



# **In-Person Troop and Group Meetings**

**March 25, 2021**

## **In-Person Troop and Group Meetings May Resume Beginning 4/01/2021**

After carefully evaluating the newest set of guidelines and most current data from the CDC's [K-12 School Guidance](#) (released 02/12/2021), Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is happy to announce that in-person troop and group meetings may resume as soon as 4/01/2021. In-person meetings planned for indoors may consist of 8 girls and 2 adults for girl activities. Outdoor meetings, which the CDC strongly recommends, will be based on the outdoor space size and the ability to maintain the required physical distance (maximum of 10 to a pod with 20 feet between each pod). Please refer to our [COVID-19 Guidance For Volunteers and Staff](#) documents for more information on additional guidelines and requirements.

We also recognize that not all of our members can return (or are comfortable returning) to in-person activities just yet. We understand and support you. Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest will continue to offer **virtual programming** and **resources** for troop leaders and volunteers to support virtual gatherings and badge-earning activities.

In terms of our physical spaces, please note that our Program Centers in El Paso, Las Cruces, Midland, Odessa and Silver City will open for GSDSW staff to conduct business operations, Girl Scout stores, Girl Scout meetings and activities on 04/01/2021 at 50% capacity. The Girl Scout stores will be open for in person shopping and continue to have curbside pick up. Not all staff are in the offices. If you need/would like to meet with a staff member you must set an appointment in advance.

El Paso: Office and Store days and hours Monday – Thursday 8:00AM – 6:00PM

Las Cruces: Office and Store days and hours Monday – Thursday 8:00AM – 6:00PM

Midland: Store days and hours Tuesday and Thursday 9:30AM – 5:00PM

Office days and hours Monday – Thursday 8:00AM – 6:00PM

Odessa: Store days and hours Monday and Wednesday 8:00AM – 6:00PM

Office days and hours Monday – Thursday 8:00AM – 6:00PM

Silver City: Office days and hours Monday – Thursday 8:30AM – 6:30PM

Please know, we are with you in this! Some of the council staff are telecommuting during our regular business hours. If you need to reach a specific member of our team or for general questions, please contact us at [info@gdsw.org](mailto:info@gdsw.org). If you have an urgent concern that needs immediate response, please call Patty Craven at (559) 284-3795.

**Thank you for your patience, mindfulness, and collaboration as we all do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19 – while continuing to build girls of courage, character, and confidence.**

## **Returning to In-Person Troop/Group Meetings and Activities GSDSW COVID-19 Guidance for Volunteers and Staff**

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest (GSDSW) continues to closely monitor COVID-19 updates from the Centers for Disease Control and State Health Departments.

After carefully evaluating the newest set of guidelines and most current data from the CDC's [K-12 School Guidance](#) (released 02/12/2021), Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is happy to announce that in-person troop and group meetings may resume as soon as 4/01/2021. In-person meetings planned for indoors may consist of 8 girls and 2 adults for girl activities. Outdoor meetings, which the CDC strongly recommends, will be based on the outdoor space size and the ability to maintain the required physical distance (maximum of 10 to a pod with 20 feet between each pod). Please refer to the our [COVID-19 Guidance For Volunteers and Staff](#) documents for more information on additional guidelines and requirements.

We also recognize that not all of our members can return (or are comfortable returning) to in-person activities just yet. We understand and support you. Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest will continue to offer **virtual programming** and **resources** for troop leaders and volunteers to support virtual gatherings and badge-earning activities.

We are with you in this! Please contact us at [info@gsdsw.org](mailto:info@gsdsw.org) with any questions. If you have an urgent concern that needs immediate response, please call Patty Craven at (559) 284-3795.

Thank you for your patience, mindfulness, and collaboration as we all do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19 – while continuing to build girls of courage, confidence and character.

### **Guidelines and Recommendations for In-person Meetings and Activities**

The following guidance is provided as of March 25, 2021. Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest may modify this guidance, from time to time, as state and local recommendations change, and we will continue to communicate as we receive updated information.

Please note: Although troops will have the option for in-person meetings starting 04/01/2021, troops and individual troop members are not required to meet in person. Before resuming Girl Scout meetings and activities, ensure all girls have a current permission slip and health history form on file. Alternative participation options should be provided for individual troop members not able to meet in person.

