A Fun and Safe Environment

Sinoquipe Scout Reservation is owned and operated by the Mason-Dixon Council, Boy Scouts of America. It is administered by a full-time Camp Ranger, and a seasonal Camp Director during the summer months, both are trained and certified by the National Camping School of the Boy Scouts of America. The camp is supervised by the Council Executive Board through the Council Camping and Outdoor Programs Committee.

The camp is inspected by the Department of Agriculture, Department of Environmental Protection, and is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Sinoquipe Scout Reservation is inspected annually, both internally by the Mason-Dixon Council, and through the National Camp Accreditation Program. It is consistently rated as a Nationally Accredited Camp.

Our staff undergo all three PA background checks necessary for working with youth. Our Area Directors attend National Camping School to obtain training on the national level. All of the program staff undergo a week long training that covering Basic Life Support and First Aid, Youth Protection, Understanding and Preventing Youth-on Youth Abuse Training, effective teaching and learning strategies, and much more. We employ trained Health Officers to ensure proper medical treatment for anything from the simple cut to more serious matters requiring immediate attention. Our lifeguards for our Aquatics program are fully trained BSA Lifeguards overseen by a nationally trained Aquatic Supervisor. They maintain strict ratios to ensure the safety of all swimmers, and the supervision of all aquatic activities.

A Word About Food Allergies

Our Dining Hall Staff will do what it takes to take good care of your child. If your child has food allergies, we ask that you fill out the form at http://tinyurl.com/sinoquipedietary, which is passed directly on to our Program Director and the kitchen staff. Because there are some common allergies, peanuts for example, we plan substitutes into the meal. Don’t get the peanut butter brownies, get the cake. (Please still let us know that your child has this allergy). Should your scout have a severe food allergy — Celiac Disease for example — that might require complete meal substitutes, please have them see our Dining Hall Steward at each meal to get their portion.

Please keep in mind, picky is not an allergy. There is a world of delicious foods out there just waiting to be eaten. Guess where the Program Director found out that brussel sprouts are incredibly tasty?

Contacting Your Scout

Mail is a great thing to get at Camp! Especially boxes of homemade cookies. You are welcome to send packages and letters to your scout. Just use the guide to the right to ensure that it gets to them. Also please keep in mind that, as with all packages, it will take a few days to get to camp.

Homesickness. This is a tough one. Every week of every summer at least one scout will miss their parents and desire to get back to them and that which familiar to them. The Camp Staff are trained on ways to combat this, but should you get a call from your scout saying “I miss you!” it can be hard not to run to their rescue. Some advice I can give is:

- Encourage fun activities
- Ask about the fun things he did today or the people that he likes there
- DO NOT tell them you miss them
- Tell them you are confident in their and that you are proud of them
- DO NOT tell them you can’t wait for them to get home

know those last ones seem mean or really hard to believe, but it will spare both of you the “Then why won’t you come get me? If you miss me too then come get me!” conversation. If you have concerns about scout then feel free to contact us. There is also expert advice on the internet should you wish to learn more about how this is a natural thing that happens to some.
Being Prepared for Camp

To ensure that your Scout is ready for camp see the packing list to the right., but being ready is more than just clean socks and underwear. Your scout will need to have turned in to the troop leaders a completed physical. That means a quick trip to the doctor. Also, find out if your troop is participating in a 'pre-swim test.' This will help them have more time for setting up their campsite during the Sunday check-in. Should your child have medication there are two options:

1. The Scoutmaster will collect it and hand it over to the camp health officer. Your child will need to visit the health office as needed to take his medication.
2. If your troop has a lock box the medication may be kept in the campsite under the Scoutmaster’s supervision.

Records must be kept of when medication was taken for both options. Talk to your troop leadership and find the best option for your child and the troop. More information can be found in the Leaders’ Guide on page 8.

You should also have a talk with your scout about technology. Camp is a school of the outdoors. Yet we have a Tech Center and encourage scouts to take photos. We use technology at appropriate times to help us learn and appreciate nature. Your troop may have a policy dictating cell phone usage. Keep this all in mind when packing with your child. Don’t let that phone screen distract your scout from the whole world of fun at camp.

Visitors and Family Night

Visitors are welcomed but must sign-in and check-in at the Administration Office. This is the building as soon as you enter camp on the left. The Administration Office is at the far end of the building. Visitors will be given a wristband that identifies them as such. This is to help camper security. Should the guest be staying for a meal, meals can be purchased at the Trading Post at the cost of $6 for Breakfast and Lunch and $8 for Dinner.

