

COVID-19 Considerations at Peaceful Valley

COVID-19 Considerations—The DAC Departure Day Screening form must be completed by each participant *prior to* departing for the outing. The Adult-In-Charge must determine if an individual youth or adult should stay home based upon the answers to the questions and the decision tree on the form. **Temperature checks need to be performed before departure and daily at camp.** Social distancing of at least 6 feet should always be maintained. **If unable to maintain the 6-foot distancing, masks are required to be worn.** This includes riding in vehicles to and from the campsite if transporting people from different households.

Masks are required when preparing food for meals. Group size should be by patrol (8-10), **with a maximum group size of 25 in the campsite.** A roster of all participants with name, address and phone numbers **must be provided to the duty ranger** along with the Departure Day Screening form upon check-in. These items are required by State and Elbert County Health directives in case contact tracing is required in response to a positive coronavirus test of a participant within 14 days of the outing.

1. Additional items in the Troop gear: thermometer for temperature checks, bleach, face masks, nitrile or latex gloves, hand sanitizer and a spray bottle (3 tablespoons of bleach to 1 quart of water) to disinfect the latrine and commonly touched surfaces at least 3 times per day.
2. All participants should wash hands before and after each meal, and after going to the bathroom.
3. Items should not be shared between participants unless they are disinfected between use. For example, axes, bow saws, pocketknives, pens, etc.
4. Nitrile gloves and a mask must be worn when handling garbage bags, particularly if food has been scraped into the bag, to prevent the spread of the virus.
5. Participants should sleep in their own individual tents spaced 6 to 8 feet apart minimum, with the exception being family members from the same household in accordance with YPT policies. If a tent must be shared, individuals should sleep head facing the toes of the other person.
6. Food planning and preparation: Minimize the chance of exposing food by using pre-packaged food as much as possible. No items that are shared self-serve can be used, such as condiments, family style dishes, coffee pots, etc. Use packets of ketchup, mustard and salad dressing, for example. Cooks must wear gloves and masks while preparing food. Cooks should plate all meals in a clam-shell type container or plastic wrapped plate. The plate should be put out so that individuals can pick it up while social distancing from the cooks. Use disposable flatware, plates, bowls and cups as much as practicable. The four-bucket method should be used to clean cookware and personal mess kit items, if used. Each individual should wash their own mess kit, silverware and cup. Gloves should be worn, especially if anyone has an open cut on one of their hands.

Emergency Response Policy—If you have a medical emergency while on PV, call 911 then call the duty ranger to inform him of the emergency and the location. Our protocol with Elbert Fire District is to meet them at the South Gate and lead them to the location of the emergency on ranch.

Fire Restrictions--Elbert County is in **Stage 3 Fire Restrictions**. ***No open fires (i.e. campfires) or charcoal of any kind are allowed.*** **Fire Danger is Very High.** Propane stoves for cooking in an appropriate container are allowed. Smoking must be in personal vehicles by county ordinance and BSA regulations.

Campsites—Our campsites are for tent camping only. RVs, camping trailers and slide-in campers are prohibited.

Water—Water is available at the latrines, and the sinks and showers. Vault toilets in the latrines are available for use.

Trash—You are **responsible** for packing out your trash. We do not have any off-season garbage collection.

Vehicle Use—Limited to Camp Dobbins roads. Please do not plan on driving around except to enter and exit on the main road. You may park **at** the campsite in the designated parking area only. **Do not move** or go around orange traffic cones.

Pets—Please leave pets at home. The interaction between domestic animals and the wildlife on ranch is not healthy for either, as diseases can be transmitted between them. We have a large population of mule deer resident on ranch, as well as many small animals such as squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, porcupines, racoons and skunks. Elk transit through regularly. We believe that we still have an active mountain lion on ranch.

Lodges—The lodges are closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Gates—We are a working cattle ranch. If you open a gate, close it behind you. If a gate is open, leave it open. There are about 150 head of cattle on ranch and they need to stay in the pastures that they are in.

Silver Lake—**No watercraft** (canoes, kayaks, row boats or sailboats) may be used. They are in their winter storage location. To comply with BSA regulations, a Paddle craft Supervisor certified adult, Aquatics Supervisor, BSA Lifeguards and swim checks would be required to operate the lake. There are no aquatics staff on ranch. Fishing from the shoreline is allowed.

Hiking—There are miles of roads and two-tracks to hike on ranch. Always use the *Buddy System*. There is an active mountain lion on ranch. Hiking in groups is the safest precaution to take. The grass is still trying to grow in the areas affected by the new utilities (water and electrical lines) and dining hall construction. Please stay on the roads or trails in these areas. If you see red or blue markers, you are following the underground utilities, not a trail. Hike to the nearest road before continuing.

Mountain Biking—Bikes may be ridden on the camp roads and ranch roads (two-tracks) only. I do not recommend this activity for adults and youth who are not accustomed to the altitude (7000 feet). Do not ride on pedestrian and hiking trails as they are not designed for cycling. Helmets must always be worn by all riders (youth and adults). Trails are not marked, and it is easy to pick a game trail or cattle trail by mistake. Stay on the roads marked on the topo map (attached). If you open a gate, close it behind you. *The Travis Family Sporting Clays Course is closed to hiking and cycling.*

Regional Shower House—The facility is closed due to COVID-19.

Kephart Dining Hall/Gilwell Hall—This facility is in use by a Venturing BSA group. Please respect their program and stay clear of the building. Do not attempt to enter.

As with all BSA properties, drugs, alcohol, fireworks and personal firearms are not allowed on property.

Yours in Scouting,

Scott

Scott Field | Superintendent Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch
Boy Scouts of America
Denver Area Council