



WESTERN NEW YORK
SCOUT COUNCIL, BSA

2024-2025

Ideal Year Of Scouting

www.wnyscouting.org • (716) 891-4073



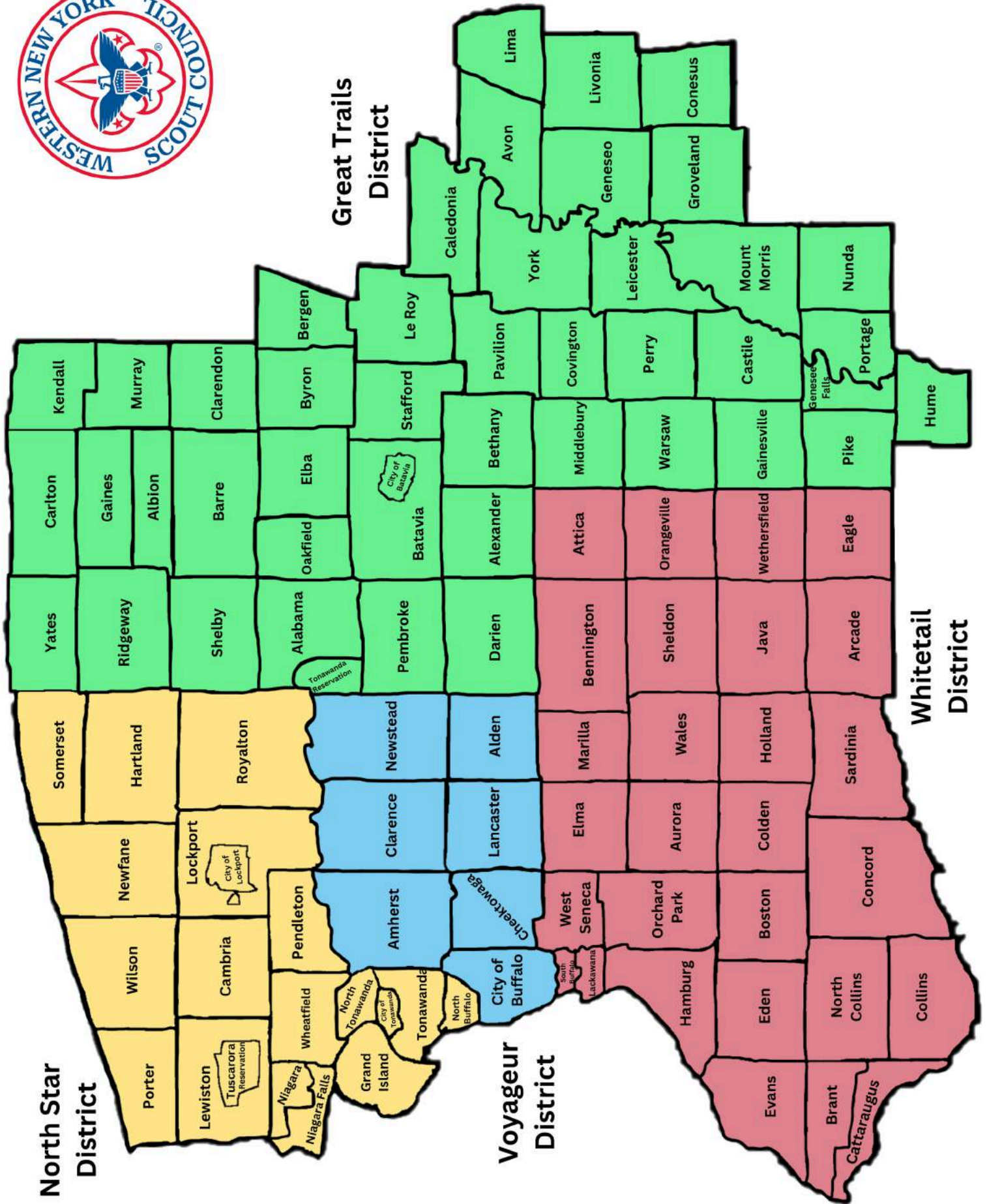


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Using This Guide.....	4
Who to Contact	5
Youth Protection Training.....	6
Insurance Coverage	8
Staying Connected - Social Links	9
Publicize Your Unit	10
Training	11
Funding Your Program.....	13
Guidelines for Unit Funds	14
Scoutbook.....	17
Pack Ideal Year of Scouting Overview	18
Pack Journey to Excellence Scorecard.....	19
Program Planning & Budgeting	20
Membership	22
Program.....	24
Leadership Training & Recruitment.....	28
Troop Ideal Year of Scouting Overview.....	34
Troop Journey to Excellence Scorecard	35
Program Planning & Budgeting	36
Membership	38
Program.....	40
Leadership Training & Recruitment.....	43

This guide and all Ideal Year of Scouting resources can be found online:
www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Every great project starts with a **GREAT PLAN**. The same goes for Scouting. By following our proven Ideal Year of Scouting plan, you can expect to see...

- A stronger program for your Scouts at less personal cost to you.
- Increased parental involvement.
- More Scouts camping.
- Better retention.
- More funding with less time spent fundraising.
- A simpler, easier, and more enjoyable Scouting program.

The Ideal Year of Scouting follows the BSA's Journey to Excellence program. Think of Journey to Excellence or JTE as your scorecard for Scouting success. The Journey to Excellence scorecard is located on the next page and will help you identify, quantify, track and report key factors to make the program you deliver even better for your Scouts.

Over the next few pages, we'll set you on the path to your Ideal Year of Scouting. If you have questions or get stuck along the way don't worry...we've got you covered! This guide and additional online resources are available at www.wnyscouting.org/Ideal-Year-of-Scouting.

You can also contact us at 716-891-4073 and we'll connect you with a Scouting professional who can help answer any questions and help you achieve your Ideal Year of Scouting goals.

Program Resources

One of the most critical components of the Ideal Year of Scouting is making sure you have an annual program plan. If you are still looking for a few fun events for the whole Scouting family then look no further.

Our 2024-2025 Program Planning Calendar will help you plan your unit's monthly program. For more family friendly activities be sure to visit www.wnyscouting.org/resources.

CONTACT US

WNY Scout Council #380

Buffalo Service Center:
2860 Genesee Street
Buffalo, NY 14225

Oakfield Service Center:
102 South Main Street
Oakfield, NY 14215

Mon - Fri 9am to 5pm
Phone: (716) 891-4073
Fax: (716) 891-4008

Camp Southaven

10784 NY-98
Freedom, NY 14065

Camp Sam Wood

7772 Camp Rd
Portageville, NY 14536



WHO TO CONTACT

Buffalo Service Center – 716-891-4073

Oakfield Service Center – 585-343-0307

Buffalo Scout Shop - 716-891-1689

Website – www.wnyscouting.org

General Email: scouting@wnyscouting.org

Primary Staff Contacts for Direct Support of Unit Programs

Activities	District Professionals
Advancement	Jessica Bonham
Camp Reservations	Bob Blatz
Day Camp Program	Chris Matthewson
Camp Sam Wood Program	Jessica Bonham
Camp Scouthaven Program	Brandon Blatz
Friends of Scouting	District Professionals
Incident/Accident Reports	Bob Blatz / Jim McMullen
Insurance Certificates	Mary Lou Maier / Kim Fluker
Jamboree / Philmont Trek	Dan Carpenter
Joining Scouting	District Professionals
Merit Badge Counselors	District Professionals / Kim Fluker
Money Earning Permits	District Professionals
NYLT Training	Dan Carpenter
Order of the Arrow	Brandon Blatz
Popcorn & Peanut Sales	Jim McMullen / Bob Blatz
Registration & Renewals	District Professionals / Kim Fluker
Special Events Fundraising	Margie Phillips
Training Schedule	Dan Carpenter
Training Records	Mary Lou Maier
Website Administrator	Bob Blatz
Wood Badge	Bob Blatz
Youth Protection Reporting	Jim McMullen / Gary Decker
Youth Protection Training	District Professionals

District Professional Staff

Great Trails	Jessica Bonham	jessica.bonham@scouting.org	716-512-6217
North Star	Brandon Blatz	brandon.blatz@scouting.org	716-215-6214
Voyageur	Chris Matthewson	chris.matthewson@scouting.org	716-512-6212
Whitetail	Dan Carpenter	daniel.carpenter@scouting.org	716-512-6208

Camping Staff - Year Round

Scouthaven Ranger	David Ashley	david.ashley@scouting.org	716-560-7153
SH Assistant Ranger	Jacob Ashley	jacob.ashley@scouting.org	716-492-4429
Sam Wood Ranger	Rick Tiede	rtiede@frontiernet.net	585-567-8626

Support Staff

Scout Executive	Gary Decker	gary.decker@scouting.org	716-512-6206
Deputy Scout Executive	Jim McMullen	jim.mcmullen@scouting.org	716-512-6207
Development Director	Margie Phillips	margie.phillips@scouting.org	716-512-6209
Operations Manager	Bob Blatz	bob.blatz@scouting.org	716-512-6215
Registrar	Kim Fluker	kim.fluker@scouting.org	716-512-6202
Scout Shop & Records Clerk	Mary Lou Maier	marylou.maier@scouting.org	716-512-6205

SAFETY IS OUR TOP PRIORITY

The BSA is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our youth members. Youth protection requires sustained vigilance, and we work every day to protect children through mandatory policies and procedures at every level of our organization. We are also committed to continuous improvement in our approach to youth protection.

Our policies, procedures, and training have evolved to learn from the past while also borrowing from best practices developed by leading experts in this field.

Today, the youth protection practices of the Boy Scouts of America are the gold standard among youth-serving organizations.

BSA YOUTH PROTECTION SAFEGUARDS

- **Mandatory Youth Protection Training**
- **Mandatory Background Checks**
- **Banned One-On-One Interactions**
- **Mandatory Law Enforcement Reporting**
- **Volunteer Screening Database**

These safeguards are key parts of our multilayered approach to help keep kids safe. These measures were created by respected experts in the fields of child safety, law enforcement, and child psychology, and are among the strongest safeguards found in any youth-serving organization.

It is critical that every adult in our program – whether they are a uniformed leader or a parent of a Scout – knows and follows BSA’s Youth Protection policies.

YOUTH PROTECTION BEGINS WITH YOU!

To complete Youth Protection Training:

1. Go to [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)
2. If a new user, create an account or Login
3. Click Menu > My Dashboard
4. Find the My Training page
5. Complete the course and print your certificate





YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS HERE

Hiking, camping, kayaking,
and more!

305 Buffalo Street, Hamburg,
NY (716) 646-4327

--

3906 Maple Road, Amherst,
NY (716) 835-4327

GearForAdventure.com

[SHOP TODAY](#)

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Council Accident and Sickness Insurance Plan Eligibility

All registered youth and leaders are eligible for coverage. New youth members added during the year are automatically covered until the renewal date. Coverage is also automatic for new leaders.

Non-scouts, non-Scouters, and guests who are being encouraged to become Scouts or leaders are automatically insured while in attendance at a scheduled activity. Other guests are not covered.

Coverage

The plan provides year-round coverage for injuries occurring while: Participating in an official Scouting activity, which is defined as an activity carried out by youths who are registered members under the approval and overall supervision of unit leaders, in keeping with the policies and standards of the BSA.

Coverage is provided for sickness that begins while the insured member is:

In attendance at an official scheduled, supervised, and sponsored Scouting activity or covered event. Coverage is also provided while traveling to and from such an overnight or other covered event.

Excess Insurance Provision

This plan is an excess insurance plan meaning that it will pay all those eligible expenses incurred from a covered accident or sickness not paid by any other collectible insurance or pre-paid health plan in-force for you or a dependent child(ren). If no other collectible insurance or pre-paid health plans are in effect at the time of the loss, this plan will pay all eligible covered expenses up to the plan limits. There is no deductible under this plan.

Claims Process

All claims need to be filed with the administrator, Health Special Risk, Inc.,(HSR). To receive a claim form, contact Bob.Blatz@scouting.org or scouting@wnyscouting.org to report the accident or sickness. Once the claimant's registration status is verified by the Council, families complete the claim form in its entirety and send it directly to HSR along with copies of all related medical documents and Explanations of Benefits (EOB's) received thus far.