Family Night is Friday. Starting at 5 p.m. visitors are welcome to attend the troop cookout. If you are attending, it will be the troop leader’s responsibility to keep track of visitors. This means after 5pm you do not need to check in at the office. Make it easy on your troop’s leaders and let them know when you get there and when you leave. You are invited to eat with your Troop, but again let the troop leadership know about this ahead of time so we at camp can plan for it. Below are some important things to keep in mind should you attend Friday night:

- We are a walking camp. Wear good (close-toed) shoes. If you have a medical need for transportation please see a staff member.
- As much as your child misses his beloved Fido, please leave all pets at home.
- There will be staff members at the main entrance of camp to direct you to your scout’s campsite
- If staying for the campfire consider bringing a “bag chair” or lawn chair.

More information about summer camp can be found at Sinoquipe.org in the 2020 Leaders’ Guide
Ticks and Mosquitos

An ounce of preparation is worth a pound of cure!

You’ve heard it in the news- Lyme Disease, West Nile Virus, Zika, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) diseases. They are all here, so DO be prepared.

1) Come to camp with the appropriate protection. This could include products to apply to your clothing, to your skin or to use in your tent.

   Clothing repellents include: Permethrin, Tick Repellent clothing
   Skin repellents: DEET (at least 30%), Picaridin
   Tent repellents: Off! Clip-On

   Long sleeved shirts and long pants help protect you.

2) Do a self-inspection daily. Ask your tent-mate to examine your back, and the back of your legs. ‘Deer Ticks’ (Black legged ticks), which are the primary vectors of Lyme Disease, are very small.

3) To avoid tick exposure, stay out of brushy areas, and areas with high grass.

4) Mosquitoes are active feeders at dusk and dawn. Wearing long pants and long sleeved shirts will help to avoid being bit. DEET and Picardin may be applied to your skin as a repellent.

   If you find a tick on you, contact your Scout Leader and go to the health center to have it removed. Do not apply soap, vaseline, burnt match heads or anything similar in an attempt to get it to come out. This only causes it to ‘regurgitate’ into you, which could lead to directly transferring disease organisms.
The Advancement Program

Camp Sinoquipe offers advancement programs for Scouts of all levels including Lakusin (first year camper), High Adventure programs like Project COPE, and Sinoquipe Mountain Man for older campers, and merit badges for all skill levels.

Planning Your Program at Camp
To get the most out of your summer camping experience, time should be dedicated to planning your Troop’s program prior to arriving at camp. We encourage the Scouts to take a front seat in planning their own experience at camp. Regardless of their rank, Scouts will be able to plan a schedule that allows them to get the most out of camp and the Scouting program. First year campers can find details about an exciting summer camp experience in the Lakusin Program. Older scouts may want to sign up for Adventure programs geared toward them, while all Scouts can discover more about the merit badges offered at Camp Sinoquipe in the leaders guide. Please keep in mind that a troop’s overall program should be aimed at meeting the needs of the troop, the patrol, and the individual Scout.

Merit Badge Registration
Camp Sinoquipe offers Merit Badge preregistration. Registering for merit badges before arrival will allow Scouts, leaders and camp staff to better prepare for the Scout’s week at camp.

Merit badge preregistration will be completed online and checked for accuracy. The Troop liaison will receive a link to the online registration.

While we try to keep all merit badge classes open, safety and materials sometimes dictate that certain classes be limited in size. Aquatics, Horsemanship, Shooting Sports, and COPE & Climbing are the most likely to be affected. Any Scout who did not get to preregister or needs to amend their schedule will have the opportunity to do so at the Hose Pavilion on Sunday evening before retreat.

The Merit Badge Schedule is found on page 31 of the leaders’ guide. This worksheet allows Scouts to better schedule their merit badges.
Directions to Camp Sinoquipe

From Waynesboro, Greencastle & Mercersburg, PA:
Travel Route 16 west to McConnellsburg; Take Route 522 north to Fort Littleton, PA. Follow camp signs from Route 522, beginning approximately 1 mile past the Pennsylvania Turnpike Toll Exit.

From Hancock, MD:
Travel Route 522 to McConnellsburg, then Fort Littleton, PA; Follow first set of directions.

From Hagerstown, MD:
Travel Interstate 81 north to Exit 5 (former Exit 3) at Greencastle, PA; Travel Route 16 west to McConnellsburg; Take Route 522 north to Fort Littleton; Follow first set of Directions.

From Baltimore, MD & Washington DC Areas:
Travel Interstate 70 or 270 west to Frederick, MD; then continue I-70 west to Hagerstown, MD; then travel Interstate 81 north to Exit 5 (former Exit 3) at Greencastle, PA; travel Route 16 west to McConnellsburg; take Route 522 north to Fort Littleton; Follow first set of Directions.

For GPS use intersection of Boy Scout Rd & Sinoquipe Rd