

We covered the importance of safety in our last parent's meeting. I believe this to be a very important subject. Since many of you were unable to attend, here is a copy of safety points that were mentioned at that meeting. Even if you were at that meeting, please review these very important safety guidelines.

Troop 282 is made up of outstanding and conscientious adults and Boy Scouts. Each and every member in our Troop is highly valued.

We want to continue to provide a safe and positive environment for the Boy Scouts. These below safety guidelines taken off the Boy Scout website are points to keep in mind to continue to provide a safe, harmonious and fun environment for the Scouts.

Please read fully.

- **Two-deep leadership.**
Two registered adult leaders or one registered leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. The chartered organization is responsible for ensuring that sufficient leadership is provided for all activities.
- **No one-on-one contact.**
One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths.
- **Respect of privacy.**
Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations.
- **Separate accommodations.**
When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian. Councils are strongly encouraged to have separate shower and latrine facilities for females. When separate facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers.
- **Proper preparation for high-adventure activities.**
Activities with elements of risk should never be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.
- **No secret organizations.**
The Boy Scouts of America does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders.
- **Appropriate attire.**
Proper clothing for activities is required. For example, skinny-dipping is not appropriate as part of Scouting.

- **Constructive discipline.**
Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.
- **Hazing prohibited.**
Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.
- **Junior leader training and supervision.**
Adult leaders must monitor and guide the leadership techniques used by junior leaders and ensure that BSA policies are followed.

Youth Member Behavior Guidelines

The Boy Scouts of America is a values-based youth development organization that helps young people learn positive attributes of character, citizenship, and personal fitness. The BSA has the expectation that all participants in the Scouting program will relate to each other in accord with the principles embodied in the Scout Oath and Law.

Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent

(The above characteristics being continually modeled by all human interactions within Troop 282 - adult to adult, Scout to adult, Scout to Scout - will help ensure a positive and safe environment for everyone.)

One of the developmental tasks of childhood is to learn appropriate behavior. Children are not born with an innate sense of propriety and they need guidance and direction. The example set by positive adult role models is a powerful tool for shaping behavior and a tool that is stressed in Scouting.

Misbehavior by a single youth member in a Scouting unit may constitute a threat to the safety of the individual who misbehaves as well as to the safety of other unit members. Such misbehavior constitutes an unreasonable burden on a Scout unit and cannot be ignored.

Member Responsibilities

All members of the Boy Scouts of America are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law. Physical violence, hazing, bullying, theft, verbal insults, and drugs and alcohol have no place in the Scouting program and may result in the revocation of a Scout's membership in the unit.

If confronted by threats of violence or other forms of bullying from other youth members, Scouts should seek help from their unit leaders or parents.

Unit Responsibilities

Adult leaders of Scouting units are responsible for monitoring the behavior of youth members and interceding when necessary. Parents of youth members who misbehave should be informed and asked for assistance in dealing with it.

- During transportation to and from planned Scout outings,
 - A. Meet for departure at a designated area.
 - B. Prearrange a schedule for periodic checkpoint stops as a group.
 - C. Plan a daily destination point.

A common departure site and a daily destination point are a must. If you cannot provide two adults for each vehicle, the minimum required is one adult and two or more youth members—*never one on one.*

- **No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any backcountry expedition or campout.** If an accident occurs, one person stays with the injured, and two go for help. Additional adult leadership requirements must reflect an awareness of such factors as size and skill level of the group, anticipated environmental conditions, and overall degree of challenge.

- **Male and female leaders must have separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available.**

- **Male and female youth participants will not share the same sleeping facility.**

- **Single-room or dormitory-type accommodations for Scouting units: Adults and youth of the same gender may occupy dormitory or single-room accommodations, provided there is a minimum of two adults and four youth. A minimum of one of the adults is required to be youth-protection trained. Adults must establish separation barriers or privacy zones such as a temporary blanket or sheet walls in order to keep their sleeping area and dressing area separated from the youth area.**

- **When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian.**

- If separate shower and latrine facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers. The buddy system should be used for latrines by having one person wait outside the entrance, or provide Occupied and Unoccupied signs and/or inside door latches.

Adult leaders need to respect the privacy of youth members in situations where the youth are changing clothes or taking showers, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults also need to protect their own privacy in similar situations.

Thank you for reading the above safety guidelines. Please go to the Boy Scout homepage if you would like to read further safety guidelines.

To the continual safety and continual fostering of a positive environment for all members of Troop 282,

Eryn Paige

Committee Chair Troop 282