

WOLF TRAP DISTRICT PRESS
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025



Wolf Trap District is part of the Virginia Central field service area in the National Capital Area Council. It is the home to 50 scouting units, serving over 1,600 youth in the areas of Vienna, Falls Church, Dunn Loring, McLean, Glencarlyn, and many neighborhoods south of Arlington in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Welcoming new scouts! – [Join Scouting Today](#)

Visit our [Facebook Page](#) for the latest district updates

[New District Map](#)

The January 9, 2025 Wolf Trap District Roundtable will be held 7:30pm, at Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA.

USEFUL LINKS:

[NCAC Council Web site](#)

[National BSA](#)

[WTD Web Site](#)

[WTD Upcoming Events](#)

[WTD Roundtable \(PW: WTDRT\)](#)

[WTD Training](#)

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Calendar of Events – Links included if available

01/04/25 – [OA Lodge Banquet](#), College Park, MD

01/09/25 – Roundtable, 7:30pm, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA

01/17-20/25 & 02/01-02/2 NCAC NYLT 25-1 course – see flyer

02/08/25 – [Virtual Life to Eagle Seminar](#) (1pm)

02/13/25 – Roundtable, 7:30pm, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA

02/22/25 – University of Scouting, Alexandria, VA

03/08/25 – WTD Merit Badge Day, Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Fairfax, VA

03/08/25 – 03/09/25 – Commissioner College

03/13/25 – Roundtable, 7:30pm, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA

03/01/25 & 04/26-27/25 BCOLS Training – see flier below

03/08/25 WTD Merit Badge Day, St James Catholic Church, Falls Church, VA

03/13/25 Roundtable, 7:30pm, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA

03/22/25 – DCOH Award Nominations due

03/28/25 – 03/30/25 – [Joint Lodge Ordeal](#), Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA

04/4-6/25 & 05/3-4/25 Spring 2025 Wood Badge

04/10/25 – Roundtable, 7:30pm, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA

04/25/25 – 04/27/25 – 2025 OA Spring Fellowship

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Calendar of Events (cont.) – Links included if available

- 05/03/25 – [19th NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet](#), PWD, Triangle, VA
05/08/25 – Roundtable, 7:30pm, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA
05/XX/25 – 05/XX/25 – WTD Spring Camporee
05/XX/25 – 05/XX/25 – WTD Hike-O-Ree
05/10/25 – [Jamboree on the Trail \(JOTT\)](#)
05/26/25 – Memorial Day Flags In, National Memorial Park, Falls Church
05/31/25 – OA Election Season Closes
- 06/12/25 – Roundtable (7:30pm), Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA
06/15-20/25 NCAC NYLT 25-2 course – see flyer
- 07/27/25 – 08/01/25 NCAC NYLT 25-3 course – see flyer
- 09/12-14/25 & 10/4-5/25 Fall 2025 Wood Badge
09/20/25 & 10/18-19/25 BCOLS Training – see flier below

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Chair's Chat – January 2025

I hope that this newsletter finds everyone rested after the holidays and ready to start a new scouting year!

We already have some key events in the works in the coming months. Please check out the calendar in the newsletter. Just to highlight a few:

Wolf Trap District Merit Badge Day will be held on Saturday, March 8 at Fairfax Presbyterian Church; adult troop leaders should be on the lookout for communications on signups starting in January; we will also need registered adult volunteers from each troop to assist that day.

Save the date for our Spring Camporee! It will be from Friday, May 2 through Sunday, May 4. Watch for additional communications on the location and theme very soon. Activities will be available for both troops and packs.

Troop and pack leaders, please note that the due date for District Court of Honor nominations is March 22. In the meantime, please send us your feedback on how we can improve the District Court of Honor presentation!

It's also never too early to start planning recruitment activities for your unit. Recruitment should be a year-round mindset; look for opportunities in the community where you can engage with youth and their families and show them what scouting has to offer. We will be planning a District-wide recruitment event again with more details to come soon.

I look forward to working with you in 2025!

Traci Yates

Wolf Trap District Chair

Traci.yates@cox.net





2025 Guide to Advancement

Scouting America has published the [2025 Guide to Advancement](#). There are a number of changes. I'll provide a "first look" at the changes below. [Merit badge changes](#) for 2025 also are available on the Scouting America website.

The Guide will take effect on January 1, 2025. Scouts currently working on rank requirements, particularly the Eagle rank, should continue using the legacy requirements through the end of the year. I expect an update to Scoutbook and a new Eagle Scout Rank Application early in 2025 to accommodate the new updates.

Scouts who have already started a merit badge, unless the change indicates otherwise, have the choice of finish the badge using the legacy requirements or switching to the new requirements.

The Council Advancement Committee will prioritize publishing guidance where individual changes in the Guide to Advancement impact youth and unit practices related to advancement. They hope to have something out by the end of January. In the interim, please do your best to abide by the spirit of the new national policy. If you have doubts or questions, please reach out to me.

During a quick look at the 2025 Guide this morning, I identified the following changes:

- **Active Service** - The text regarding alternatives to the third test (GTA 4.2.3.1) has been shortened significantly with an increased emphasis on participation in Scouting.
- **Group-Online Merit Badge Instruction** (GTA 5.0.8.0) - The text provides additional clarification regarding group instruction and also mentions generative AI.
- **Unit Leader's Role in Merit Badge Process** (GTA 7.0.0.3) - Strengthens the unit leader's role in counseling Scouts about merit badge counselors.
- **Merit Badge Fundraising** (GTA 7.0.4.10) - Merit badge instruction must not be used as a fundraiser.



2025 Guide to Advancement (cont.)

- **Group Merit Badge Instruction** (GTA 7.0.4.12) - New section added with guidelines about aspects that are good, of concern or to be avoided.
- **Recording Boards of Review** (GTA 8.0.1.2) - Recording boards of review, either voice or video, is never appropriate.
- **Eagle Reference Letters** (GTA 9.0.1.3) - The number of references changed from six to four with all four now being general references. There are no specific references for employer, education, etc. Parents and relatives are strongly discouraged from writing reference letters. The unit leader and committee chair do not write letters for the Scout.
- **Collecting Eagle Reference Letters** (GTA 9.0.1.7) - The Scout now is responsible for requesting references. Councils choose the method and where the letters are to be submitted.
- **Advancement for Members with Special Needs** (GTA chapter 10) - Has been significantly rewritten.

The above list is NOT a comprehensive description of all the changes in the 2025 Guide to Advancement. They simply are the ones that jumped out at me as I took a quick look.

I would welcome feedback on the above changes and any others you see in the new Guide to Advancement. I would particularly value feedback related to how youth and units would be affected by the changes and what recommendations you might have on how best to adapt to them.

As always, please reach out if you have questions or are uncertain on how best to proceed with assisting young people as they advance in Scouting.

Yours in Scouting,

Matt Burns

Chair of the Advancement and Recognition Committee

Wolf Trap District

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Virtual Life to Eagle Seminar on Saturday, February 8, 2025

The Wolf Trap district will hold the next (virtual) Life to Eagle Seminar on Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All participants need to register at:

[National Capital Area Council - 2024 Wolf Trap \(Virtual\) Life to Eagle Seminar](#)

This is a virtual" Life to Eagle seminar. The Life to Eagle seminar is an outstanding opportunity for Scouts to virtually meet the District representatives they will be working with on their project, their Eagle Scout Rank Application and their Board of Review.

We encourage all Life Scouts working on Eagle, as well as advanced Star Scouts, to attend a Life to Eagle seminar. While we will work with any Life Scout who wants to complete the Eagle Rank, it takes little time to identify those that attended the seminar. They have fewer struggles and do a much better initial job with their project proposal and ESRA. When I was a Scoutmaster, I also noted that Scouts who attended a Life to Eagle seminar needed less of my time and were faster to understand and follow the advice I was giving them. I see that as another good reason for Scoutmasters to promote the Life to Eagle seminar.

