

September 03, 2020

## What you need to know and do for the next 100 days.

As I look around the Council I am continually impressed and and gladdened by the dedication of our volunteers to the Scouting Movement and the way we have banded together as an organization through what can only be described as challenging times. Despite these challenges, Scouting and our volunteers have continued to build confidence, leadership, character, and hope within our communities. Our units and youth have continued to participate in Scouting.



- Units have continued to meet providing engagement, advancement, and normalcy to our youth.
- Eagle Scout projects and boards continue to provide positive impacts to the community.
- The Scouting at Home Committee has provided opportunities to keep our Scouting community active with activities that can be done from home including: Scouting at Home Award, Million Minute Challenge, Virtual Den Meetings, Virtual Merit Badges, Cub Scout monthly activity ideas, Family First Fridays, and more.
- Our Membership Committee has provided resources for our units to help recruit Scouts when large gatherings are not possible. Our S'Mores Club webinars provide tips and tricks for recruiting during this time, and our upcoming Be A Scout Day on September 12th will provide fun for our existing Scouts and a great event to invite those who would like to be involved in Scouting.

Now more than ever, families are looking for what Scouting offers. When asked what they want from youth-serving organizations this fall, parents overwhelmingly said they want to give their children a sense of normalcy, as well as something to do as a group, even if socially distant, or something productive to do with peers, even if it's online. Scouting delivers what parents are asking for. Together, we need to stand ready to bring Scouting to even more youth and families this year.

### About the national BSA's noticing campaign

As we promote Scouting in our community, some people may have questions about our youth protection policies and how we keep kids safe. Each question is an opportunity to shed light on the important policies and procedures we've put in place that make Scouting safer than ever before.

It is important to emphasize that the safety of children in our programs is our absolute top priority. That's precisely why, over many years, the BSA has developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization.

As a volunteer you have been required to take Youth Protection Training, undergone a criminal background check, and play a critical role in upholding our commitment to keeping youth safe. At Mount Baker Council, and at all councils across America, adhering to and upholding these policies is a duty we take very seriously. I encourage you to view and share [video](#) and [infographic](#) about the BSA's youth protection measures and resources that make Scouting safer than ever before.

Conversations about safety will be especially relevant over the next several weeks when those in Scouting and other members of the public will likely see and hear print, TV, social media, digital and radio advertising from national BSA's Chapter 11 noticing campaign. Although only the national organization has filed for Chapter 11, you will likely come across these ads in the coming weeks, so I wanted to make sure you knew their purpose and had the necessary information to address questions or concerns they may raise for you or others.

These noticing ads are different than those many people have seen so far that have been sponsored by plaintiffs' attorneys trying to solicit clients. The BSA's ads are instead designed and sponsored by national BSA to ensure that victims have the opportunity to come forward and apply for compensation from a proposed Trust by filing a claim by the November 16, 2020 deadline set by the court. This advertising effort underscores the BSA's commitment to the dual objectives of its bankruptcy proceeding: **equitably compensate victims of past abuse and continue the mission of Scouting.**

If you would like additional information on the BSA's outreach to victims we encourage you to review the provided [FAQs](#). For questions about local Scouting contact our Council Scout Executive, Kevin Nichols at [kevin.nichols@scouting.org](mailto:kevin.nichols@scouting.org).

We are providing you with these resources to help you navigate conversations you may have in the coming months. It is important to utilize these resources as they are written to ensure accurate and consistent information is provided to all stakeholders.

Thank you for all you do towards keeping local families informed and excited about Scouting during this important time.

[View the Resource Page](#)

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