



Summer 2024

Leader's Guide



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
ALAMO AREA COUNCIL

Dear Scouter,

Welcome to the 2024 Bear Creek Summer Camp Leader's Guide. This Guide contains important information about Bear Creek Summer Camp. Most of your questions about Summer Camp will be answered and all necessary forms are included in our Leader's Guide. Please share the Leaders Guide with your Scouts' parents to let them know about the programs that are available.

What makes Bear Creek amazing? Dedicated, motivated and experienced Staff members are the key to providing the kind of program you deserve. Our goal is to make your visit an educational and memorable experience your Troop will never forget. To ensure the success of your Scout we should work together. Please have each Scout review the requirements for their Merit Badges prior to arriving at Camp and come prepared to show they have completed pre-requisites.

We continue to grow our dynamic program and staff each year. This summer our focus is to build on the success of our history and to maintain the highest program standards possible. Preparation for camp is new, changing and exciting each year. Future upgrades to our facility may include electricity to campsites, rebuilding the dining hall road, and improved restrooms.

On behalf of myself and our Staff, I would like to thank you for committing a part of your Summer to the Scouts in your Troop. We are working very hard to make this the best camping season ever. Please share this Guide with parents of your Scouts and plan your Summer Camp experience. We look forward to seeing you at Bear Creek Summer Camp 2024.

Yours in Scouting,

Linda Diequez

Linda Diequez
Camp Director



BEAR CREEK SCOUT CAMP

125 Bear Creek Scout Rd W
Hunt, Tx 78024

BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareaabsa.org
www.AlamoAreaBSA.org

Table of Contents

Camp Info

Camp Amenities	4
Check in/Check Out Procedures	6
Classes & Activities	8
Merit Badge Sign-up Instructions	7
Rangers Program Info	11
Registration/Refund Information	5

Forms

Cowboy Action Permission Slip	34
Dietary Restrictions Form	31
Health Forms	27
Packing List	18
Swim Test Forms	32

Maps

Bear Creek Scout Camp	16
Program Valley Map	17

Policies & Appendix	23
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Schedules

Class Options by Time-Block	12
Daily Camp Schedule	14
Evening Program Schedule	15

Special Events

Weekly Overview	11
Order of the Arrow Information	22
Uncle Duder Award	19
Bear Creek Games	21

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMMUNICATION WITH SCOUTS

We ask parents not to call their Scout except in the case of emergency. It's a good idea to contact the Unit Leader before contacting a Scout. In an attempt to discourage homesickness, we ask that you tell your Scout to not call home. Our experience shows that a homesick Scout doesn't improve if they call home.

VEHICLES IN CAMP

Vehicles are only allowed in the camping area to deliver equipment upon arrival to camp. All vehicles must be moved to the designated parking lot immediately after unloading so that others arriving have the same convenience. Do not wait to move your vehicle - campsites should be set up only after vehicles have been moved to the parking area. See Page 25 for details.

FOOD ALLERGIES / DIETARY NEEDS

Email [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org) by May 15, with any special dietary needs. See page 30.

SUPPLIES

Additional items such as trash bags, toilet paper, twine, brooms, water hoses and fire buckets may be checked out by contacting the Quartermasters.



Contact Information

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Camp phones are for emergency and camp business only.

Camp HQ: (830) 238-4560

Health Lodge: (830) 238-5093

NUTRITION:

email:

[BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org)

SCOUT MAIL:

Letters are always well received by Scouts while at camp. Make sure they receive it by addressing your letter in the following format:

Scout's Name - Troop # _____

Bear Creek Scout Camp

125 Bear Creek Scout Road West

Hunt, Texas 78024



Camp Staff

Bear Creek Scout Camp is always looking for great people that live by the Scout Oath to fill several positions at camp. Our staff is selected for their enthusiasm and knowledge. We reinforce that knowledge with regular training sessions prior to the camping season and create a sense of team spirit that is carried over to the Scouts visiting our camp. We are not successful unless you are satisfied with our program. We make every effort to provide the quality-learning environment you expect at Bear Creek. If you have Scouts interested in joining our staff, contact us:

email [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org)

or apply online at <https://bit.ly/3LKtLBq>



GENERAL CAMP FACILITIES ALSO INCLUDE:

Health Lodge
Shower & Bathroom Facilities
Environmental Center
Gaga Ball Pit
Volleyball Court
OA Ceremonial Amphitheater
Astronomy Lab
Forge for Branding
Numerous Learning Centers
Quartermasters Storage Facility
Basketball Court
Climbing Wall
Rappelling Cliff
Zip Line
Fishing & Fly Fishing Areas
Mountain Bike Course
Trails
Kayaking
Canoeing
Paddle Boarding
3-Story Waterslide
Log Rolling

CAMP AMENITIES

CAMPSITES

All campsites have a fire ring. The Rickenbacker Camp provides four primitive campsites and modern restrooms at the Conference Center. Troops camping here bring and prepare their own food. Refrigeration is provided. The buildings and developed areas of the Friedrich Camp provide 19 Troop sites, complete with platform and pavilions, close to a central Dining Hall.

