DATE: October 22, 2020

TO: National Camping School Participant

Lost Pines Scout Reservation 5/15-5/21, 2021
785 FM 1441
Bastrop, TX, 78602

FROM: LINDA DIEGUEZ, DIRECTOR NATIONAL CAMPING SCHOOL

Welcome to the 2021 National Camping School at Lost Pines Scout Reservation near Bastrop, TX.

Your application has been received and on behalf of the camping school faculty, we eagerly look forward to having you with us at Lost Pines Camp School. The Council Liaison for this camp school will be Teresa Northcutt who can be contacted at Teresa.Northcutt@scouting.org.

Covid-19 and National Camping School - Local council host sites will continue to practice any locally required COVID-19/communicable disease mitigation strategies. Prior to your arrival, you will receive additional information about what precautions will be in place at your NCS site. If local area restrictions do not allow a course to be held, you will be contacted no less than 14 days in advance and given an alternative training option.

These precautions are important, but these efforts cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while at camp. Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to attending National Camping School.

An Annual medical examination and health record, completed within the past 12 months, is required and must be completed prior to your arrival. Please bring the completed form with you. If you do not have this required form, you will need to obtain one at your own expense prior to beginning class. Cost will likely be a MINIMUM of $100.

Please plan to arrive between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (local time) on Saturday, May 15th unless noted below. Departure will be after breakfast on Friday, May 21st. All participants who are enrolled in any retraining sections will be able to depart after Noon on May 18th.

Shooting Sports, Aquatics, COPE, and Climbing, Resident Camp Director and Resident Program Director- Please note that there are pre-requisite trainings which you MUST have before you attend your sections of NCS. Please ensure you have these trainings and bring support materials with you as proof. Persons who attend without these trainings complete may be sent back to their home councils.

Shooting Sports: NRA Rife and Shotgun Instructor Certification
Aquatics: Current Lifeguard certification (BSA Lifeguard, Red Cross Lifeguard, YMCA Lifeguard, Starfish Aquatics Institute Starguard, Ellis & Associates International Lifeguard Training Program, or equivalent) Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training and proven swimming skills.
COPE: COPE Level I Instructor
Climbing: Climbing Level I Instructor

Resident Camp Director and Program Director: Online NCAP training is available at on the NCS page @ https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/

Complete, correct BSA uniforms are required. The BSA Field Uniform (Scout shorts, skorts or trousers, Scout shirts, Venturing shirts, Scout socks) or the BSA Activity Uniform (Scout shorts or pants with Scouting golf or t-shirts) will be worn at camping school. A complete Field Uniform is required for evening meals, worship services, campfires, and other formal activities.

Average temperatures in May is around mid 80’s during the day and in the 60’s during the evenings, typically with rain. Housing will be in camp tents, bedding will not be provided. Cots may be provided upon request, on a first come first serve basis (please coordinate with Teresa Northcutt if you need a cot). Mosquito netting and bug spray is highly recommended, and jackets for instructional time inside and evenings (air conditioning in the dining hall and some classrooms). If you have need of electricity in your campsite for medical reasons please notify Teresa Northcutt ahead of time, not all the campsites will have access to electricity.

Upon arrival, you will be greeted by campmasters that will direct you to the designated parking area. We will have tent areas set up in the parking lot to do temperature checks and check in procedures. Once checked in you will load your gear onto the equipment trailer that will
haul your gear to the campsite while you hike to the campsite. Please pack and plan accordingly. Lost Pines does not allow vehicles to drive into the camp, instead they provide the equipment trailer service to help.

Our first official gathering will be at Lunchtime on Saturday, please arrive early enough to get settled in and make it to lunch on time. If you know you will be arriving late, contact Teresa Northcutt at Teresa.Northcutt@scouting.org

The telephone number at Lost Pines Scout Reservation is 512-944-7726 in case of emergency.

In addition to the items listed above, please bring an open mind, a cooperative attitude, a willing smile, a lot of enthusiasm, and we’ll have a great course.

If you are arriving early due to travel arrangements, you may come on Friday. The early arrival fee is $55, which includes dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday. Your council will be billed if you arrive early so be sure to consult with them prior to arriving early.

The host council has not made arrangements for ground transportation from the Austin airport. If you plan to travel by air you need to contact Teresa Northcutt at Teresa.Northcutt@scouting.org to check on this and make arrangements for a pickup time and payment for the shuttle if they can help.

National Supply will not have a trading post at National Camping School this year. If you are interested in purchasing National Camping School items you can download the flier at https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/ and have them sent directly to your home. Please see your confirmation email for the email address to get FREE shipping on your order.

Also download: Directions & Map Equipment List of “What to Bring”

Personal Resource Questionnaire (Bring completed form with you to camp.)

Medical Form (download from: http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx)