

Dear Friend of Camp Freeland Leslie,

The Boy Scouts of America's bankruptcy filing and the necessity of a significant local council contribution to a victim's trust has led the Three Fires Council Board of Directors to make the difficult decision to close Camp Freeland Leslie in Oxford, Wisconsin after the conclusion of the 2021 summer camp season.

Three Fires Council has limited resources and with the need to make a significant contribution to a trust settlement, the Council is left with no other options than to part with CFL. A local real estate firm, which specializes in property sales of this nature, will be engaged to identify and secure a suitable buyer. If a buyer cannot be secured by the time our contribution is required, it is our intent to transfer the title of the property to the Trust. Additionally, the Council will need to contribute a significant amount, if not all, of its unrestricted reserve to this fund. This reserve has been built up over generations from investment income and will not include local Friends of Scouting gifts or permanently restricted endowment gifts from local donors.

This is an emotionally challenging time. The Three Fires Council Board and the BSA have two priorities in this matter:

1. Justly compensate victims of past abuse.
2. Ensure our ability to continue the mission of the BSA in our local communities.


Both of these objectives require this drastic action.

Like you, a significant number of our executive board members and staff have a personal connection to Camp Freeland Leslie, as Scouts, staffers and more. None of the executive board members took this decision lightly. We must, however, put emotions aside and do what is best for the future of Scouting in Three Fires Council and for our Scouts.

We anticipate multiple special events before the end of this summer's CFL camp season that will allow all Scouts, alumni and community members to properly celebrate their memories at camp. Camp Freeland Leslie has been an important and impactful piece in the history of the council and its Scouts. We want to ensure that it is properly remembered and honored.

We will hold virtual town hall meetings to answer questions and hear your feedback on this issue. These town halls will be held on Monday, March 22 and Wednesday, March 24 both at 6:30pm on Zoom. To RSVP, please use ThreeFiresCouncil.Org/CFL-Transition. We hope that you will join us for these evenings so that we may help everyone best understand the impacts of this decision.

Sincerely,



Daniel Zedan
Council President



Anna Tuohy
Council Commissioner



Clint Scharff
Scout Executive