

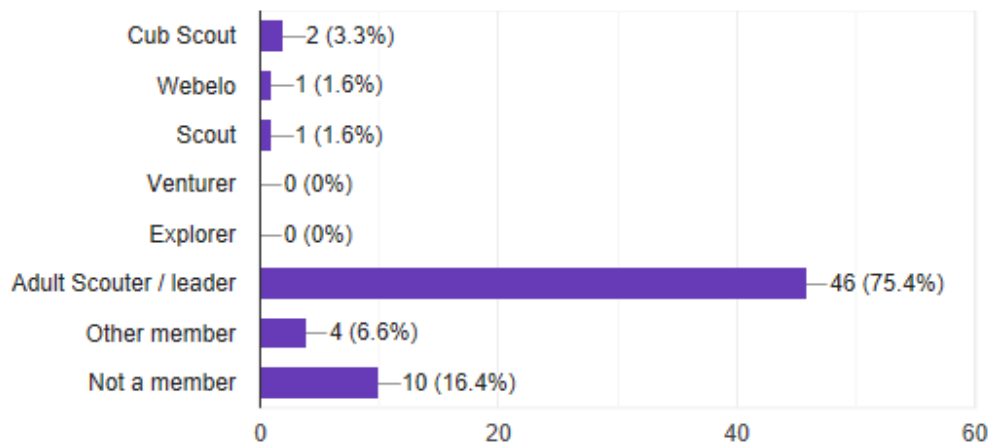
Michigan Crossroads Council Participation

93 responses

Section 1 - Current BSA Members Only

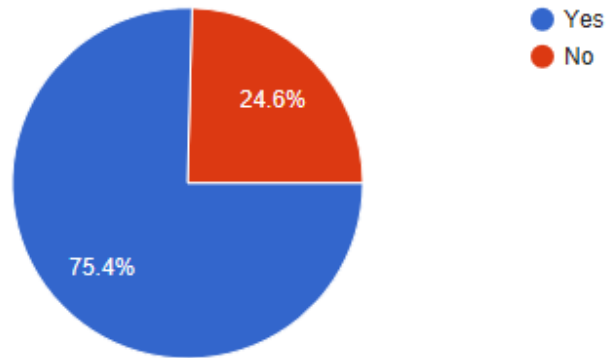
Are you a Cub, Webelo, Scout, Venturer, Explorer, adult Scouter, or other Scouting member?

61 responses



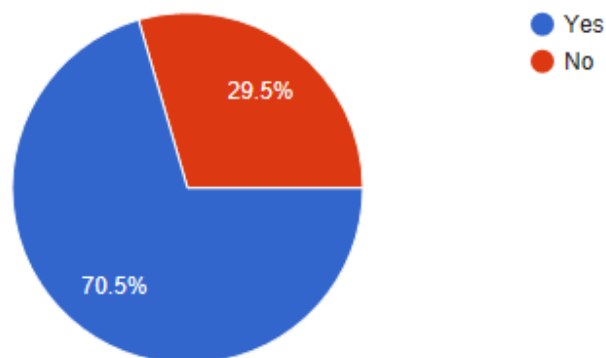
Are you currently registered in the Michigan Crossroads Council?

61 responses



Are you currently registered in the Water and Woods Field Service Council?

61 responses



If you answered "No" to the previous two questions, which council and field service council are you registered in?

Previously registered in BWC. Have not been registered for last few years due to living out of State.

Not currently registered

Prior member of Blue Water Council, BSA.

None. Formerly affiliated with BWC.

Not applicable

GLFSC

Southern Shores

Great Lakes field service council

Great Lakes Field Service Council and Soon Water and Woods

Great Lakes

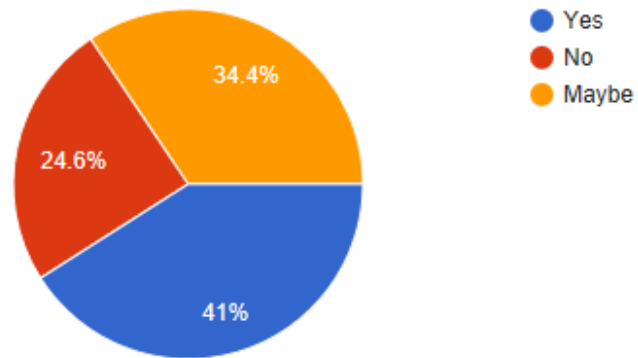
Bluewater

Pine Burr Council

Den leader

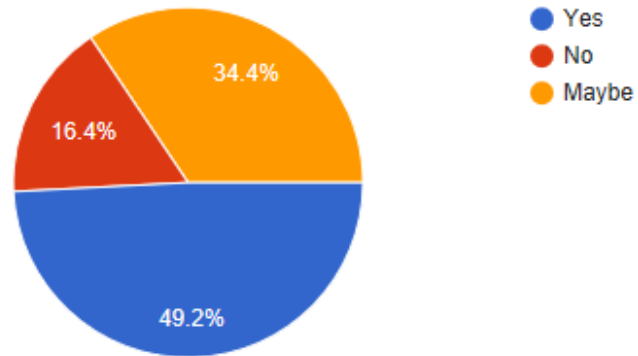
Will you register in the Michigan Crossroads Council in 2020?

61 responses



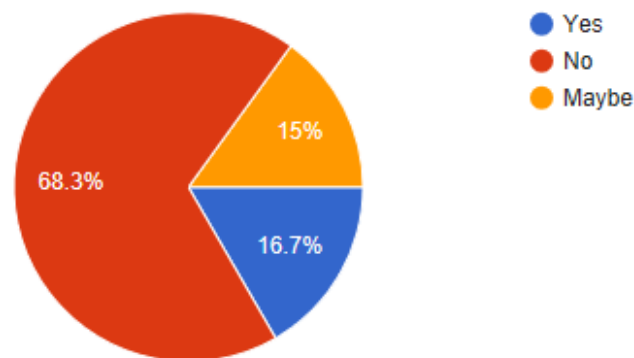
Will you register with the Boy Scouts of America in 2020?