*Tents available for rent upon request.

CAMP TRADING POSTS

Open at select times throughout the week*, the Trading Post offers a variety of Scout items such as socks, hats, shirts, handicraft provisions, toothpaste, candy, ice cream and a wide assortment of souvenirs. Cash and credit cards accepted. *check trading post schedule to know the actual times.

COMMISSIONER'S AREA

Host to our Scoutmaster meeting each morning. Adult leaders are invited here to take a break during the program day.

DINING HALL

All meals are provided by professional cooks and served (cafeteria style) by our youth staff. Well-planned meals provide a balanced diet and seconds are usually available. For Scouts with special dietary needs, send an email noting limitations to [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareaabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareaabsa.org) by May 15. (See page 28)

RANGES

Rifle, Archery, Shotgun, and Cowboy Action facilities have been designed and certified by BSA standards. The camp furnishes .22 caliber rifles for use on the rifle range, 12 and 20 gauge shotguns for use on the Skeet range, and recurve bows for use on the Archery range.

SCOUTMASTER LOUNGE

Adult Leaders can enjoy our Scoutmaster Lounge which offers air-conditioning, WIFI (for adults only). This is a great place to relax or get caught up on any work you may need to take care of.

SWIMMING AREAS (In-ground Pool & Waterfront)

Swimming is restricted to prescribed areas along the waterfront and in the Swimming Pool during posted hours of operation. "Free swim" is available to everyone during scheduled hours when lifeguards are provided. A three-story twin water slide, kayaks, canoes, and paddle boards are available for use during these times.

National Camp Standards

Bear Creek Scout Camp is inspected annually by a team that represents the Boy Scouts of America. The Camp meets or exceeds all standards and regulations. We are also inspected regularly by the Texas Health Department. We feature a Health Lodge staffed by a qualified professional provider for routine health checks and problems. Strict health and safety standards are maintained at all times.



HOW TO REGISTER YOUR TROOP

Registration for Summer Camp is done online at <https://www.alamoareabsa.org/camping/scouts-bsa-summer-camp/>. A \$150.00 per Troop deposit is required to reserve a slot. The site accepts all major credit cards and also accepts e-checks. Campsites are assigned based on Troop size and need. You will receive your campsite assignment by email with check in instructions on May 31st. For assistance, email [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org).

HOW TO PREPARE FOR CAMP

Know each Scout's advancement status before coming to camp.

Encourage work on prerequisites before coming to camp.

Set a goal for each Scout - challenge them to do their best. Register your Scouts information on the online registration system prior to the registration deadline. The Unit contact will be notified by email when registration opens in January.

Complete swim tests/sign permission slips (page 32-34)

Collect physicals for all Scouts and adults attending camp early. (Page 27-30)

Alert the camp to special needs such as diet, disabilities or medications by May 15 via email at [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org). (See appendix for forms.)

LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All adults attending camp and staying overnight with a troop must comply with the following:

Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America. Complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) training and bring a copy of the card.

Complete Health Form- Part A, B & C (Page 27-30)

Each Troop must have two registered adult leaders in camp at all times. **LEADERS MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD.** The Boy Scouts of America requires "two deep leadership" for the safety of your Scouts. All Leaders must bring a copy of their Youth Protection Training certificate and a completed Health Form. We recommend a ratio of 8 scouts or less per leader.

Refund Policy

To ensure the council can provide the best service to the Scouts and to make better investments into the lives of our youth the Alamo Area Council has adopted the following refund policy:

- Deposits are Non-refundable (deposits are any initial fee paid to hold your spot in the event. Examples of events that have deposits: Summer Camp, Wood Badge, NYLT, etc).
- Paid registration fees are refundable up to thirty (30) days prior to the start of an event, less a 20% processing and supply fee, upon written request
- Within 30 days of event, the event is Non-Refundable. (Emergency situations may be considered within 30 days with appropriate documentation provided, minus a 20% processing and supply fee. Examples of emergencies are medical - with official doctor or medical note, Military orders, or a requirement to attend summer school).
- Scouts are allowed to coordinate with other scouts to fill the position being vacated. Please notify the council of the change and we will update the roster, as required. (Events with waitlist are exceptions to this policy - the next person on the waitlist will fill the vacated spot).
- Transfers to other events are not permitted. (Exceptions to this policy are Bear Creek Summer Camp, for this we can move within to a different session).
- When the event is cancelled by the council, a full refund will apply.