Utilizing the CDC's [K-12 School Guidance](#) (released 02/12/2021) GSDSW has given permission for troops and groups to resume in-person meetings beginning 04/01/2021.

All troops and groups that make the decision to meet in person will be required to complete the following prior to meeting: (If you have already submitted these items, you do not need to submit again unless there is a change in leadership or meeting location.)

1. Read and acknowledge receipt of the guidelines listed in this document.
2. Ensure parents complete the GSDSW COVID-19 Screening form and waiver each time their child participates in an in-person activity.

As your troop or group begins to make plans to meet for in-person activities, use the guidelines below to guide your decisions around returning safely to troop activities.

**Please Note:** Alternative participation options should be provided for individual troop members not able to meet in person.

### **Pre-screening and Symptoms Check**

Prior to in-person troop meetings and activities, all participants must be screened to ensure they are healthy and have not experienced symptoms associated with COVID-19 in the previous 72 hours; that they have not knowingly been in contact with someone who has exhibited symptoms or has been confirmed positive with COVID-19; and that they have not been to high-risk geographical regions, particularly those that require a 14-day quarantine period. Members can use the [GSDSW COVID-19 Screening form](#).

### **Troop Meeting Size**

Current guidance for K-12 Schools and extracurricular activities strongly recommends youth groups meet outdoors whenever possible. When meeting outdoors, troop meeting size is determined by the space available (maximum of 10 to a pod with 20 feet between each pod). The space must be large enough to maintain six feet physical distance between individuals or households.

When meeting indoors, groups may consist of 8 girls and 2 adults for girl activities. Be sure to follow the Girl Scout girl-to-adult ratio listed in the [GSDSW Safety Activity Checkpoints](#). The small groups should remain stable, including preventing interactions between volunteers and children in other groups.

Outdoor meetings, which the CDC strongly recommends, will be based on the outdoor space size and the ability to maintain the required physical distance (maximum of 10 to a pod with 20 feet between each pod).

### **Large Gatherings**

Large gatherings indoors are not allowed at this time. Large gatherings are defined as social situations that bring together more than 10 people in a single space or place. When large groups of people from different households mix, this increases the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

### **Troop and Service Unit Meeting Space**

Outdoor spaces where physical distancing can be maintained are strongly recommended for in-person meetings and activities. Before scheduling your meeting, secure advance permission from the property owner or jurisdiction that provides the location.

For meetings held at public facilities, contact the facility ahead of time and ask:

- Is the space cleaned and are touch surfaces (i.e., tabletops, light switches, chairs, etc.) sanitized at least daily?
- Who else uses the space (how often, what size group)? Is the space cleaned between groups?
- What type of faucets/soap dispensers are available in the restroom(s) - sensory or manual?

Then, consider whether you can supplement any practices that are less than ideal. For example, if you will arrive at the meeting space after another user group, plan to bring sanitizing wipes to prepare the space for your troop. If faucets are manual, take time to show girls how to shut them off with a paper towel. Use paper towels for doorknobs whenever possible.

Meetings may not be held in fitness centers or gyms, where a greater risk for contracting the virus may exist. Schools or places of worship may not permit outside groups on premises, so always check and confirm ahead of time.

### **For Troop Meetings in the Home:**

GSUSA and Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest suggest not holding meetings in the home out of concern there would be greater risk of exposure to family members. If you must meet at your home, use outdoor space and ensure proper physical distance and face coverings for all participants. In addition, the following conditions must be met in order to meet in your home:

- The home must be the home of a registered, background-screened volunteer.
- Girls may not meet in a home where a registered sex offender lives.
- Troops should be able to minimize disruptions from other household members.
- Animals should be kept in a place separate from the meeting space.
- Weapons must be completely out of view and stored in a locked space.
- Medication, dangerous cleaning products, or any poisonous substance must be stored in a secure space, out of sight and preferably locked.
- Meetings should ideally be held outdoors, perhaps in the back or front yard of the home. (This is a COVID-19-specific precaution.)
- Ensure that the Hygiene and COVID-19 Risk Mitigation, and all other guidance in this document, are followed. (This is a COVID-19-specific precaution.)