61 responses



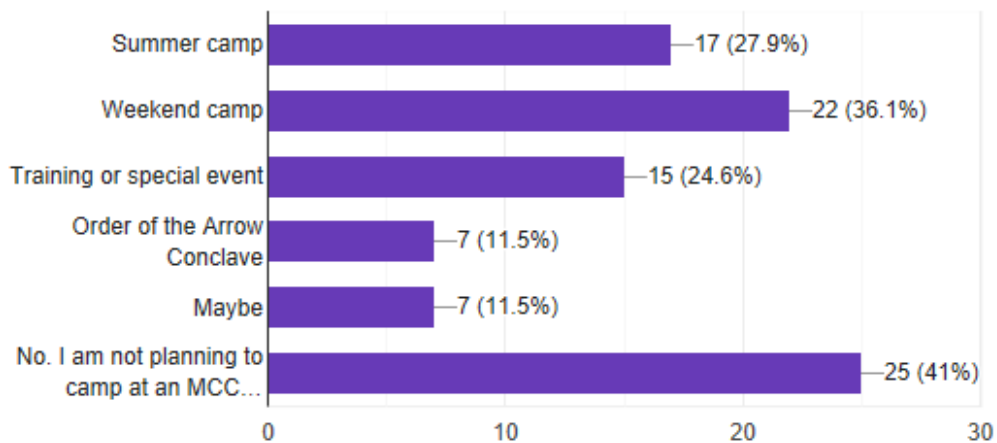
Are you considering membership in another scout-type organization such as Trail Life USA, Campfire, Girl Scouts, or similar?

60 responses



Are you planning to camp at a Michigan Crossroads Council camp in 2020 and if so, what type of camping will you do?

61 responses



If you answered "No" or "Maybe" to the previous question, where will you camp? Please explain why.

State Parks, MCC has made the cost of camping on their properties too high, and the money spent is NOT going where it needs to be spent.

Maybe the camp just north of Silver Trails, since it will be closed to scouts

Na

Pl graham croswell

Scout camps are to far away for most of us to travel so we will find other places to weekend camp.

Work conflict

I will contact the owner of Double K Bass Ranch or use the camp in Croswell.

out of council

National, State, or Local parks. There is a greater chance that land will not be sold to make a quick dollar.

I'll camp at state camp grounds. Someplace where I can create memories with my family and not have to worry about those memories being destroyed years later.

PL Graham in Criswell will be our local unit go to camp after STSR closes

Silver trails

Off MCC properties. I will not financially support the council

Private camping

I currently don't live in Michigan any more.

No longer involved at this level.

G

Not applicable

I will camp with my pack if I stay in scouts but at the moment I don't want to be a part of a group that treats its members the way you have with the sale of silver trails. All of the board members need to be fired and replaced and should be prosecuted.

I did not answer "No" or "Maybe"

MCC there are better options

Will be camping in State of Mi. public camping areas.

My unit is boy lead, I go where they say

Not sure what I will do at this time

I am a volunteer.

We typically camp at the location of our charter (Free), go to campgrounds, historic sites (free) and MCC camps. I am encouraging the troop to stay in state for MCC camps for 2 years then rotate out of state if they wish.

Because I don't see that camping in MCC locations helps them from being cut by council. And bottom line I do not trust the leaders of MCC

no local camp

any available we need at the time

It depends on the location.

I will camp off of all BSA properties. No financial support from me

I choose to not accompany my troop on their campouts for personal reasons.

I am unsure of what my scouting future will be.

MCC will be a last resort choice for our venturing crew. I am still registered in a Troop, but not active.

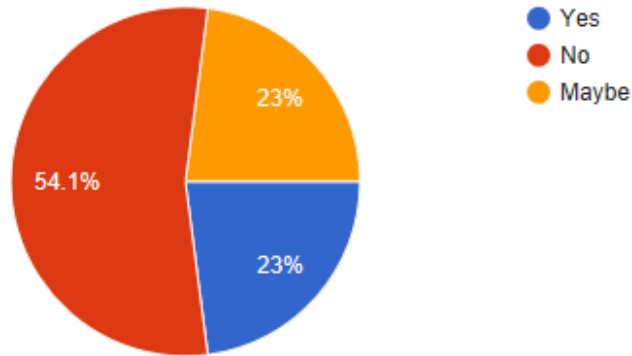
Troop and Venture Crew will also go out of state to other BSA camps

My son is only a year or so away from earning Eagle. He will likely attend Trail to Eagle next summer. As for summer camp I'd like to explore another area.

I am charter rep, son is aged out, no reason for me to go

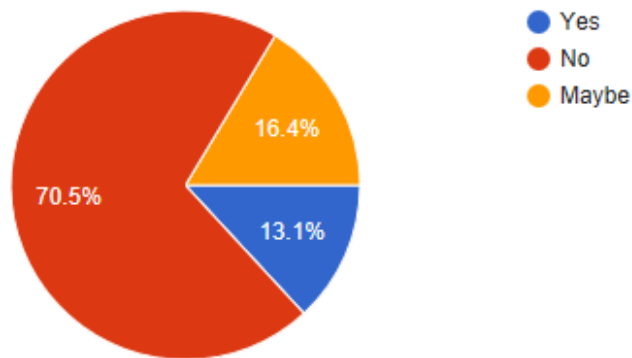
Will you buy any BSA fundraising products in 2020?

