DATES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Through May 1st:

- The **Miami Valley Council Service Center** and **Scout Shop** are both closed. The Council staff is working remotely and should you need to be in contact with members of our Council team, please email or call. Contact information for staff can be found [HERE](#). We are working to 'Do Our Best' in these unprecedented times to help you keep the Scouting fire lit for the youth and families of our programs, while keeping all parties safe.

- **ALL DISTRICT** and **COUNCIL** in-person meetings and **ALL** activities through Thursday, April 30, 2020 are postponed or cancelled.

- **ALL UNITS** are to discontinue in-person meetings and **ALL** activities, including camping trips. Again, it is our civic duty to play a leadership role and help our country limit the spread of the Corona-virus.
• ALL COUNCIL camp properties are closed. For Information regarding refunds for camp facilities rental, event postponement or cancellations, please CLICK HERE.

Please review the council calendar for information regarding cancelled and suspended programs.

IMPORTANT NOTE:
These cancellations do NOT apply to our summer camp programs and events occurring beyond the closure period of May 1.

SUMMER CAMP UPDATE
The Council Outdoor Adventure and Program Committees are meeting the week of April 6 to discuss our ability to conduct quality Summer Resident and Summer Day Camps as well as other spring and summer programming, including NYLT. An update will be available by mid-April.

April 3 Scouting-At-Home Update

Dear Members of the Scouting Community,

I hope this communication finds you and your family well. I want to again express my appreciation to all of our Scouting community for 'doing their best' to keep Scouts engaged during our distance Scouting period. While each day brings brand new challenges, each day can also bring new opportunities. Already Scouts have learned a new skill by earning a merit badge...virtually. Scouts have already achieved rank advancement and participated in boards of review...virtually. Many are opening their den, pack, or troop meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance...virtually. I applaud the creativity that so many are showing, it is keeping our young people excited about Scouting's promise of adventure!

While it may be difficult to envision how our typical Scouting meetings and events could happen in a virtual manor, I’d encourage you to research ideas. There are resources available on our website to review or take a moment to watch one of the "Keep The Flame" Spark Session videos or just "Google It". We will continue featuring ideas to keep our Scouts connected and moving forward and whether you're a leader or a parent it is extremely important to keep your Scouts...Scouting!

I know many Scouts, parents and leaders are staying tuned to our council’s summer camp and spring time programs and plans. The leadership team of our council’s Outdoor Adventure Committee and Program Committee will be meeting next week to make decisions regarding our ability to conduct summer camps and to discuss alternate camping programs in the midst of this ever-changing environment. Since my first communication regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, decisions will be made out of an abundance of caution for the safety of our young people and families as well as
to maintain compliance with any state or federal orders. And since those first days, my commitment will be to continue to communicate the results of those decisions.

The Scouting community is full of such wonderful folks and we have some of the very-best leaders keeping the Scouting flame burning brightly in the Miami Valley Council. Thank you for your patience, your care, and for your Scouting Spirit. As always, I appreciate each and every one of you and the effort you are giving.

Keep the Flame!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Schiavone
Scout Executive

'Keep the Flame' Video Series Launched

During our 'distance Scouting' period, it is important to stay connected and for all of us to 'keep the flame' of Scouting burning brightly. A new video series was created to showcase the unique and fun ways our Miami Valley Scouters are keeping Scouts together during our time apart!
Nathan Hopper, Buckeye Council (Short Version)

CLICK HERE to view the extended version

For more information on Home Scouting please visit:

www.buckeyecouncil.org/homescouting

Previous Spark Sessions

Keep the Flame Spark Session #1- Tips for Troops
Richelle Zinden, Scoutmaster T-5268, Huber Heights

CLICK HERE to view

If you have a creative idea that should be considered for an upcoming episode please CLICK HERE to submit.

VIRTUAL MERIT BADGE - WAVE 1
FREE MB CLINICS LAUNCHED!!!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW
CLINICS BEGIN AS SOON AS MONDAY!!!

Announcing a new way to engage with Scouting at Home! We are now offering Virtual Merit Badge clinics beginning next week, completely free of charge! Selection and availability limited, but we'll be offering several more clinics in the near future.

REGISTER NOW
The Miami Valley Council has established a **Virtual Scouting Program Committee** to research and create programming ideas for our Scouting units during our 'distance Scouting' period. There are new resources flooding the internet and Facebook each day to help assist leaders, parents, and Scouts. To help you 'Keep The Flame' for Scouting burning brightly, all Scouting-at-home resources are being linked or uploaded to the front page of our website.

[www.miamivalleybsa.org](http://www.miamivalleybsa.org)

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**SCOUT-TASK-TIC Challenge & Virtual Roundtable**

[Follow us on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/miamivalleybsa) for all the latest news and information

Please help us stay connected by participating in the 'Scout-Task-Tic" challenges, which occur twice a week through our Facebook page. These are quick and fun activities that you can conduct from your home and share with our Miami Valley Scouting community.

Also, **Virtual Roundtable** will be posted to Facebook on April 9th. If you have questions you'd like answers to, please take the brief survey by [CLICKING HERE](http://www.miamivalleybsa.org) and we will do our best to answer your questions at the virtual roundtable on Thursday, April 9. You won't want to miss it!!!