Refund requests must be in writing to refunds@AlamoAreaBSA.org. include the Scout's name, and the reason for requesting a refund. Calling or e-mailing a change in your Troop's planned attendance numbers is not a refund request.

Saturday Check-Out

Each Troop is expected to return all camp provided items to the Quartermaster. These items include tools, flags, water jugs, coffee thermos etc, that are used during the week in your campsite or for service projects. Any items missing will be accounted for before a Troop is allowed to check out.

A campsite inspection will be made to insure no waste articles are left for the next occupants to clean up.

Units will be charged for each rip that occurs on camp tents. If any tents that are deemed unrepairable by the Camp Director, the Troop will be charged for replacement.

Each Troop is responsible for reviewing the computer generated Merit Badge completion list on Friday during Records Review. The time to resolve questions is when counselors are available, and participants are present to discuss discrepancies. We do not expect to modify our records at a later date.

SUNDAY ARRIVAL CHECK-IN

Check in time is 1:30 p.m.

Troops will arrive at the front gate. At 1:30 our staff member will direct the Troop to their assigned campsite. The Troop's Staff Guide, who will await you in your campsite, will inform leaders of the check-in procedure. The Troop Guide will help facilitate setting up your camp, while adult leaders remove all vehicles to the parking area. Vehicles may only remain in a campsite if they are hooked to a troop's trailer or with a pre-notified handicap permit. (See page 25 for details.)

Tents are no longer provided to units. **If you need a tent, they can be rented from the camp** - for more information email [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org).

CHECK-IN IS COMPLETED AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PAVILION AFTER YOUR TROOP HAS RECEIVED THEIR CAMPSITE ASSIGNMENT

CHECK-IN REQUIREMENTS

- All youth and adults must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America
- We will have printed rosters for you to verify those registered for camp are at camp.
- Current official BSA form Part A, B, & C required for youth and adults
- Email each adult's Youth Protection Certificate to [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org) by May 19th.
- Out of council troops will need proof of insurance and a copy of your claim form (see 'Insurance' on page 23)

CAMP DIRECTOR'S TIPS

- Make sure parents have signed the medical forms and accompanying notes before you get to camp
- Photocopy forms and keep the originals in a safe space at home
- Bring a copy of OA election report, if participating in OA Call Out at summer camp
- If your Troop is out of council, bring a copy of OA Lodge approval to participate in local ceremony
- Encourage Scouts to complete swim check's prior to camp, and bring form signed by individual administering test with copy of certification (see page 32 for forms)
- Bring Signed Cowboy Action permission slip for Scouts who wish to participate, and keep a copy (see page 34)
- ⌘ Keep an extra copy of special dietary & medical needs roster with a unit leader for quick reference while at camp



MERIT BADGE SIGN-UP

Bear Creek Scout Camp uses an online merit badge system that makes scheduling easy and provides leader updates at camp as to how your Scouts are doing in each class. At the end of your session you will be provided a digital class results and a list of each merit badge class your Scouts took and what they completed.

Be sure to read the following information before you sign up online and remember that online merit badge Sign-ups go live on May 7th.

- Each Merit Badge requires one block with the exception of the Ranger Program, Mountain Biking, COPE and Climbing merit badges which requires additional blocks.
- BSA Lifeguard requires all five blocks and continues until 5pm daily. Scouts will not be able to earn any merit badges when enrolled in this activity.
- The Ranger Program requires all five blocks and some free time. Scouts will be able to earn two merit badges when enrolled in this activity.
- Climbing requires all three morning blocks. Scouts will not be able to participate in any morning classes when enrolled in this activity.
- Cope will be offered Wednesday evening as a sign up activity.
- Mountain Biking will take the first two morning blocks. Scouts will not be able to participate in any 9am or 10am merit badge classes.
- You will need the date of birth and current rank for each Scout.
- Adult BSA Training sign-up (with the exception of Red Cross Trainings) is done at camp.



Review your requirements
Each Troop is responsible for reviewing the computer generated Merit Badge completion list on Friday night during the records review. The time to resolve questions is when counselors are available, and participants are present to discuss discrepancies. We do not expect to modify our records at a later date.



CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

There is always something to do at Bear Creek Scout Camp. See the variety of merit badge classes, scheduled classes, and free-time activities below, and use the classes and program schedule on page 12 to plan your summer adventure.