61 responses



Will you contribute to Friends of Scouting in 2020?

61 responses



If you answered "No" or "Maybe" to the previous two questions, please explain why.

BSA fundraising product proceeds are not going where the money should. I will rather donate money DIRECTLY to the Units I wish to support.

because MCC chose to close Silver Trails

Concern it isn't going to go where it should since they're closing the camp

Disappointed and disgusted by the sale of Silver Trails and the lack of care for our scout program, our youth and conservation shown by the MCC

Friends of scouting

I feel further supporting Scouting under current leadership in Michigan unworkable. The leadership values and decisions from the Michigan Crossroads Council goes against core principals of Scouting. Having been involved in Cub Scouts, Sea Scouts, Venture Scouts, and Boy Scouts I have seen a slow decay in these areas since the changes in 2012. I have held many classes, taught many scouts, gone on several trips over the years at Silver Trails and its sale is a horrible idea.

MCC is not interested in supporting Scouting in rural or urban areas. For this reason my donation to FOS will go directly to my Pack. We can offset the income from Popcorn by having other fundraisers. I have lined up people in my area to pay for kids to join Cub Scouts.

do to other information i am aware of i and my family will not give any more money to MCC willingly

They cannot be trusted with the handling of finances. Selling Silver Trails is a mistake. Scouting has always been about providing local youth with opportunities not funding executives.

As of right now I am not sure I want to continue supporting the Boy Scouts of America. I dont not believe they truly have the best interests of the boys at heart anymore.

I'm not funding a council that operates like MCC

Not giving a cent to the corrupt MCC

I refuse to support the MCC.

As a former Scouter I do not support he recent changes in BSA especially Michigan

Depends on outcome of this matter.

I guess it depends on how the Silver Trails mess is handled.

As stated before I don't want to help a organization to line the pockets of higher ups. The board needs terminated.

I work for the County and a significant amount of my pay already goes towards Scouting

The money goes outside of my community. The MCC stole our council and endowment they can't have anymore of my money.

because of the continued sale of irreplaceable Boy Scout Camps!

I will contribute directly to units

They don't seem to care about local scouting. If we dont have a camp like stsr why would i support it?

Have been told for years that my FOS donations would stay right here and help scouting here. I don't see that happening when MCC gives up our home camp. Again, I no longer trust those that are asking for help.

They do not support us any longer, I'm not paying their wages any longer

they don't need any more money from us

Don't Trust anyone in BSA leadership

Bsa needs major employee cuts to reduce operating expenses. to less than 10 percent of income

I don't like volunteering my time and money so others can have high paying jobs! I will contribute to the charity of choice in a more direct manner.

They are not working for our kids, why continue to support them

I dont trust the leadership of MCC nor do i think they have the best interest of our scouts or environment in mind when making decisions like selling silver trails to a gravel mining company.

I will buy product to support a scout. MCC will get as little money from me as possible

I do not agree with FOS. It is not clearly defined where the funds go to. I will donate directly to a unit or to a property through the Stewards Fund.

I'm not satisfied with the way the council handles any of our funds and I have lost trust in the council. To get council approval for extra fundraisers the application asks if your troop sold popcorn. I fear they will deny extra fundraising you don't participate.

I would rather contribute directly to my troop.

I think fos is just a means to pay professionals when they should be raising their own salary

Dishonesty of Scouting at the council level

MCC will have taken \$3.3 million out of our community without any return, Rape comes to mind!

I have contributed enough to earn a council strip every year for about 10 years. I am beginning to feel disillusioned with Scouts and what appears as a "Do as we say, not as we do" attitude. Much of what is happening in Scouting in this area is not following the Scout Oath or Law.

Council doesn't spend my money right, should be for the kids; not BSA higherups pockets

I am not sure if the money I'd donate would go directly to scouting programs

I won't support council but I will support youth directly when asked

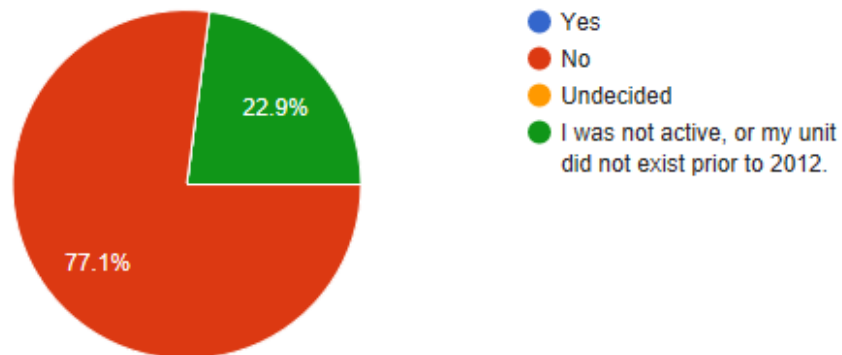
Too many mismanaged funds. I'd rather donate money directly to the units

Unclear on where funding is going. Want an honest experience to share with my boys

My money is better spent supporting my troop directly.

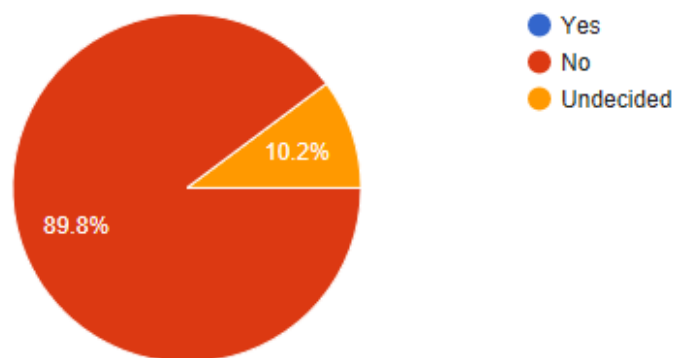
Do you believe that your unit receives better service from the Michigan Crossroads Council now as compared to before the 2012 consolidation?

