

## **Update on Greater Alabama “Back to Scouting” Operational Guidance.**

**May 1, 2020**

### **Scout Service Center Operations in Birmingham and Huntsville.**

Beginning Monday, May 4th we will reopen the Scout Service Center in Huntsville and Birmingham. We will operate with minimum staff in each office to make sure we keep our staff and visitors safe.

We ask if you need to come by the any of our offices you please do the following:

- As a courtesy to our staff and each other, please wear a mask while in the building.
- Please check in with reception, keep social distancing in mind when you do so, and they will help you out. Please do not try to access different areas of the office without first checking in.

### **Scout Shops.**

The Scout Shops will remain closed until May 20<sup>th</sup>. Both of our Scout Shops are managed by the Supply Division of the Boy Scouts of America and they have indicated that the soonest they can open back will be May 20<sup>th</sup>. When they reopen they will operate on a reduced schedule:

Tuesday – Friday: 10 am – 6 pm

Saturday: 10 am – 2 pm

### **Camp Properties.**

All Greater Alabama Council Camps will be closed until May 15<sup>th</sup>. We are anxious for things to return to normal at our camps and camping activities. Many of you are wondering if we will be able to hold Day Camp and summer camp this summer. Our approach is to plan for camp to open but be prepared for a camping season that will be very different. Right now we are in a holding pattern. We are seeking guidance from state and local authorities. We anticipate that the

Alabama Department of Public Health will issue guidance to organizations that operate Day Camps and Summer Camps. We are currently preparing for a shortened camp season, no camping season, or some sort of hybrid camping season. Obviously the safety of our Scouts, Scouters and Staff is the most important thing to all of us and that will drive our decision making process.

### **Units:**

In accordance with the updated guidelines from the State of Alabama and with safety in mind the Greater Alabama council is strongly advising that in-person meetings, activities, events and gatherings of 10 or more people be suspended through May 15th. Before any meetings are started back make sure you have the permission of your Chartered Organization.

Please also follow any restrictions outlined by our state and local health department or other local officials.

**Eagle Scout Projects and other service projects should be carefully evaluated and abide by the State of Alabama and local guidelines.**

**If there is an issue with the Scout not having enough time to complete project before they turn 18, then the [Council Advancement committee will grant an extension.](#)**

### **Districts:**

In accordance with the updated guidelines from the State of Alabama and with safety in mind the Greater Alabama council is postponing all district meetings and activities until after May 15<sup>th</sup>.

There will be limited staff and volunteer meetings at the council and district level during this period; please continue to hold meetings by phone or video when possible. When holding face-to-face meeting's make sure you continue to follow social distancing and other guidelines.