BEGINNING SCOUTS ➕

EXPERIENCED SCOUTS (2+ YRS) ≡

ADVANCED SCOUTS (3+YRS) ➤

HELPFUL HINTS FOR MERIT BADGES – Many of the merit badges can be completed at Summer Camp. However, some have time requirements, special projects/ visitations, special skill levels or other prerequisites so they cannot be completed at Summer Camp. Additionally, merit badge classes are only guaranteed to take place if a minimum class size of 5 attendees is met. If a merit badge class has fewer than 5 attendees, those scouts may be asked to find a different class during that class period to take instead. Please make sure your Scouts understand that all merit badges may not be completed at Summer Camp. Encourage them to choose a variety of merit badges so they have a fun experience. We want happy campers!

ARCHEOLOGY ➕ ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE CLASSES

ARCHERY ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (EVENING)
FIND THIS WITH SHOOTING SPORTS CLASSES
COURSE FEE \$+/- \$15.00

ART ➕ ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFTS CLASSES

ASTRONOMY ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES

BASKETRY ➕ ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE
FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFTS
SUPPLY FEE: +/- \$12.00

BIRD STUDY ➤

MERIT BADGE
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES

BSA LIFEGUARD ≡ ➤

SCHEDULED CLASS (ALL DAY COURSE)
FIND THIS LISTED UNDER AQUATICS
Prerequisite: Participants must pass the BSA Swim Test, be classified as a swimmer, and have current certification or be registered for CPR Pro*

CAMPING ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS WITH OUTDOOR SKILLS CLASSES
Prerequisite: Complete requirements 8c, 9ab

CANOEING ➤

MERIT BADGE (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (EVENING)
FIND THIS WITH AQUATICS CLASSES
*Prerequisites: Participants must be classified as a swimmer per the BSA Swim Test**

CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE CLASSES
Prerequisite: Complete requirement 2, prepare for 6

CITIZENSHIP IN SOCIETY ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FREE TIME ACTIVITY (2 NIGHT CLASS, M/TU)
FIND THIS IN THE EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

CITIZENSHIP IN THE WORLD ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE CLASSES

CLIMBING ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS (3-HOUR)
FIND THIS WITH OTHER CLASSES
Participants must be 13 years or older
COURSE FEE: \$25.00

COMMUNICATIONS ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS LISTED UNDER AMERICAN HERITAGE
Prerequisite: Requirements 5, 8, & prepare a speech

CONSERVATION HOURS ➕ ≡ ➤

FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (M/TU/W EVENING)
FIND THIS IN THE EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

COOKING ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS WITH OUTDOOR SKILLS CLASSES
Note: This class is limited to 3rd year Scouts

COWBOY ACTION ≡ ➤

FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (TU/TH EVENING)
FIND THIS WITH SHOOTING SPORTS CLASSES
Participants must be 14 years or older with signed parent permission slip (see page 34)

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS WITH OUTDOOR SKILLS CLASSES
Prerequisites: Complete requirements 2c, 6c, 8b, and the First Aid Merit Badge

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ➤

MERIT BADGE **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS LISTED UNDER OUTDOOR SKILLS
Prerequisites: Requirements 3e1 and 3e2

EXPLORATION ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE CLASSES

FIRST AID ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS **REQUIRED FOR EAGLE**
FIND THIS WITH SKILLS CLASSES
Prerequisite: First Aid kit, must be able to perform CPR

FISH & WILDLIFE MGT ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES
Prerequisite: Complete requirement 5

FISHING ➕ ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (EVENING)
FIND THIS WITH FIELD SPORTS CLASSES
Bring a pole, or purchase one at camp

FLY FISHING ➕ ≡ ➤

MERIT BADGE CLASS (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (EVENING)
FIND THIS WITH FIELD SPORTS CLASSES
Bring a pole, or purchase one at camp

FORESTRY + == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES

GEOLOGY == >

MERIT BADGE
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES

HUNTER EDUCATION == >

HUNTING LICENSE CLASS (2-PART CLASS)
OPEN TO ANYONE BORN AFTER 1972
FIND THIS IN THE EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE
State mandated fee of \$15.00 payable at camp.
Prerequisite: Online registration through the Texas Parks and Wildlife website. See Appendix pg 26 for details

INDIAN LORE == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE CLASSES
Prerequisite: Review requirement 1

INSECT STUDY >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES

KAYAKING == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (EVENING)
FIND THIS WITH AQUATIC CLASSES
Prerequisites: Participants must be classified as a swimmer per the BSA Swim Test*

LEATHER WORK + ==

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFT CLASSES
SUPPLY FEE: \$15.00

LIFESAVING >

MERIT BADGE CLASS REQUIRED FOR EAGLE
FIND THIS WITH AQUATIC CLASSES
Prerequisite: Complete requirements 1, 2. Participants must be classified as a swimmer per the BSA Swim Test*

MAMMAL STUDY + == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES

METALWORK == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE CLASSES

MILE SWIM TRAINING >

SCHEDULED CLASS (DAILY)
FIND THIS WITH AQUATICS CLASSES
Prerequisite: Classified as a swimmer via BSA Swim Test.
See Appendix page 26 for details.