48 responses



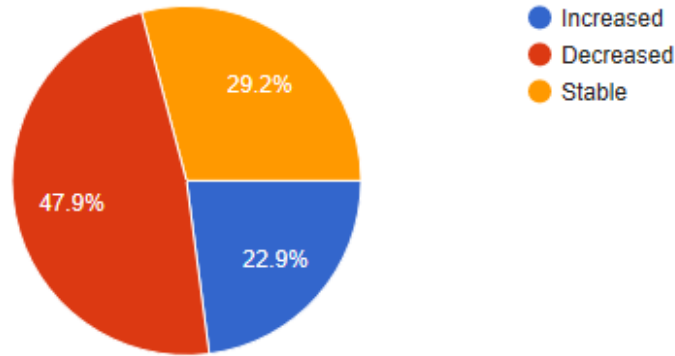
Have you noticed any improvement in unit service from the Michigan Crossroads Council in recent years?

49 responses



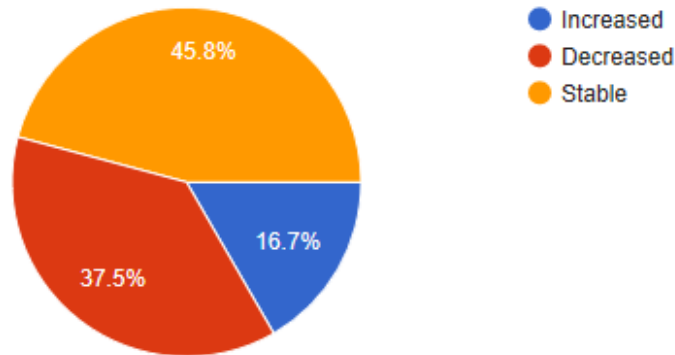
Has membership in your unit increased, decreased, or remained stable in recent years?

48 responses



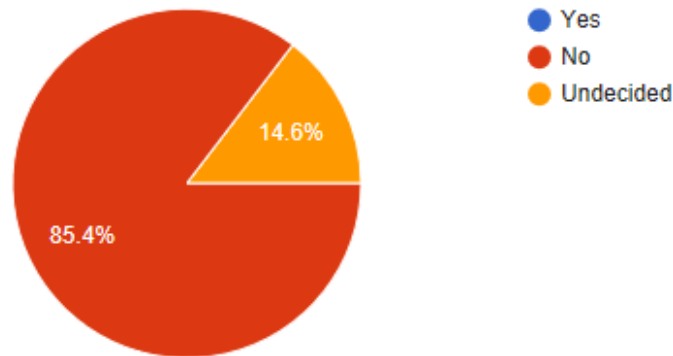
Has participation in your unit camping and other activities increased, decreased, or remained stable in recent years?

48 responses



Have you experienced program improvements in your unit that you believe are due to the Michigan Crossroads Council?

48 responses



Please describe any changes in unit service, membership, participation, or program that you believe are due to the Michigan Crossroads Council.

Membership has declined significantly.

Insufficient information to speculate.

Not applicable

I will possibly leave my unit because of how this board is and I will not stay unless a new board is brought in.

Notta

in 2015 my district had 4 DE/USE's AND their own Field Director, now we have 2 DE's and share our Field Director with the entire western side of the FSC, and she spends more time in Auburn than Lansing despite the fact that she was hired to just cover Chief Okemos District

None. Any improvements in my previous Troop (446) were driven by me. With my new girls unit, the MCC/National offered some FB advertising but it was ineffective. I know that as a Search Engine Marketing Professional. Any growth in my new nit again is being driven by me and supported by my committee!

they have been coming to our troop for help and not much to help us, any program recognition goes to all our volunteers.

There is no events that are local for our scouts to attend

The tangled web of who is in charge is difficult to maneuver. Too much turn-over in leadership at the local level.

Programs like Council Cub Events are not advertised as they used to. Information is only presented at Roundtables that majority of units do not attend. And those that do attend do not pass on the information. If the Unit leader does not want to attend they do not pass on the info. I have also seen that DE's do not send out info of all events directly to the key 3 or other attendees of roundtable. Council events should be sent out to all registered members.

The cost for the summer camp programs continue to rise and the return is pretty lousy for me he scouts. None!

Increased membership due to MCC supporting girls entering Scouts.

Inclusion of girls has hurt our pack none

Not as much events nearby, losing the kids interest.

There is less unit support than there was before the merger and much less programming available locally

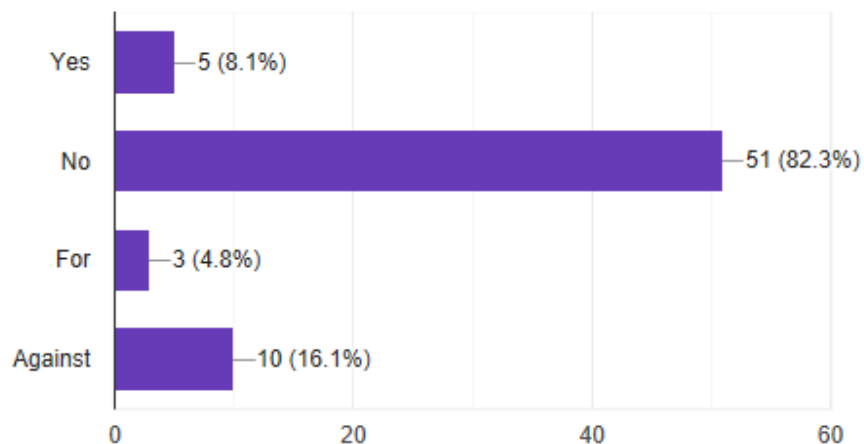
Our membership has increased due to the efforts of adult volunteers

We have increased by at least 150 percent and see no improvements. It's a shame

Price increases across the board, less personal service, difficult to get questions answered and lack of follow through.

Did you vote in the 2012 consolidation that created the Michigan Crossroads Council and how did you vote?

62 responses



Did you otherwise participate in the 2012 consolidation process that created the Michigan Crossroads Council and if so, how?

No

I only attended 3 of the O/A consolidation meetings, not those for the entire Council.

I did not participate as I was not so involved back then, but wish I had been more aware of how badly things developed.

I was against it and spoke of my opinion. I was never informed about any ability to vote.

While we, my family, opposed it we were never involved in the voting.

no i was not back involved with scouting yet

I was the Chickagami Lodge Chief serving the 2012 Blue Water Council. I helped form Agaming Maangogwan 804 along with 3 other lodge chiefs. I felt that was the wrong decision at the time but it was practically forced upon us as the BWC already voted to consolidate

Was cast out by Paul Schwartz for giving the youth a voice as a former Lodge Chief and section Chief.

As a Committee Member in our local troop I had no way to participate in the consolidation.

I was a board member but do not recall voting (most likely abstained). It was that series of events that caused my disenchantment, leading me to reluctantly resign from the board.

No, I did not participate.

No I didnt

No, I wasn't aware of a vote at the time

I was on the Area II committee, Property committee and camping committee. I know the truth

I was a committee chair who recommended to our charter organization to vote NO on the merger.

For the above answer I don't know that I DID vote. I was mostly a new scouter, (since late 2010) and that was when I was first becoming active IN the council. I wish there was a N/A option for the previous question. And for the next question I'm not sure what to say. Again there is not a great answer.

Was not given the opportunity to participate in this vote

I was a member of Silver Trails Property committee since 1979.

Did not participate

No, was not in scouting at that time.

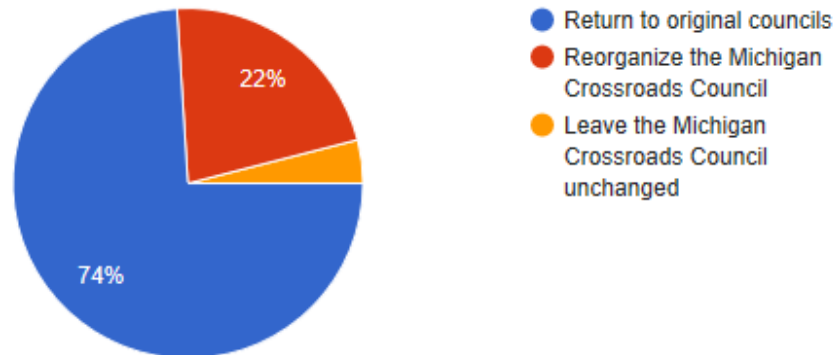
no, we were told that it was the best thing since sliced bread, if we did not get in, we would lose out on all the great benefits, they said Silver Trails was safe and not going to be sold off. \$3.3 million evaporated from the Former BWC and will never be seen again. Good Luck, getting people that know what happened to help or contribute money in the future. This was PURE SOCIALISM, take from the rich and redistribute to the poor. Look where it got us! CEO's making \$250k, double the staff, wanting us to sell popcorn year round. Now it all makes sense, it is all about the money!

I was involved in much of the discussion and informational meetings on this topic at my unit level. At the time, I was part of Blue Water Council, which is now Water and Woods. We were against the merger.

No

Regardless of whether you participated in the 2012 consolidation, if you could vote now on returning to the original councils or on a reorganization of the Michigan Crossroads Council, how would you vote?

50 responses



What is your opinion on the sale of Silver Trails Scout Reservation to a gravel company?

I believe that the sale is an under the table type sale. And I don't think it should be allowed to continue
Absolutely should not make this sale

I think the sale of Silver Trails to a gravel company is negligent. As an Eagle Scout I was always taught about conservation of land and financial responsibility and I see none of that happening here. What I see is executives making 6 figures and then complaining about how they don't have any money to run camps so they just shut them all down. I used to work at Silver Trails as a volunteer quite often and it seemed to be a successful camp in my opinion not because it had a full summer camp however, because it was flexible and local enough that troops could come when they wanted and pretty much do whatever kind of program they wanted without breaking the bank per se. It always would be able to pay for itself and it's definitely not coincidence that all the sudden after the merger that it "wasn't making money". I think Scout being able to recreate in their local area is the core of scouting as it was my main foundation of scouting when I was a Cub Scout and through when I was a Boy Scout. Why should troops have to travel across the state or even for a couple hours just so they have a place of their own to camp. Silver Trails was not far from many of the BWC Troops. The final point I want to make has to do with ecological factors. As Scout we are taught to respect nature and be good stewards of our enviroment, and turning not only a scout camp but a one of a kind ecosystem for the area into a gravel pit is not only irresponsible but also grossly negligent. People can talk about reclamation all they want but MMM has promised BSA and former BWC a lake/ waterfront since was at least in the webelos almost 10 years ago. Where has that gone? How does it show any credibility that MMM will do what they say they will do to restore the land

back to "what is was before" I've personally been to the gravel pit it is completely night and day the difference between the original landscape and the gravel pit and think it is a terrible mistake. Not only will you deprive local Scout of valuable outdoor programming and experiences but you will also act as terrible stewards of the environment we as humans are supposed to take care of.

Heartbreaking

It's disgusting and dishonest.

It's crap.