We also encourage parents/guardians to accompany their youth so they can understand the Trail to Eagle and learn how they can best support their Scout. Leaders or other adults involved in supporting Scouts working on Eagle who haven't attended a seminar in the last two years are urged to sign up and attend. The Scout program does change. Adult volunteers working with Scouts who don't keep up with the program have, on occasion, provided Scouts with inaccurate advice that has created unnecessary hurdles in their pursuit of Eagle. We all want to avoid this. Attending a Life to Eagle seminar is a great way to update your knowledge of the Scouting America advancement program and help you provide accurate, up to date advice to your youth.

Yours in Scouting, Matt Burns

Chair of the Advancement and Recognition Committee

Wolf Trap District

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Wood Badge 2025 – Camp Snyder

Spring 2025 Course 04/4-6/25 & 05/3-4/25

Fall 2025 Course 09/12-14/25 & 10/4-5/25

Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America’s ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA, whether unit, district, or council level – from assistant den leaders to Scoutmasters, from Cubmasters to Venturing Advisors, from committee members to commissioners. It is a fun, energetic and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth is getting everything they are promised from the program.

Reflecting the best of nearly a century of Scouting experience, Wood Badge draws upon the most current leadership models used by corporate America, academic circles and successful organizations throughout the country. Participants can expect to develop skills in many areas, including leadership theory, team building, problem-solving, communication, project planning and more. These skills can be taken back to packs, troops, crews and ships to help leaders guide youth in dynamic Scouting programs. Scouters will find these skills invaluable in their business and personal lives as well.

Wood Badge consists of two parts: The first five full days is the initial group training, usually held over two weekends – the first weekend Friday through Sunday, and the second Saturday and Sunday (**Both weekends must be attended**).

The second part requires participants to apply the skills they learned by completing a 5-part plan (called a “ticket”) over the following 18 months, leading towards the individual participant’s vision of a better Scouting future.

Requirements for attending Wood Badge:

1. Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
2. Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
3. Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. All participants are required to complete the Annual Health and Medical Record. Parts A, B, and C are required which includes a physical. Part C is required for everyone, including people who are not present for more than 72 hours.

Scholarship requests can be submitted at: <https://247scouting.com/forms/082-FinancialSupport>

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NCAC has an interest form for the Spring 2025 course ready for you to fill out.

<https://forms.office.com/r/BjWfhgacCy>

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Spring 2025 Course will be April 4-6 & May 3-4.

<https://www.ncacbsa.org/wood-badge/>



Training

Cub Scout:

- **Cub Leader Position Specific (C40)**
 - [Available on-line \(117 min\)](#)
 - [01/11/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [02/01/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [03/08/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [04/05/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [05/03/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- **Cub Scout Den Leader Specific (C42)**
 - [Available on-line \(125 min\)](#)
 - [01/11/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [02/01/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [03/08/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [04/05/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [05/03/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
-
- **Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO;C32) –**
 - [03/15/25 – 03/16/25 – Haymarket, VA](#)
 - [03/29/25 – 03/30/25 – TBD, VA \(Request permission to attend\)](#)
 - [06/14/25 – 06/15/25 – Lorton, VA \(Contact Dominick dscscouting@aol.com for permission to register\)](#)

Scout:

- **Scoutmaster Position Specific Training(S24)**
 - [Available on-line \(192 min\)](#)
 - [01/11/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [02/01/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [03/08/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [04/05/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
 - [05/03/25 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS; S11)**
 - [03/15/25 – 03/16/25 – Haymarket, VA](#)
 - [06/14/25 – 06/15/25 – Lorton, VA \(Contact Dominick dscscouting@aol.com for permission to register\)](#)

Cub Scout Leader Basic Training – Cub Scout leaders are considered trained and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed:

1. YPT, and
2. Leader Specific Training for their position:
 - Den Leader Position-Specific Training
 - Pack Committee Challenge – Pack Committee Position-Specific Training
 - Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster Position-Specific Training, and
3. Hazardous Weather

BALOO – To have a Pack Campout, at least one individual must be present that is BALOO trained.