For a more detailed brochure, visit www.hsri.com/bsa

Automobile Liability Insurance

All vehicles MUST be covered by an owner's liability insurance policy. The amount of this coverage must meet or exceed the insurance requirement of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. (It is recommended that coverage limits are at least \$100,000 combined single limit.) Any vehicle carrying 10 or more passengers is required to have limits of \$500,000 combined single limit. In the case of rented vehicles, the requirement of coverage limits can be met by combining the limits of personal coverage carried by the driver with the coverage carried by the owner of the rented vehicle. All vehicles used for travel outside the United States must carry a liability insurance policy that complies or exceeds the requirements of that country.

Certificates of Insurance

A certificate of insurance is either proof that a unit is covered by the comprehensive general liability insurance or is proof of insurance plus a document that adds another organization to our general liability insurance for a defined period of time. If an organization requests a certificate of insurance, please follow these steps:

Obtain a copy of the agreement to be signed with the organization. Send all documents via email to scouting@wnyscouting.org.

Certificates take up to two weeks to be completed and parts of the process are outside of our local control. Please be sure to give adequate time when a certificate of insurance is being requested.

General Liability Insurance

This coverage provides primary general liability coverage for registered volunteer Scouters with respect to claims arising out of an official Scouting activity with the exception that the coverage is excess over any insurance available to the volunteer for loss arising from the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle or watercraft. This insurance is only available while the vehicle or watercraft is in the actual use of a Scouting unit and being used for a Scouting purpose. Coverage is for bodily injury and property damage.

The insurance provided unregistered Scouting volunteers through the BSA general liability insurance program is excess over other insurance the volunteer has to his or her benefit, usually a homeowner's, personal liability, or auto liability policy.

STAYING CONNECTED

Sharing Your Story Or Event

If you have a story about Scouting, we would love to hear about it! If you have pictures from a Scouting event, we would love to share those too!

Council Website

Our Council website is the best resource available for local Scouters. It's loaded with news, training, activities, forms, and more! www.wnyscouting.org

Newsletter

All registered leaders are emailed a newsletter on or about the 1st Friday of each month. If you are not receiving it, please check your spam or junk filter to be certain it's not being filtered out.

To subscribe visit <https://wnyscouting.doubleknot.com/elists/3819>

Social Media

WNY Scout Council

Facebook - www.facebook.com/WNYSCBSA

LinkedIn - www.linkedin.com/company/wnyscbsa/

Districts

The Great Trails District - www.facebook.com/greattrailswnysc/

The North Star District - www.facebook.com/northstarwnysc/

The Voyager District - www.facebook.com/voyageurwnysc/

The White Tail District - www.facebook.com/whitetailwnysc/

Camps

Camp Scouthaven - www.facebook.com/CampScouthaven

Camp Sam Wood - www.facebook.com/CampSamWood

General

Training - www.facebook.com/trainingwnysc

National Youth Leader Training - www.facebook.com/nyltgnfc

Order of the Arrow - www.facebook.com/WNYScoutCouncilOA159

Venturing - www.facebook.com/GNFC.VOA

Digital Calendar

Get all our Scouting events on an up-to-date calendar! The calendar helps leaders avoid planning awesome unit events on top of awesome council events when site amenities might be reserved. Visit www.wnyscouting.org/calendar/council-calendar

Publicize Your Unit

One of the best ways to get others excited for Scouting is by publicizing your pack, troop, ship, or crew. Worried you don't have anything exciting to say? We disagree!

Local newspapers, community websites, and even TV channels love to have original content from their audience, telling personal stories; and Scouting is full of personal stories. A Scout working on an Eagle project that benefits a city, a Cub Scout pack collecting food for a service project, or a special rank being earned are just a few things you could publicize.

WHY?

- It can be a proud moment (for youth and parent) to see their name or picture in the paper or online.
- It's a recruiting tool. Prospective youth & their parents learn about your unit and the fun things you do.
- It promotes goodwill between Scouting and your local community.

WHAT ARE NEWSWORTHY IDEAS?

- Community service projects Advancements/special achievements (awards ceremonies, Eagles and Eagle projects).
- Special events such as a high adventure trip, a pinewood derby, unique field trip or camp/activity.
- Unit fundraising events such as a popcorn sale, pancake breakfast, or car wash. Firsts –
- such as some of the firsts for those units that have welcomed girls or **your new troop's first Court of Honor.**

GENERAL TIPS

- Keep it local – Community media is all about local people and events.
- Read your local paper & website – See the type of stories covered, editors/reporters to contact, publications schedules and deadlines.
- Use electronic format – Submit your releases, captions, fact sheets and photos electronically. Attach the document and photos as individual JPEG files or upload as requested on the media website.

TRAINING

FOUR STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL AND REWARDING VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Step One

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT) is required to register and must be renewed every two years. This protects children, adult leaders, and the organization by maintaining high vigilance on the important subject and methods of youth protection. YPT is completed online at <https://my.scouting.org>

Step Two

POSITION-SPECIFIC TRAINING is required to be considered "Trained" in the BSA. This training can be completed by Cub Scout Leaders, Scoutmasters, Venturing Leaders, and Committee members online at: my.scouting.org or in-person. In-person trainings are led by experienced leaders who can directly answer questions, and they are well versed on local council and national resources. To find local training opportunities, visit our Training page: <https://wnyscouting.org/training>

Step Three

BEING PREPARED for the outdoors is essential for all Scouting leaders.

Cub Scout Leaders – Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) is a combination of an online and instructor-led course of camping policies, taught along with the necessary tools to help packs carry out a successful camping experience. Completion of this course is mandatory for at least one adult on a pack overnighter.

Scouts BSA Leaders – Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) is required for Assistant Scoutmasters and Scoutmasters. This hands-on training course provides adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the outdoors. Upon completion, leaders will feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First Class rank.

Step Four

SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING takes your skill to another level and is the key to providing the best possible program to the youth of Scouting. Supplemental training takes the foundational basic training and builds upon it developing specific skills that make you a better, more efficient and knowledgeable leader.

Supplemental Training

University of Scouting

A one-day event where attendees select from over 100 training sessions, build a custom training schedule for their day and learn from experienced volunteers and trainers. University of Scouting is held annually.

Wood Badge

Wood Badge is Scouting's most advanced training course focused on leadership, personal and team development. Inspired by Robert Baden-Powell (founder of the Scouting program,) Wood Badge has provided the ultimate training for thousands of leaders around the world.

Philmont Training Center

The Philmont Training Center (PTC) is the national volunteer training center for the Boy Scouts of America located in New Mexico. Since 1950, PTC has provided a unique environment for training volunteer and professional leaders, while providing a fun family program for every member of the family. For more information and a list of upcoming training conferences, visit: <https://www.philmontscouttranch.org/ptc>

Additional Safety Training

There are several other trainings offered and required to be completed by at least one person if the unit is participating in that type of activity:

- Safety Afloat: for all boating activities
- Safe Swim Defense: for all swimming activities
- Climb on Safely: for all climbing activities
- Trek Safely: for all backpacking outings
- Hazardous Weather: for all activities that are overnights, or considered High Adventure

Visit <https://my.scouting.org> for more details.

TRAINING

Trainer's EDGE

Trainer's EDGE gives you the skills to present an organized and fun training session and become a more effective and impactful trainer. All volunteers can benefit from this training.

Okpik

Okpik is cold-weather camping training named after the Inuit name for the snowy owl. Learn how to prepare for fun and safe outdoor experiences in winter weather. This training is open to adults and youth age 14+.

Wilderness First Aid

Required for leaders who plan to take their Scouts on back country adventures, this advanced first aid training is offered annually by the council.

ADULT TRAINING AWARDS

Scouter's Training Awards

Recognition awards are available to leaders who complete training, tenure, and performance requirements. Scouters earning the Training Award in one program area MUST complete ALL requirements (including tenure) for subsequent training awards in other program areas.

Unit Leader Award of Merit

Quality unit leadership is the key to a quality unit program – and it leads to better Scout retention. The Boy Scouts of America has created the Unit Leader Award of Merit to recognize the quality unit leaders who make that happen.

Scouter's Key Award

Volunteers who serve as the top leader in their program are eligible to earn the Scouter's Key Award. This award is a knot to be worn above the left pocket on the uniform. In addition to the knot is a small iconic metal pin called a "device" for each position awarded. To learn more about Training Awards visit: www.scouting.org/training/adult

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

A one-week program for male and female Scouts and Venturers held in July replicates the first three weeks of typical unit operations, including patrol leader's council meetings, troop/crew meetings, patrol meetings, and planning for a big event. Becoming a better leader is the theme, but many aspects apply to daily life. Scoutmasters and Crew Advisors nominate youth to attend this training.

FUNDING YOUR PROGRAM

Friends of Scouting

Friends of Scouting is the Council's annual giving campaign that raises essential funds that help our Council to provide vital programs and services. Our Friends of Scouting campaign provides an opportunity for parents, families, friends, peers, employers, and companies alike to make tax-deductible gifts to support Scouting here in Western New York.

To sign up for your unit presentation today please contact your district professional.

To make a pledge visit <https://www.wnyscouting.org/giving>

Annual Popcorn Fundraiser

Earning your own way by selling popcorn is a great way for Scouts to help their unit and to help pay for an Ideal Year of Scouting.

Selling popcorn helps pay for Scouting expenses like going to summer camp. But it's not just about selling, it's also about promoting Scouting! We're excited to partner with Camp Masters Popcorn to deliver an unbeatable sale opportunity for our Scouts.

More than 70% of sales support your program and local Scouting! The Western New York Scout Council does all the pre-work to set up the sales, eliminating the need for your unit to research opportunities, calculate return, create sales and promotional materials.

Sign up to sell and get the latest popcorn resources including sales guides and best practices at <https://www.wnyscouting.org/popcorn>

Spring Peanut Fundraiser

Each spring, we partner with Whitley's Peanut Factory to provide an easy opportunity to offset the cost of summer camp for our Scouts.

Like the annual popcorn fundraiser, our Western New York Scout Council does all the pre-work to set up the sale and provides sales materials directly to units. Units will receive a 40% commission that will be applied directly to their camp balances. Funds can be applied to Resident Camp at both Camp Sam Wood and Camp Scouthaven, Birchbark Expeditions, our local National Youth Leadership Training Course, or one of our local Cub Scout Day Camps.

Unit Money-Earning Application

If your pack, troop, or crew is interested in raising funds other than through the council-approved popcorn and peanut sales, please submit Unit Money-Earning Applications to your District Executive no later than 14 days before the fundraising activity. Our Council simply needs to be aware of the additional fundraising you are doing to field any potential inquiries. These additional fundraisers are the responsibility of unit leadership and must abide by BSA National Guidelines listed on the application.

GUIDELINES FOR UNIT FUNDS

Unit Committees should approve bylaws that explain how funds are handled.

Tax ID Numbers

Under the Chartered Partner Concept, Chartering Organizations (churches, service clubs, and community organizations) "own" the Pack, Troop, Crew, Ship, and Post units that are affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America's program. Units are encouraged to get their federal ID number (needed to establish an account with a local bank) and sales tax exempt number from their chartered organization, but they can also apply directly to the IRS or state. The SS-4 form can be downloaded from IRS.gov and mailed in. In New York, Scouting units can use the Council sales tax exempt form to avoid paying state tax for Scouting purchases.

Reconciling Accounts

The unit committee is responsible for unit finances and a unit budget. A treasurer is recruited to administer the account and the committee chair should receive the bank statement to reconcile. All unit funds should pass through the bank account including but not limited to dues, fundraising dollars, popcorn sales income, and camping fees.

Checking Accounts

Unit funds should be deposited in a checking account that requires two signatures on every check. Same-family members must not approve payment or be the second signatory. Units may have 3 or 4 authorized signers. The unit leader could be one of the signers but may not be the unit treasurer, and it is recommended that one be a committee person. Unit leaders might have a petty cash fund (with a limit set by the unit committee) which is accounted for with receipts each month. The chartered organization should audit the unit finances annually and make a report available to the membership of the chartered organization. Debit cards are discouraged, due to the lack of a second signature required. If your sponsor files an annual tax return, they may require an annual accounting of your funds to report on their tax return.

Unit Equipment

The Chartered organization "owns" the unit, and all property and funds used by the unit remain the property of the organization as long as the BSA charter remains in place. A unit is an unincorporated association, not a legal entity that can bear title to property. Gifts to a unit are almost never tax deductible. An annual inventory of a unit's equipment should be given to the chartered partner. Insuring the unit's equipment is recommended. If a unit is dissolved or the charter lapses or is revoked and all efforts to reorganize have been exhausted, the chartered partner shall apply unit funds and property to the payment of unit obligations and then give the surplus to the Council or another Scout unit they sponsor.

