



LANSING –The Michigan Crossroads Council, Boy Scouts of America as part of its efforts to increase and enhance programs and services has announced the closure of five underutilized camps in the state. On December 12, the Council Executive Board voted to stop operations at the following camps: Camp Greilick in Traverse City, Camp Kiwanis in Mason, Northwoods Scout Reservation in Lupton, Camp Tapico in Kalkaska, and Camp Teetonkah in Jackson no later than December, 2016.

This decision was part of the continuing evaluation of the council's camp properties requirements. It was based on a number of criteria including below average utilization; the inability to remain financially viable; and the availability of other camping facilities for the member populations we serve in those areas.

“Our Scouts and adult volunteers are our first priority and we want to make sure we are able to continue to provide them with the quality programs and services they have come to expect,” said Matt Thornton, Scout Executive (CEO) for the Michigan Crossroads Council. “The money we save by closing operations at these camps will be used to increase the volume and variety of programming and services for our youth and volunteers.”

The Michigan Crossroads Council continues to operate seven full service camps in Michigan – Cole, D-bar-A, Gerber, Munhacker, Rota-Kiwan, Rotary, and Silver Trails – all will remain open and fully operational.

Two of the camps to be closed are not owned by the Boy Scouts, but operated under a use arrangement. Camp Greilick is owned by the Rotary Club of Traverse City and Camp Kiwanis reverts to the Lansing Kiwanis Club if the Boy Scouts cease operating the property as a camp. The MCC owns the remaining three camp properties and is working diligently, giving special consideration to identify other individuals or organization that would take responsibilities for the camps, maintaining the properties for public and Scouting use, or returning it to a natural environment. Camp Agawam in Lake Orion Township is an example of a property that underwent significant changes in status in 2013, yet still offers camp opportunities to our membership.

"Each of the camp properties has undergone a series of evaluations during the past four years," Thornton said, "the decision was not an easy one to make."

“We take our fiduciary responsibilities very seriously and we have always and will continue to be good financial stewards of our resources and the generous support of our donors,” Thornton said. “We would not be doing our job if we allowed these camps to continue to operate at a loss.”

*The Michigan Crossroads Council serves more than 68,000 youth and 23,000 adult volunteers throughout Michigan. To learn more about Scouting in Michigan or to register or volunteer, visit the MCC website at [www.michiganscouting.org](http://www.michiganscouting.org).*

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