The gravel company didn't "come to you with an offer" that you liked you went to them and said "hey we are thinking of selling silver trails so you come to us with an offer so we don't look like we are in on it" you have lied since the start. You will be getting kick backs from the company and lining you pockets and could care less about the scouts. The board is in it for the money. The board can go or needs to be prosecuted and fired. If I could I would take the board to court my self.

It's a damned shame

They should be investigated for "collusion". If the property needs to be sold. it should have gone to open market or auctioned.

Absurd!!

Crying shame... there's something fishy about it as well since it was never competitively bid nor was it offered to the public before the sale was finalized.

A valuable asset to local scouting that is not replaceable. I saw high usage of this camp by local and out of area troops. Heavily support by the local community. I realize that STSR has not provided summer camp for many years, but it still was used for other events. When the Blue Water Council existed. There were more Council events held there with a larger usage rate.

I am opposed to it.

Very shady

I think it was a backdoor deal that was hidden from Blue Water area scouters, because they new it would create an uprising. There are a number of aspects surrounding the sale that are very suspicious. Scouts are supposed to live their lives based on a number of rules, one of which is the Outdoor Code. I don't see Mid Michigan Materials living up to the Outdoor Code. But more importantly think about what we are taking away from our youth.

It was a poorly made decision

all wrong. the only gain is to the gravel co.

It is so sad to see this Great camping terrain to be ruin for future generations . It has been a great place to teach the Scouting laws and oath to make this world a great place to live . To help build good adult s to continuing the Scouting spirit thru the programs there. At the age of 8 years old I started my scouting experience there and at 63 , I still run into a lot person s that thought Silver trails is the Best place on Earth , it compares with Philmont on teaching the conversation efforts to save for the next Generation.

Should not happen

It should NOT be sold to them.

It should not be allowed. Perhaps we can seek a court injunction to halt the sale.

It is a travesty that such a beautiful partial of land, in this day of protecting the environment, be turned into a monetary adventure for the gain of a few. And for the MCC to do this under the radar was a disgrace to the scouting organization.

Worst decision ever

Again i do not believe consideration for the environment, local residents, local groups or any local scout groups and how this would affect them was considered at all. I think this is a terrible decision that will damage BSA scouting in the Blue Water area for years to come and the youth will be the ones who suffer for it. Why did they not at least seek other avenues for sale so its land use could at least be parralel with conservation and recreational instwad of digging a hole.

Injustice to the local scouts. If the property was given to our community, we should have a say in its fate. No opportunity was offered for us to come up with a solution to preserve this as a vital part of so many local clubs.

Sucks

Bullshit. Instead of closing most of the camps in Michigan, reduce the outrageous salaries of execs. MCC is not getting a fraction of what Silver Trails is worth.

I do not agree with the sale or how it was handled. There is still a Contract in place that MMM has yet to fulfill and they are buying out the contract with the property. The unfulfilled portion (create a BSA standard lake and create a trail system, driving paths) in the talk from Don Sheppard was valued at over half a million. Moving camp (MCC obligation) was over half a million. So MMM should still be on the hook for at least \$500k of the unfulfilled contract.

Terrible! People in this area are not well off and it was close proximity so they could still afford to camp or participate at it. Now the closest camp will be an hour away and many scouts won't be able to use it due to costs or other reasons parents can't make the journey.

I think that the MCC is making a big mistake by closing so many camps as it limits the camping opportunity available to Scouts. The troop that I am involved with camps just as much as they did before but in recent years has started to non MCC camps because the Scouts get tired of camping at the same places all the time. As for the sale of Silver Trails I think that they should have explored all options for a sale and they should have been upfront and honest with what their intent was when it came to closing and selling the camp. The troop am involved with camps at Silver Trails many times a year and prefers it to D-BAR-A.

I pray it falls through. It's horrible and back handed the way it was done.

My opinion... This was a terrible idea. I'm a Scouter in a very large area involved in several Units, where the families have zero transportation and either have to walk, car pool or take public transportation. STSR was the closest option for these families who DO ALREADY attended regularly throughout the year to go camping. STSR offered these families the outdoor experiences that living in the "city" as a Scout cannot give you! EPIC FAIL to those who made the choice to sell & so much for not leaving any Scout behind.

Just my opinion, but it seems to have been done quickly, and without a lot of thought behind it. I understand getting 1.8, but why jump at the first offer, without looking further, especially when the gravel company definitely won't adhere to the BSA's "Leave no trace".

It's all about money, and MCC doesn't care about the impact it will have on the Scouts OR the environment.

It's an monstrosity to sell the machine that produces your part. Let alone that it seems to be an inside deal and want to know who is really profiting from it because blue water scouting won't see it

Abomination

If camp really needed to be sold, should have been put on the market, possibly turned into a county park or saved for future use.

I think it is a bad idea and the camp should remain open to serve local scout units

This is the topic that has led to my disillusionment with Scouting in general. This sale, and the way it was handled has the appearance of being against the Scout Law in just about every point. Additionally, the way the MCC leadership behaved during their "informational" meetings on this topic was as anti-scout as possible.

It is a poor decision as it was donated to BSA. It should not be done for profit or gain, but remain as intended.

Strongly oppose.

I think it's a shady deal.

It SUCKS! Opened my eyes to the backhanded ways of the MCC

It is a shame that today's scouts won't have the opportunity to enjoy the camp the way my boys and I did.

It's a total disgrace and disappointment. Does not represent what we stand for

I hate it. No place else to take the boys besides non bsa campgrounds locally. Now we no longer have a place to participate in archery, shooting etc...

It appears to have been a backroom deal with no transparency.

What is your opinion on the sale of other Michigan Scout camps?

I think that the sales are money grabs to pay for the MCC executives and employees. Boy Scouting is supposed to be a volunteer organization. And prior to MCC taking over the Blue Water Council didn't have money problems. The loss in revenue came after the MCC takeover.

