

Red Tailed Hawk

Day Camp – Emergency Plan

This plan is written for the purpose of providing guidance to Day Camp Staff, Walking Leaders, and all other attendees at our annual summer Cub Scout Day Camp in the event of a crisis or emergency.

Boy Scouts of America requires that a policy such as this be maintained in writing, be presented in training to all Day Camp Staff, and be available for quick reference by all staff during the operation of Day Camp. This is a mandatory requirement in order to be certified as a Boy Scout Day Camp.

Emergency Types addressed in this plan include:

- Thunderstorm
- Tornado
- Extreme Temperatures
- Fire
- Accidents
- Security
- Missing Scout

Thunderstorm

Day Camp is planned to continue rain or shine, except in the event of an emergency. There are “rainy day” plans for each of the program activity areas at Day Camp, and the Day Camp Staff member in charge of each site will use these as appropriate.

However, summer storms in Kansas are often accompanied by lightning. The danger from lightning is highest at the leading and trailing edge of the actual rainstorm, and so must be anticipated and avoided before the rain starts.

If a thunderstorm or lightning threatens the Day Camp area, the Day Camp Director will take charge to inform Day Camp Staff to take emergency action. This will involve the following specific tasks:

- Day Camp Director and Program Director
 - Use air-horn signals to signal the emergency to the Camp.
 - Communicate via walkie-talkies with Admin Tent and other key personnel.
 - Use Day Camp vehicles (Gators) to physically (patrol) the camp to make sure that the word is out and that all Day Camp Staff, Walking Leaders, and Campers are aware of the emergency and are taking appropriate action.
- Walking Leaders
 - Main job is to constantly account for all campers in your group.
 - Keep campers in your group together as you move towards designated shelter areas.
 - Advise the Admin Tent registrars immediately if a camper is found to be missing.
 - Direct all dismissals from camp to the Admin Tent.

- Activity Program Staff & Trading Post
 - Secure program equipment as quickly as possible to prevent loss.
 - No need to return equipment to overnight storage at this time, except for Trading Post
 - Trading Post merchandise and cash drawer should be gathered in a secure container, and brought to the shelter – not left unattended.
 - Assist Walking Leaders with keeping scouts grouped together as they move toward shelter.

- Registrars
 - Main job is to collect information on location of all Camp personnel.
 - Continue with formal check-out procedures of campers who may be picked up by parents wherever possible. Document all exceptions.

- Tot Lot & First Aid
 - Stay in regular location unless advised otherwise.
 - Be prepared to help shelter other campers at your location.

- Designated Shelter Areas for Thunderstorm
 - Admin Tent
 - First Aid Tent
 - Tot Lot
 - Shelter
 - Home area on Camp Row

“ThunderBolt” Storm Detection System

The HOAC has implemented a program for all Day Camps using special lightning detection equipment known as **“ThunderBolt”**, which can detect lightning from a great distance, and also advise the approximate distance and ETA of the threat. Our camp will have one of these devices in use during Day Camp.

The **“ThunderBolt”** device will be kept at the Administration Tent. It will be actively checked no less than hourly to ensure it is working properly, and that there are no threats detected, and this hourly check will be noted in a simple log kept next to the device.

If the **“ThunderBolt”** device indicates a thunderstorm or lightning threat of any kind, the Day Camp Director will be notified immediately. From that time until the threat is cleared, the Day Camp Director will be responsible for monitoring the ThunderBolt device and providing direction to the Day Camp as to what action should be taken.

Tornadoes

In the event of a tornado threat, please keep in mind that we have no suitable tornado shelter at Lake Olathe. These procedures are written with the intent of coordinating action to get us all out ASAP.

Tornado Watch

- Definition: A **“tornado watch”** defines an area where tornadoes and other kinds of severe weather are possible in the next several hours. It does not mean tornadoes are imminent -- just that you need to be alert, and to be prepared to go to safe shelter if tornadoes do happen or a warning is issued. This is the time to turn on local TV or radio, turn on and set the alarm switch on your weather radio, make sure you have ready access to safe shelter, and make your friends

and family aware of the potential for tornadoes in the area. (per NOAA – National Weather Service)

- If a Tornado Watch is issued for the area, this will be signaled by air-horn blasts and also directly communicated as soon as possible to all Staff Leaders and Walking Leaders.
- The main thing that needs to happen immediately in the event of a Tornado Watch is that we need to be prepared to leave camp if the threat escalates.
- Walking Leaders need to make necessary contacts to ensure that transportation is ready on stand-by to help get their respective Dens safely out of the area.
- Target response time is to be able to get everyone out of the area within 15 minutes.

