Campers, adults, and staff must report any known illness or symptoms indicative of a possible COVID infection to the health staff immediately.

Contact and Unit Tracing - HMSR is requesting that all campers and adults notify their Troop Leader immediately if they test positive with COVID upon returning home. Troop Leaders must notify HMSR immediately and we will take care of any notifications at that point.

Health Lodge Operations - Operations will be changed for 2021. Additional training in COVID treatment protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided for our health care staff. The following guidelines will be followed this summer:

- There will be restricted access, limiting of guests, and no indoor waiting room.
- Masks will be always required on patients and providers.
- There will be a designated COVID treatment area.
- Daily screening of health staff, including temperature checks and symptom survey.
- Changes to daily rounds to limit patient to patient contact.
- PPE and vehicle decontamination procedures will be provided for any driver who transports a patient in camp.
- Staff will be required to change into scrubs in-between assisting patients.
- The health lodge will be limited to anyone but the health staff and their patients.
- Moving operations outdoors when able.

Trading Post

Trading Post operations will be modified to comply with current CDC guidelines. Some of the procedures will include:

- Surfaces will be sanitized every hour
- Hand sanitizer will be required upon entrance and exit
- All windows will remain open during operational hours
- There will be a set occupancy limit
- Some operations will be moved outside
- All drinks and food will be prepared by staff and not self-serve.

Program Areas

Program Areas – This summer, merit badges and other program areas will feature smaller class sizes. Additional and expanded instruction areas will be used in a socially distant manner. A cleaning regimen will be utilized to ensure that equipment is cleaned between each use. Staff will be responsible for the cleaning process, properly documenting that it has taken place.

These guidelines have been approved by the Hawk Mountain Council, BSA Executive Committee in conjunction with your Risk Management and Camping Committee on June 10, 2021. These guidelines will continue to be reviewed and changed, as necessary.