Scout camps are a vital. Part of scouting and should not be sold

Insufficient knowledge to say.

I feel this is lending momentum to the movement away from the scouting program.

I understand it has to happen but you followed a procedure will all of those camps but this one you lied and went behind our backs and made a deal that will not protect the land and leave it better than the way it was. That land is worth so much more than what you are "selling it" for. I wish the county would step it and screw you over on your sale. I do not wish to be a part of a organization that does what it feels will help there pocket.

Keep the camps, lose executives

We cannot afford all the camps this is a true statement. Silver Trails needs to be kept. The camp supported its own.

Absurd!!

Where does the money go from the camps? It surely doesn't go back into the camps....

Dont like it.

Some of the camps were further north and had low usage. I realize today that Scouting numbers are down and that there are to many camps for the amount of Scouts to use them. Some camps were to far away for easy use for weekend camp outs. Silver Trails was ideal for us for weekends.

While I understand financial burdens, I do not understand selling properties. perhaps make them have programs scouts want to attend and can afford to attend! There has to be a better answer besides selling.

We were never informed about sales

To me this has become a disturbing trend, of what MCC is doing to scouting in Michigan. I know that we are not alone in feeling targeted by MCC. Something needs to be done to stop this

I understand the sale of some of them , but at least they went out on the open market

they can never replace them and scouting will suffer in many areas. it does not improve or help scouting at all.

What a shame to lose land that will never be able to be replaced for Scouting

Short sighted

They need to offer them to local townships to see if they can be kept for camp usage.

Never should have happened. Selling assets to offset operating costs would get management fired in a real world corp.

Scouts and all involved should be made aware of MCC's pending sales and be given the opportunity to direct a amenable outcome for all involved.

Awful. Support camps support our kids

Do not have enough information on them to form an opinion other than to my understanding that others were sold to local government bodies or land conservetories that would protect the usage unlike Silver Trails. Would like to know why Silver Trails was not given the same consideration.

I am sure each area is dealing with the same heartbreak our community is.

Stupid. Remaining camp are to crowded

Covering exec's asses

They are taking low offers to make a quick buck.

I feel that the system they currently have is not working. There are camps that are bleeding money. Selling camps is only a temporary fix that will get them through a year or two then they will be back to where they are now.

It depends on the situation. I can't speak on this due to not knowing the story for each one.

As much as I loved Camp Holaka because I camped there when I was a Scout the sale of that camp made sense to me due to the fact that it was so close to D-Bar-A. The sale of Camp Topico didn't make any sense to me at all as there wasn't really another camp in that area. As for the other camps I had never been to them so I don't know them first hand but I don't think they all should have been closed. I fully believe that if the MCC did a better job at marketing their camps many of the closed camp could have been profitable or broke even. In my opinion it seems like there was an agenda for closing camps but then I don't know all of the details that were considered. If they would have been open and transparent about the whole process then maybe it would have made more sense. I do think that 16 camps was a lot and that some of them would have had to close but I think they are going way to far now.

Depending on if they give the area a chance to raise money and keep as a scout camp.

It is my opinion that any time you sell it is a bad idea, especially when a majority of these camps are volunteer led. Anything to make a buck though, no matter the child or family that suffers negatively.

I can only speak of the ones I know of but at least Chicigame (not sure if that spelled right) in Crosswell, and camp Agawam are still operating as camps and the natural beauty of the area is preserved, and still available to scouts.

They are selling the camps to cover debts and it's like playing checkers instead of playing chess. It won't solve the problem of an imbalanced budget. They need to trim the fat and cut some salaries and unnecessary personnel.

Dont sell the machine that produces your part

Decline of scouting

Too bad that these properties are being liquidated, Once it is gone, it is gone, They dont make land anymore. Good luck getting someone to donate or sell their land for \$1 dollar when the BSA turns around and sell off donated land for a profit to balance their books.

They have decreased the amount of options that troops have to camp at

As Scouts we all understand the consolidation of camps, and of having to save money. I am not versed on the finances of the other camps closed, nor on their overall usage or the area that they support and what the alternatives are. I do know that Silver Trails was consistently used by packs and troops, was self supporting, and is the closest camp for MANY packs and troops. I also know that Silver Trails was gifted to the Boy Scouts of America, not purchased by the Boy Scouts. This seems like the height of dishonesty, and disloyalty to the area, to those who gifted the land, and to the Scouts and Scouters who love this land with all of their heart.

Negative.

Some oppose, some agree. A few "money pit" camps should close to save money; not all of them.

Without looking at individual financials it's hard to comment. It don't think it's right to take getin a positive camp to feed to a negative one.

They sold my legacy council camps when they first merged (Tapico & Holaka) our area wasn't happy but we adapted and made the most of it by doing our own camps and traveling to other MCC camps...

Scout camps should stay for scouts

Same as above

I don't want it to happen

It is a depletion of assets and community trust.

Please share any other comments.

I feel that the manner in which this transaction has been conducted is a betrayal of past, present and future scouts, as well as loyal supporters from Michigan's thumb and beyond. It also appears, from what I've heard from the MCC representatives and others, that the transaction was not entered into consistent with standard fiduciary protocol or transparency.

Has an eagle scout who came up in silver trails. I will not participate in any BSA activities or fundraisers in the future

Best wishes on the efforts.

From the time I got on the MCC Area II committies the goal was to sell Silver Trails I have emails and documents to prove this. MCC was a money grab. I was on the board and I know the truth.

IF Silver Trails is "losing money" then give it back to Blue Water Council or Local Organization to run!

MCC is an abject failure. The only thing they do that the FSC's don't duplicate is the camps, and they have proven over the course of the last number of years that they can't do that either, so why are we paying for an added level of burocracy that does ABSOLUTELY NOTHING for the scouts?