BALOO consists of two sessions, an online portion (<https://my.scouting.org>, Menu, My Training, Cub Scouts, Catalog, search on BALOO) that takes 35 minutes and a hands-on overnight session. The overnight sessions are listed below.

Scouts BSA Basic Training

Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters are considered trained and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed:

1. YPT, and
2. Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training, and
3. Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS), and
4. Hazardous Weather

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Training (cont.)

University of Scouting

- **02/22/2025, Alexandria, VA (2024 Course Materials available on [Basecamp](#))**

Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED (N02)

- [01/25/25 – 01/26/25 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [02/22/25 – 02/23/25 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA \(Waitlist only\)](#)
- [03/22/25 – 03/23/25 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [04/26/25 – 04/27/25 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [05/17/25 – 05/18/25 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

Wood Badge (A90) - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-woodbadge2025>

- Spring: 4/4-6/25 & 5/3-4/25 (**Registration opens 12/08/24**)
- Fall: 09/12-14/25 & 10/4-5/25 (Registration opens 02/20/25)

University of Scouting (Saturday, February 22, 2025)

The University of Scouting is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas (Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouting, STEM, Online Scouting/Social Media), all in one place. Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses applicable across the Scouting programs.

- The College of Cub Scouting provides a wide variety of courses, from working with Cub Scout-aged youth, to pack administration, to planning an outdoor program, all focused on meeting Scouting goals while having fun as a pack or den.
- The College of Scouts BSA provides an exciting variety of troop, patrol and outdoor planning supplemental courses to help manage the challenges of a great troop experience.
- The College of Adventure Scouting provides a variety of classes in Adventure Scouting, High Adventure subjects, and resources for Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, and Scout Troops.
- The College of General Studies offers courses that cut across all the programs. Just about everything from diversity and special needs to using technology can be found in the College of General Studies. STEM Scouts, and Online Scouting/Social Media will be covered within the College of General Studies.

All these opportunities are available at the University for learning how to better serve our young people and better work with our fellow leaders.

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Youth Opportunities

Merit Badge Opportunities

- 01/18/25 - [MB University, Newport News, VA](#)
- 02/01/25 – [Merit Badge Jamboree, Alexandria, VA](#)
- 02/15/25 - [SAC-BSA MB College, Hagerstown, MD](#)
- 02/22/25 - [SAC-BSA MB College, Hagerstown, MD](#)
- 03/08/25 – Wolf Trap District MB Day
- 04/19/25 - [MB University, Newport News, VA](#)

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

NYLT is an exciting 6-day program designed for youth to learn leadership skills that will help them succeed in Scouting and in life!

WHO SHOULD ATTEND? Scouts who have completed their unit's introduction to leadership course, have been practicing these skills, and are ready for the next level of training should attend NYLT once they meet all Eligibility Requirements.

NYLT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS Scouts must:

- Complete their home Unit's Introduction to Leadership Skills course*
- Receive approval from your Scoutmaster or Unit leader
- Be at least 13 years of age by course start date
- Earn First Class rank, if registered in a Troop
- Have current BSA Health Form (Parts A, B, and C)
- Be comfortable camping and cooking outdoors
- Commit to attending the entire six-day course

National Youth Leadership Training; NYLT (13 and 1st Class; \$300)

- 01/17-20/25 & 02/01-02/25: Winter Course (Wait List Only)
- 06/15/25 – 06/20/25: Course 25-2 (opens 12-8-24)
- 06/22/25 – 06/27/25: Course 25-3 (opens 12-8-24)
- 07/27/25 – 08/01/25: Course 25-4 & Course 25-5 (opens 12-8-24)

Youth Training - National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE)

National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) is an exciting program where young men and women enhance their leadership skills through team building, ethical decision-making, problem solving and service to others. This course built on the skills learned in NYLT. Classes are availability each year at:

- **Philmont:** <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/nayle/>
- **Summit:** <https://www.summitbsa.org/programs/training/seven-day-conferences/nayle>



Youth Opportunities (cont.)

