

# Camp Squanto Virtual Update

Thank you for your interest in attending Camp Squanto for the 2021 summer season. We continue to work diligently with the Town of Plymouth Department of Public Health and in accordance with the changing reopening guidance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with respect to the camping and youth services sector to determine how we can offer a safe and exciting program while doing everything we can to keep our Scouts, leaders, and staff healthy and safe.

We are excited to share with you that we have, with the approval of the Town of Plymouth, crafted a program schedule and a list of merit badge offerings. We will be offering the following merit badges for which cohorts can register over four different 50-minute blocks during the day: Sailing, Rowing, Kayaking, Canoeing, Swimming, Lifesaving, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting, Fly Fishing, Cooking, Camping, Pioneering, Emergency Preparedness, Orienteering, Wood Carving, Leatherwork, Metalwork, Mammal Study, Reptile and Amphibian Study, Bird Study, Sustainability, Environmental Science, and Climbing. An entire cohort will have to register for one badge and travel to the area of camp where that badge is offered, per current state guidelines. However, for Scouts that do not want to work on the badge, there will be a program area-related opportunity for Scouts to work on. For example, if a cohort registers for Cooking merit badge, but only 8 Scouts want to work on the requirements, the other 4 Scouts will have the option to work on another Scoutcraft related-skill.

We understand that current Commonwealth of Massachusetts guidance places many limitations on traditional flexibility. However, this does afford us some flexibility at camp this summer with our merit badge offerings. This year, rather than offering set merit badges at certain times, all merit badges

will be available at all program areas, limited only by the number of cohorts that a program area can accommodate at one time. This means that, in a normal year, Ecology may offer one section each of Reptile and Amphibian Study, Mammal Study and Bird Study during the day and Scouts would have to find a way to work their schedules to get in to these badges if this is what they wanted to take. This year, if Ecology can accommodate 3 cohorts while maintaining the required social distancing, all three could work on the same badge in individual cohorts, if they all wanted to take the same badge. As part of the registration process, cohorts will select their program area, time slot (9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 11:00-11:50, and 2:00-2:50), and then the badge that they would like to take.

We will be offering afternoon program offerings in shooting sports, boating, swimming, Scoutcraft, handicraft, and ecology in one hour blocks that cohorts will be able to sign up for prior to arriving at camp. In many ways, the afternoon will look similar to a normal week of summer camp. To go over this schedule in greater detail and to answer questions that you may have about summer at Camp Squanto in 2021, we will be holding another summer camp leaders meeting virtually using the same YouTube platform as our April meeting. Please join us on Monday, May 24 at 7:00pm.

Please keep in mind these important deadlines fast approaching:

**NEW Unit Commitment Deadline: Friday, May 14**

Please let us know your intentions by completing this form [RICK](#) – please add link

**Early Bird Registration Deadline: Friday, May 28**

We are working diligently to offer the greatest flexibility that current Commonwealth of Massachusetts guidance will allow and that is in keeping with the intent of the guidance – to

keep everyone safe and healthy at camp this summer. Thank you for being part of the Camp Squanto family. We look forward to seeing you in just over two months for an exciting, fun-filled, and safe program at Camp Squanto!