Tornado Warning

- Definition: A “tornado warning” means that a tornado has been spotted, or that Doppler radar indicates a thunderstorm circulation which can spawn a tornado. When a tornado warning is issued for your town or county, take immediate safety precautions.
- If a Tornado Warning is issued, this will also be signaled by air-horn blasts and also directly communicated as soon as possible to all Staff Leaders and Walking Leaders.
- The main thing to do if a Tornado Warning is issued is to get yourselves and your Dens out of the area as soon as possible.
- Contact parents and/or other transportation help immediately, so that they can be on the way.
- Walking Leaders should advise the Admin Tent of the full accounting of your Den as soon as possible. Come in person if practicable, but call by cell phone when possible if not.
- Camp Staff needs to come to the Admin Tent to help with receiving information from Dens. We will do this until all Dens are fully accounted for, or until the severity of conditions demands that we leave as well.
- If a full attendance accounting is not able to be completed before Admin leaves, then the accounting will resume by phone until complete.
- If camp is dismissed due to a tornado warning, then the assumption should be that Day Camp is over for that day, and will resume the next morning.

In Between ??

- There is no official “in-between” advisory between a Watch and a Warning.
- The Day Camp Director and/or the District Executive may use their best judgment and direct a “Tornado Warning” dismissal, regardless of whether an official “Tornado Warning” has been issued by the National Weather Service.

Extreme Temperatures

- Day Camp is held in June, so it is not anticipated that extreme temperatures will interfere with activities. Nevertheless, general procedures are given here to ensure that the Scouts are hydrated, and that we have a general “high risk” alert signal to share in the event that temperatures do reach extremes.
- **Humidity Matters.** Our bodies’ natural cooling system is to sweat, so that the sweat can evaporate. The evaporation of sweat provides a cooling effect (there is real Physics behind this), and when the humidity is high, then evaporation of sweat is slowed or completely halted. Therefore, we will advise the Camp of extreme temperature “Heat Alerts” based on the Heat Index, not the actual temperature.

- **Heat Alert 1:** Heat Index of 90 - 105°F.
 - This Heat Index level can be reached by a combination of 84 degrees and 70% humidity, or by 87 degrees and 52% humidity. We may well hit this mark every day in mid-June.
 - This advisory will be signaled by Air Horns and also communicated directly with Staff and Walking Leaders as soon as possible.
 - Main action to be taken at this level is heightened awareness, and to ensure that all boys are drinking enough water.
 - Strenuous activity should be reduced (e.g. Obstacle Course, Barrel Ride operators, running in general).
 - Stay in the shade whenever possible.
 - Both Scouts and Adults are encouraged to wear caps to keep head cool to prevent heat stroke (and sunburns!).

- **Heat Alert 2:** Heat Index of 105 - 130°F.
 - This Heat Index level can be reached by a combination of 88 degrees and 80% humidity, or by 94 degrees and 53% humidity. It is certainly a possibility in June.
 - This advisory will be signaled by Air Horns and also communicated directly with Staff and Walking Leaders as soon as possible.
 - Sharply reduce all activity. Some programs will need to be halted (e.g. Obstacle Course, Barrel Ride operators, running in general).
 - Stay in the shade whenever possible.
 - Increase water intake to one (1) quart per hour.
 - Monitor for heat cramps and heat exhaustion.

- **Heat Alert 3:** Heat Index over 130°F.
 - This Heat Index level can be reached by a combination of 105 degrees and 47% humidity, or by 95 degrees and 77% humidity. It is rare, but still possible in Olathe in June.
 - This advisory will be signaled by Air Horns and also communicated directly with Staff and Walking Leaders as soon as possible.
 - Main action to be taken at this level is for all Scouts to return to their respective Home Dens. Once there, they should stay in the shade and drink water.
 - Since Day Camp ends daily at 3:30, it is likely that if these heat conditions are reached, it will be toward the end of the day, and will last until the end of camp.
 - The Camp Director and/or Scout Executive will make a decision regarding early dismissal.