Unit Accounts at the Council Service Center

Each unit can maintain an account at the Scout Service Center that can be used to pay for event, membership, or camping fees. To get more information, call 716-891-4073.

Youth Accounts

Some units allow youth to accrue portions of funds raised in an account under their names, sometimes referred to as "Scout Accounts." Officially the Boy Scouts of America discourages the use of Scout Accounts. To prevent violation of IRS "private benefit" rules:

- 1.) The youth member should not earn a straight percentage award.
- 2.) The funds may only be used for Scouting purposes reflected within the scope of unit activities.
- 3.) The criteria for how much "credit" they have earned should be based on Scout spirit and participation in all activities, rather than how much a Scout raised in the fundraiser. If a youth transfers to another unit, such funds cannot follow to the new unit through they could be applied to a future event. (As an example, a pack could apply funds for a graduating Arrow of Light Scout toward their summer camp fees for their new troop.)

RUPP PFALZGRAF IS PROUD TO SPONSOR THE WESTERN NEW YORK SCOUT COUNCIL

At Rupp Pfalzgraf, we are more than just lawyers. We are champions for our community.

1600 LIBERTY BUILDING
424 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

716.854.3400
RUPPPFALZGRAF.COM

*Earn your way
in Scouting!!*



**CONTACT US
FOR THE
EASIEST
FUNDRAISER
YOU'LL EVER
DO.**

WILSONBEEFFARMS.COM
FUNDRAISING@WILSONBEEFFARMS.COM

10751 HESS ROAD, CANASERAGA, NY 14882
(607)-545-8308

SNACK STICK FUNDRAISER



Wilson Beef Farms, LLC.

- Locally made with top quality beef and pork.
- Smoked to perfection and vacuum sealed for your convenience.
- A wholesome snack that's packed with protein.
- There's a flavor for everyone!
- 15 sticks per bag

PRICE:
(Per Bag)

1. REGULAR SNACK STICK



High quality, lean meats and tasty spices blended together and smoked for a mild flavor you will love!

2. SPICY SNACK STICK



For those who like a touch of heat, try this flavor! With a little crushed red pepper added, it is in between mild and hot!

3. SNACKARONI SNACK STICK



A great treat with a hotter flavor similar to pepperoni. This excellent flavor is sure to make your mouth sizzle!

4. TERIYAKI SNACK STICK



This is a sweet addition to our terrific snack stick line. Kids go wild for this flavor!

5. CHEDDAR CHEESE SNACK STICK



To our original mild stick we've added cheddar cheese for a winning combination. What a delightful snack!

6. JALAPENO CHEESE SNACK STICK

We've added the warmth of jalapenos in the form of cheese to our original mild stick to make this wonderfully delicious flavor!

7. HONEY BARBEQUE SNACK STICK

We've channeled the South to develop this mouthwatering flavor. This stick is tangy and sweet with just a hint of spice. It's a delectable stick you're sure to enjoy!

8. MOTTI SNACK STICK

We've really kicked it up a notch with this flavorful stick! With crushed red pepper and just a touch of cayenne, this stick really brings the heat!

9. RASPBERRY CHIPOTLE

Bursting with raspberry flavor from the moment you take a bite, this flavor is a pleasant surprise for your taste buds!

10. HABANERO MANGO

This snack stick combines the sweet undertones of mango with the heat of habanero to make the perfect "sweet heat" snack stick!


11. BUFFALO WING STYLE

This pleasantly fiery flavor incorporates a hint of bleu cheese with the taste of buffalo wings!


12. MIXED SNACK STICK BAG

For those who can't decide or who enjoy all of the flavors, try our mixed bag!

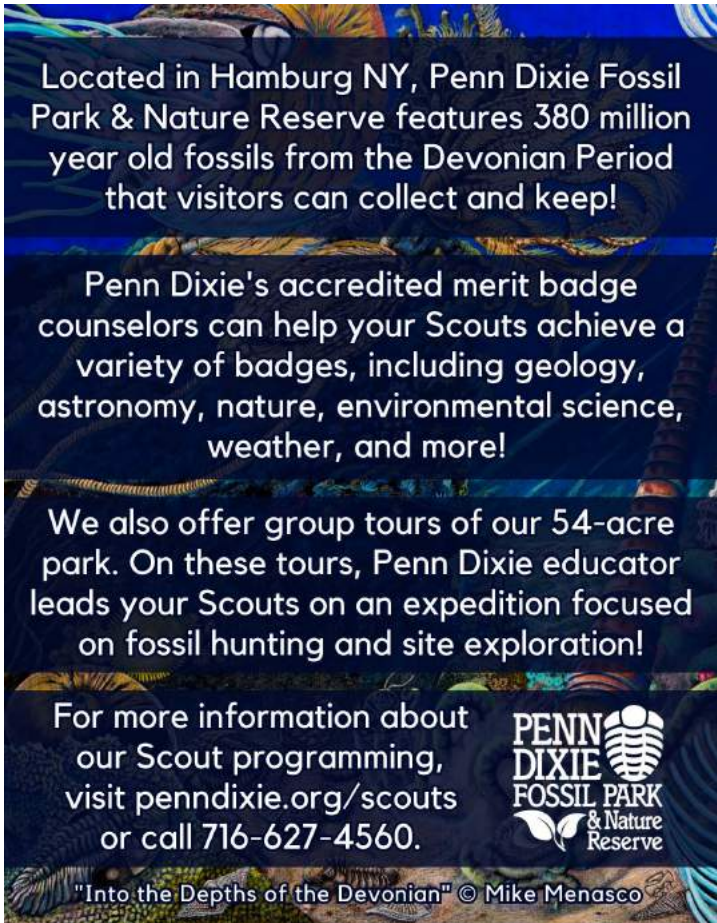
**EVERYTHING FOR WORK AND FUN
ABC IS NUMBER ONE**



3336 Bailey Ave, Buffalo
abcwny.com
716-803-7000
New ownership!



DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK
TRADE YOUR PORTABLE GAS GENERATOR &
RECEIVE \$500 CREDIT TOWARD
THE PURCHASE OF ANY NATURAL GAS
OR PROPANE HOME STAND-BY GENERATOR
CALL NOW FOR A FREE IN HOME ESTIMATE




Located in Hamburg NY, Penn Dixie Fossil Park & Nature Reserve features 380 million year old fossils from the Devonian Period that visitors can collect and keep!

Penn Dixie's accredited merit badge counselors can help your Scouts achieve a variety of badges, including geology, astronomy, nature, environmental science, weather, and more!

We also offer group tours of our 54-acre park. On these tours, Penn Dixie educator leads your Scouts on an expedition focused on fossil hunting and site exploration!

For more information about our Scout programming, visit penn Dixie.org/scouts or call 716-627-4560.



"Into the Depths of the Devonian" © Mike Menasco





North Buffalo Rink

Public Skating Every Day
Open Figure Skating
Ice Skating Lessons
Hourly Ice Rentals
Birthday Parties
Group Parties

Play on the ice
at North Buffalo Rink

More Information at northbuffalorink.com



WHAT IS SCOUTBOOK?

Scoutbook is a user friendly app developed to help to simplify Scouting by making advancement tools, record keeping, and tracking a Scouts progress accessible at your fingertips!

The best part? **It is entirely FREE for all users!**

FOR LEADERS

Scoutbook provides access to valuable tools and resources that will help with the day-to-day management of a unit, giving every leader more of what they need most: TIME!

FOR PARENTS

With hectic family schedules, staying informed and connected with what your Scout is doing is critical for any parent on-the-go.

FOR SCOUTS

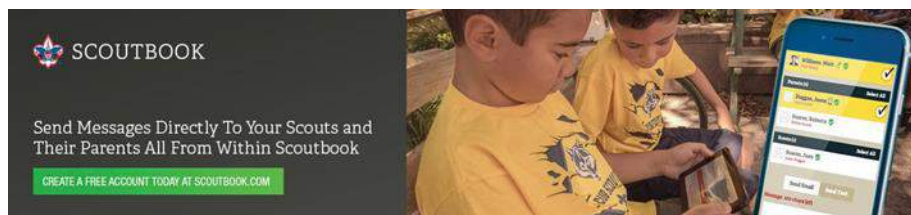
With customizable profiles and interactive features, Scoutbook puts the excitement of advancement into the hands of the Scout. They can share their success with friends and family as they progress through the program!

GETTING STARTED

If you don't have a Scoutbook account yet, visit [Scoutbook.com](https://scoutbook.com) to create one now. If your unit hasn't signed up for their Scoutbook account yet, don't worry, you can still log on and create an account for your Scout.

WHAT CAN SCOUTBOOK DO?

- Track a Scout's advancement
- Track logs like service hours, hiking, and camping
- View parent and/or Scout profiles
- Upload photos
- Send messages to leaders, Scouts, and parents
- Provide parent access to your Scouts' accounts
- Helps plan den meetings



ideal year of scouting steps



1

PLAN

1. Plan: Work your way through this guide and map out the advancement, activities, camping and training you'll need for your Ideal Year of Scouting.

2

FUND



2. Fund: Determine the expenses from all the activities, advancements, camping and training your unit wants to do, then decide how much fundraising your unit must do to cover those expenses.



3

GROW

3. Grow: When you have a good plan, communicate to your current and potential Scouts to engage more boys and girls in the Scouting program, along with their parents to help make it all happen.

4

TRAIN



4. Train: Plan to promote trainings to your current and new leaders; every Scout deserves a trained leader.

5

RECHARTER



5. Recharter: Re-register your unit annually with new youth and parents added to your roster.

6

ASSESS



6. Assess: Use the Promise to Parents recommendations to measure the success of your plan and your year.

Pack _____ of _____ District
2024 Scouting's Journey to Excellence
"The BSA method for annual planning and continuous improvement"

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget					Total Points: 200		
#1	Will conduct an Annual Program Planning event to develop a pack calendar following the steps outlined in the training module Annual Program Planning for Cub Scouting. Will use the Planning Your Annual Pack Budget and Pack Budget Worksheet (or similar) to develop a budget that supports your annual program plan.	Will create a pack program calendar and budget that will be adopted by the pack committee and will be distributed to all families in the pack.	Achieve Bronze, plus pack will conduct an Annual Program Planning event for the following program year.	Achieve Silver, plus will conduct an annual family orientation. 80% of families will be connected to their Scout in Scoutbook	50	100	200
Membership					Total Points: 500		
#2	Building Cub Scouting: Will recruit new youth into the pack in order to grow membership.	Will conduct at least one event that includes prospective families by October 31st. Pin on beascout.org will show current Pack information.	Achieve Bronze, plus will start at least one new den of Lions (Kindergarten) or a new den of Tigers (1st grade). Each new den must have a dedicated den leader and at least five youth.	Achieve Bronze, plus will start at least two new Lion dens, or two new Tiger dens, or one of each. Each new den must have a dedicated den leader and at least five youth.	50	100	200
#3	Retention: Will retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Will reregister 62% of eligible members.	Will reregister 70% of eligible members and will conduct a pack activity that features programing for parents and other family members.	Will achieve Silver, plus 50% of families will volunteer for at least one task.	50	100	200
#4	Scouts BSA transition: Will have a plan to transition 5th grade Arrow of Light Webelos into a Scouts BSA troop.	With a troop, will hold two joint activities or 75% of 5th graders will earn the Arrow of Light	60% of Arrow of Light Scouts join a Scouts BSA Troop.	80% of Arrow of Light Scouts join a Scouts BSA Troop.	25	50	100
Program					Total Points: 800		
#5	Advancement: Will achieve a high percentage of Cub Scouts achieving advancements.	90% of Cub Scouts will earn the Bobcat Adventure.	Will earn Bronze, plus 80% of Cub Scouts will earn six Adventures during the program year (June 1 to May 31)	Will earn Silver, plus 75% of Cub Scouts will earn their badge of rank by May 31.	100	200	300
#6	Activities: Will conduct special activities and outings.	Pack will organize one special event or activity for all families outside of a regular pack meeting	Pack will organize two special events or activities for families outside of a regular pack meeting. At least one of these events, or activities, will be conducted outside.	Will achieve Silver, plus will conduct pack derby (pinewood or rain gutter regatta) and a pack Blue and Gold celebration.	50	100	200
#7	Outdoor Activities: Cub Scouts will attend day camp, family camp, and/or resident camp. (Includes council-offered alternatives)	A minimum of one registered adult leader in the pack will have completed Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation training, and 51% of Cub Scouts in a the pack will participate in either a council organized Cub Scout activity or pack overnigher.	Will attain a ratio of 1:20 registered adults who are Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation-trained to Cub Scouts registered, and 60% of Cub Scouts in the pack will participate in either a council-organized Cub Scout activity or pack overnigher.	Will achieve Silver, plus 60% of Cub Scouts in a pack will participate in an overnight camping experience OR 50% will participate with an improvement over the previous year.	50	100	200
#8	Service projects: Will participate in service projects. (Includes home engagements serving others)	Will participate in one service project and will enter the hours in Scoutbook or Internet Advancement.	Will achieve Bronze, plus an average of 30 minutes per participant during the service project.	Will achieve Silver, plus 50% of pack will participate at the service project. (Family members of Cub Scouts count for but not against %.)	25	50	100
Volunteer Leadership					Total Points: 400		
#9	Volunteer Opportunities: The pack will be proactive in providing volunteer opportunities and recruiting leadership.	Will develop a list of tasks to fulfill your pack program for the year based on the Annual Program Planning event and will provide families an opportunity to select vounteer tasks.	Will achieve Bronze, plus prior to new program year, returning dens will have den leaders recruited and new dens will have den leaders recruited by Oct 31 or within 30 days of den establishment.	Will achieve Silver, plus will develop a succession plan for Cubmaster and Committee Chair using the <i>Recruiting Cub Scout Leaders</i> brochure. Will register at least one "new" leader.	50	100	200
#10	Trained leadership: Will have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training. (Online/remote training is acceptable.)	Cubmaster and Pack Committee Chair and 2 members of the committee will have completed position-specific training for their positions.	Will achieve Bronze, plus all den leaders will have completed the <i>Before Your First Meeting</i> online training modules by October 31st or within 30 days of registration.	Will achieve Silver, plus all den leaders will have completed position-specific training by December 31st or within 30 days of registration.	50	100	200