### **Backyard Meetings:**

For back and front yard meetings, make sure that the grounds are completely safe for children. For example, be careful that pools are fenced or otherwise safely sectioned off. The same goes for any equipment or tools or recreational apparatus that is deemed unsafe for girls such as outdoor trampolines. Make sure pets are kept separate from the girls' meeting space. Ensure both the troop leader and co-leader can clearly see girls and monitor their whereabouts at all times. Maintain the use of the buddy system for errands or bathroom breaks. If the property is large, ensure that the meeting space is kept distinctly separate from non-members.

### **For SU or Troop Meetings at GSDSW Program Centers:**

GSDSW will open the following program centers on 04/01/2021: Carlsbad, El Paso, Las Cruces, Midland, Odessa, Silver City, Fort Stockton, Alamogordo, Deming, White Spur Hut, and Andrews. Prescheduled reservations are required to access the open centers. Contact [info@gsdsw.org](mailto:info@gsdsw.org). At this time, open centers will be available from 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Monday – Friday and 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. No overnights will be permitted at any of the GSDSW Program Center locations. Reservations will be scheduled in increments of 1½ hours with 30 minutes between reservations to ensure enough time for troops to clean and exit the center before

another troop enters. Only troops and GSDSW groups with confirmed reservations will be allowed to use the program centers. Information will be available soon on how to reserve a program center for your troop meeting.

Requirements for troops to use the centers include the following:

- Preschedule a reservation time slot.
- Wipe down all surfaces when entering the center and before leaving the center.
- Attendees will wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth.
- Kitchen access will be limited, with no food preparation allowed. Individually wrapped snack packages are permissible.
- Bathroom usage will be monitored to ensure proper physical distancing and hand washing.
- Troops must exit the center at the end of their reservation time slot so as to limit interaction with the next reservation.

### **Virtual meetings:**

Meeting options may need to be flexible based on the changing nature of COVID-19 risks. Troops that are able to run online meetings as needed (or wanted) should do so. GSUSA and Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest recommend maintaining a virtual-to-in-person meeting ratio of at least 20-80, which means maintaining virtual troop meetings at least 20% of the time to keep tech skills and virtual meeting habits up to date. Use the [Safety Activity Checkpoints for Virtual Meetings](#) to guide your meeting plans.

### **Transportation (car-pooling)**

It is imperative to take all safety precautions when girls are traveling in motor vehicles. If possible, girls from different households should not carpool. Coronavirus transmission risk is high when people are in close proximity (less than six feet apart). When transporting girls, always space out the girls to avoid crowding (two adults in the front seat and girls must have an empty seat between them), have girls wear a mask, and keep the windows partially open to provide ventilation. Make sure parents are aware ahead of time if girls will be in a car together. Public transportation should be avoided.

### **Public Transportation**

Public transportation should be avoided whenever possible as large groups of people, indoors, for longer than ten minutes are typical of most public transportation which increases transmission risk. When public transportation cannot be avoided follow these guidelines:

- Avoid peak hours
- Allow extra time to wait and avoid crowded buses or subway cars or capacity restrictions
- Space out girls to avoid crowding (but keep to the buddy system)
- Consider grade level, age and maturity level of girls
- Always wear a mask
- Obtain parental or legal guardian permission
- Clean hands before and after public transportation travel

## **Day trips and activities**

In conjunction with Safety Activity Checkpoints, follow the same guidance as Troop Meetings and Hygiene and COVID-19 Risk Mitigation guidance in this document. Call ahead to the facility or vendor to confirm they are following CDC and state health department guidelines. If activity or sporting equipment is being provided, ask the provider if they wipe down equipment in between uses, similar to equipment at the gym. If not, make plans to do so. Make whatever appropriate accommodations are necessary. For example, bring extra sanitizer if none will be provided for public use at the activity location.

## **Travel and overnight stays**

Troop and group travel will be considered on a case-by-case basis, factoring in the risk associated with the specific type of travel being requested. For example, a troop might request to proceed with a camping trip, with girls and parents of separate households traveling separately, and sleeping and cooking in separate areas. Only one family per tent, cabin and/or room. For this type of trip, social distancing is possible, and masks can be worn at all times other than when eating, and eating is occurring only within the family unit. But, as with all in-person activities, all guidance from this document should be implemented; for example, follow the guidance on pre-screening and symptoms check.