Powder Horn (14 Years Old and above; Typically held in August each year)

Powder Horn is a skills resource course for Venturing and Scouts BSA leaders and youth of the Boy Scouts of America. Powder Horn is also described as a "hands-on resource management course" designed to give Scouting leaders "the contacts and tools necessary to conduct an awesome high-adventure program" in their Scouting unit.

Climbing Level 1

Learn how to help Scouts climb on nearby natural rock and become a resource for your unit. Scouts 16 or older and Scouters 18 or older can become qualified instructors by completing Climbing Level I Instructor training. This year we offer five class sections:

Outdoor Ethics/Leave No Trace (D78)

The course is suitable for scouters and mature scouts. We hope as many units as possible are able to send at least 2 scouts and 1 scouter; this will allow your unit to have youth & adult members qualified to lead Outdoor Ethics at all outdoor events and help your scouts & scouters complete some of the requirements to earn the [Outdoor Ethics Award for Scouts](#) or [NCAC Outdoor Ethics Award for Cub Scouts](#).

- [02/15/25 – Outdoor Ethics Orientation Course, Washington, DC](#)
- [03/24/25 & 03/30/25 – BSA LNT Level 1 Instructor, Zoom and Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

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STEM

STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

STEM is an initiative the Boy Scouts of America has taken on to encourage the natural curiosity of youth members and their sense of wonder about these fields. From archery to welding, Scouts can't help but enjoy the wide range of STEM-related activities. To support this initiative, the BSA developed the STEM Nova Awards program so that youth members have fun and receive recognition for their efforts.

Opportunities

- [Burke Lake District NOVA Nights \(Last Tuesday of Month\)](#) – Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
 - January 28th, 2025
 - February 25, 2025
 - March 25, 2025
 - April 29, 2025
 - May 27, 2025
- [Akela Chess Classic](#)
 - Cub Scout Tournament – 02/01/2025 at MSSC
 - Scouts BSA Tournament – 02/15/2025 at MSSC
- NCAC STEM contact is Bruce Donlin (bruce.donlin@scouting.org; 240-395-0601)
- Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky (on PBS) - [link](#)
- Anytime – [DC STEM Trek](#)- Showcases 24 government agencies, private organizations and monuments related to the tenets upon which STEM is based. Two hikes - 10.57 miles, or 4.75 miles
- **Satellite Gus** (Thanks T976 for this) – Your unit can “take a selfie” with a satellite in orbit! Mark Rober is launching this soon. If you haven't heard about his project yet, you can check out the excellent full video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6KcV1C1Ui5s>

Nova Awards

Scouting America developed the STEM Nova Awards program to excite and expand a sense of wonder in our Scouts. By working with an adult counselor or mentor, the various modules allow them to explore the basic principles of STEM and discover how fun and fascinating STEM can be. The Supernova awards are offered for those who enjoy a super challenge. Discover how the STEM Nova Awards program helps youth be “Prepared. For Life.”

Award requirements for Cubs Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts:

[Award Requirements | Scouting America](#)

Currently, the District maintains the list of Nova and Supernova counselors/mentors. If a Scout needs information about a specific award, the Scout can contact their troop leadership or the District STEM Coordinator (note emails should include two adults – no one-on-one contact for electronic media). If an adult leader is interested in becoming a Nova award counselor/mentor, please reach out to the STEM Coordinator. The requirements for becoming a Nova counselor can be found here:

[Counselors & Mentors | Scouting America \(scouting.org\)](#).



SCOUT SERVICE/ACHIEVEMENTS

PACK 1132 – POWER PACKS FOR NEEDY YOUTH



Cubs, working with the Girl Scouts, supplied and packaged Power Packs that will provide food for youth in need to have sufficient food over the weekend.

Troop 1996 – Six Eagle Scouts Recognized



On December 9th, Troop 1996 had an Eagle Court of Honor for six Eagle Scouts:

Connor T

Jack T

Gael H

Conrad D

Josh C

Cameron D

Well done! Also, thank for the leaders that worked with them over the years Chad, Wayne and Todd.

