



SCOUTING AMERICA

NORTHWEST GEORGIA COUNCIL

1013 North 5th Avenue Suite 1
Rome, Ga 30165
706-235-5545, info@nwgabsa.org

Camp Sidney Dew Rules and Policies - 2026

Camp Sidney Dew Rules and Policies

For campsite reservations, facility rentals, and camp events

Purpose. Camp Sidney Dew is operated and maintained by Scouting America - Northwest Georgia Council to provide Scouts, leaders, families, and approved guests with a safe and positive outdoor experience. The welfare of youth members is the first priority in all matters related to the use of camp facilities, equipment, and program areas.

Expected conduct. All campers, leaders, visitors, and outside groups are expected to follow the Scout Oath and Scout Law, Leave No Trace principles, the Guide to Safe Scouting, camp rules, posted policies, staff instructions, and all applicable Scouting America policies.

Reservations, Arrival, and Departure

- All groups must register online at www.nwgascouting.org to request use of facilities and/or equipment. Requests should be submitted at least 14 days before the date of use. Confirmation will be sent when approved, or a denial email will be sent if the request is not available.
- Each group must report to the Camp Ranger or Campmaster upon arrival. Arrival should be no later than 9:00 PM and no earlier than 7:00 AM unless special arrangements have been made in advance with the Camp Ranger.
- Weekend camping check-in is between 5:00 PM and 9:00 PM on Friday evening. Check-out time is 12:00 PM unless prior arrangements are made in advance.
- In case of cancellation, the Camp Ranger must be notified. Refunds on deposits and fees may be made when cancellation of a campsite, facility, or equipment reservation is received at least 7 days before the scheduled arrival date. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Camp Ranger.
- The Camp Ranger or Campmaster must inspect assigned campsites, buildings, and areas before departure. Groups should leave each area cleaner than they found it. Failure to complete a satisfactory inspection before departure may result in forfeiture of deposit.
- Camp Sidney Dew may be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Easter, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and other dates designated on the council calendar.

Leadership and Youth Protection

- Packs, troops, crews, posts, or other groups must have at least two adult leaders over 21 years of age in attendance at all times.
- Leaders have full responsibility for campers, participants, and visitors in all phases of their activities at all times.
- Adult leaders must follow Safeguarding Youth Training requirements and all Scouting America youth protection policies.
- Family cabins are for families or other council-approved groups only.
- Groups not chartered by Scouting America must sign a Hold Harmless Agreement and provide an insurance certificate demonstrating coverage in compliance with Scouting America national guidelines.

Camp Conduct and Safety

- The Camp Ranger or Campmaster will not interfere with camper activities except in cases of camp rule violations, safety hazards, or unscoutlike conduct. Violations will be reported to the leader in charge, who is responsible for correcting the issue. If circumstances warrant, the Ranger or Campmaster may expel individuals or the entire group from camp.
- No hunting is allowed.
- Personal firearms are not permitted on Scout facilities. Only camp-owned or camp-controlled firearms are allowed under the direction and control of a Northwest Georgia Council Range and Target Director.
- No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are permitted on any facility.



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- Tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vaporizers, must be used only out of the view and smell of youth. Scouting functions, meetings, and activities should be conducted on a smoke-free basis, with smoking areas located away from all participants.
- Leave all pets and animals at home. No pets are allowed on Northwest Georgia Council property except trained guide or assistance dogs. Documentation must be provided.
- Gas-powered generators are not allowed in campsites without approval from the Camp Ranger.
- Northwest Georgia Council does not provide CPAP batteries. CPAP users are responsible for bringing their own CPAP battery.