Always implement modifications to travel plans that make social distancing possible; for example, as mentioned above, travelers from separate households practicing social distancing. Again, sustained contact within less than six feet for longer than ten minutes within an enclosed area creates high risk for virus transmission. For travel that includes girls and adults from multiple households who must be in close proximity, break the group up into smaller groups in addition to pre-screening and symptoms checks.

Check the CDC [Domestic Travel Guidance](#) details about various types of travel, risk factors and steps to mitigate risk.

Troops and groups must submit a travel form to GSDSW and follow all COVID-19 related guidance, including limiting group size, maintaining six feet physical distance, and wearing masks. As always, regardless of COVID-19 restrictions, volunteers must follow guidance in [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#). For the foreseeable future, volunteers must seek council prior approval before planning any overnight activities and continue to follow all COVID-19 mitigation guidance.

Although travel plans are often arranged several months in advance, recognize that COVID-19 risk is fluid; it can and will change, and contingencies should be planned ahead of time for re-scheduling, cancelling, or pivoting to a virtual activity. Create a timeline and identify a drop-dead date when decisions must be made about whether or not to move forward with the planned trip. You should also consider purchasing travel insurance but be sure to read all fine print and ask questions to ensure COVID or pandemic-related cancellation is covered; it is often excluded.

For planned international travel, continue to monitor all guidance from the CDC and Department of State. You can register a planned trip with the Department of State to receive updates when advisories change. You can also check COVID trends over time

for select countries by checking the Council on International Exchange's (CIEE) Health Risk Index Report.

### Hygiene and COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

Follow the resources developed by local and national public health sources such as CDC. Share these resources with girls and volunteers and ensure they are practiced during meetings and activities. Place signs in the meeting or activity space to remind girls and volunteers to engage in everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Signs should include:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cough and sneeze into a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash, and wash or sanitize your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Wash hands if you do.
- Volunteers, girls, and parents should be reminded to take temperatures prior to group interaction to confirm they are not running a fever, and that their temperature is a normal 98.6 degrees. Members with fever or temperature higher than 98.6 degrees should skip the in-person gathering until their temperature is normal.

### Personal contact:

Hugs, handshakes, "high-fives," and even activities like the friendship circle or squeeze can transmit COVID-19 from person to person. Refrain from these activities for the time being. Rather, create a safe way for girls and volunteers to greet and end meetings, like air high-fives or tapping elbows.

### Singing:

If you normally close your meetings with a song, make certain girls and adults are all wearing masks. Singing and shouting project germs farther than talking, so ask your girls to either hum or sing quietly with their masks on.

### First Aid supplies:

Troop first aid supplies should include COVID-19 prevention items, including hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol), tissues, disposable facemasks, disposable gloves, and disinfectants. Trash baskets or bags should be supplied for meeting and activity spaces, if not already available. Make sure that the trash baskets (or bags) are easily accessible for girls. Disposable or no-contact thermometers may be added to supplies, if available and not cost-prohibitive; however, parents should check temperatures and allow their girl(s) to join group activities only when temperatures are normal.

### First Aid / CPR Training:

Keep skills up-to-date for any emergency. First Aid / CPR training resources are available from Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest.

## **Disinfectants and Disinfecting:**

Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched (i.e., table tops, markers, scissors, etc.). Use a household cleaner or see the EPA's list of effective cleaners approved for use against COVID-19. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

Household bleach is effective against COVID-19 for up to 24 hours when properly diluted (see below). Check that the bleach is not expired and determine if it can be used on a given surface. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

To prepare a bleach solution, mix:

5 tablespoons (1/3 cup) bleach per gallon of water; or

4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

Visit the CDC's website for more on cleaning and disinfecting community facilities. Ensure all household disinfectants and cleaners are secured prior to girls being present.

## **FDA Warning**

The FDA advised consumers not to use certain hand sanitizer due to unsafe ingredients. The CDC provides an updated list of products that should never be used. Be sure to check FDA updates on hand sanitizers consumers should not use and stay away from products deemed unsafe.