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NYLT

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) equips young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their Scouting program and in life. NYLT brings together Scouts from all over the council to learn and practice leadership techniques in a supportive Scout-friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.



6 DAYS OF FUN & ADVENTURE
TEAMWORK • GAMES • FOOD
CHALLENGES • CAMPING • LEARNING

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

NYLT is for Scouts who are likely to take on leadership positions in their Troop, Crew, Ship or home unit.

REQUIREMENTS

- 13 years or older*
- First Class Rank
- Unit Leader approval
- Completed Intro. to Leadership Skills**
- BSA Med Form: Parts A, B & C

NYLT is an *intense course* for *mature Scouts* who want to become *better leaders*. Scouts must be *respectful* of each other and their actions must be consistent with the *Scout Oath and Law*.

* Must be under 18 if registered with a Troop; and under 21 if registered with a Crew or Ship.
 ** Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Crews (ILSC), or Ships (ILSS)

COURSE # DATES

25-1 Jan 17-20 & Feb 1-2
 Must complete both weekends

25-2 June 15-20

25-3 June 15-20

25-4 July 27-Aug 1

25-5 July 27-Aug 1

Concurrent
 All courses held at Camp William B. Snyder.



REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION:
www.myNYLT.org



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2024-2025 OFFERINGS

BACK COUNTRY OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS

DON'T BE THIS GUY



GET BCOLS TRAINED!

This course was developed by a group of Scouters in 1993; it has been continually updated to meet current techniques and technology. This course is designed to support the older youth programs of the BSA. It is aimed at all adults working with older youth regardless of program (Boy Scouting, Venturing, or Exploring). **Cub Scout Leaders or people without camping experience SHOULD NOT training this training.** All participants MUST complete Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, as well as the position-specific training for their program area prior to attending this course. All participants must be able to meet current physical requirements of the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record.

The target audience is adult leaders planning High Adventure treks at backcountry venues not supported by BSA infrastructure; however, units planning to attend High Adventure bases supported by BSA will find this course useful, because unit shakedown will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure. If you are participating in an NCAC-sponsored High Adventure Trek, you must also take the course offered by the NCAC High Adventure Committee.

Youth participants (16 and up) will be admitted on an individual basis and requires the nomination by the unit leader. Youth must have completed unit leadership training (Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops or Crews, etc.) as well as National Youth Leadership Training.

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills is offered by the Council Training Committee as an optional follow-on to the basic course, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Its goal is to provide adult leaders with an overview of such topics as:

• Trek Planning • Leadership Skills • Team Development • Leave No Trace • Water Treatment •
• Stove Maintenance • Risk Management • Equipment Maintenance • Crew Equipment Needs & Selection •
• Personal Equipment Needs & Selection • Terrain Awareness & Land Navigation • Menu Planning & Clean-up •
• Hygiene & Health • On the Trail Tips • Wilderness First Aid Overview

Part 1 — Addresses ways to effectively work with older youth and covers the detailed preparation and planning that must be done before you go out, including risk management. Summarizes the personal and crew equipment used for lightweight camping. Plans are also made for the weekend overnight session. (Part 1 is the EXPLAIN & DEMONSTRATE part of EDGE.)

Part 2 — Participants will practice core leader skills for the outdoor program — Leave No Trace, navigation (map & compass plus GPS), terrain awareness, expedition menu planning and food preparation, stove and stove maintenance, wilderness first aid issues, expedition health and hygiene, team building. (Part 2 is the GUIDE part of EDGE.)

Part 3 — *While not required, we strongly suggest participation* in the Hikeoree which will allow BCOLS trained leaders to apply the BCOLS training with their youth at a real-world event. (Part 3 is the ENABLE part of EDGE.)