MOUNTAIN BIKING == >

SCHEDULED CLASS (2-HOUR)
*PHYSICALLY CHALLENGING
FIND THIS WITH FIELD SPORTS CLASSES
Prerequisite: Age 13 and older. Participants must rent a bike for \$25. Helmets are required to be worn at all times

INSTRUCTIONAL SWIM + == >

SCHEDULED CLASS (5-DAYS)
FIND THIS WITH AQUATIC CLASSES
SEE APPENDIX PAGE 26 FOR DETAILS.

MOVIE MAKING + == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFTS

ORIENTEERING == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH FIELD SPORT CLASSES
Prerequisite: Proficient with compass, requirement 7

PERSONAL FITNESS == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS REQUIRED FOR EAGLE
FIND THIS WITH FIELD SPORTS
Prerequisite: Requirement 1b

PHOTOGRAPHY + == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFTS

PIONEERING == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH OUTDOOR SKILL CLASSES
Prerequisite: Knowledge of basic knots

POTTERY + == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY
FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFT CLASSES

REPTILE & AMPHIBIAN STUDY + == >

MERIT BADGE
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES
Prerequisite: Complete requirement 8

RIFLE >

MERIT BADGE (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (3PM & EVENINGS)
FIND THIS WITH SHOOTING SPORTS CLASSES

ROWING == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH AQUATICS CLASSES
Prerequisites: Participants must be classified as a swimmer per the BSA Swim Test*

SPACE EXPLORATION == >

MERIT BADGE
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES
SUPPLY FEE: \$15.00

SERVICE HOURS + == >

FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (4PM & 7-9PM DAILY)
FIND THIS IN THE EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SHOTGUN >

MERIT BADGE CLASS (DAYTIME)
FREE-TIME ACTIVITY (3PM, EVENINGS)
FIND THIS WITH SHOOTING SPORTS CLASSES
SUPPLY FEE: UP TO \$30.00 FOR AMMO
MINIMUM AGE 13

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION + == >

MERIT BADGE
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES
Prerequisites: Read the Merit Badge pamphlet

SWIMMING + == >

MERIT BADGE REQUIRED FOR EAGLE
FIND THIS WITH AQUATICS CLASSES
Prerequisites: Participants must be classified as a swimmer per the BSA Swim Test*

TOTIN' CHIP + == >

SCHEDULED CLASS (EVENING)
FIND THIS IN THE EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

WEATHER + == >

MERIT BADGE CLASS
FIND THIS WITH ECOLOGY CLASSES



CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

WILDERNESS SURVIVAL **⇒**

MERIT BADGE CLASS

FIND THIS WITH OUTDOOR SKILL CLASSES

WOODCARVING **✚ ⇒**

MERIT BADGE CLASS

FIND THIS WITH HANDICRAFT CLASSES

Prerequisite: Knife & Totin' Chip with Scout

SUPPLY FEE: \$15.00

*For all water activities, Scouts must pass the BSA Swim Test and be classified as a swimmer, and have the physical size and strength for the activity. Skip the lines at camp and take your Swimming Test prior to camp. Use the record on page 32.

DON'T KNOW HOW TO SWIM?
SIGN UP FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SWIM



EACH TROOP IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING THE COMPUTER GENERATED MERIT BADGE COMPLETION LIST DURING THE RECORDS REVIEW TIME ON FRIDAY EVENING. THE TIME TO RESOLVE QUESTIONS IS WHEN COUNSELORS ARE AVAILABLE, AND PARTICIPANTS ARE PRESENT TO DISCUSS DISCREPANCIES. WE DO NOT EXPECT TO MODIFY OUR RECORDS AT A LATER DATE.



ADULT LEADER TRAINING

Scouts and leaders not attending Bear Creek Summer Camp may participate in these classes by special appointment only. Contact the Camp Director at least 1-week before the class via email at [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareaabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareaabsa.org)

SAFETY AFLOAT TRAINING

MONDAY

Safety Afloat is required for all boating activities. Adult leaders supervising activities afloat must have completed Safety Afloat training within the previous two years. *required for unit level activities along with Safe Swim Defense

SAFE SWIM DEFENSE

MONDAY

Adult leaders supervising a swimming activity must have completed Safe Swim Defense training within the previous two years. *required for unit level activities along with Safety afloat

HUNTER EDUCATION (PART 1 & 2)

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY EVENING

OPEN TO SCOUTS & ADULT LEADERS

Hunter Safety is required for obtaining a hunting license if not born before 1972. There is a State mandated fee of \$15.00 for this class. Bring this fee to camp. Registration for this class must be done online through the Texas Parks and Wildlife website. We will email the registration link for this class to leaders in May. Bring this fee, home address, and your email address to the class. Attendance at both nights are required to complete the training.