Aquatics, Fishing, and Boating

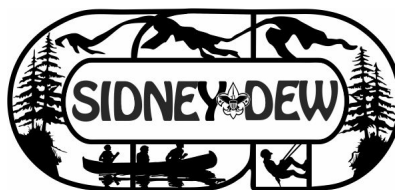
- Any unit or group using the pool or other swimming areas must have an adult 21 years or older with Red Cross Lifeguard or equivalent certification in charge and on duty at all times when anyone is in or near the water.
- A leader must have a current Safe Swim Defense card, and BSA Safe Swim Defense must be in effect for any group using the waterfront or pool. Swimming is allowed only in designated areas. Campers must use the buddy system.
- Fishing is permitted in accordance with Georgia fish and game laws. Campers must use the buddy system when fishing. No fishing is allowed in swimming or boating areas. Camp Sidney Dew is a catch-and-release facility.
- A current Safety Afloat card must be held by a leader and presented before checking out canoes, kayaks, or rowboats. Life jackets must be worn at all times while in canoes or other boats.
- When groups are using boats, Safe Swim Defense & Safety Afloat requirements must be met. Canoes, boats, & related equipment may not leave camp property without written permission from the Camp Ranger or Campmaster.

Program Areas and Special Facilities

- COPE courses may only be used under on-site direct supervision of a Northwest Georgia Council COPE director or instructor certified for the events being used. Groups must make arrangements with the Camp Ranger for certified COPE staff before using the course.
- The dining hall kitchen may only be used under direct on-site supervision of a certified Northwest Georgia Council kitchen staff member with appropriate ServSafe certification.
- Program areas such as shooting sports, aquatics, COPE, and other specialized facilities may require approved council staff, certified directors, instructors, lifeguards, or additional supervision before use.

Property Care, Trash, and Damages

- The reservation holder is responsible for damages and may be charged actual repair or replacement costs plus a 10% handling fee.
- All units and groups are responsible for their garbage and trash. Trash must be collected and taken to the proper camp disposal site or to a local landfill. Follow Leave No Trace and pack in/pack out expectations.
- Do not modify, change, rearrange, or alter any property, facility, structure, or equipment without written approval. Any changes must be approved in writing by the chair of the Northwest Georgia Council Properties Committee before work begins. Contact the Camp Ranger for discussion.
- The Northwest Georgia Council Properties Committee may revise or extend these guidelines as needed at any time.





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Vehicle Use and Parking Policies

Purpose. The goal of the vehicle policy is to protect participants and camp facilities, reduce erosion, and limit vehicle traffic inside camp. Gates are placed at strategic points, and the Camp Ranger and Campmaster control gates at all times.

- Scouting America and Northwest Georgia Council do not allow any person to ride in the back of pickup trucks.
- Immediately after check-in with the Campmaster or Camp Ranger, vehicles must be moved to the parking area unless specific permission is given.
- Scouts are expected to unload and proceed to the campsite by foot trails.
- If a unit has heavy or large quantities of equipment, the Campmaster or Camp Ranger may allow up to two vehicles to drive to the campsite area to unload and then park in the designated location for that facility or campsite.
- Vehicles allowed into camp for unloading should not be moved again until group check-out. If a vehicle is driven in camp without permission, all camp driving privileges may be revoked.
- Handicapped and physically impaired persons will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- Emergency and rescue vehicles, camp service vehicles, and vehicles operated by designated maintenance staff and volunteers are the only vehicles allowed on camp facilities other than designated parking areas unless permission has been granted.
- Camp staff members must park in the designated staff parking area.
- Personal ATVs, quad-runners, UTVs, golf carts, motorized scooters, RVs, personal watercraft, and similar vehicles are not allowed in camp facilities without prior approval from the Camp Ranger or Campmaster and evidence of required certifications.
- Refusal to follow vehicle guidelines may result in loss of vehicle privileges or expulsion of the unit or group from camp.

Questions or Camp Issues

For questions, clarification, or issues involving Camp Sidney Dew facilities, reservations, safety, or camp use, contact the Northwest Georgia Council Service Center at 706-235-5545 or info@nwgabsa.org. Follow all emergency procedures and call 911 for emergencies.