Bronze: Earn at least 525 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives. **Total points earned:** _____
Silver: Earn at least 800 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.
Gold: Earn at least 1,050 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives and at least bronze in #6. **No. of objectives with points:** _____

Our pack has completed online rechartering by the deadline in order to maintain continuity of our program.

We certify that these requirements have been completed:

Cubmaster _____ Date _____

Committee chair _____ Date _____

Commissioner _____ Date _____

This form should be turned in to your unit commissioner or the Scout service center as directed by your council.



PROGRAM PLANNING

Planning your program is the first step in the *Ideal Year of Scouting* process. Use this guide to plan your program and provide unparalleled experience for your Scouts.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget					Total Points: 200		
#1	Will conduct an Annual Program Planning event to develop a pack calendar following the steps outlined in the training module Annual Program Planning for Cub Scouting. Will use the Planning Your Annual Pack Budget and Pack Budget Worksheet (or similar) to develop a budget that supports your annual program plan.	Will create a pack program calendar and budget that will be adopted by the pack committee and will be distributed to all families in the pack.	Achieve Bronze, plus pack will conduct an Annual Program Planning event for the following program year.	Achieve Silver, plus will conduct an annual family orientation. 80% of families will be connected to their Scout in Scoutbook	50	100	200

#1 Program Plans and budget are reviewed with den leaders and parents at the start of the program year. Families are connected through Scoutbook. The Pack’s program plan should be shared with your Commissioner

PLANNING & BUDGET

Utilizing Journey to Excellence criteria, the first step on the Ideal Year of Scouting path helps you develop an annual program plan, a budget to go along with that plan, and a fundraising plan to reach your program goals. The result is a well-managed, well-financed Scouting unit that spends time Scouting and not raising money.

DEVELOPING YOUR PROGRAM:

- **Brainstorm:** Hold a brainstorming session with youth and make a list of activities. Include a wide range of activities like field trips and service projects.
- **Evaluate:** The unit committee evaluates each suggestion and goes back to the unit with an “approved” list.
- **Vote:** From that “approved” list, have youth vote on their first, second, and third choices. The activities receiving the most votes should be put into your program plan.
- **Finalize:** Put the program plan to paper and into your unit calendar. Be transparent and share your plan with all families in the pack.

FUNDING YOUR PROGRAM:

So you’ve got a great program plan in place, now how are you going to pay for it? To get started download the Pack Budget Planner at: www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS

Four Steps for a Successful Fundraising Campaign

1. Establish an annual plan and budget using the Pack Budget Planner on page.
2. Determine the expenses from all activities, advancements, camping and training your unit wants to do, then decide how much popcorn or how many camp cards your unit must sell to cover those expenses.
3. Set a pack fundraising sales goal and break down to a per-Scout/goal based on your budget.
4. Put together an exciting popcorn or camp card kickoff for your unit. Communicate sales goals and share Trails End prize program details. Offer additional incentives for Scouts to sell. For example, sell \$600 and you get to throw a pie in your Cubmaster’s face! Be sure to utilize all of the sales methods that are available to you to make sure your Pack hits its sales goals.
 - Take order
 - Show and Sell the products.

UNIT MONEY-EARNING APPLICATION:

If your pack, troop or crew is interested in doing a fundraiser outside of the two board of directors approved fundraisers (popcorn and camp cards), please submit the Unit Money-Earning Application to your district executive no later than 14 days before the fundraising activity. Our Council simply needs to be made aware of additional fundraising you are doing to field any potential inquiries. No portion of the funds raised will be expected at the Council level nor will any portion of the activity be monitored or overseen. These additional fundraisers are purely the responsibility of unit leadership and must abide by BSA National Guidelines listed on the back of the application. Keep in mind, Cub Scouts should participate in no more than 2-3 fundraising events within a program year.

Program Expenses		Annual Cost per Scout/Unit	Number of Scouts / Adults	Total Unit Cost
Registration & Program Fee	# youth	\$135.00		\$0.00
Registration & Program Fee	# Adults	\$115.00		\$0.00
Charter Fee	Yearly flat fee	\$75.00		\$75.00
Scout Life Subscription	1/household	\$12.00		\$0.00
Advancement	Ideally 100% of youth to earn belt loops, pins, activity badges, etc.	\$18.00		\$0.00
Recognition	1 for each youth (Thank you's, etc.)	\$10.00		\$0.00
Special Events	Blue and Gold			\$0.00
	Pinewood Derby			\$0.00
	Webelos Graduation			\$0.00
	Other			\$0.00
Special Activities	<u>Location</u>			
Field Trip A				\$0.00
Field Trip B				\$0.00
Field Trip C				\$0.00
Field Trip D				\$0.00
Camp				
Wolf Camp	Per youth			\$0.00
Bear Camp	Per youth			\$0.00
Webelos Camp	Per youth			\$0.00
Cub Family Camp	For Cub and Parent			\$0.00
Leader's fees				\$0.00
Program Materials	Ceremony supplies, den projects, camping items, etc.			\$0.00
Leader Basic Training				\$0.00
Reserve Fund	Registration Scholarships			\$0.00
Other Expenses	Contingency Funds			\$0.00
Total Budgeted Program Expenses				\$60.00
Income				
Annual Dues	(Monthly x's 9 to 12)			\$0.00
Surplus from prior year	(Beginning fund balance)			\$0.00
Other Income	(Parent payments, etc)			\$0.00
Income subtotal				\$0.00
Fundraising needed				

The final portion of the Budget Planner helps you identify your Popcorn goals. Enter the anticipated overall retail goal for your Pack's Popcorn Sale. You can determine the Scout goal by dividing this number with the number of Scouts in your Pack. Also be sure to enter the total amount of fees and additional fundraising money. Ideally your final Budget Surplus/Deficit will be near \$0. All money collected through fees and fundraising should go back into the program for that year.

MEMBERSHIP

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Membership					Total Points: 500		
#2	Building Cub Scouting: Will recruit new youth into the pack in order to grow membership.	Will conduct at least one event that includes prospective families by October 31st. Pin on beascout.org will show current Pack information.	Achieve Bronze, plus will start at least one new den of Lions (Kindergarten) or a new den of Tigers (1st grade). Each new den must have a dedicated den leader and at least five youth.	Achieve Bronze, plus will start at least two new Lion dens, or two new Tiger dens, or one of each. Each new den must have a dedicated den leader and at least five youth.	50	100	200
#3	Retention: Will retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Will reregister 62% of eligible members.	Will reregister 70% of eligible members and will conduct a pack activity that features programming for parents and other family members.	Will achieve Silver, plus 50% of families will volunteer for at least one task.	50	100	200

#2 A recruitment is conducted by October 31. A “new” den has newly recruited members. A den of Tigers which last year was a Lion den is not a “new” den.

#3 Number of youth members on the most recent charter renewal (A) divided by the number of youth registered at the end of the prior charter year (B) plus new members recruited during the year (C) minus any age-outs (D). Total = (A) / (B+C-D). Age-outs are youth who are too old to reregister as Cub Scouts. For more information, see Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) for Unit JTE.

GROWING CUB SCOUTING!

The next step on your path to the Ideal Year of Scouting is recruitment. Recruiting new families is essential to ensure the longevity of any Cub Scout Pack. All packs should strive for an increase in Cub Scout membership annually and hold recruitment events year-round.

Sign Up for Scouting

In September and October, all across Western New York, over 1,000 new youth will join the fun of Scouting! Your pack’s sign up event is one of the most critical events you will plan all year. Here are a few helpful hints to ensure your pack’s recruitment night is a success.

1. Plan Your *Ideal Year of Scouting*

- Create annual program plan
- Tie plan to a budget
- Communicate plan to Scouting families during Parent Orientation Meeting / Program Kick-off

2. Work with your District Executive and Membership Team

- Determine level of school access
- Develop a customized plan for every elementary school to promote Scouting

3. Have a Marketing Plan

Get the word out about your Join Night! For every elementary school, choose twelve steps to grow Scouting, including active and passive promotions. Marketing materials like fliers, posters, and yard signs provided at www.wnyscouting.org/recruitment

4. Select Adult Leaders

Join Night should be about recruiting youth, not selecting leaders. Identify your leaders before the School Night or prior to your Parent Orientation Meeting.

RETENTION BEST PRACTICES

While recruiting new youth is essential, it is just as critical to retain current Scouts. The Scouting program transforms lives and the longer a youth is in the program, the more impact it has on their life. Packs should set a goal to reregister at least 75% of eligible youth members each year. Use the following tips to strengthen your retention efforts.

- Attend a Western New York Scout Council summer camp. Studies show Scouts that attend camp are more likely to stay involved in the program.
- Every new Scout should advance in rank, earning at least Bobcat within the first 30 days of joining.
- Adult leadership in your pack should build an active relationship with the family of each Scout. Have conversations on a regular basis to discuss the Scouts journey.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
#4	Webelos-to-Scout transition: Will have a plan to transition 5th grade Arrow of Light Webelos into a Scouts BSA troop.	With a troop, will hold two joint activities (live or virtual) or 75% of second-year Webelos will earn the Arrow of Light	60% of eligible Webelos will register with a troop.	80% of eligible Webelos will register with a troop.	25	50	100

#4 Hold at least two joint activities with a troop or troops. Arrow of Light Scouts join a Troop. If the Pack has no second-year Webelos Scouts, this requirement is met at the Bronze level.

ARROW OF LIGHT TO SCOUT TRANSITION

The Scouting journey doesn't end for a youth after earning the Arrow of Light... in fact it's just beginning! It should be the goal of every pack to graduate every Webelos Scout into a troop. Here are five tips to help this goal become a reality.

- 1. Develop a working relationship with the leadership of a Scout troop or troops in the community.**
- 2. Work with troop leaders to secure den chiefs for each Webelos den and Cub Scout den.**
- 3. Work with troop leaders to plan and conduct Webelos overnight activities.**
- 4. Work with troop leaders to plan visits to troop meetings.**
- 5. Plan a meaningful crossover ceremony at the pack's blue and gold banquet.**



CREATE A SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE ON FACEBOOK



Follow these DOs and DON'Ts for your Social Media Campaign:

- DO create multiple administrators and maintain 2 deep leadership online (no private messages to youth!)
- DO post consistently, ideally at least once a week but no more than twice a day
- DO encourage interactivity through photo contests, opinion polls, trivia questions,
- DO consider having a dedicated volunteer to monitor your page frequently and promptly reply to any inquiries or ensure all posts conform to the Scout Oath and Law
- DON'T post last names of youth members or any identifying information such as birthdates, addresses or contact info
- DON'T create a page that sits dormant giving the idea that your Unit is not active
- DON'T forget to complete the About section with relevant info including the dates & times of your meetings and contact info for your New Member Coordinator
- DON'T allow private groups that cannot be monitored appropriately

BEST PRACTICES

Posts containing pictures or video get 39% more interaction than simple text posts!!

