



March 17, 2022

Minsi Trails Council has determined to consolidate its camping facilities into Camp Minsi and sell its Trexler Scout Reservation property. The consolidation of Minsi Trails camping and the sale of its Trexler Scout Reservation property is necessitated by the Boy Scouts of America ("BSA") national chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization, which seeks to resolve and settle historical Scouting-related sexual abuse claims asserted against BSA and all local councils nationwide including Minsi Trails Council. Under the BSA Chapter 11 plan of reorganization (the "Plan"), an Abuse Victims Trust will be established and funded with at least \$2.7 billion consisting of financial contributions from BSA, all local councils, settling insurers who provided liability insurance coverage to BSA and/or local councils, and settling chartered organizations who sponsored Scouting units. Under BSA's Plan, the \$2.7 billion Abuse Victims Trust will provide compensation to holders of Scouting-related abuse claims.

In order to make Minsi Trails Council's required \$2.6 million contribution to the Abuse Victims Trust and continue its Scouting mission for Scouts in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding communities, Minsi Trails Council will consolidate its camping programs and sell certain of its properties. At a date to be determined in the future, Minsi Trails Council will sell its Service Center building property on Postal Road that houses council staff offices and its Scout Store.

It is expected that beginning 2024, all Minsi Trails Council camping activity will occur at Camp Minsi on Stillwater Lake in the Poconos. Through 2022 and 2023, Camp Minsi and Trexler Scout Reservation both will continue to operate. Over the past fifteen years camping has declined at both camp facilities, making camp operations very expensive. Given current utilization rates of both camps, Camp Minsi will be able to accommodate Minsi Trails Council campers, and this will significantly reduce overall operating expenses. Camp Minsi will continue to deliver a great camping experience for all Scouts.

The Scout Store and staff offices will be relocated. Timing of the relocation is not yet determined. The Scout Store and Minsi Trails offices will continue to operate at their Postal Road location until relocated.

The decision to consolidate camping and sell Trexler Scout Reservation was very difficult for the Executive Board of Minsi Trails Council. In order to make its \$2.6 million financial contribution required by the terms of BSA's Chapter 11 Plan and cover other debts and expenses, Minsi Trails Council will refinance its operations with a new \$4.5 million loan.

P.O. Box 20624  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0624

P 610-264-8551 F 610-465-4500  
[www.minsitrails.com](http://www.minsitrails.com)

**Prepared. For Life.™**



Minsi Trails Council's decision to consolidate camping and sell Trexler Scout Reservation was the result of many months of analysis and review of all options by Minsi Trails Council's leadership, senior staff and Executive Board, with numerous inputs including from volunteer Scouters.

Important outcomes will be achieved by Minsi Trails Council's decisions. First, a single camping property at Camp Minsi will deliver our core camping mission. Second, Scouting volunteers and Scouting families will continue to be serviced by a Minsi Trails Council Scout service center. Third, Minsi Trails Council will keep Scouting as affordable as possible for its Scouts and their families despite national trends of increasing fees and declining membership.

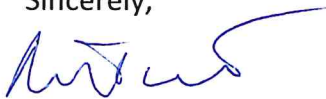
Locally, Scouting membership has declined from over 10,000 youth ten years ago to just barely 4,000 today. That trend is a significant reason for the decision to consolidate camping at Camp Minsi.

Camp Minsi has a beautiful four-hundred-acre lake and is easy to access from major highway corridors. Minsi Trails Council fundraising and personnel will be organized to focus on delivering a high-quality camp program at one camp instead of expending limited resources on three camps. Camp Minsi will be able to host Scouts BSA youth as well as overnight camping for Cub Scouts and families.

Consolidating Minsi Trails Council's camp properties has been the most difficult decision our council leadership has ever taken. This decision has been thoughtfully and thoroughly considered and discussed in order to advance the best interests of current Scouts and the hundreds of thousands of young men and women that Minsi Trails Council will serve in the decades to come. While Trexler Scout Reservation holds great memories and represents the best of experiences for many of us, we must look ahead and do what is best for Minsi Trails Council and its future Scouters.

We thank you for your continued support of Minsi Trails Council and Scouting throughout our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Christ', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Richard Christ  
Scout Executive & CEO