FALL 2024	SPRING 2025	FALL 2025
Classroom: Sat 9/21 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd Alexandria, VA 22308 Overnight: Sat 10/19, 7:30 am thru Sun. 10/20, 3:30 pm Virginia location TBA	Classroom: Sat 3/1 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Mt. Zion UMC 27108 Mt. Zion Church Road Mechanicsville, MD 20659 Overnight: Sat 04/26, 7:30 am thru Sun 04/27, 3:30 pm American Chestnut Land Trust 2650 Scientists Cliff Road Prince Frederick, MD 20678	Classroom: Sat 9/20 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd Alexandria, VA 22308 Overnight: Sat 10/18, 7:30 am thru Sun. 10/19; 3:30 pm Camp Highroad 21164 Steptoe Hill Rd Middleburg, VA, 20117

Final venue will be selected based on home unit locations of the majority of the attendees.

Register via the NCAC web-site — BCOLS can be found on the Training menu
Class size limited to 32. Adults receive preference. Fee is \$70.00

FOR INFORMATION: DOMINICK CARIDI → DSCSCOUTING@AOL.COM / 703-625-4196

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LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE: REGISTRATIONS OPEN SOON!

Start planning to experience Scouting's ultimate adventure. Registration for a 2026 trek at an iconic high adventure base will open on 1/14/25. You do not want to miss this opportunity of a lifetime.

Visit a trek landing page below, or [click here](#) to provide an email and keep up to date and find out more about all Scouting America high adventure has to offer.

- Philmont - registration is open now
- Summit 1/14/25
- Northern Tier 1/15/25
- Sea base 1/16/25



Or, click the button below for more general information about High Adventure Bases.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

WOLF TRAP DISTRICT PRESS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025



Merit Badge Program



The Scouting BSA is a movement dedicated to supplementing and enlarging the education of youth. As a vital part of the BSA's advancement plan, the merit badge program is one of Scouting's basic character-building tools and plays a key role in the fulfillment of this educational commitment. There are over 100 different merit badges in the program. Upcoming events will be listed below:

- [Online Merit Badge Courses](#) - Watch video, fill out workbook, contact Counselor
- [Parktakes](#) (select "Scouts" from the Category of Activity)
- [MeritBadge.Info](#) - Various MB Days throughout the country
- [Fly Fishing Merit Badge Program](#), Northern Virginia
- [Merit Badges Scouts can complete at Home](#)

Current Merit Badge Counselors and Guidelines:

The current roster of merit badge counselors is provided periodically to the Scoutmaster of each troop. If a scout needs information about a specific merit badge, the scout can contact their troop leadership or the Wolf Trap Merit Badge Dean (**note emails should include two adults - no one-on-one contact for electronic media**).

To become a Merit Badge Counselor:

You can apply online [here](#) (note, please ensure you have a current YPT before filling out application). When you are done with the application, send the MB Dean your list of MBs using the [Merit Badge Counselor Information Sheet](#).

Any questions or concerns please contact the District's Merit Badge Dean:

Margee Egan at margee.egan@gmail.com

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Additional Self-Pay Membership Renewal Notes

How unit coordinators can prepare

1. **Valid Emails** – Key 3 (or delegate) should check the unit roster (<https://my.scouting.org>, login, Menu, select unit, Roster, export roster) to ensure all registered adults and leaders have valid email addresses.
2. **Whitelisting** – Recommend parents/registered adults whitelisting “@scouting.org” or check their Junk/SPAM folders periodically for renewal messages
3. **My.Scouting.Org Accounts** – Ensuring all parents have a my.scouting.org account. If not, they can create one at <https://my.scouting.org>, Create Account. It should ask for the BSA ID of their youth. If not, let Rus/Liz know and we can establish the parent/guardian relationship.
4. **Review Reports**
 - a. **Monthly reports** – Reports will be emailed to Unit Key 3 (CM/SM, CC, COR) for those whose registration is expiring within the next sixty (60) days.
 - b. **Generate Reports (as needed)** - The Unit Key 3 can generate report from Organizational Manager (<https://my.scouting.org>, login, Menu, Organizational Manager, Reports – you can adjust the date ranges as needed.)
 - i. **Member Opt-Out Report** – those that have selected not to receive renewal emails
 - ii. **Members Due to Renew** – those members due to renew within two months or who are lapsed
 - iii. **Members who have renewed** – all youth and adult who have renewed this year.
5. **Youth Applications** – Decide if the unit wants to automatically renew Youth Applications. This will reduce your approval workload.
6. **Review Training slides** – Training slides Sent to Key 3 in messages this week - <https://3.basecamp.com/3958009/p/oMhAuAPUnrjbV9G87e3cUM6Q/vault/7708793900>