Utilize hashtags such as #AdventureOn, #ScoutsBSA, #BeAScout, #CubScout

Tag other Facebook Pages such as your School, PTA, your Scouting District and/or the Western New York Scout Council. (ex. @WNYCBSA)

PROGRAM

CUB SCOUT PROGRAMMING

Another important component of the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is program. Program is the “core” of Scouting and encompasses everything from the outdoors to advancement. Exciting programs are why youth join and stay in Cub Scouts! It’s our job as leaders to make sure there’s adventure at every turn in youth’s Scouting journey.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
	Program				Total Points: 800		
#5	Advancement: Will achieve a high percentage of Cub Scouts earning rank advancements.	90% of new Cub Scouts will earn their Bobcat Badge by December 31st.	Will earn Bronze, plus 80% of Cub Scouts will earn twelve Adventures during the program year (June 1 to May 31.)	Will earn Silver, plus 75% of Cub Scouts will earn their badge of rank by May 31.	100	200	300

#5 New Cub Scouts earn Bobcat badge quickly. Pack Members earn Adventures and earn their new Rank.



ADVANCEMENT

Recognition is important to Cub Scouts! The Cub Scout advancement plan provides fun for Scouts, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members work with youth on advancement projects. Advancement also keeps youth in Scouting longer. Packs should plan to have at least 75% of their Cub Scouts advance in rank each year.

Make sure every new Scout earns Bobcat within the first 30 days of joining.



CAMPING

Camping is an integral part of the Cub Scout program. Whether it's a weekend overnight or a weeklong Day Camp, Cub Scouts who go camping stay in Scouting longer. It should be the goal of every Cub Scout Pack to participate in at least 5 outdoor activities each year. Packs should encourage all of their Scouts to participate in Day Camp and/or Cub Scout Resident Camp each summer.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
#6	Activities: Will conduct special activities and outings.	Pack will organize one special event or activity for all families outside of a regular pack meeting	Pack will organize two special events or activities for families outside of a regular pack meeting. At least one of these events, or activities, will be conducted outside.	Will achieve Silver, plus will conduct pack derby (pinewood, space, or rain gutter regatta) and a pack Blue and Gold celebration.	50	100	200

#6 Pack has activities for members and families. Some can be indoors, but preferably outdoors. Special activities (Pinewood Derby, space or rain gutter regatta) are particularly effective programs.

PLANNING A CUB SCOUT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Cub Scout events should be fun, family-oriented, and safe. When planning an outdoor activity, leaders should be mindful of Youth Protection standards, and review the BSA Guide to Safe Scouting as they prepare the event. Here are some other tips:

- Obtain written permission (informed consent agreement—see the Cub Scout Leader Book for this form) from parents or guardians for activities that are held away from the regular den and Pack meeting places.
- Plan ahead to have sufficient adult supervision for the activity and in the event of an emergency.
- Check out the site before the activity. Check on reservation procedures, restroom facilities, availability of adequate drinking water, and any potential hazards.
- Use the buddy system. Coach the youth in advance on what to do if they get lost.
- Carry a first-aid kit and know how to use it. Be prepared with emergency procedures written for each activity site or location.
- Always leave a site in its natural condition.

For additional information on specific activities not covered in this document, refer to Age-Appropriate Guidelines for Scouting Activities, included in the Guide to Safe Scouting and online at

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>.

CUB SCOUT SUMMERTIME FUN ELECTIVE

Tiger, Wolf and Bear Scouts, and Webelos Scouts have the opportunity to earn the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award. Youth may earn the award in each of the program years as long as the requirements are completed each year. The first time the award is earned, the youth will receive the pocket flap award, which is to be worn on the right pocket flap of the uniform shirt. Each successive time the award is earned, a Wolf track pin may be added to the flap. Leaders should encourage youth to build on skills and experiences from previous years when working on the award for a successive year.

For the complete requirements, visit

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/csoutdoor/>

The National Summertime Pack Award is to encourage Packs to provide a yearround program by continuing to meet during the time periods when school is out of session for several weeks or months. If a Pack is in a 'year-round school' (or is of a home-school association), the Pack could earn the Summertime Pack Award by having a special Pack activity during those breaks. Camping is an integral part of the Cub Scout program. Whether it's a weekend overnight or a weeklong Day Camp, Cub Scouts who go camping stay in Scouting longer. It should be the goal of every Cub Scout Pack to participate in at least 5 outdoor activities each year. Packs should encourage all of their Scouts to participate in Day Camp and/or Cub Scout Resident Camp each summer.



PLANNING A CUB SCOUT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Cub Scout events should be fun, family-oriented, and safe. When planning an outdoor activity, leaders should be mindful of Youth Protection standards, and review the BSA Guide to Safe Scouting as they prepare the event. Here are some other tips:

- Obtain written permission (informed consent agreement—see the Cub Scout Leader Book for this form) from parents or guardians for activities that are held away from the regular den and Pack meeting places.
- Plan ahead to have sufficient adult supervision for the activity and in the event of an emergency.
- Check out the site before the activity. Check on reservation procedures, restroom facilities, availability of adequate drinking water, and any potential hazards.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
#7	Outdoor Activities: Cub Scouts will attend day camp, family camp, and/or resident camp. (Includes council-offered alternatives)	A minimum of one registered adult leader in the pack will have completed Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation training, and 51% of Cub Scouts in a the pack will participate in either a council organized Cub Scout activity or pack overnighter.	Will attain a ratio of 1:20 registered adults who are Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation-trained to Cub Scouts registered, and 60% of Cub Scouts in the pack will participate in either a council-organized Cub Scout activity or pack overnighter.	Will achieve Silver, plus 60% of Cub Scouts in a pack will participate in an overnight camping experience OR 50% will participate with an improvement over the previous year.	50	100	200

#7 Cub Scouts attend council activity or Pack overnighter. Total different Cub Scouts attending (A) divided by total Cub Scouts registered as of 6/30/22. Total = (A)/(B). Ratio of 1:20: with 21 Cub Scouts, 2 adults; with 41 Cub Scouts, 3 adults, etc..

- Use the buddy system. Coach the youth in advance on what to do if they get lost.
- Carry a first-aid kit and know how to use it. Be prepared with emergency procedures written for each activity site or location.
- Always leave a site in its natural condition.

For additional information on specific activities not covered in this document, refer to Age-Appropriate Guidelines for Scouting Activities, included in the Guide to Safe Scouting and online at <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Giving back is an essential part of the Scouting experience. Nothing your Scout unit can do raises community awareness more than a service project. These good turns are some of our best marketing tools and they send the message that Scouts are here and they’re making life better for others. Plan to participate in at least 3 service projects each year with your pack and make sure you record your project and hours online at www.scouting.org/jte.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
#8	Service projects: Will participate in service projects. (Includes home engagements serving others)	Will participate in one service project and will enter the hours in Scoutbook or Internet Advancement.	Will achieve Bronze, plus an average of 30 minutes per participant during the service project.	Will achieve Silver, plus 50% of pack will participate at the service project. (Family members of Cub Scouts count for but not against %.)	25	50	100

#8 The Pack participates in a service project during the year and enters it through Scoutbook. Time averages adults and youth. Average = total time contributed by all participants (adults and youth) divided by number of participants. Participants do not need to be members.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Giving back is an essential part of the Scouting experience. Nothing your Scout unit can do raises more goodwill and community awareness more than a service project. These “good turns” are some of our best marketing tools and they send the message that Scouts are here and they’re making life better for others.

Plan to participate in at least 5 **service projects** each year with your pack and make sure you record your project and hours online.

PAY IT FORWARD

Service is one of the most important values we have in Scouting. The Scout Oath calls on us all to “help other people at all times.” The Scout Law says a Scout is Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, and Kind. These may be the most important ideals a young person takes away from their time in our program, no matter how long they stay in Scouting.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

As Scouts, most of us know how fortunate we are to have a warm meal every night — whether around the campfire or at the kitchen table. And we know that not everyone is so lucky. That’s what “Scouting for Food,” the annual food collection drive, is all about. Our council is proud to bring the “Scouting for Food” tradition back to our hometowns every spring.

RECORDING SERVICE HOURS

Tracking service hours is now easier than ever! Simply enter service hours in the Activities module in Internet Advancement and Scoutbook. Any service hours recorded in Internet Advancement now feed directly into Journey To Excellence Ever better - units will no longer need to record their hours in the Good Turn For America platform.

Pack & Den Meetings

Youth in Cub Scouting meet regularly. Weekly den meetings are like stepping-stones: each week a Scout progresses a little further toward the next rank, learning skills as they go. The monthly pack meetings are like milestones that mark achievements along the Cub Scout trail and celebrate accomplishments along the way. Boring or unorganized meetings are the number one reason Cub Scouts drop out of Scouting! Don’t fall into the trap of the same old routine. Below are some tips to make sure your meetings work.

- 1. Plan Your Meetings in Advance:** Plan your meetings ahead of time with emphasis on the flow of activities.
- 2. Code of Conduct:** Establish the rules that each meeting will follow.
- 3. Ceremonies:** Ceremonies are important for marking the beginning and end of each meeting. They are also a time for reinforcing the aims and purposes of Scouting and bringing the Scouts together.
- 4. Immediate Recognition:** Using immediate recognition is a method of encouragement along the advancement trail. Congratulate Scouts enthusiastically for their efforts.
- 5. Treats:** Scouts love goodies! Simple nutritious refreshments add a finishing touch.



DOWNLOAD PACK & DEN MEETING PLANS AND OTHER RESOURCES AT: www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/



SO, YOU'RE A NEW DEN LEADER

Welcome to the fun and adventure of Cub Scouts. Your time volunteering as a Den Leader will be both rewarding and fun.

Now, you may be asking yourself. *"What Did I Get Myself Into?"* Don't worry, you're not alone and we're here to help! In fact, hundreds of thousands of adults just like you have done this before. So, we're going to use their knowledge and some tips and tricks so you don't have to "re-invent the wheel" as you plan for your den meetings.

DEN LEADER EXPERIENCE

Gone are the days of juggling den leader guides and other hard-copy resources. Now it's all in Scoutbook! Scoutbook makes planning your year, preparing for meetings and tracking advancement so much easier--and right at your fingertips!

- Create Meeting Plans
- Update your Den's Calendar
- Access Online Den Leader resources

Learn more: <https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/pack-meeting-resources/pack-meeting-plans/>

HOW TO GET STARTED

STEP 1: GET TRAINED

The BSA is a proven leader in developing training and policies designed to keep young people safe. The first thing any new leader must do is create a [my.scouting](https://my.scouting.org) account and complete Youth Protection Training.

STEP 2: KNOW YOUR DEN

Before you hold your first den meeting you need know who's in your den and when and where it's happening. Complete a den roster to get started.

STEP 3: GET THE UNIFORM

The uniform is an iconic and important part of the Scouting experience. By putting on the uniform, you also set the example for all the Scouts in your den.

STEP 4: FOLLOW THE GUIDE

Den Leader Guides are your best resource along with online lesson plans through Scoutbook. Both contain detailed and specific meeting plans for all required and elective adventures.

STEP 5: CONDUCT YOUR FIRST MEETING

The Scouts will be showing up for their first meeting soon!

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
#10	Volunteer Opportunities: The pack will be proactive in providing volunteer opportunities and recruiting leadership.	Will develop a list of tasks to fulfill your pack program for the year based on the Annual Program Planning event and will provide families an opportunity to select volunteer tasks.	Will achieve Bronze, plus prior to new program year, returning dens will have den leaders recruited and new dens will have den leaders recruited by Oct 31 or within 30 days of den establishment.	Will achieve Silver, plus will develop a succession plan for Cubmaster and Committee Chair using the <i>Recruiting Cub Scout Leaders</i> brochure. Will register at least one "new" leader.	50	100	200

#10 Develop a list of tasks for the Pack that families can choose. For Gold, ideally, the "new" leader has never been registered. At least, the "new" leader must not have been registered for the past three years..

CUB SCOUT LEADERSHIP

Volunteers make the Scouting program go. The BSA relies on its dedicated volunteers to promote its mission of preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Ensuring adequate volunteer support is the final step in the *Ideal Year of Scouting*.

LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT

Your pack could always use more volunteer help, right? But before you recruit a new leader, it is important to know what you need. Use the Pack Succession Planning Worksheet, in the training section to find out what volunteer positions are vacant. You should also plan your succession strategy to make

sure you identify future leaders now instead of later.