## **Face Coverings (Masks)**

All girls and adult volunteers must wear masks during in-person gatherings; this is mandatory. Volunteers should remind girls that Girl Scouts wear face coverings (masks) to protect themselves and others. Face coverings are a civic responsibility and sign of caring for the community. Girls can bring their own face coverings. It is also recommended that you have disposable masks on hand for those who need them. Volunteers can teach girls how to handle their face coverings, so the coverings are effective.

Some girls or volunteers may not be able to wear masks, due to medical conditions. When this is the case, those who cannot wear a mask are encouraged to prioritize virtual activities when possible. The CDC does not recommend using a face shield or goggles as a substitute for masks; however, if you must wear a face shield instead of a mask, choose a face shield that wraps around the sides of your face and extends below your chin, or a hooded face shield.

## **Food, Dining, and Snacks**

Be careful when handling and serving food, and have girls be careful with each other when eating.

Safety recommendations for food, dining and snacks include:

- Encourage girls to bring their own foods to eat (bag lunch or dinner).
- Encourage girls not to share food after having touched it, such as a bag of chips. Individually wrapped items are recommended.

- If providing snacks, especially if unwrapped (such as cupcakes or cookies), have one person, wearing gloves, hand items to each person.
- Use a serving spoon or scoop rather than reaching into a bag or bowl of snacks.
- Use a buffet line only if staffed with a safely protected server with mask and gloves.
- Avoid “serve yourself” buffets.
- Public dining only as permitted in your local jurisdiction.
- If serving family style, have one person, wearing mask and clean gloves, serve everyone on clean plates.
- Use disposable plates, forks, napkins, etc. when possible.
- Encourage girls to bring foods they can easily cook for themselves (a prepacked foil pack or hotdog for outdoor cooking).
- Ensure that everyone handling food (those serving, girls, and adults) washes their hands (even if they will be wearing gloves) prior to any food prep or meals, following CDC handwashing guidelines.
- If sharing outdoor cooking utensils (such as roasting forks, etc.), such utensils should be washed and sanitized between each use, or bring enough utensils so each person gets their own.

## **Restrooms**

Be very careful in public restrooms. Most public restrooms will regulate the number of people using the restroom at the same time. If there is no regulator or signage, have volunteers ensure girls take appropriate turns to maintain 6-foot physical distancing and that they wear their masks in restrooms. It is ideal to have automatic flushers and sensory faucets to wash hands. If these are not available, girls and adults should use tissue or a paper towel to open doors and latches, touching as little as possible. If the restroom is large, have girls use every other stall and avoid using stalls where there is a person in the stall next to them. Restrooms and toilets are typically fraught with germs, more so now considering the contagion of coronavirus.

## **Reporting and communicating a positive COVID-19 test**

In the event of a COVID-19 positive test result, do not contact parents or troop members. Promptly contact the council office at [info@gdsw.org](mailto:info@gdsw.org). A council staff member will be responsible for:

- Confirming and tracing the positive tester;
- Contacting the parents of anyone who may have been exposed (or other volunteers);
- Notifying a facility or homeowner where a troop has met; and
- Alerting the state department of health.

Let other volunteers know that council staff, NOT volunteers, will notify parents and others about a positive test result and that the tester’s identity is confidential.

Remember that girl and volunteer health information is private and strictly confidential and should only be shared on a need-to-know basis with a council staff member.

Please remember that although we are able to resume in-person activities, it remains important to follow the CDC guidance for How to Protect Yourself and Others, which include:

- Universal and correct use of masks
- Maintaining six (6) feet physical distance
- Washing your hands often
- Covering your coughs and sneezes
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces frequently
- Monitoring your health daily
- Staying home if you are sick

## **Troop Camping during COVID-19**

Each member, volunteer and family should always evaluate their own unique circumstances before making an informed decision about whether or not to participate in any in-person activities. Precautions and strategies are important but cannot guarantee the elimination of the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or other illness while participating in in-person activities.

