

Camp Cachalot Suspension FAQ

- **Why is summer camp being suspended at Camp Cachalot?**

Our main priority is always to provide the best possible program for the boys with the resources available. Two key factors have led to this decision. First, Camp Cachalot has run at a deficit every year since 2002 (a \$1.1 million cumulative deficit), a situation that creates a significant financial strain on all our programs. Second, while the Narragansett Council is seeing a four percent increase year-over-year in membership and Cub Scout membership is growing too, the past decade has seen an overall decline in the number of Boy Scouts in the Northeast (due to population decline and other factors). This, in turn, has led to a decline in attendance at Camp Cachalot, which was down by 10% this past summer. Taken together, these two factors make this action prudent.

- **Who is taking this action?**

The Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America has taken this action after an in-depth review by a task force of volunteers and staff. This group spent the last year reviewing all of our programs, properties, finances and membership trends to ensure we can continue to deliver the best possible Scouting program for everyone. This is similar to a decision the Council announced last Fall. In that case, we suspended overnight Cub Scout resident camping at Cub World in Pascoag, RI, and consolidated the program at Camp Norse in Kingston, MA. This initiative proved to be a success.

- **When will this go into effect?**

The suspension of summer overnight camping will go into effect during Summer 2018. However, Cachalot will continue to be open for weekend camping and special Scouting programs all year 'round, including camporees, Klondike Derbies, National Youth Leadership Training, Order of the Arrow programs, and more.

- **Is Camp Cachalot closing for good?**

Camp Cachalot is not closing for good. The suspension is for Summer 2018 and will be reassessed periodically. Meanwhile, Cachalot will remain open all year for weekend camping

and special Scouting programs like camporees, Klondike Derbies, National Youth Leadership Training, Order of the Arrow programs and more.

- **Are the Boy Scouts selling Camp Cachalot?**

No, there are no plans to sell or any of the Council's camps.

- **How big is Camp Cachalot?**

Camp Cachalot encompasses 880 acres. It surrounds Five Mile Pond and is adjacent to Myles Standish State Forest in South Carver, MA.

- **How many Scouts use Camp Cachalot during a week in the summer?**

Last summer, 404 Scouts camped at Camp Cachalot. This number reflects a 28% decrease since 2002, and a 10% decrease over the previous year.

- **Will Scouts still be able to use Camp Cachalot?**

Yes. Camp Cachalot will be open for weekend camping and special Scouting programs year 'round.

- **What options will Scout troops that use Camp Cachalot have for camp next summer?**

Scout troops that use Camp Cachalot are invited to attend Camp Yawgoog in Rockville, Rhode Island. A campsite has already been tentatively reserved for troops that previously camped at Camp Cachalot.

- **How easy is it for Troops to sign up at Camp Yawgoog?**

To sign up at Camp Yawgoog, Scoutmaster can confirm their troop's reservation there by November 30.

- **When will Cachalot be open for summer camp again?**

The Council will conduct a periodic review to decide when to renew the summer program at Camp Cachalot. In the meantime, weekend use and special programs will be continued and encouraged.