

Laurel Highlands Council
Monthly Camping Newsletter



OUTDOOR EXPLORER



Welcome Back!

Greetings fellow Scouters!

Fall is just around the corner, can you believe it! This was one of the most beautiful summers we've had in a long time. So we here in the LHC Camping Department hope that you had an opportunity to get outdoors with your families and maybe even a socially distanced activity with your Pack, Troop, Crew, or friends.

Despite there being a global pandemic, there have been a lot of great things that have been happening around our area this Spring/Summer. We have learned how to adapt and overcome some pretty serious obstacles. We have leant a helping hand to our neighbors, family, friends, and frontline workers. Many, many Scouts around our area (and the country!) have taken the Scout Slogan "Do a Good Turn Daily" to heart by delivering food, making cloth masks, or 3D printing ear savers or face shield connectors.

These are all things that we as the Scouting community can celebrate in this incredibly strange time. As, we prepare to go back to school and begin meetings again things are going to look quite different for a while.

That includes camping, hiking, and other Scouting activities.

We appreciate your kindness and patience as we work through the best ways to help keep you safe as well as our volunteers and staff when you're attending camp. That means that there are a few extra steps that you need to take to make a reservation or to attend that event. We kindly ask that you help us all by following those steps so that everyone can continue to have a safe and healthy experience.

We are excited to kick off fall camping with you and we have missed seeing you at camp!

- LHC Camping Team
- *Bill Park | Director of Support Services
- *Mike Manner | Director of Camping
- *Amanda Erickson | Admin. Assistant



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®
LAUREL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL
1275 Bedford Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
www.LHCscouting.org/camping

Inside this issue:

NEW Monthly Safety Moments.....	3
Camp Independence 2021.....	4
Camps Freedom & Liberty 2021	5
BALOO Training.....	6
Heritage Winter Weekends 2021	6
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.....	7
Special Announcement about Weekend Camping	7
Order of the Arrow	8
Allohak Menewi Lodge #57	8
Philmont 2021.....	8
Activities at Camp Guyasuta.....	9
Chainsaw Safety Training at Heritage Reservation 9/25 - 9/26.....	9

Click on a title to take you to the page!

NEW Monthly Safety Moments

Beginning in September, the Outdoor Explorer will be featuring monthly BSA safety moments! We will be providing you with resources covering a different topic every month to highlight Scouting safely. If there is a topic that you'd like for us to feature, please contact Amanda Erickson at Amanda.Erickson@scouting.org to make a suggestion for next month's safety moment.



The Scouter Code of Conduct

Did you know that the Rule and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America support the establishment of codes of conduct? Some examples include the Scout Executive's Code and camp staff codes of conduct. One of the latest is the Scouter Code of Conduct, which was published in October 2015. This is similar to the 2013 National Scout Jamboree requirement for adults and staff of that event.

Please know that the Boy Scouts of America expects Scouters to follow the Scout Oath and Law as well as other laws and regulations from local, state, and federal governments. The Scouter Code of Conduct should be reviewed and signed by all adult leaders, unit committee members, and parents. This code of conduct:

- Provides a checklist of expectations for all adults involved in Scouting.
- Emphasizes the need for all adults to follow the BSA's Youth Protection policies and guidelines.
- Highlights the need for adult leaders to be familiar with the Guide to Safe Scouting and Sweet Sixteen of Scouting Safely.
- States that drivers will obey all laws and follow safe driving practices when transporting Scouts.
- Sets expectations regarding the BSA Rules and Regulations, policies, and BSA-provided training.
- Helps adults to model behaviors for all youth involved in BSA activities.
- Emphasizes a leader's responsibility to notify the appropriate person(s) if a violation occurs.

[Click Here for the BSA Scouter Code of Conduct](#)

[Click Here for BSA Rules and Regulations](#)



INDEPENDENCE SAFARI WHERE ADVENTURE COMES TO LIFE

Explore our world and the animals in it as we go on an Independence Safari! Journey through the jungles, savannah's, and forests with our Camp Independence Guides learning skills that will carry your Cub Scout on the trail of life.

Multiple camp sessions are offered throughout the summer. We're sure to have an opportunity that fits your family's schedule perfectly. Even if your den or pack is not coming to camp or you can't come at the same time, you are still welcome to join us at Camp Independence. Join us for your own Independence adventure!

Our fully furnished campsites offer wall tents on platforms, covered picnic tables, latrines with wash basins, and campfire circles for your use. Want to bring your own camping equipment with you? Go for it!

Session	Session Date	Session Days
Rookie Camp	June 19-20, 2021	Saturday - Sunday
Cub Scout Resident Camp	June 20-23, 2021	Sunday - Wednesday
Webelos Resident Camp I	June 25-28, 2021	Friday - Monday (3 Nights)
Webelos Resident Camp II	June 29-July 3, 2021	Tuesday - Saturday (4 Nights)
Pack Camp I*	July 9-12, 2021	Friday - Monday
Pack Camp II*	July 16-19, 2021	Friday - Monday
Pack Camp III*	July 23-26, 2021	Friday - Monday
Pack Camp IV*	July 30 - August 2, 2021	Friday - Monday

*Denotes session that includes an option for Webelos to arrive on thursday for an extra day of Webelos specific programs. Adults participating with the extra day must be fully registered with the BSA as the session is longer than 72 hours.

BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY!

For more information, [visit: www.lhcscouting.org/camping](http://www.lhcscouting.org/camping)



2021 Registration Open for Camps Freedom & Liberty

The Laurel Highlands Council operates two outstanding summer resident camps for Scouts BSA as well as a high adventure program. Heritage Reservation in Farmington, Pennsylvania is home to both Camp Liberty, a patrol cooking camp, and Camp Freedom, a dining hall camp as well as our high adventure program, Eagle Base.

Both camps balance merit badge opportunities with fun outdoor adventures and have programs for older Scouts.

Opened in 1980, Heritage Reservation is the premier Scout camping facility in southwestern Pennsylvania. Heritage Reservation encompasses 2000 acres, includes the 270-acre Lake Courage, and is home to three full summer camps - two for Scouts BSA and one for Cub Scouts - as well as a high adventure program. Program highlights at each of Heritage Reservation's Scouts BSA camps include over 40 merit badge offerings, the Day Trek older Scout program, the ATV Adventure program, waterskiing, C.O.P.E., and much, much more.

Follow the link to reserve your space! www.lhcscouting.org/boyscoutcamp

Session	Session Date
Week 1	June 20-26, 2021
Week 2	June 27-July 3, 2021
Week 3	July 4-10, 2021
Week 4	July 11-17, 2021
Week 5	July 18-24, 2021
Week 6	July 25-31, 2021





Save the Date!

Winter Weekends 2020 at
Heritage Reservation
Registration opens
November 1, 2020

Watch for more information in the
October Edition of the newsletter!

BALOO

BASIC ADULT LEADER
OUTDOOR ORIENTATION

Pack Camping has come a long way and it is one of the strongest reasons boys and girls join the Cub Scout program. For a pack to go camping however there **MUST** be at least one registered leader on the outing that is BALOO trained. BALOO is a weekend of indoor and outdoor training which helps with understanding the Boy Scouts of America progressive camping program. The training reviews guidelines established by the Boy Scouts of America and the Laurel Highlands Council to help us understand the value of the outdoor program. Registration starts at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday and the course begins at 8:00 a.m. The course concludes at 12:00 p.m. Sunday.

Friday night arrival is available for folks traveling from a long distance.

Participants must complete the on-line BALOO Prerequisite Training available through my.scouting.org. prior to attending this outdoor session of BALOO.

Each participant must bring Part A & B. of the Annual B.S.A. Health and Medical Record.

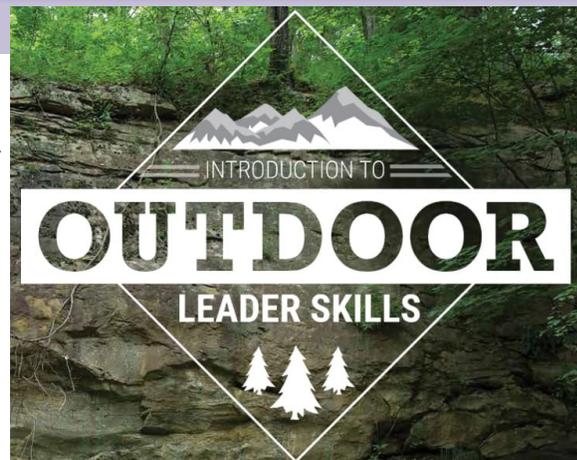
Visit: <https://scoutingevent.com/527-BALOOfall2020> to register! Space is limited!

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)

Scouting's outdoor program is a critical part of how the Scouts BSA program develops young leaders. While camping or participating in other outdoor events, your Scouts will challenge themselves to learn skills they've never tried before or maybe didn't think they could do. In doing so, your Scouts will work together as a team to overcome adversity when things don't go as planned; this is truly the magic of Scouting that no other program does as well.

To safely offer Scouting's outdoor program, however, you need a certain set of skills and knowledge – and that's why you're required to take Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (also known as "IOLS") Training. You'll learn how to build a fire, use an axe, cook outdoors, use a map and compass, responsibly care for the outdoors, and much more. Even if you weren't a Scout as a kid, you'll come out of this course looking and acting like a seasoned camper. This course, combined with Youth Protection Training and the Scoutmaster-Specific Training course, will make you an "fully trained" Scouts BSA leader.

To register, visit: <https://scoutingevent.com/527-FallIOLS>



Special Announcement about Weekend Camping

Currently, units are able to make reservations online through the Camping Reservation System into 2021. Due to COVID-19, buildings and lodges will be unavailable to rent for the foreseeable future. We apologize if this causes your unit any hardship.

In order to reserve your campsite you will be required to enter an access code. To receive your camp specific access code you will need to contact the LHC Camping department at 412-325-7921 or Amanda.Erickson@Scouting.org to receive the COVID-19 Guidelines for Rentals. After a response is sent back acknowledging the guidelines, you will receive an access code that will allow you to complete your booking. Please allow for 2 business days in order to get the access code due to high demand.

Order of the Arrow Allohak Menewi Lodge #57



There are still a few Order of the Arrow events remaining in 2020!
Follow the links below to sign up!

September Ceremonial Weekend at Heritage Reservation	September 25-27, 2020	https://scoutingevent.com/527-2020OAFALLHR
October Service Weekend at Camp Anawanna	October 22-24, 2020	https://scoutingevent.com/527-ANAWANNAOA2020
Lodge Family Banquet	November 2020	SAVE THE DATE

Due to COVID-19 you must be temperature screened prior to entry to the event. You will also be subject to COVID-19 screening questions and waivers. No indoor facilities will be available, please bring a tent and plan accordingly.

Philmont 2021

Join the Boy Scouts of America, Laurel Highlands Council for a trip to Scouting's paradise, Philmont Scout Ranch in July 2021. Space is limited and first come, first serve.

Philmont's signature program is the backcountry trek. Each trek expedition provides opportunities for participants to:



Explore the high country of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in northeastern New Mexico.

Experience the thrill of climbing mountains over two miles high.

Participate in a wide array of fun activities that teach Scouting skills including Archeology, backpacking, camping, climbing, fly fishing, forestry, horsemanship, panning for gold, burro racing, shooting, Indian lore, and much more.

Develop leadership, group dynamics, wilderness problems solving, and outdoor skills.

Crews hike Philmont's mountains, spending nights at various backcountry camps. At staffed camps, crews participate in a variety of programs presented by Philmont backcountry staff. Programs include horseback riding, burro packing, gold panning, rock climbing, rappelling, shooting spar pole climbing and interpretive programs such as home stading and a mountain man rendezvous.

Scouts and Scouters must be in top physical condition.

For more information and to register, visit: <https://scoutingevent.com/527-Philmont2021>

Activities at Camp Guyasuta

Merit badges give scouts the opportunity to investigate around 120 different areas of knowledge and skills. The merit badge program plays a major role in the scouting advancement program and participation can begin as soon as a Scout registers with a troop. Each Scout can explore topics from American Business to Woodworking as they have an interest. The only limitations are their ambition and availability of adult merit badge counselors to offer instruction.

Camp Guyasuta will begin offering merit badges in September - February 2021.

- Horsemanship
- Motor boating
- Archery
- Photography
- Emergency Preparedness
- Auto Maintenance
- Digital Technology
- Scouting Heritage
- Communication
- Citizenship in the Nation/Community/World
- First Aid
- Architecture.



If there is a merit badge you are looking to have offered let us know as we will continue to add to the program.

You **MUST** register online as space is limited !!

<https://campguyasuta.org/scouts>

Chainsaw Safety Training at Heritage Reservation 9/25 - 9/26

Proper maintenance, personal protective equipment, and correct technique are critical components of safe chain saw operation. Council properties rely on chain saws to help clear trails, remove deadfalls, clear timber, and stockpile wood for campfires and heating buildings.

If you are planning to participate in the OA Weekend, please sign up for that event as well.



You must provide your own PPE (helmet, ear and eye protection, leather gloves, chaps, leather boots, long pants, and sleeves).

For more information and to sign up, visit: <https://scoutingevent.com/527-2020chainsawHR>



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®

LAUREL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL

1275 Bedford Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-471-2927

www.LHCscouting.org

The leaves are starting to turn, there have been a few cool and crisp mornings, and best of all, Pumpkin Spice Lattes are back!

All joking aside, we are glad to be kicking off Fall Scouting and are looking forward to hosting you, your units, and your families at one of our camps. The spring and summer were a total blur to some, and as if time stood still to others. Some fresh air and time to recharge those batteries is just what we recommend.

So come on down, up, or over to your favorite camp and check out the trees as the leaves are starting to turn, cast your line out into one of the lakes, or gaze at the fluffy clouds from your hammock. We'll keep the fire lit for you!

We'll see you on the Trails!

Bill Park - Director of Support Services

Mike Manner - Director of Camping

Amanda Erickson - Program Team Admin.

SALT CRYSTAL LEAVES

Fall STEM Fun



You'll need:

1. 1 box of salt
2. Water
3. Pipe cleaners or actual leaves
4. Clothespins
5. Yarn
6. Glass Mason Jars

(One box of salt makes 3-4 mason jars of solution)

Directions:

1. Boil water and turn off the heat. Add the box of salt to create an over saturated salt solution. Stir until all of the salt grains have completely dissolved. (You'll know that you have enough salt when it starts to form a sheet on the top of the water.)
2. Pour the hot water into the mason jars.
3. Place one leaf inside each jar. Make sure the leaves are suspended in the center and don't touch the sides or bottom by using the clothespin across the mouth of the jar.
4. Set the jar in a sunny window and leave them there for at least two days.
5. Have your Scouts document what they see each day as the crystals form on the leaves.