Fire

- There are no fire-related activities planned for the RTH Day Camp, with the exception of the Campfire on Family Night. Therefore any sign of smoke or fire during Day Camp is an indication of **wildfire**, and should be acted upon immediately.
- Call the Day Camp Director to report any indication of fire. If you believe the fire requires action, go ahead and call 911 to report the fire.
- A reported fire will be communicated as necessary to the camp by air horn signals and by direct communications as soon as possible.

Accidents

- In the event of an accident, the first priority is to bring the injured person to the First Aid Tent as soon as possible. Please continue the two-deep leadership policy in doing this.

- At the First Aid Tent, all injuries will be assessed and treated by our on-site professional nurse, and the incident will be documented in our logbooks
- Advise the Day Camp Director as soon as practicable about the incident.
- In the event of a life-threatening situation, first call 911 for help, then call the Day Camp Director immediately afterwards. We will need to make sure that incoming emergency vehicles are properly directed where needed, and to clear the way for their use.

Security

- Specific routine procedures are detailed in the separate “Security Procedures” document.
- If there is a security violation affects the rest of camp (i.e. Unauthorized Personnel), the Day Camp Director shall take measures to advise Camp Staff as necessary.
 - For example, if an intruder is identified in a specific area of camp, Staff in that area would be alerted immediately. Others may be advised if and when necessary.

Missing Scout

- Walking Leaders are responsible for knowing where their Pack’s scouts are at all times.
- If a Walking Leader identifies that one or more of their assigned Scouts is missing, they should advise the nearest Staff Member immediately.
- Staff will immediately use the walkie-talkies to advise the Admin Tent, Day Camp Director, and other staff.
- A description of the missing scout will be shared among the staff via walkie-talkie, and a five-minute “Lookout” period will begin.
- Five Minute Lookout Period
 - All available staff not actively working program areas or other “on-station” activities will actively search the Day Camp area for the missing scout.
 - All other staff will remain on station, and look out for the missing scout.
 - If the scout is found in the “Five Minute Lookout Period”, all staff will be advised, and Day Camp will continue as normal.
 - If the scout is not found in the “Five Minute Lookout Period”, a general alert will go into effect.
- General Alert – Missing Scout
 - The Day Camp Director will issue a general alert by air horn signals and advised over walkie-talkie.
 - If a general alert is sounded for “Missing Scout”, all scouts will need to return to their home dens immediately for a full attendance count of the camp.
 - All Program activity staff will return to the Admin Tent area for general directions and to coordinate search parties.
 - The Admin Staff will coordinate the attendance count.
 - Once the attendance count is complete, if the missing scout is not identified, the Day Camp Director will call for police assistance, and dispatch search parties from Day Camp Staff.

SIGNALS for RTH DAY CAMP EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Type of Emergency	Signal	Course of Action
Rain (no lightning threat)	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay on station. Go to rainy day activities.
Thunderstorm/Lightning Threat	3 Short horn blasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move to a designated lightning shelter. Contact Admin Tent with accounting of all campers and staff.
Tornado / Flood Watch	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay on station. Go to rainy day activities.
Tornado / Flood Warning	Long continued horn blast. Repeated every 30 seconds for three-minutes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go to <u>Flag Mall/Admin Tent</u> for coordinated dismissal if possible. If not, contact Admin as soon as possible with accounting of all campers and staff.
Extreme Temperatures	Day Camp Staff and Walking Leaders will be informed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take campers back to Home Dens and keep campers in shade.
Security Issue	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All authorized personnel should be in Day Camp uniform each day. Report any intruders or unauthorized personnel to the Day Camp Director (via the Admin Tent or walkie-talkie).
Missing Scout Alert	Continuous on/off horn blast.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify Camp Director immediately. Walking Leaders take campers to Home Dens for coordinated headcount.
Fire	Continuous on/off horn blast.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify Camp Director immediately. Call 911. Walking Leaders take campers to Home Dens for coordinated headcount.
Accident / Injury	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring camper to First Aid Tent (next to Admin) Remember Two-Deep Leadership requirements

Designated Lightning Shelters

Admin Tent (Flag Mall)	Near Camp Entrance
First Aid Tent	
Tot Lot	
Road Shelter #1	Near Fishing Pier (Activity)
Road Shelter #2	Further up road (Activity)
Home Den Area	Main Camp
BB-Gun Range Tent	