



COVID Guidance for NCAC Units Chartered in Virginia

As of December 10, 2020 Virginia's Governor Northam has tightened COVID -19 restrictions related to group gatherings:

"Reduction in social gatherings: *All social gatherings must be limited to 10 individuals, down from the current cap of 25 people. Social gatherings include, but are not limited to, parties, celebrations, or other social events, regardless of whether they occur indoors or outdoors. This does not apply to religious services, employment settings, or educational settings. Restaurants and retail stores are already governed by strict social distancing requirements, and are not included in this limit."*

Last week the Commonwealth of Virginia issued new COVID-19 directives designed to reduce the rate of community transmission of the virus. To ensure compliance with these new restrictions, until such time as new directives are issued, there should be no overnight Scouting events at the unit, district, or council levels in Virginia. In addition, Scouting meetings and activities should be organized in smaller cohorts to keep groups sizes below 10 participants. Please note this applies to outdoor as well as indoor meetings or events, and that non-participating adults or other family members who will be at the site also count towards this total.

For all leaders in National Capital Area Council, please ensure your unit continues to operate within state and local guidelines that apply to your chartered organization and to any venues where you will be holding meetings or events. If you are unsure if your unit activities are in accordance with local guidelines, please discuss the matter with your chartered organization and unit committee.

There has been very encouraging news recently about our fight against this pandemic, and we are hopeful it means we are near the end of this disruption to our Scouting program. Thank you for your continued support, and for helping to keep our Scouts safe and healthy during this challenging time.