Scouting needs to promote itself more. The numbers of Scouts and the numbers of units are decreasing.

I also realize that going back to being the Blue Water Council cannot be done. The merger caused the loss of many volunteers and Boy Scouts no longer has the support it had when it was our local council. The next question is a terrible question. All the answers are negative. I help out today as a staff member at camps and help with local fund raising. I will continue to do so.

our troop will make any decisions as to what we do, we do scouting. these camps grow scouting and cant be replaced. many will not survive this or ever get the chance to even start.

The sad part , is that when the Blue Water Council vote for this take over of our council . I said , Silver trails would be gone in five years . Well it made two more years it looks like. Their was a Two County family that believed that Silver Trails was the best place to teach the Scouting Spirit . And they gave an Thousands of hours to keep it . but once control was giving to outsiders , they felt it was goner because they had one say in its up keep.

MCC's leadership should resign their positions as they no longer represent the scouts of Michigan.

Silver Trails full-time volunteers (about 6 volunteers in the past 5 years) has worked hard to turn things around financially and make improvements to property and program, but the lack of volunteers to help with daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, and annual maintenance and lack of volunteers to run program or volunteer to staff programs has made it difficult for the few volunteers and one caretaker to continue without the support from the people who would rather whine than raise their hand a volunteer even when asked. Alot of you whinned and gripped and you can thank the previous Blue Water Council for sucking the endowment dry and not putting any of the funds received from the gravel company back into the maintenance and upkeep of camp facilities for years and years..... Quit blaming the MCC..... the merger was a blessing to keeping STSR open longer than it should have been and increased the attendance numbers. I love STSR and given up the past 9 years of my life in helping keep it open as long as possible...CAN YOU SAY THE SAME???? NO YOU CANT! I know who was there day to day, weekend to weekend, week to week, month to month, and year to year... IT WASN'T ANY OF YOU unless your last name is Deeg, Langlois, Cudney, Kaboni, Bradley, or Keech and our Rangemasters who volunteered on weekends year-round! You showing up for maybe an event here or an event there or camping with your unit a weekend here or weekend there or volunteering for one or two out the multiple events.... DOESN'T CUT IT! For those saying this was a shady back door deal..... get over it... it wasn't..... Gravel company went to the MCC.....

Silver Trails does not have resident camp but they see the second highest number of scouts year round , with D Bar A being first. STSR had also became the Training center for NYLT and Woodbadge. During most of the summer week long training, church groups, LDS groups, police explores and more take advantage of STSR when D Bar A and other camps are open for resident camp only. Closing STSR will

force all these paid revenue groups to probably move to other places and organizations instead of the BSA. Closing Camp is probably going to happen. I will continue to volunteer and look into how to provide more programming to scouts in the Blue Water area. I believe in this organization and what it provides to the Scouts. It teaches Leadership, Team Work and Life Skills that is lacking in many millennial's today. Everyone is very emotional over this decision but everyone needs to understand that these future Leaders are watching you. I am at STSR weekly trying to provide programming till the very end and ensure those that attend events and weekend camping continue to get the best experience and life long memories. Accomplishing this is getting hard. I hear "Why go if its closing?" STSR is still here, this place is for scouts. This Fall is the last time they may be able to participate in an event here. Make the most of it. I am also hearing a lot of bad comments from scouts. Please, Please do not share your views in front of them. This is still a great organization with a great program. I have heard many comments about the property and the state of it and buildings. All scout properties have either a Ranger that works 40 hours or caretaker that works 20. This amount of time only covers routine maintenance and grass cutting / snow plowing. ALL camps rely on volunteers. For the past 2 years there have only been 2 volunteers there during the week to help with everyday maintenance and cleaning. Spring/ Fall Clean up and Fix it have very small amounts of volunteers that attend. Even the event staff that comes for Cub Events have been getting lower to the point of not being able to run all anticipated stations. At the information meeting there were close to 150 attendees and someone asked Don Sheppard if he had ever been to STSR before that day. Looking around only a fraction of those 150 have been to STSR as a volunteer in the last 2 years. I would like to see many of those that are emotional to not only talk about their outrage but do something about it. Call camp and ask what they can do to help. Donate time, money and/or goods to make the last couple of events that we have at camp OUTSTANDING. Show your solidarity by doing.

I also don't like that over half of all the money goes to pay salaries.

I feel as years pass, the image Scouts once had slips more and more away. I love that we have become Family Scouting & male and females are welcome but when you go and sell a child and or families "home" camp when they can barely afford Scouts as it is because they are considered "poverty" you are failing to uphold what Scouts represent!

Scouting in this area will suffer for a long time. This is not a rich area, many scout families do not have a lot of money to spend. Scouting is expensive for them. Rising costs will prevent them from participating! When the scarcity of camps for area scouts was posed to MCC leadership during the informational meeting, they responded with such little regard for Scouts, suggesting that Scouts should just use State Parks if need be..... I was thoroughly appalled. This is the exact moment when my "rose colored glasses" gave way, and my disillusionment with the current Boy Scouts of America began. They seem to hold no regard for my Scout, besides the money that can be extracted from them.

This council hasnt done anything for any troops i know of. Blue Water council had everything much more together.

Keeping the "outing in Scouting" is so very important and the Blue Water area needs more volunteers to make this shitty situation that the MCC has put us in better for our youth! At this point I'm afraid Scouting in Michigan will be non existent when my 7+ month old is Scout age... MCC is ruining Scouting and all the work volunteers have put into it...

The consolidation removed the community involvement from local boy scout programs. Once you lose your community you lose the program.

Considering camp sales and other problems in the Michigan Crossroads Council, which of the following actions are you likely to take?

61 responses