New recruits will also want to know their responsibilities and your expectations for them. Ask your pack families what volunteer positions they would like to fill. Use the New Parent Survey to help identify potential volunteers.



DOWNLOAD THE FAMILY TALENT SURVEY AT <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/cubscoutmeetingguide/pdf/appendix/34362.pdf>

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
#11	Trained leadership: Will have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training. (Online/remote training is acceptable.)	Cubmaster and Pack Committee Chair and 2 members of the committee will have completed position-specific training for their positions.	Will achieve Bronze, plus all den leaders will have completed the Before Your First Meeting online training modules by October 31st or within 30 days of registration.	Will achieve Silver, plus all den leaders will have completed position-specific training by December 31st or within 30 days of registration.	50	100	200

#11 All leaders have completed youth protection training. Bronze: Cubmaster, Committee Chair, 2 Committee members completed position specific training. Silver: Bronze, plus all den leaders have completed "Before Your First Den Meeting" by 10/31 or within 30 days of joining. Gold: Silver, plus all den leaders have completed position specific training by 12/31 or within 30 days of joining.

TRAINED LEADERSHIP

Every Scout deserves a trained leader. A trained leader is knowledgeable and more confident in the role being performed. Trained leaders exhibit a knowledge and confidence that is picked up by people around them. Trained leaders impact the quality of programs, leader tenure, youth tenure, safety, and a whole lot more. A trained leader is better prepared to make the Scouting program all it can be!

Visit www.wnyscouting.org/training for the list of required trainings or to complete online training.



Family Talent Survey

You are a unique person with special talents, abilities, and resources that can help build our Cub Scout community. We want to tap into everyone's special talents. When we do this we will be able to provide the best possible experience for our Cub Scouts.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Please provide the best contact information for you. We understand that you may have multiple emails and phone numbers, and we want to assure you that the information you provide is only used by our local Cub Scout pack. Your information is not shared with anyone else.

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Occupation: _____ Job Title: _____

Hobbies/Talents: _____

At this time, what is your willingness and ability to participate? (Check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/> I would be willing to help with a meeting or special event	<input type="checkbox"/> I would be willing to teach a Cub Scout skill	<input type="checkbox"/> I would be willing to lead a special event or activity	<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in being a volunteer leader.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can come early to help set up <input type="checkbox"/> I can stay after to help clean up <input type="checkbox"/> I can help pick up craft supplies or refreshments <input type="checkbox"/> I live or work by the Scout Shop and pick up Advancements or drop off paperwork	What subject(s) or skill(s)? <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and crafts <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking <input type="checkbox"/> Camping <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. history <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Math <input type="checkbox"/> Woodworking <input type="checkbox"/> Sports <input type="checkbox"/> Health and nutrition <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	What type of events or activities? <input type="checkbox"/> Banquets or potlucks <input type="checkbox"/> Award ceremonies <input type="checkbox"/> Camping <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatics <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing <input type="checkbox"/> Boating <input type="checkbox"/> Service projects <input type="checkbox"/> Pinewood Derby <input type="checkbox"/> Raingutter Regatta <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising for Scouting <input type="checkbox"/> Product sales <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	What type of leadership position would you be interested in? <input type="checkbox"/> Working with my child and other children of my child's age with another adult leader. <input type="checkbox"/> Working with the other adults to support those who are working directly with Cub Scouts. <input type="checkbox"/> Working on administrative tasks such as record-keeping or communications.

What resources would you be willing to provide, when needed, for the Cub Scout pack? (Check all that apply.)

Vehicles	Adult meeting locations	Den meeting locations	Pack events locations	Other resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Truck or large SUV The pack might need a truck to pick up inventory for product sales, haul equipment, pull a trailer of equipment, or float in a parade. <input type="checkbox"/> Classic car for parades or special events.	<input type="checkbox"/> Space in your home to host adult meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor space to host adult meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Access to a location for adult meetings	<input type="checkbox"/> Space at your home to host small meetings of 12 or fewer Cub Scouts <input type="checkbox"/> Access to a location to host small meetings of 12 or fewer Cub Scouts	<input type="checkbox"/> Space at your home to host large events outside <input type="checkbox"/> Access to a location to host large events outside <input type="checkbox"/> Access to a location to host large events inside	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra camping gear <input type="checkbox"/> A workshop with woodworking tools <input type="checkbox"/> A/V equipment (microphone, speakers) <input type="checkbox"/> Large kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____ _____

PACK SUCCESSION PLANNING WORKSHEET

POSITION	CURRENT	NEXT	NEXT	COMMENT
CUBMASTER				
ASSISTANT CUBMASTER				
ASSISTANT CUBMASTER				
COMMITTEE CHAIR				
SECRETARY				
TREASURER				
ADVANCEMENT				
MEMBERSHIP/ RECRUITING				
ACTIVITIES				
BLUE AND GOLD				
CAMPING POPCORN				

WESTERN NEW YORK SCOUT COUNCIL

SCOUT DAYS 2024 6 DAYS OF FANTASTIC FUN!

JULY 1 – JULY 7, 2024*

*not valid on July 4th

TICKETS ONLY \$32.00

for Scouts, families & friends!

Good for **unlimited rides & slides**, any one day

JULY 1– JULY 7, 2024*

*not valid on July 4th

BUY ONLINE
at **Seabreeze.com**
beginning May 1st

- Click on **Admissions & Offers**
- Go to **Group Events & Special Tickets** section
- Click on **Buy Tickets**
- Enter **Promo Code BSWNYSC2** when prompted



4600 Culver Road | Rochester, NY 14622
1-585-323-1900 or Toll Free NY 1-800-395-2500
www.seabreeze.com

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE SCOUTING COMMUNITY ON THE NIAGARA FRONTIER.

FOR ALL YOUR HOSPITALITY NEEDS IN NIAGARA
FALLS, NEW YORK PLEASE VISIT MERANI HOTEL GROUP
- MERANIHOTELGROUP.COM



(716) 299-0344



(716) 299-0344



(716) 524-3347



(716) 524-3333



(716) 285-2521



(716) 285-2521



(716) 285-2521

Elma Towne Grille

6850 Clinton St. (Corner of Bowen), Elma, NY 14059 (716)851-4619

Restaurant • Bar • Banquet • Catering

Banquet & Meeting Facilities

**Drop Off Catering Available
Anywhere You Need
For Parties Of 20 People
To Large Group Functions**

**Drop Off Catering For 50 People
Receive Free Side Dish!**

**Drop Off Catering for 100
People Receive Free Entree!**

**Off Site Banquet Facilities
Available For Up To 350 People!**

www.elmatownegrille.com

Chris Cady
Manager


Michael's

Floral Design



2910 Delaware Ave
Kenmore, NY, 14217
(716) 322-6810

michaelsfloral.com
michaelsfloral_design@yahoo.com



Brian R. Welsh, PLLC

Brian R. Welsh
Attorney at Law

19 Limestone Drive - Suite 4
Williamsville, New York 14221

Phone: 716/256-1300
Fax: 716/256-1307
brian@brianrwelshpllc.com

**DESIGN EMERGENCY?
LET US SAVE THE DAY!**

NEW YORK MARKETING
716.632.7200
NYGMSONLINE.COM



Diamond Cutters
of Western New York

2618 Union Rd.
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(716) 854-4455
www.wnydiamonds.com

ideal year of scouting steps



1
PLAN

1. Plan: Work your way through this guide and map out the advancement, activities, camping and training you'll need for your Ideal Year of Scouting.

2
FUND



2. Fund: Determine the expenses from all the activities, advancements, camping and training your units wants to do, then decide how much fundraising your unit must do to cover those expenses.



3
GROW

3. Grow: When you have a good plan, communicate to your current and potential Scouts to engage more boys and girls in the Scouting program, along with their parents to help make it all happen.

4
TRAIN



4. Train: Plan to promote trainings to your current and new leaders; every Scout deserves a trained leader.



5
RECHARTER

5. Recharter: Re-register your unit annually with new youth and parents added to your roster.

6
ASSESS



6. Assess: Use the Promise to Parents recommendations to measure the success of your plan and your year.

Troop _____ of _____ District
2024 Scouting's Journey to Excellence
"The BSA method for annual planning and continuous improvement"

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget					Total Points: 200		
#1	Planning and budget: Will have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, following BSA policies related to fundraising. (In person meetings are preferred; virtual/remote meetings are acceptable.)	Will have an annual program plan and budget adopted by the troop committee.	Will achieve Bronze, plus troop will conduct planning meeting involving youth leaders for following program year.	Will achieve Silver, plus troop committee will meet at least six times during the year to review program plans and finances.	50	100	200
Membership					Total Points: 500		
#2	Building Scouts BSA: Will recruit new youth into the troop in order to grow membership that is representative of the diversity of the community.	Will have membership growth plan that includes a recruitment activity or will use a personalized invitation method and have current pin on beascout.org.	Will achieve Bronze, and either increase youth members by 5% or have at least 25 members.	Will achieve Silver, and either increase youth members by 10% or have at least 35 members.	50	100	200
#3	Retention: Will retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Will reregister 75% of eligible members.	Will reregister 80% of eligible members.	Will reregister 85% of eligible members.	50	100	200
#4	Webelos-to-Scout transition: Will have an effective plan to recruit Webelos Scouts into the troop.	With a pack or Webelos den, will hold two joint activities.	Will achieve Bronze, plus register two Webelos Scouts.	Will achieve Bronze, plus provide at least one den chief to a pack and register five Webelos Scouts.	25	50	100
Program					Total Points: 900		
#5	Advancement: Will achieve a high percentage of Scouts BSA members earning rank advancements.	40% of Scouts BSA members will advance one rank during the year.	50% of Scouts BSA members will advance one rank during the year.	60% of Scouts BSA members will advance one rank during the year.	50	100	200
#6	Short-term camping: Will conduct short-term or weekend campouts throughout the year.	Will conduct four short-term overnight campouts.	Will conduct seven short-term overnight campouts.	Will conduct nine short-term overnight campouts.	50	100	200
#7	Long-term camping: Will participate in a long-term camp with a majority of the troop in attendance.	The troop will participate in a long-term camp.	60% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	70% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	50	100	200
#8	Service projects: Participate in service projects, with at least one benefiting the chartered organization.	Will participate in three service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/Internet Advancement.	Will participate in four service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/Internet Advancement.	Will participate in five service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/Internet Advancement.	25	50	100
#9	Patrol method: Will use the patrol method to develop youth leaders.	The troop will have patrols, and each will have a patrol leader. There will be an SPL, if more than one patrol. The PLC will meet at least four times a year.	Will achieve Bronze, plus PLC will meet at least six times. The troop will conduct patrol leader training.	Achieve Silver, plus PLC meets at least ten times. At least one Scout has attended an advanced training course, such as NYLT or Order of the Arrow Conference.	50	100	200
Volunteer Leadership					Total Points: 400		
#10	Leadership and family engagement: The troop is proactive in recruiting sufficient leaders and communicates regularly with parents.	Have at least one registered assistant Scoutmaster.	Achieve Bronze, plus the troop holds two courts of honor, where troop plans are reviewed with parents.	Achieve Bronze, plus the troop holds three courts of honor, where troop plans are reviewed with parents.	50	100	200
#11	Trained leadership: Have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training.	Scoutmaster or an assistant Scoutmaster will have completed position-specific training.	Will achieve Bronze, plus the Scoutmaster and 60% of assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining.	Will achieve Silver, plus two-thirds of active committee members will have completed position-specific training and at least one person will have attended an advanced training course involving a total of least 5 days. Will register at least one new leader.	50	100	200

Bronze: Earn at least 525 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.

Silver: Earn at least 750 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.

Gold: Earn at least 1,000 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.

Total points earned: _____

No. of objectives with points: _____

Our troop has completed online rechartering by the deadline in order to maintain continuity of our program.

We certify that these requirements have been completed:

Scoutmaster _____ Date _____

Committee chair _____ Date _____

Commissioner _____ Date _____

This form should be submitted to the Scout service center or your unit commissioner, as directed by your council.