CPR / AED / FIRST AID TRAINING

MONDAY

Course fee apply, and class sizes are limited.

NOTE: Scouts taking BSA Lifeguard will take this as part of their lifeguard class at no extra cost.

CPR FOR THE PROFESSIONAL RESCUER (CPR PRO)

TUESDAY

Prerequisite: CPR/AED/First Aid

Course fee apply, and class sizes are limited.

NOTE: Scouts taking BSA Lifeguard will take this as part of their lifeguard class at no extra cost.

WILDERNESS REMOTE FIRST AID

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

Prerequisite: CPR/AED

Course fees apply, and class size is limited.

Climb-on Safely Training

THURSDAY

Climb On Safely is required for all BSA climbing/rappelling activities at a natural site or a specifically designed facility such as a climbing wall or tower. All unit-sponsored/planned climbing activities, regardless of where they are held, fall under Climb On Safely.

SWIMMING & WATER RESCUE

JUNE 17, 20, & 27 9AM-5PM

Adult leaders will take a swim test turning this time along with all other requirements for this training.



RANGER PROGRAM

AN EXCITING INTRODUCTION TO SCOUTING

This is for all who have not completed the requirements for First Class rank. We encourage all Scouts to learn basic skills in an environment of fun and cooperation. Teamwork is emphasized along with team spirit. We encourage all leaders to get involved in this program. The Ranger program is an all-day adventure lasting from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., with a break for lunch. Along with completing a large number of rank advancement requirements, our Rangers are given the opportunity to complete the Swimming Merit Badge plus one other: art, leatherwork, pottery, or first aid.



OPTIONAL Ranger Outpost on Thursday evening takes the Rangers to the rustic portion of the camp and allows our staff an opportunity to share campfire stories while the Rangers earn their Firem'n Chit card. Participants will need a flashlight, ground cloth, sleeping bag, water bottle, and small backpack for their hike and overnight stay. The Rangers will return to your Troops campsite before breakfast on Friday morning. We need leaders in camp to help us meet the BSA leadership guidelines for this program.



WITH PERFECT ATTENDANCE THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, RANGERS WILL COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

SCOUT

1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 5, 6

TENDERFOOT

1a, 1b, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 7a, 7b, 8, 9

SECOND CLASS

1, 1b, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3d, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, 8a, 8b, 9a, 9b,

FIRST CLASS:

1b, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4a, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 6a, 6e, 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e, 7f, 9b, 9c, 9d

CAMP DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

We encourage you to test their skills from what they've learned, however we are willing to sign their books upon your request. If your Ranger completed the swimming merit badge they also completed the rank requirements associated with swimming.

Likewise, First-aid instruction includes only those skills necessary to achieve rank. Though some skills can be applied toward the First Aid Merit Badge, the topics covered in the Ranger Program will not satisfy them all unless Scouts choose and attend First Aid as their elective class.

DAYTIME CLASS & PROGRAM SCHEDULE

This can be a helpful tool for your Scouts to decide on which merit badges and programs they want to participate in.

FOR EVENING ACTIVITIES, SEE PAGE 15

	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM
American Heritage	Communications Cit. World Metal Work	Indian Lore Metalwork Exploration	Communications Cit. Nation Metalwork	Communications Archeology Cit. World Metalwork	Metalwork Indian Lore Exploration
Boat Dock	Canoeing	Kayaking	Rowing	Canoeing	Kayaking
Ecology	Enviromental Science Nature Geology	Forestry Soil & Water Con. Weather	Enviromental Science Mammal Stud y Space Exploration	Reptile & Amph Insect Study Astronomy	Fish & Wildlife Bird Study Enviromental Study
Field Sports	Mountain Biking Personal Fitness	Mountian Biking Personal Fitness	Orienteering Personal Fitness	Fishing Fly Fishing	Orienteering Fishing Fly Fishing
Handicrafts	Wood Carving Leatherwork Art	<i>Ranger Program</i> Photography	<i>Ranger Program</i> Movie Making	Leatherwork Pottery Movie Making	Basketry Photography Pottery
Pool	Instructional Swim Lifesaving Swimming Lifeguard	<i>Ranger Program</i>	<i>Ranger Program</i>	Instructional Swim Lifesaving Swimming	Instructional Swim Swimming Mile Swim
Shooting Sports	Archery Rifle Shotgun	Archery Rifle Shotgun	Archery Rifle Shotgun	Archery Rifle Shotgun	Free Shoot at the ranges
Skills	Camping First Aid Emergency Prep	Camping First Aid Wilderness Survival	First Aid Cooking Pioneering	Emergency Prep First Aid Wilderness Survival	Cooking First Aid Wilderness Survival
Climbing	<----->	Climbing	----->	Zip line	Zip line