Before embarking on any in-person activities, please familiarize yourself with the latest guidelines from ALL of the following:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>

### **Camping Specific Guidelines:**

- If tent camping, each girl must have her own tent, or be in a tent only with those from her immediate household.
- Each person must bring their own supplies (mess kit, hand sanitizer, toothpaste, flashlight, sunscreen, etc.). There should be no sharing of any items. If sharing of items cannot be avoided, such as craft supplies for example, items should be sanitized by an adult between every use.
- Bring plenty of sanitizing wipes and/or cleaning supplies so that all shared bathroom, food prep or other surfaces can be sanitized between uses.
- Limit the number of girls in shared spaces at one time (such as restrooms). Instead, send them in buddy pairs.
- Ensure there are sufficient hand washing opportunities available. Touch free is preferred but not required. Bring extra soap just in case. Multiple hand washing stations are helpful.
- All participants should do their best to put themselves at minimal risk of exposure for at least a week prior to the campout and ensure they are symptom free.
- Ensure current Health History information is collected from each participant and prescreening procedures are enforced before event.
- Minimize the use of fans or other devices that stir the air while using indoor spaces.

### **General Guidelines:**

- These safety guidelines must be provided to all participants, volunteers, and the caregiver/guardians of all girl participants before the in-person event takes place.
- GSDSW is incredibly grateful for the support of our volunteers and caregivers. Given state protocols and CDC information, GSDSW encourages individuals who may be more susceptible or at a higher risk of contracting COVID-19 (including individuals age 65 and older or those with serious underlying health conditions) to carefully

consider and weigh all risks when deciding whether participating through in-person meetings is appropriate at this time.

- Before attending, all volunteers must read these two sets of guidelines on [appropriate cleaning and disinfection](#) and [hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette](#).
- One volunteer must be assigned to ask and document the responses to the screening checklist of all participants upon arrival. Use the log provided here. This record must be kept confidentially with health forms and permission slips. This volunteer must serve as the point of notification for any post-meeting incident of a communicable disease. Upon notice, this volunteer must contact GSDSW at [info@gsdsw.org](mailto:info@gsdsw.org) to receive explicit guidance before notifying any other participants.
- Participants should follow all specific rules or guidelines of the in-person location or host site. In some cases, restroom facilities may not be available. It is strongly encouraged to stay outdoors whenever possible.
- If a girl, parent/caregiver, or volunteer (or member of their household) is showing signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19 or has been in close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19, they are not permitted to attend in-person events or gatherings until they are either: cleared by a medical professional, it has been 72-hours since signs or symptoms (without the use of fever-reducing medication), or it has been 14 days since the last date of a confirmed exposure to COVID-19.

### **Gathering Guidelines:**

- Gatherings should not exceed more than 10 individuals, including girls, parents, and volunteers. Volunteer-to-girl ratio must meet the minimum standard for program level. Girl participants must be currently registered Girl Scout members or in the process of joining Girl Scouts.
- The gathering site should be cleaned and disinfected by adults, following [CDC guidelines](#), before and after the event. Regularly and frequently clean and disinfect any regularly touched surfaces, such as doorknobs, tables, chairs, and restrooms. Ensure sufficient onsite access to handwashing/sanitization, gloves, and disinfecting supplies for the gathering.
- All participants must wash or sanitize their hands upon entering the gathering site.
- During the event, all participants maintain physical distancing of 6 feet between members of different households. When sitting at tables, participants should try to all face one way and/or only sit on one-side of the table.
- In light of CDC recommendations, GSDSW requires all participants to wear face coverings or masks.
- Other measures such as hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette, cleanliness, sanitizing, and reduction of shared tools and supplies should also be practiced. If supplies or equipment need to be shared, they must be cleaned by an adult between uses.
- Gatherings should include training of participants on appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- When transporting girls for an event or outing, carpooling is an option if the driver and passengers can be spaced out, masks are worn, and windows are opened for proper ventilation. If the vehicle is full of passengers, the driver and passengers should be from a single household.

- Girls should be encouraged to bring their own water bottles. Many drinking fountains are still closed.
- These guidelines will be adjusted and updated as additional recommendations and protocols are released.

Other Helpful Resources:

With all of the wonderful opportunities to get outside and enjoy your troop please remember to leave the location better than you found it.

Leave No Trace recommendations:

<https://lnt.org/the-leave-no-trace-recommendations-for-getting-outside-amidst-covid-19/>