

September Safety Moment: Scouting Information Forms

With the new Scouting year upon us, and plans underway for many exciting adventures, it is important to make sure our records are up to date for all members. Contact information and addresses may have changed, and so could important medical information. One way to ensure this info is accurate, and to keep it easy to access for everyone who needs it is to create a spreadsheet with things like parent and emergency contacts, any important medical or allergy information, and anything else like pickup arrangements for each youth. A copy can be kept with the Section leadership team, so they have easy access to it, and at the beginning of each year they can double check with each family that everything is up to date and accurate.

Registered Scouts 2015-2016		Registered on-line as of Sept 17, 2015										
Last Name	First Name	Home Phone	Other Phone	Birthdate	Home Address	Postal Code	Parents	Parent Email	Alt. Pickup	Allergies	Other Medical	
										n y peanuts	asthma - Flovent	

Most sections are going to have at least one allergy or dietary restriction. Making sure that people with such restrictions can still enjoy safe Scouting adventures can require some juggling, but if everyone is involved it can not only be done, it can be a learning experience for the youth. As they are going through the Plan, Do, Review process for their menu, you can engage the youth in the safety part of planning by asking them to consider the allergies. The youth with the allergy can help the others to understand what they can and cannot eat, and help find options that will work for them. For more restrictive allergies like wheat or eggs, especially if they are severe, parents can be enlisted to find options. You may even want to invite them to help with the grocery shopping, as they will be familiar with the brands that their child can safely eat. Having everyone involved in this way is great because it not only allows the youth to lead, it ensures that everyone; youth, parents, and Scouters are aware of the allergies. This can help prevent accidents like someone bringing bonus snacks that weren't on the menu and triggering an allergic reaction.