

Sam Houston Area Council

Scouting for Food-2021

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Contacts

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COVID-19 Protocols

The safety of our scouts and volunteers is the top priority of our Sam Houston Area Council. While there is still much uncertainty regarding COVID 19, we are monitoring the information provided by health experts and government agencies to help keep safe those who choose to participate in Scouting for Food.

Our decision to operate Scouting for Food (SFF) is based solely on the ability to follow CDC, National, State, Local, BSA, SHAC, and other applicable government recommendations and guidelines.

Our SFF health and safety plan includes:

- Pre-SFF Medical Checklist (at end of this document), to be completed by parents prior to SFF.
- Health screening conducted by your unit prior to travel to SFF, including a temperature check.
- If any participant does not pass health screening upon arrival at the event, they will be denied entrance to the event, and all participants traveling in the same vehicle will be denied entrance to the event.
- Participant group sizes are managed to encourage and accommodate physical distancing requirements.
- Enhanced sanitation with frequent use of hand sanitizer or washing of hands is expected.
- Face coverings, which cover the mouth and nose, are required when indoors or in close proximity to others.
- An emergency response plan that includes an isolation and quarantine protocol should a person at the event develop symptoms of COVID-19.
- If any scout, scouter or parent shows sign for COVID-19 and tests positive for COVID-19 within 14 days from SFF please inform your unit leader, and the SHAC Support Services department. An incident report must also be filed with SHAC.
- If policies set forth by a partner agency, such as a Food Bank, are stronger than policies otherwise mentioned in this document, policies set forth by the partner agency are to be adhered to.
- If any scout/scouter or parent exhibits any symptoms on the health screening prior to SFF, report to event leadership immediately. The scout/scouter or parent will be isolated. Then the parents will be called to come and pick up their scout immediately or the scouter/parent will be asked to go home.

These precautions are important, but these efforts cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while participating in SFF. Experts have said that people with COVID-19 may show no signs or symptoms of illness, but can still spread the virus, and people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. The fact is that someone with COVID-19 may pass the required health screenings and be allowed to participate.

Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness

from COVID-19. If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to participation in this event.

Every staff member, volunteer, and Scouting family must evaluate their unique circumstances and make an informed decision before attending this event. We hope this information will be helpful as you make that choice.

PRE-Scouting for Food

- Every scout, parent and scouter will need to complete the Pre-SFF medical form. This form will be turned in at check-in to Event First Aid Staff.

DURING Scouting for Food

- If anyone starts to display symptoms, please isolate them immediately. The event First Aid Staff will come and determine what further steps need to be taken.
- All participants will be required to wear facemasks, (no gators), which cover their mouth and nose, when indoors or in close proximity to others.

POST-Scouting for Food

- If anyone who was at SFF shows sign for COVID-19 and tests positive for COVID-19 within 14 days from SFF please inform your unit leader. An incident report must also be filed with the SHAC Support Services department.

Scouting Safely



The BSA's Commitment to Safety is ongoing and we want you to know that the safety of our youth, volunteers, staff, and employees cannot be compromised. The Boy Scouts of America puts the utmost importance on the safe and healthy environments for its youth membership. The Sam Houston Area Council takes great strides to ensure the safety of its youth as well as the adult volunteer leadership that interacts with them.

BSA Guide to Safe Scouting policies must be followed. All participants must follow Youth Protection Guidelines at all Scouting events. Highlights include:

1. Two-deep leadership on all outings required.
2. One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is prohibited.
3. The buddy system should be used at all times.
4. Discipline must be constructive.

Health and safety must be integrated into everything we do, to the point that no injuries are acceptable beyond those that are readily treatable by Scout-rendered first aid. As an aid in the continuing effort to protect participants in a Scout activity, the BSA National Health and Safety Committee and the Council Services Division of the BSA National Council have developed the "Sweet Sixteen" of BSA safety procedures for physical activity. These 16 points, which embody good judgment and common sense, are applicable to all activities.

[Youth Protection Guidelines](#) [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) [Sweet Sixteen](#) [Enterprise Risk Management](#)