



What do we do at camp! That's a great question.

All of the NCAC camps follow a yearly theme. On top of that, camps execute a program based on the facilities and amenities that their location affords. Goose Creek Day Camp runs:

Day Camp: Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Friday is a half day from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Twilight Camp: Monday through Thursday from 6:30 pm – Dusk (~9:00 pm)

Both Day and Twilight camp are held at the Loudoun County Fairgrounds west of Leesburg. We are so glad to be here, since the location offers great amenities and feels like a true Scout Camp!

The Fairgrounds offer a large building for gathering with a paved floor. The Big Barn serves as the central location for camp and an emergency shelter. Throughout the Fairgrounds we offer stations for the scouts to engage in exciting activities. Most stations are under permanent shelter, some augmented by shade canopies that can accommodate all participants at that station. We keep the campers out of the sun as much as possible.

At Day Camp we run (6) 50 minute stations per day that offer:

1. **Sports:** One of the *Aims of Scouting* is personal fitness. We run a variety of sports and physical activities, some specific to the days, some available all week. In the past we have offered Kickball, Soccer, Flag Football, Volleyball, Baseball, and Frisbee Golf, and we hope to see our beloved Gaga Ball pit return this year! Our Youth Staff guide the Sports program.
2. **Crafts:** We offer the scouts exciting, age appropriate crafts, ensuring that campers have a unique and memorable craft every day. You will not be disappointed – this is not gluing macaroni on paper.
3. **Science:** Our Science Center is run by a passionate group of veteran volunteers. The participants will be learning by doing. Each of the planned activities fits perfectly with the camp theme which offer a mix of instruction followed by practical application of the theory.
4. **Shooting Sports:** Our camp emphasizes safety over everything else. Our ranges are run by seasoned volunteer adults all trained as BSA Range Masters, and assisted by older Scouts who have proven they are responsible and mature. After mastering basic skills, campers are tested to shoot at different target faces (balloons, cans, self-made targets, etc.,) as their ability improves. Goose Creek is one of only a few Districts in our Council to offer three different shooting sports! Campers learn and improve on BB-gun,

Archery, and Slingshot skills. On the slingshot range, they get a day of shooting paintballs from the sling shots. This is always a hit. I guarantee you will not find another camp that gives Scouts more actual shooting time than our camp.

5. **First Aid:** An exciting program we're offering again this year is a dedicated First Aid activity. We have nursing students from George Washington University on site all week. They'll go over age appropriate First Aid skills then give the Scouts plenty of time and practice to execute the skills in a "triage" situation. These practical sessions will be done as small groups so the Scouts get maximum one-on-one time with the nurses. It's our goal to give the scouts a leg up in earning the Emergency Preparedness BSA Award.

6. **Scout Craft:** What is a Scout camp without some Scout skills thrown in? Campers will spend time exploring nature, working on their knot-tying, and learning the songs and skits that are the hallmark of every event and camp.

A mainstay tradition of our Day Camp has been a late-week afternoon "Wet Down" by the Leesburg Fire Department. The LFD bring the fire trucks to the park and shoot 3000 gallons of water into the air from their big on truck water cannons. The kids (and adults) run around under the mist and cool off.

At Day Camp, packs are organized into "Walking Dens." Your pack is grouped with other packs from Goose Creek. Together you will make up a Walking Den. We depend on adults from each pack to act as chaperones for the Walking Dens through the week, so adult support is always close by.

There is the potential for campers to complete some of their rank requirements and earn awards at camp. However, the point to our camps is not to earn awards or ranks. It is to get out there and have fun! Staff will try to keep you updated as to what your campers are doing, so you can award your Scouts with any awards or rank requirements that they do complete at your pack meetings. Den leaders are also encouraged to check with their Cubs to see what they did at camp. This is great PR for next year's camp!

Staff. The camp is a 75-25 blend of youth to adults. Adults are the directors of the stations and oversee a contingent of youth, Jr. staff. The staff is large enough to give Scouts personalized attention. Our staff is selected from Scouts BSA Troops throughout Loudoun County. At least 75% of our youth are multi-year staffers. We also open staff position to Girl Scouts and Venturers. Regardless of who they are, the staff is there to ensure the Scouts have a fun, but safe, week at camp.

Twilight. Unique to the Goose Creek District is Twilight Camp. This is a separate camp that is held after Day Camp. This camp offers the best of Day Camp for those families who cannot attend during the day. This includes the (3) Shooting Sports, Scout Craft, First Aid and Sports thrown in for good measure. Twilight camp is more relaxed than Day Camp. After an opening flag ceremony, Walking Dens move from station to station every ~40-minutes. Camp concludes when it gets too dark to safely shoot. Families may come and go as they please as long as they

are wearing the day's appropriate security wristband. While the Scouts will not earn as many awards as they would at Day Camp, Twilight camp offers a great introduction to the Scouts BSA camp program while accommodating a family's busy schedule.

We hope this gave you a broad view of camp. If you have any more questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Yours in Scouting,
Shannon Klee
Camp Director

Stacey Noll,
Program Director

Goose Creek District
Day/Twilight Camp Programs