SPECIAL EVENTS

MONDAY NIGHT STAR PARTY MONDAY 9:15 PM

ORDER OF THE ARROW ICE CREAM SOCIAL OA MEMBERS ONLY WEDNESDAY 1:30 PM

TROOP COOKOUT (FOIL DINNERS) WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The evening meal will be cooked, by your Scouts, in your campsite. The Dining hall staff will provide all ingredients for foil dinners and dessert (including foil). If a burn ban is in effect, this meal will be replaced by a meal at the dining hall. You are invited to bring a Dutch oven if you choose. Dinner: foil, hamburger meat, potato, carrot, onion, and cabbage. Desert: peaches, cake mix, butter, sugar, and cinnamon.

CHAPEL SERVICE (VESPERS) WEDNESDAY 9:00 PM

Non-denominational faith service, open to all who wish to participate.

SCOUTMASTERS DINNER - ADULT LEADERS ONLY THURSDAY EVENING

FRIDAY FAMILY DINNER - FAMILIES INVITED FRIDAY EVENING

See appendix page 26 for detailed instructions about how to participate.

BEAR CREEK GAMES DAILY ACTIVITIES

A friendly competition between friends where some will take the gold, and others will take only memories of an amazing camp experience! Units may complete the Games activities anytime as long as it does not impact regular class schedules or programs. This is to support maximum participation. See page 24 for details.

AINA TOPA HUTSI LODGE ORDER OF THE ARROW CALL-OUT FRIDAY NIGHT

Each Friday evening at summer camp, staff who are members of our Order conduct a Call-Out ceremony for all Scouts and Scouters who have been duly elected this year as Candidates for membership in the Order of the Arrow. We have a spectacular setting which is backed by Bear Creek and a 120-foot cliff. See Page 22 for more information about the OA.

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
7:30		Breakfast						
8:45		Flags in the Valley					Check out begins at 8:30	
9:00		Merit Badge Session 1						
9:15		Leaders Meeting @ Commissioners area						
10:00		Merit Badge Session 2						
11:00		Merit Badge Session 3						
12:10		Lunch						
1:30	Arrive at camp Check in begins at 1:30			OA Fellowship				
1:45		SPL Meeting			SPL Meeting			
2:00		Merit Badge Session 4						
3:00		Merit Badge Session 5						
4:00		Free Time						
5:20		Supper						
5:30	Supper							
6:45		Flags in the Valley				Free Time		
7:00						Free Time		
7:30	Leader & SPL Meeting @ Commissioners area					Flags in the Valley		
8:00						Flags in the Valley		
8:15	Flags in the Valley	Evening Programs (SEE EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR DETAILS)				Campfire		
8:30						Campfire		
8:40	Campfire					OA Callout Ceremony		
9:00						Records Review		
10:00						Records Review		
10:30	Lights Out							





