



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
HUDSON VALLEY COUNCIL

Date: May 28, 2019

To: Parents / Guardians of youth attending a Hudson Valley Council, BSA summer camp  
Professional Staff  
Summer Camp Directors

From: William Poole, Council President  
Gregg Dick, Council Commissioner  
David Horton, Scout Executive

Re: Measles Outbreak in New York State

Dear Parent / Guardian:

We send you this letter to bring attention to a serious health threat in New York State, and the Hudson Valley region. In recent communiques from the New York State Department of Health, Rockland County Health Department, and the Orange County Health Department, it has been mandated that all youth and staff attending summer camping programs in 2019 will be required to show proof of immunization (2 doses of MMR vaccine, or laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella). Please note that the only exception that will be allowed for this requirement is: if a camper or camp staff member is unable to receive the vaccination due to a medical reason that is documented in a signed letter from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant. Please Note: Although public health law requires religious exemptions be accepted for schools, there are no such requirements for children's camps, and there will be no allowance under the Commissioner of Health's order. More specifically, the Hudson Valley Council, BSA Executive Board has mandated that all youth attending camp, and all camp staff, meet these requirements in all Hudson Valley Council Camps, regardless of where the camp is located (ie. Camp Bullowa, Camp Nooteeming, and our traveling camps in Orange & Sullivan Counties). Parents / Guardians should become aware of their child's vaccination history and determine now if the MMR vaccine needs to be administered. Campers or staff that have not had either round of MMR vaccine must be instructed to begin receiving immunization immediately as there is a 28-day waiting period between receiving the first and second doses of the vaccine. Those that are scheduled to attend camp at the beginning of the season could be delayed if they do not start receiving immunizations promptly. We will require that both doses have been administered prior to attending camp. It is the responsibility of the parent / guardian of each youth camper and each camp staff member to respond appropriately to this very serious health threat. The Hudson Valley Council is required, by the New York State Sanitary Code, to have all MMR vaccination records & other vaccination records, up to date for each youth camper, and camp staff member. A special note for those parents / guardians that have already signed up for one of our summer camp experiences prior to the date of this letter: In the event you decide to not permit your child to attend summer camp – a full refund will be issued to you. You must request the refund by emailing [donna.helt@scouting.org](mailto:donna.helt@scouting.org) no later than the close of business (4:30pm) June 7, 2019.

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Newburgh, NY 12550  
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Please know that our continuing commitment is to make every effort to keep our camps free of measles and other vaccine-preventable diseases, and to provide a safe and healthy summer camp season for all campers, and camp staff.

Please feel free to reach out to us with questions and/or concerns, as they arise. Donna Helt may be reached via email ([donna.helt@scouting.org](mailto:donna.helt@scouting.org)) or phone (845-566-7300). Christian Miller may be reached via email ([Christian.miller@scouting.org](mailto:Christian.miller@scouting.org)) or phone (845-275-5650). David Horton may be reached via email ([david.horton@scouting.org](mailto:david.horton@scouting.org)) or phone (845-566-7300, ext. 304). Thank you for being involved with the Boy Scouts of America as we deliver life changing programs to our nation's youth.

William Poole  
Council President

Gregg Dick  
Council Commissioner

David Horton  
Scout Executive

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