PROGRAM PLANNING

PLANNING & BUDGET:

Utilizing Journey to Excellence criteria, the first step on the *Ideal Year of Scouting* path helps you develop an annual program plan, a budget to go along with that plan, and a fundraising plan to reach your program goals. The result is a well-managed, well-financed Scouting unit that spends time Scouting and not raising money.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget					Total Points: 200		
#1	Planning and budget: Will have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, following BSA policies related to fundraising. (In person meetings are preferred; virtual/remote meetings are acceptable.)	Will have an annual program plan and budget adopted by the troop committee.	Will achieve Bronze, plus troop will conduct planning meeting involving youth leaders for following program year.	Will achieve Silver, plus troop committee will meet at least six times during the year to review program plans and finances.	50	100	200

#1 The troop will have program plan and budget reviewed at all troop committee meetings. Troop will follow BSA policies relating to fundraising and fiscal management as found on Unit Money-Earning Application form and any other publication that the council has developed for fundraising and fiscal management. A meeting will be held with youth leaders where they are involved in developing plan for next program year. The troop's program plan should be shared with unit commissioner. Separate troops for males and females under the same chartered organization may have a shared unit committee. Committee meetings may be held remotely.

TROOP PROGRAM PLANNING CONFERENCE:

Each Patrol should elect a Patrol Leader to serve on the Patrol Leaders' Council. Once your Patrol Leaders' Council is formed, the troop should hold a Program Planning Conference. This conference should serve as the starting point for creating your annual program plan. While drafting your annual program plan it's important not to get stuck on what you have "always" done, but what you would "like to do." Steps in annual program planning include...

- **Brainstorm:** Brainstorm ideas of things you would like to do as a troop. Include a wide range of activities from campouts to service projects. At this point, everything goes on the board - no evaluation happens at this point.
- **Evaluate:** The troop committee evaluates each suggestion and goes
- back to the troop with the "approved list." Have youth vote on their First, Second and Third choices.
- **Draft the Plan:** Put together a draft of your annual program calendar. Assign potential activities for further research (cost, times, availability, etc.). Then finalize your plan including a budget and share with youth and troop families. Be sure to plan your calendar around council and district events. Review the Western New York Scout Council calendar online at www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS.

FUNDING YOUR PROGRAM:

So you've got a great program plan in place...but now how are you going to pay for it? To get started download the Troop Budget Planner at: www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS.

Four Steps for a Successful Fundraising Campaign

1. Establish an annual plan and budget using the Troop Budget Planner on the next page.
2. Determine the expenses from all activities, advancements, camping and training your unit wants to do, then decide how much popcorn your unit must sell to cover those expenses.
3. Set a troop fundraising sales goal and break down to a per-Scout-goal based on your budget.
4. Put together an exciting popcorn kickoff for your unit. Communicate sales goals and share Camp Master prize program details. Offer additional incentives for Scouts to sell. For example, sell \$100 and you get to throw a pie in your Scoutmaster's face!

For a fillable document, please visit www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS.

This calendar can be shared with potential new parents to showcase the amazing program you have planned!

Program Expenses		Annual Cost per Scout/Unit	Number of Scouts/ Adults	Total Unit Cost
Registration & Program Fee	# youth	\$135.00		\$0.00
Registration & Program Fee	# adults	\$115.00		
Charter Fee	Yearly flat fee	\$75.00		\$75.00
Scout Life Subscriptions	1/household	\$12.00		\$0.00
Advancement	Ideally 100% of youth included in badges and ranks	\$18.00		\$0.00
Camping Trips	<u>Location</u>			
Camping Trip # 1				\$0.00
Camping Trip # 2				\$0.00
Camping Trip # 3				\$0.00
Camping Trip # 4				\$0.00
Camping Trip # 5				\$0.00
Camping Trip # 6				\$0.00
District Event(s)				
Fall Camporee				\$0.00
Spring Camporee				\$0.00
Winter Klondike				\$0.00
Youth Summer Camp				\$0.00
Leader Camp Fees				\$0.00
Special Activities				\$0.00
Field Trips				\$0.00
Leader Recognition				\$0.00
Adult Leader Training	(LST, OLS)			\$0.00
Youth Leader Training	SPL, PL			\$0.00
Troop equipment purchases	(Tents, stoves, lanterns, etc.)			\$0.00
Troop equipment maintenance	(Tents, stoves, lanterns, etc.)			\$0.00
Webelos Transition Recognition Items	Handbook, Troop Neckerchief, etc			\$0.00
Total Budgeted Program Expenses				\$75.00
Income				
Annual Dues	Monthly amount 10-12 times			\$0.00
Surplus from prior year				\$0.00
Other Income	Parent payment, etc.			\$0.00
Income Sub Total				\$0.00
Fundraising needed				
Optional High Adventure Opportunities				
Philmont, Sea Base, Jamboree, etc.				
Troop sponsored events				

For Electric versions visit: www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS

The final portion of the Budget Planner helps you identify your Popcorn goals. Enter the anticipated overall retail goal for your Troop's Popcorn Sale. You can determine the Scout goal by dividing this number with the number of Scouts in your Troop. Also be sure to enter the total amount of fees and additional fundraising money. Ideally your final Budget Surplus/Deficit will be near \$0. All money collected through fees and fundraising should go back into the program for that year.

MEMBERSHIP

BUILDING SCOUTING

The next step on your path to the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is recruitment. Recruiting new youth is the lifeblood of our organization and is essential to ensure the longevity of any Scout Troop. All troops should strive for an increase in Scouts BSA membership annually and hold recruitment events year-round including their own Troop Open House.

Membership				Total Points: 500			
#2	Building Scouts BSA: Will recruit new youth into the troop in order to grow membership that is representative of the diversity of the community.	Will have membership growth plan that includes a recruitment activity or will use a personalized invitation method and have current pin on beascout.org.	Will achieve Bronze, and either increase youth members by 5% or have at least 25 members.	Will achieve Silver, and either increase youth members by 10% or have at least 35 members.	50	100	200
#3	Retention: Will retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Will reregister 75% of eligible members.	Will reregister 80% of eligible members.	Will reregister 85% of eligible members.	50	100	200

#2 The troop will have growth plan to serve diversity of our community and will conduct formal recruiting event. On December 31, 2023, the troop will have an increase in number of youth members as compared to the number registered on December 31, 2022. A membership growth plan template can be found at www.scouting.org/membership. The troop has an up-to-date pin on the "Be a Scout" website. Given current challenges, holding formal recruiting events may not be possible. Bronze may be achieved by developing and implementing a recruiting plan involving direct personal invitations for youth to join.

#3 Number of youth members on most recent charter renewal (A) divided by number of youth registered at end of prior charter year (B) plus all new youth joining(C) minus any age outs (D). Total = (A) / (B+C-D). Age-outs are youth too old to reregister as Scouts. Compare membership at 2023 reregistration with membership at 2022 reregistration.. For December charter expiration, use Jan 2024 and Jan 2023 recharter.

Troop Open House

The Troop Open house allows a troop to open its doors to prospective youth. It provides a forum to show off Scouting activities and the troop’s accomplishments. Hosting a Troop Open House is a five-step process that has been proven in troops throughout the nation.

- 1. Present a school rally to fifth and sixth graders. Have them complete the High Adventure Survey.**
- 2. Email or mail the parents of interested youth a personal invitation to the Troop Open House.**
- 3. Follow the invitation with a telephone call to the parents.**
- 4. Host the Troop Open House for youth and their parents.**
- 5. Organize a troop or district activity to involve new Scouts right away.**

When thinking of different recruitment ideas for your unit, create a unit information sheet to include meeting dates, times, and locations; a troop calendar; a list of leaders’ contact information; other information about events and activities.

Go to www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS for Troop Open House resources including High Adventure Surveys, New Parent Surveys and more.

The Troop’s Role in School Night for Scouting

School Night for Scouting is the council’s annual fall recruitment drive. A School Night or Join Scouting Night will be held at every elementary school within the Western New York Scout Council. Troops should contact their feeder pack to assist with School Night. Troops should also be in attendance at School Night to welcome Scouts BSA age youth to the troop.



RETENTION BEST PRACTICES

While recruiting new youth is essential, it is just as critical to retain current Scouts. The Scouting program transforms lives and the longer a young person is in the program, the more impact it has on his life. Troops should set a goal to re-register at least 85% of eligible youth members each year. Use the following tips to strengthen your retention efforts.

- Attend Camp Scouthaven summer camp. Studies show Scouts that attend camp are more likely to stay involved in the program.
- Every new Scout should advance in rank, earning at least Tenderfoot within his first two months. An appropriate goal is to earn First Class at the end of the first year.
- Adult leadership in your troop should build an active relationship with the family of each Scout. Have conversations on a regular basis to discuss a boy's Scouting career.
- Attend a BSA High Adventure Base. The thrill of our High Adventure Bases runs far and wide across America, and nobody in the world is better at sharing those experiences than the BSA.

Membership				Total Points: 500			
#4	Webelos-to-Scout transition: Will have an effective plan to recruit Webelos Scouts into the troop.	With a pack or Webelos den, will hold two joint activities.	Will achieve Bronze, plus register two Webelos Scouts.	Will achieve Bronze, plus will provide at least one den chief to a pack and register five Webelos Scouts.	25	50	100

#4 Will hold at least two activities with a pack or Webelos den, and will recruit new Webelos Scouts into the troop. Den chiefs will be provided to one or more Cub Scout dens. Virtual gatherings are acceptable.

WEBELOS TO SCOUT TRANSITION

One of Scouting's greatest challenges is to make the next level of Scouting readily available for a young man once he meets the joining requirements. It should be the goal of every troop to make sure all Webelos Scouts have a troop to join. Here are 5 tips to help aid in your troop's Webelos to Scout transition process.

1. Select Scouts to serve as den chiefs for each Webelos and Cub Scout den.
2. Work with pack leaders to plan and conduct Webelos overnight activities.
3. Arrange for Webelos dens to visit a troop meeting.
4. Work with the Cubmaster in planning a meaningful crossover ceremony at the pack's blue and gold banquet.
5. Have youth crossover in November/December and recharter with the troop.



CREATE A SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE ON FACEBOOK



Follow these DOs and DON'Ts for your Social Media Campaign:

- DO create multiple administrators and maintain 2 deep leadership online (no private messages to youth!)
- DO post consistently, ideally at least once a week but no more than twice a day
- DO encourage interactivity through photo contests, opinion polls, trivia questions,
- DO consider having a dedicated volunteer to monitor your page frequently and promptly reply to any inquiries or ensure all posts conform to the Scout Oath and Law
- DON'T post last names of youth members or any identifying information such as birthdates, addresses or contact info
- DON'T create a page that sits dormant giving the idea that your Unit is not active
- DON'T forget to complete the About section with relevant info including the dates & times of your meetings and contact info for your New Member Coordinator
- DON'T allow private groups that cannot be monitored appropriately

BEST PRACTICES

Posts containing pictures or video get 39% more interaction than simple text posts!!

Utilize hashtags such as #AdventureOn, #ScoutsBSA, #BeAScout, #CubScout

Tag other Facebook Pages such as your School, PTA, your Scouting District and/or the Western New York Scout Council.
(ex. @WNYCBSA)

PROGRAM

SCOUTS BSA PROGRAMMING

Another important component of the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is program. Program is the “core” of Scouting and encompasses everything from the outdoors to advancement. Exciting programs are why youth join and stay in Scouting! It’s our job as leaders to make sure there’s adventure at every turn in a Scout’s Scouting journey.



Program				Total Points: 900			
#5	Advancement: Will achieve a high percentage of Scouts earning rank advancements.	40% of Scouts BSA members will advance one rank during the year.	50% of Scouts BSA members will advance one rank during the year.	60% of Scouts BSA members will advance one rank during the year.	50	100	200

#5 Total number of Scouts advancing at least one rank (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, Eagle) during the calendar year (A), divided by the number of youth registered at the end of the year (B). Advancement = (A) / (B). The troop is strongly encouraged to use Scoutbook to track each individual’s advancements.

ADVANCEMENT:

It’s important to regularly recognize achievements and advancement for Scouts BSA. This is what keeps youth in Scouting. Monthly submission of earned achievements is vital. As Scouts start working on various ranks, especially the Eagle rank, it is vital for the Scout’s BSA record to be up-to-date, so the processing of their rank paperwork can occur in a timely manner. Troops should plan to have at least 60% of their Scouts advance in rank each year.

Make sure every new Scout advances in rank, earning at least Tenderfoot within his first two months.

SCOUTS BSA CAMP

Camping is an integral art of the Scouting program. Whether you’re searching for fun, learning, advancement or adventure, the Western New York Scout Council has an outdoor opportunity for all Scouts. Choose your own outdoor adventure at either Camp Scouthaven or with the Birchbark Expeditions.

