

Yolano District COVID-19 \ Corona Virus Update

David <chairman@ydbsa.org>

Thu, Mar 12, 2020 at 1:20 PM

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Yolano Scouters,

There is a lot of confusion and uncertainty surrounding how we should handle meetings and events with regard to the COVID-19 developments. Please recognize that this is a fluid situation with different guidance coming from different jurisdictions within the Golden Empire Council. The official guidance of the Golden Empire Council is that each unit, in conjunction with their Chartered Organization, and their City and County Health Officers, should make a decision that is best for their unit, their Chartered Organization, and their community. It is important to understand that the Golden Empire Council covers 16 different counties and thousands of cities and communities. Guidance for a gathering in downtown Sacramento is likely to be different than guidance for a gathering up in one of our small mountain communities. With the safety of our youth being our number one priority, if there are any doubts, we should err on the side of safety. In terms of involvement in scouting activities, families are free to make participation choices that they feel are necessary for their health and safety.

The State of California has issued the following: The state's public health experts have determined that gatherings should be postponed or canceled

across the state until at least the end of March. **Non-essential** gatherings must be limited to no more than 250 people, while **smaller events can proceed only if the organizers can implement social distancing of 6 feet per person**. Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people, while also following social distancing guidelines.

Scouting for Food: Saturday, March 14 is our Scouting for Food pickup. Flyering has already taken place across our community, and food will be out on Saturday for pickup. At the drop-off locations, precautions are being made to minimize potential impact. Please follow all of the local guidelines with regard to washing hands, not touching your face, maintaining distance from and avoiding physical contact between participants, etc. Because Scouting for Food is not a large gathering of people in close proximity for extended periods of time, transmission risk is relatively low compared to other types of gatherings. Please look to your community Scouting for Food coordinators for further instructions for your community.

Additional Resources for **Yolano District:**

[California Department of Health Guidance](#)

[Solano County Guidance](#)

[Yolo County Guidance](#)

[City of Davis Guidance](#)

City of Vacaville Guidance - Deferred to Solano County

[City of West Sacramento Guidance](#)

[City of Woodland Guidance](#)

Original guidance from Golden Empire Council is copied below but is not up-to-date with the guidance listed above.

Yours in Scouting,

-David Grundler

Yolano District Chairman

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From Golden Empire Council on March 10, 2020 @ 13:18:

The Corona Virus is garnering much media attention, however, at this time, ***there are no recommendations*** from *public health officials* for cancellations of public events.

At this point, the Golden Empire Council is planning to continue Scouting programs and activities as scheduled.

Each Pack, Troop, Crew and Ship is responsible for determining whether continued activities within their units are safe. For example, the senior care facilities where some of our Scouts may volunteer are canceling their outside volunteers in light of the greater risk to the elderly patients in their care. Families may, of course, decide if their children should participate in activities depending on their comfort level.

State of emergency: On Wednesday March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency in California in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Additionally, Sacramento County and several of the counties adjacent to Sacramento County have all declared local emergencies to access more resources, necessary tools, and mutual aid. These declarations are simply a means of gaining access to special funds and resources that would not otherwise be available without a declaration of a state of emergency. These declarations do not have any immediate or direct impact on Scouting programs.

Review cleanliness with your Scouts and families. We each play a role in keeping our community healthy and safe. Members of the general public should continue their efforts to reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses including COVID-19. To do your part to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including the coronavirus and flu, follow these important tips:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional.
- Get vaccinated every year.

Common sense precautions are still recommended and continue to be our best defense against this novel coronavirus. It is important to us to provide you with updated information and resources. We remind you to be sure and get your facts from official sources, which include the following

- [National Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) current real-time information about COVID-19.
- [California Department of Public Health](#) COVID-19 FAQ
- [Sacramento County Department of Health Services](#) local COVID-19 updates
- [Travel information and Risk Assessment](#) provided by the CDC to travel across the globe.

We will continue to keep you informed and post updates to our website. If we receive any additional information that is important to the safety of the Scouting community, we will share it with you immediately. Again, unless otherwise informed, please plan for all regular Scouting activities to continue as scheduled.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL



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