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Self-Pay Membership Renewal Email

Your BSA Membership is up for renewal

Dear David Blythe,

This is a friendly reminder that your annual BSA membership will expire in **60 days on 06/30/2024**. Please [click here to renew](#) your membership(s) in the below organization(s). Renewals can also be processed by contacting your local council.

[Click Here to Renew](#) 

Member ID:

Organization Name: Pathfinder 09

Position: Asst. District Commissioner

New Registration Term: 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2025

Reminders will be sent at 60, 30, 15, and 7 days before, plus several more after expiration.

Parents will receive the emails to renew the membership of youth.

Parents need to create a [My.Scouting.org](#) in order to receive the renewal emails.

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Self-Pay Membership Renewal

my.Scouting | My Applications

MEMBERSHIPS TRANSFER / MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS MY APPLICATIONS MY RENEWALS

MY RENEWALS

Personal Information Expiration Date Application Status

Multiple Positions are not displayed in this section, Click Start Renewal to see the full list of positions you can renew

Personal Information	Expiration Date	Application Status
David Blythe Asst. District Commissioner Pathfinder 09	30 June 2024	Registration is soon to expire

OPT OUT AUTO RENEWAL Start Renewal

When you click the link, you are redirected to sign in to My.Scouting.org; after signing in you will see this screen.

Parents that do not have a My.Scouting account will need to create one.

Note the option to "opt out auto renewal", **this will cancel your registration in BSA – DO NOT CLICK THIS BUTTON**. Click Start Renewal to continue with your renewal.

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Self-Pay Membership Renewal

Terms and Conditions

Annual Membership Registration:

Boy Scouts of America is an annual registration program with automatic membership renewal each year on or about the annual anniversary of your sign-up date. **Unless you notify the BSA via the opt-out option located in the My Application tool in My.Scouting.org at least 15 days in advance of your renewal date, you understand and expressly agree that your membership will automatically continue for another year, and you authorize BSA to collect and charge the then-applicable membership fee each year using the payment method BSA has on file for you.** You will be reminded of your renewal beginning 60 days prior to the expiration of your current membership and given an opportunity to opt-out of your renewal at that time too. Your renewal will be communicated back to your Scout unit upon completion.

The annual national registration fee is non-refundable.

BSA Privacy Policy

The BSA protects the confidentiality of the names and personal

By signing here you agree and accept the Terms and Conditions of the Boy Scouts of America.

E-Signature ← 2

Back Go to Checkout Summary ← 3

Next is the Terms & Conditions.

- 1 Auto-renew is now turned off; if worried about it, don't save your credit card number to the system.
2. Type your name to agree to the Terms and Conditions.
3. Click go to checkout.

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Self-Pay Membership Renewal

The screenshot shows a payment screen with a progress bar at the top. The first step, 'Member Information', is complete with a checkmark. The second step, 'Payment/Checkout', is active and numbered '2'. Below the progress bar is a 'Summary' section with a table of fees:

Item	Amount
BSA Non-Unit Adult Reg Jennifer Evans Valid until November 2024	\$60.00
Council Fee Jennifer Evans Valid until November 2024	\$10.00
Administrative Fee	\$2.55
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scout Life Domestic Rates Jennifer Evans Valid until November 2024	\$15.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$87.55

Below the summary is a 'Payment Details' section with a 'CARD INFORMATION' subsection. The 'Cardholder Name' field is visible and contains the text 'Jennifer Evans'.

On the payment screen the system will default to include Scout's Life magazine! You can toggle this on or off.

Then enter your credit card information and click Place Order.

There is no "ACH" or "Pay at Council" option for Self-Pay.

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