CAMP SCOUTHAVEN: For over 100 years Scouts of all ages have explored the outdoors and honed their Scout skills at Camp Scouthaven. Come enjoy the beautiful views of Crystal Lake and see if you can make it to the top of our Iceberg at the Waterfront! Scouthaven boasts a new State of the art Shooting Sports area as well as an advanced STEM Center. Our other excellent program areas include Ecology, Scoutcraft, and the Craft Lodge.

For more information visit:

www.wnyscouting.org/summercamp

BIRCHBARK EXPEDITIONS: A Nationally Accredited week-long, fully guided high adventure canoe experience, steeped in the rich Age of Exploration history. Operated by volunteers from the Western New York Scout Council of the BSA, the program offers three different options:

1. Adirondack Adventure: a 7-day High Adventure experience based in New York’s beautiful Adirondack Park, it operates four weeks from mid-July to mid-August
2. WNY Waterways: A local one or two-day canoeing expedition on one of the many waterways in Western New York. An ideal first opportunity to experience canoe tripping with an optional over-night stay.
3. Algonquin Adventure: also a 7-day High Adventure experience, but based in the remote Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario (on hold until border crossing restrictions are lifted)

For more information visit: www.wnyscouting.org/birchbark

SHORT TERM CAMPING/OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

As Scouts begin to take more leadership in their unit, it is important for the adult leaders to help support and guide youth in the planning of their own outdoor experiences. A great way to do just that is to provide them with tools to help make their planning successful.

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/boyscouts/pdf/512-505-2016-Scout-Planning-Worksheet.pdf>

Program					Total Points: 900		
#6	Short-term camping: Will conduct short-term or weekend campouts throughout the year.	Will conduct four short-term overnight campouts.	Will conduct seven short-term overnight campouts.	Will conduct nine short-term overnight campouts.	50	100	200

#6 Will conduct short-term (at least one overnight) campouts throughout the year.

CONSERVATION, HIKING, RIDING, AND ADVENTURE

When a Scout excels in outdoor participation, there are awards to show for it! This program, conceived by the BSA's

Program					Total Points: 900		
#7	Long-term camping: Will participate in long-term camp with a majority of troop in attendance. (includes council-offered alternatives)	Troop will participate in a long-term camp.	60% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	70% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	50	100	200

#7 Number of Scouts who attend any in-council or out-of-council long-term summer camp (of at least five nights), high-adventure experience, or jamboree, or serve on camp staff within the past year, divided by the Scout membership on June 30, 2022. Youth attending long-term specialty camps such as NYLT or STEM are also counted. Alternatives that spread the camping nights over multiple experiences may be included. Virtual alternatives are acceptable. These include virtual camping programs and other remote activities.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Giving back is an essential part of the Scouting experience. Nothing your Scout unit can do raises community awareness more than a service project. These good turns are some of our best marketing tools and they send the message that Scouts are here and they're making life better for others. Plan to participate in at least 3 service projects each year with your troop and make sure you record your project and hours online at www.scouting.org/jte.

Program					Total Points: 900		
#8	Service projects: Participate in service projects, with at least one benefiting the chartered organization.	Will participate in three service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/Internet Advancement.	Will participate in four service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/Internet Advancement.	Will participate in five service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/Internet Advancement.	25	50	100

#8 The troop will participate in service projects during the year and enter them on the internet advancement website or through Scoutbook. The projects may be completed as joint projects with other organizations. At least one project must benefit the chartered organization. Service projects may include home-centered efforts providing they serve others outside the home.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Giving back is an essential part of the Scouting experience. Nothing your Scout unit can do raises more goodwill and community awareness more than a service project. These "good turns" are some of our best marketing tools and they send the message that Scouts are here and they're making life better for others.

Plan to participate in at least 5 service projects each year with your pack and make sure you record your project and hours online.

PAY IT FORWARD

Service is one of the most important values we have in Scouting. The Scout Oath calls on us all to "help other people at all times." The Scout Law says a Scout is Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, and Kind. These may be the most important ideals a young person takes away from their time in our program, no matter how long they stay in Scouting.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

As Scouts, most of us know how fortunate we are to have a warm meal every night — whether around the campfire or at the kitchen table. And we know that not everyone is so lucky. That's what "Scouting for Food," the annual food collection drive, is all about. Our council is proud to bring the "Scouting for Food" tradition back to our hometowns every November.

RECORDING SERVICE HOURS

Tracking service hours is now easier than ever! Simply enter service hours in the Activities module in Internet Advancement and Scoutbook. Any service hours recorded in Internet Advancement now feed directly into Journey To Excellence Ever better - units will no longer need to record their hours in the Good Turn For America platform.

PATROL METHOD

Program				Total Points: 900			
#9	Patrol method: Will use the patrol method to develop youth leaders.	The troop will have patrols, and each will have a patrol leader. There will be an SPL, if more than one patrol. The PLC will meet at least four times a year.	Will achieve Bronze, plus PLC will meet at least six times. The troop will conduct patrol leader training.	Will achieve Silver, plus PLC will meet at least ten times. At least one Scout will have attended an advanced training course, like NYLT or Order of the Arrow Conference.	50	100	200

#9 The troop is separated into patrols and each patrol has an elected patrol leader. If the troop has more than one patrol, there is an elected senior patrol leader. If the troop has more than one patrol, the PLC will meet at least four times each year. The troop will hold patrol leader training each year, and youth will have the opportunity to participate in advanced training. PLC meetings may be held remotely.

Patrols are the building blocks of a Scout troop. A patrol is a small group of Scouts who are similar in age, development, and interests. Working together as a team, patrol members share the responsibility for the patrol's success. They gain confidence by serving in positions of patrol leadership.

The patrol leaders are elected by their patrols to represent them at the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) meetings.

The PLC meets monthly to fine-tune the plans for the upcoming month. The PLC also helps facilitate the annual Troop Program Planning Conference.

Download Troop Program Planning Conference resources at: www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

SCOUTS BSA LEADERSHIP

Volunteers make the Scouting program go. The BSA relies on its dedicated volunteers to promote its mission of preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Ensuring adequate volunteer support is the final step in the Ideal Year of Scouting.

Volunteer Leadership					Total Points: 400		
#10	Leadership and family engagement: The troop is proactive in recruiting sufficient leaders and communicates regularly with parents.	Have at least one registered assistant Scoutmaster.	Achieve Bronze, plus the troop holds two courts of honor, where troop plans are reviewed with parents.	Achieve Bronze, plus troop holds three courts of honor, where troop plans are reviewed with parents.	50	100	200

#10 The troop will have Scoutmaster, ASM, and committee of at least three members. Ideally, chartered organization representative should not be dual registered as one of the committee members. Separate troops for males and females with same chartered organization may have shared unit committee. Troop will conduct courts of honor where youth are recognized and program plans shared with parents. Courts of honor may be done remotely. Ideally, "new" leader has never been registered before, but at least must not have been registered within past three years.

LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT

Your troop could always use more volunteer help, right? But before you recruit a new leader, it is important to know what you need. Use the Troop Succession Planning Worksheet on the next page to find out what volunteer positions are vacant. You should also plan your succession strategy to make sure you identify future leaders now instead of later.

New recruits will also want to know their responsibilities and your expectations for them. Ask your troop families what volunteer positions they would like to fill. Use the New Parent Survey to help identify potential volunteers.

TRAINED LEADERSHIP

Every Scout deserves a trained leader. A trained leader is knowledgeable and more confident in the role being performed. Trained leaders exhibit a knowledge and confidence that is picked up by people around them. Trained leaders impact the quality of programs, leader tenure, youth tenure, safety, and a whole lot more. A trained leader is better prepared to make the Scouting program all it can be!

Visit www.wnyscouting.org/training for the list of required trainings or to complete online training.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget					Total Points: 200		
#11	Trained leadership: Have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training.	Scoutmaster or an assistant Scoutmaster will have completed position-specific training.	Will achieve Bronze, plus the Scoutmaster and 60% of assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining.	Will achieve Silver, plus two-thirds of active committee members will have completed position-specific training and at least one person will have attended an advanced training course involving a total of at least 5 days. Will register at least one new leader.	50	100	200

#11 All leaders have completed youth protection training. Scoutmaster and 60% of the assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining. Two-thirds of active committee members (including chartered organization representative) will have completed position-specific training. For Gold, one leader must have attended an advanced training course involving a total of 5 days or more, such as Wood Badge, Summit or Philmont Training Center, at some point in their Scouting tenure.

TROOP SUCCESSION PLANNING WORKSHEET

POSITION	CURRENT	NEXT	NEXT	COMMENT
CHARTER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE				
SCOUTMASTER				
ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER				
ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER				
COMMITTEE CHAIR				
SECRETARY				
TREASURER				
ADVANCEMENT				
MEMBERSHIP/ RECRUITING				
QUARTERMASTER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				



257 Young St. Wilson, NY 14172
 (716) 751-2341

Hours:

Monday - Closed
 Tuesday - 12p - 6p
 Wednesday - 12p - 6p
 Thursday - 10a - 6p
 Friday - 10a - 6p
 Saturday - 10a until sold out or 2p
 Sunday - Closed



Dr. Steven Niemiec, DC
 Doctor of Chiropractic

2140 Eggert Road - Suite B
 Amherst, New York 14226
 Phone: (716) 832-1818
 Fax: (716) 832-7815
 drsteve@balancedlivingchiro.com



Go Forth To Firth!

Michael Firth

President

Firth Jewelers
 2435 Military Road
 Niagara Falls, NY 14304

716.297.2210
 sales@firthjewelers.com

COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS **ACDelco** **ASE** TOWING

Transmission Repair, Brakes, Front End Work, Tires
 N.Y.S. Inspection Exhaust Systems, Carburetor Overhaul,
 Fuel Injection, Electrical, All Major & Minor Repairs

Genesee Automotive Repair
 COMPLETE AUTO SERVICE CENTER

MICHAEL KAUFMAN
 896-4801

2950 Genesee St.
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225



Jeff Markarian

Owner

3807 Delaware Avenue
 Kenmore, NY 14217
 www.markarianrugs.com

Phone: 716/873-8667
 Fax: 716/873-8248
 jeff@markarianrugs.com



**3680 Harlem Rd
Buffalo, NY 14215
(716) 233-1700**

**2935 Saunders Settlement Rd
Sanborn, NY 14132
(716) 731-5013**



**For More
Information:**

**Call:
1-888-270-2410**

**Email:
aco.rafting@gmail.com**

Tony Martin Awards Inc.

"House of Quality"



Dave Barbalato

E-mail: dave@tonymartinawards.com
Website: www.tonymartinawards.com

3637 Harlem Road
Buffalo, New York 14215

Office: (716) 836-6797
Fax: (716) 836-5382

MICHAEL J. TYRPAK



Tyrpak Financial
6622 Main Street, Suite 6
Williamsville, New York 14221

mike@tfafinancial.com
p. (716) 631-1600 ext. 25
c. (716) 465-6516

tfafinancial.com

**Tony Martin
Awards Inc.**

"House of Quality"



Rich MacLean

E-mail: rich@tonymartinawards.com
Website: www.tonymartinawards.com

3637 Harlem Road
Buffalo, New York 14215

Office: (716) 836-6797
Fax: (716) 836-5382
Cell: (716) 912-3186



**VISION
FINANCIAL GROUP**

a MassMutual firm

Stephen Blass
FINANCIAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

o. (716) 650-2255
sbllass@vfgnys.com

300 Corporate Parkway
Suite 216N
Amherst, NY 14225

www.vfgnys.com



ClassB®

ONE STOP SHOP

TROOP, PACK, & WOOD BADGE GEAR

Thousands of leaders like you trust ClassB® year after year with their custom T-shirt orders. Promote the fun side of scouting with affordable, high-quality pack and troop T-shirts from ClassB®.

Experience the ClassB® Difference

Free Shipping on Orders Over \$50

Customize your Design Online

Money Back Guarantee



SAVE 10%
ON IN-STOCK PATROL PATCHES!
CODE: PATWNYSC
EXPIRES: 08/01/2025

VISIT CLASSB.COM
OR CALL 1-800-851-4020 TODAY!



The only licensee to earn the Quality Licensee Award from the Boy Scouts of America every year since 2007. Boy Scouts of America®, the Universal Emblem, BSA®, Cub Scout™ and Badges of Rank are either registered trademarks or trademarks of the Boy Scouts of America in the United States and/or other countries. Manufactured under license from the Boy Scouts of America. All rights reserved.

8040-11.5



WESTERN NEW YORK SCOUT COUNCIL, BSA

