

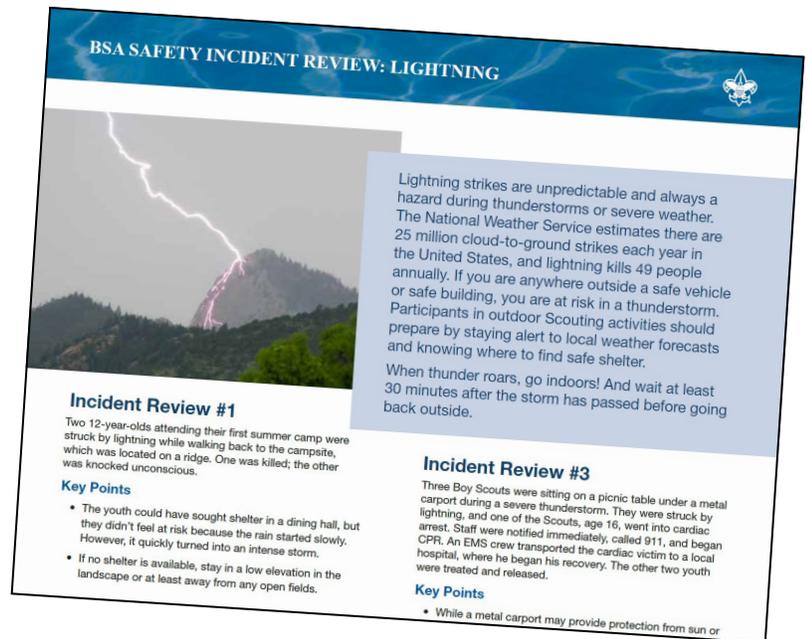
## INCIDENT REVIEWS CREATE REAL-LIFE SAFETY TALKS

Councils should be reporting incidents into the BSA's Risk Console for injuries that occur from unit, district, and council activities. So you have asked, what happens to that information? The national Health and Safety Support Committee has been developing safety incident reviews.

The incident reviews bring attention to everyday outings or activities where youth and adults were injured or died while on outings. Each incident described in the reviews actually occurred and has had a tremendous impact on our Scouting family. Many illustrate the importance of executing the Scouting program as it is currently designed.

The incident reviews are designed so they may be used to facilitate discussion at unit meetings, district roundtables, camps, and council training events such as a University of Scouting or Commissioner Colleges.

Each incident review describes actual incidents, and then provides key points, discussion questions, and resources (see the incident reviews "how-to" sheet). Some incident reviews already developed include topics such as boating, swimming, cardiac events, and



burns from starting fires. More are in development.

Look for incident reviews on motor vehicle accidents and allergies and anaphylaxis in the future.

Please help us prevent future occurrences by having a discussion about these incidents and how you can execute the Scouting program safely as designed.

[Click here to download this valuable information.](#)

## REGISTER FOR WILDERNESS FIRST AID INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE

Build your council's Wilderness First Aid instructor capacity at the Florida Sea Base [Brinton Environmental Center](#) on Summerland Key, January 27–31, 2017. Participants will learn BSA Wilderness First Aid, as well as develop instructor skills that are important to support your high-adventure program.

Participants will have the opportunity to practice these potentially lifesaving skills during several scenarios presented at dockside and at Big Munson Island during this fast-paced, exciting program. You will also be certified through the Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI) to teach these skills for your council, district or units.

It is helpful to have previous instructor training, but not required. However, prior certification in CPR from a nationally recognized provider is a prerequisite. In order to reach the island, you must be able to wade through as much as 200 meters of water up to your waist due to shallow water. Here is the [registration link](#) to join us.



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## ERM SUMMIT AIMS TO HELP YOU IDENTIFY, MITIGATE RISKS

Are you interested in assisting your council in utilizing its resources effectively and providing a safe environment for Scouts?

If so, the [2017 ERM Summit](#) is for you. The Health and Safety Support Committee sponsors an Enterprise Risk Management Summit every two years. The upcoming summit is February 2–5, 2017, at the BSA Sea Base in Florida. The theme of the summit is “Councils Knowing Risks.”

This event will help BSA professionals and volunteers protect Scouts by identifying the risks their council faces and determining how to mitigate or eliminate risks. The summit is designed to share ideas and information on providing for the physical and mental well-being of all participants in Scouting, as well as managing council assets. The sessions are presented by knowledgeable volunteers who are looking forward to sharing their expertise with you.

Over the three days, there will be 10 breakout sessions covering a variety of topics that are designed to help you know your council’s risks in programs, camps, and health.

You can choose from interesting ses-

sions that cover topics such as: camp safety, risk assessment, crisis communications, incident reporting, council insurance, Annual Health and Medical Record, mental health first aid, developing council safety material, disaster recovery, nutritional needs, and youth protection.

The summit is also an excellent opportunity for you to expand your network, in a wonderful setting at Sea Base. You will meet and interact with other BSA volunteers and professionals during the sessions, cracker barrels, and activity times. On Saturday afternoon you can partake in kayaking, snorkeling, discovering scuba diving, or take a cruise.

The conference is open to everyone, but it is designed for national, council, and regional health and safety and/or risk management committee members; members of camp visitation teams; program, camping, training, or other key volunteers; unit leaders; and professionals who have health and safety or risk management responsibilities.

We look forward to seeing you in February at the [2017 ERM Summit](#).



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## IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE BSA RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS

The [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) asks us to risk assess activities that are not covered by the BSA program. So it begs the question: How do I assess risks? The good news is there are multiple tools available to risk assess activities, events, or programs areas. The national Health and Safety Support Committee has taken tools from the professional arena and developed them for use in Scouting.

