What is the status of Summer Camping at Rodney Scout Reservation and what might it look like?

Will Rodney open for summer camp in 2021?

Yes! The current Maryland executive order allows for overnight and day camps to operate.

What about out of state campers?

Yes! The current Maryland executive order allows for out of state campers.

Will campers be required to have a COVID test before they come to camp?

Perhaps. Testing and testing technology are constantly changing. We are waiting on health department guidance on this.

Will campers have to quarantine before coming to camp?

Campers may be asked to reduce exposure to others for a period of time prior to camp. Avoid large crowds, etc.

Do campers have to be COVID vaccinated before coming to camp?

We would highly recommend that everyone gets it when eligible. But it's not clear today whether we can require it because the vaccine was emergency certified. There is currently no vaccine approved for anyone under the age of 16.

Will COVID Protocols still be required? Will mask wearing and social distancing be required?

Definitely! We are using a model that some have taken to describe using the swiss cheese model where each slice may not be individually perfect but layering of methods closes most gaps.

- Plan on symptom checks (completed at check-in by the camp staff and daily by unit leaders on a document that we will provide). Expect temperature checks and verbal COVID question quizzes.
- Masking: When Troops arrive at camp, each Campsite will be considered a "household". When living around household members masks will not be required. (Troops may choose to institute stricter rules if they wish.) When a scout or adult leaves the household to participate in a camp program (i.e. merit badge), they will be required to social distance and/or wear a mask if they can't.
- Social Distancing: Have each Scout and Leader bring a camp chair so they can spread out in the campsite and in classes. Most, if not all, classes will be held outside and spread out.
- Buddy Pairs from the same Troop: Consider signing Scouts up for badges in Buddy pairs. That way they can have a partner from the same Troop for any hands-on activities.
- Hand Hygiene: Wash hands frequently with soap and water. We have also purchased hand sanitizer for stations around camp.
- Surface Disinfecting: We have plenty of non-alcohol-based sanitizer and other PPE ready to go.

Will we be able to eat in the dining hall?

We think so. "Households" will be required to eat together with separation from other "Households". Scouts will be required to mask up when they are not eating.

We will do Cafeteria meal service not Family Style. No buffets or salad bars will be permitted. Salads and other hot items will be served in the cafeteria line.

Heaterstack service is permitted and available. We will require those Troops to serve the food cafeteria style not buffet style.

Can we have two campers in a tent?

It looks like we can. Campers will have to sleep using the head-to-toe method with flaps rolled up a little for increased ventilation. We also allow for Troops to bring additional Troop or Personal tents if they wish.

Are there any program areas that can't open due to COVID protocols?

Each program area will have its own set of protocols for COVID and safety. We expect to be able to operate all areas safely with proper procedures in place.

What about opening and closing campfires?

We are not sure what this looks like yet. Currently, large groups are discouraged. Depending on the final guidance we may do multiple sites or multiple seatings or something even different. Stay tuned.

Will the camp trading post be open?

Yes. Inside capacity will be limited as appropriate.

May units have assigned time to arrive for check-in?

Possibly. The goal is to keep the crowd size down. A unit will have to arrive together and try to limit the number of passengers in each vehicle. Currently, carpooling is discouraged outside of members of your family that live with you. This may change later.

Anything else?

I'm sure more will be released later and the answers to the above questions could change based on conditions, CDC and State Health Department changes.