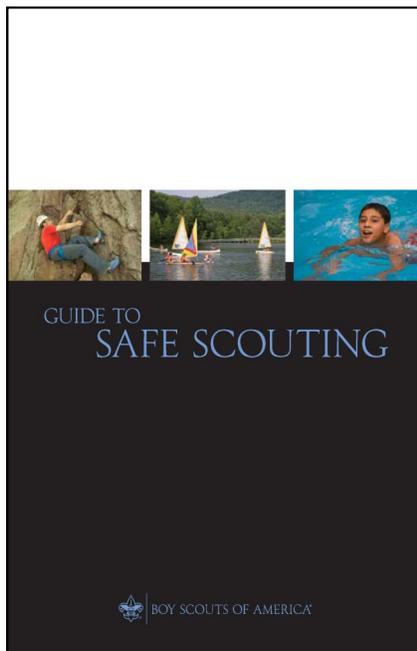
When assessing risks, it is best to use the right tools for the job. A sledge hammer can hammer a nail, but is that the right tool to use? The risk assessment tools come in four varieties: Enterprise Analysis Tool, Program Hazard Analysis, Safety Checklists, and the Safety PAUSE. Here's a brief summary of how these tools can be used.

### Enterprise Analysis Tool

This tool is primarily used to record, assess, and manage councilwide risks. The risks identified using this tool should be serious enough to jeopardize council operations. This tool may cover many areas, such as financial, legal, or liability risks.

### Program Hazard Analysis

This tool is primarily used for program areas within camps or high-adventure bases. It covers specific risks to the program areas and should be completed for all new programs. This tool has a defined way of assessing probability and severity of risks. The tool initially assesses risks as if there are no protective measures in place (e.g., pro-



cedures, physical barriers, etc.); then you look at the risk again, this time with the protective measures applied to eliminate or mitigate risk.

### Safety Checklists

These tools are used for small events or campouts. Checklists are a "body of knowledge" for running Scouting activities safely. Like an airline pilot reviewing a checklist before takeoff, these tools help to make sure critical safeguards are in place to ensure a safe Scouting activity.

### Safety PAUSE

The Safety PAUSE process stresses the importance of a last-minute safety check in the field. By encouraging each Scout or adult leader to pause and reflect on the tasks at hand just before beginning, you have an opportunity to take necessary precautions to prevent any present or potential hazards. This is not a standalone tool. A formal risk assessment should be done first, such as a safety checklist or a program hazard analysis (PHA).

You can reference the [Enterprise Risk Management Committee Guidebook](#) to learn exactly how to use these tools. Reach out to Scouters in your units or councils with backgrounds in risk management or safety. Doing risk assessments is likely part of their everyday routine. With their know-how and these tools, risk assessing is easily accomplished.

Mike Narvaez  
Safety Task Force Chair  
National Health and Safety Support Committee



## WHY YOU SHOUDN'T SLEEP IN THE TROOP'S TRAILER

Your Scouts approach you with a request: "Can we sleep in the troop trailer?"

Short answer: No.

Longer answer: No, it's not safe. Why?

- Most, if not all, cargo trailers (commonly used as troop trailers) do not have sufficient airflow for sleeping Scouts. A single rooftop vent is not sufficient for airflow, and closing the doors could lead to asphyxiation (suffocation).
- Troop trailers are typically not insulated from cold or hot weather.
- Troop gear may not be sufficiently stored to prevent toppling onto sleeping occupants.
- Using heaters that require propane, butane, kerosene, white gas, etc., are strongly NOT recommended within a troop/cargo trailer due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

First, troop trailers are great for carrying camping gear from your meeting place to camp, but they are not recreational or travel trailers. Most troop trailers (also called cargo trailers) will not have sufficient air for sleeping. Even troop trailers with a rooftop vent will not provide sufficient air. Scouts could be asphyxiated (or suffocate) due the low or almost no airflow in the trailer when the doors are closed. If the doors are left open and the weather is cold or there are insects and other pests, then there may be sufficient airflow, but the reason for getting inside the trailer was to avoid the cold or pests.

Second, troop trailers are typically not insulated for cold or hot weather. Most troop trailers have an aluminum outer skin with aluminum frames and plywood sheets on the interior. Insulation would have to be added, which presents another problem. The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration ([NHTSA.gov](http://NHTSA.gov)) requires that travel trailers have fire and life safety designs that meet the National Fire Protection Association standard 1192. The insulation would have to be fire rated for the trailer to be occupied for sleeping quarters. You would have to provide sufficient airflow when the doors are closed. Therefore,



converting your troop trailer into a travel trailer could get expensive.

Third, although the one picture shows a nice and neatly arranged troop trailer, not all troop trailers

have racks or containers for storing items. Sleeping in an enclosed trailer could lead to injuries caused by falling objects. The troop trailer may not have jack stands that are placed on the back edge of the trailer to prevent tilting. Provide sufficient weight at the back of the trailer and the axle(s) become fulcrums, causing the front of the trailer to tilt skyward. This can cause equipment to fall onto Scouts and adults.

Finally, if the troop trailer were to be used during cold-weather camping, the Scouts would be very tempted to light a stove or heater using propane, butane, kerosene, or white gas for fuel, to stay warm. In an enclosed trailer with the doors shut, you're set up for carbon monoxide poisoning for all occupants. There are recorded incidents of injuries and/or death to sleeping occupants of enclosed cargo trailers due to carbon monoxide poisoning. Also fuel systems in travel trailers must meet NFPA standard 1192 for interior heating, and these standards would require a carbon monoxide (CO) detector as well as a smoke detector.

Use cargo trailers for hauling cargo, not for sleeping.