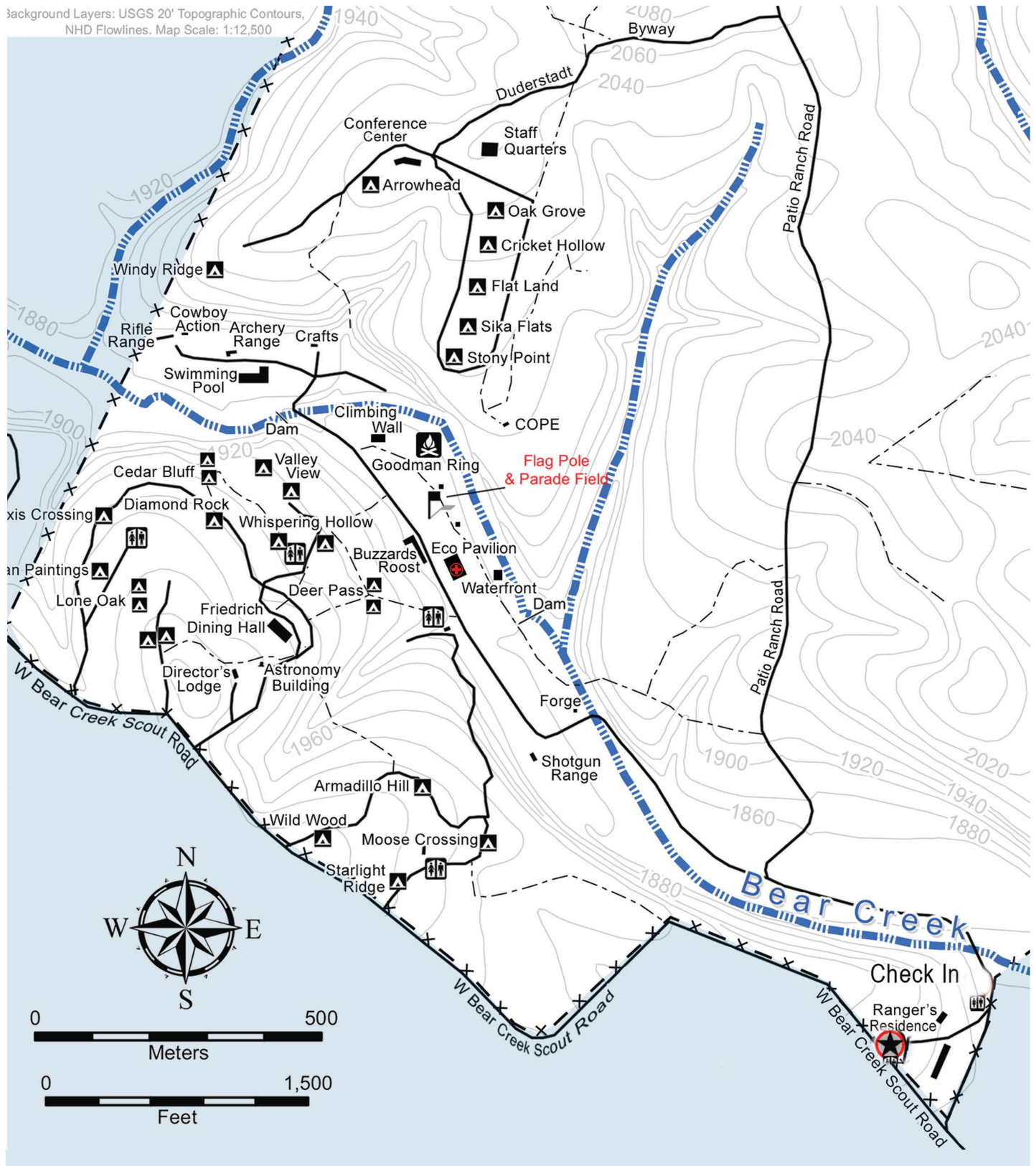
Bear Creek Scout Camp

EVENING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Area	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM
Outdoor Skills	Totin' Chip	Totin' Chip	[Area Closed]	[Area Closed]	Totin' Chip	Totin' Chip	Wilderness Survival Outpost	
Rangers	Ranger Conservation		[Area Closed]	[Area Closed]	Ranger Totin' Chip in Ranger Area		Ranger Outpost	
American Heritage	Branding at the Forge		[Area Closed]	[Area Closed]	Branding at the Forge		Branding at the Forge	
Field Sports	Open Fishing/Fly Fishing Open Sports		[Area Closed]	[Area Closed]	Open Fishing/Fly Fishing Open Sports		Open Fishing/Fly Fishing Open Sports	
Pool	Free Swim		Free Swim		[Area Closed]		Free Swim	
	Safe Swim Defense Class	Safety Afloat Training						
Boat Docks	Free Boat Waterslide Log Rolling		Free Boat Waterslide Log Rolling		Free Boat Waterslide Log Rolling		Free Boat Waterslide Log Rolling	
Shooting Sports	Free Shoot: Rifle & Archery		Free Shoot: Rifle & Archery Hunter Education Class p1		[Ranges Closed] Hunter Education Class p2		Free Shoot: Rifle & Archery Black Powder & Cowboy Action	
COPE/ Climbing	Zipline Rock Wall		Zipline Rock Wall		COPE night		Zipline Rock Wall	
Handicrafts	Patrol Flag Competition Pottery & Sculpting		Patrol Flag Competition Pottery & Sculpting		Patrol Flag Competition		[Area Closed]	
Ecology	Ranger Conservation	Conservation & Service Projects	Conservation Projects Service Projects Astronomy MB 9:15PM		Conservation Projects Service Projects Astronomy MB 9:15PM		[Area Closed]	
Other	Star Party at 9:15pm		---		Chapel/Vespers 9:00PM (OA Ring)		Cobbler Cook-off Scoutmasters Dinner	
Commissioners Area	Citizenship in Society p1		Citizenship in Society p2		OPEN		OPEN	

Citizenship in Society is a two-part class taught by Merit Badge Counselors from Bear Creek Scout Camp's Commissioner Corps

Background Layers: USGS 20' Topographic Contours,
 NHD Flowlines. Map Scale: 1:12,500



0 500












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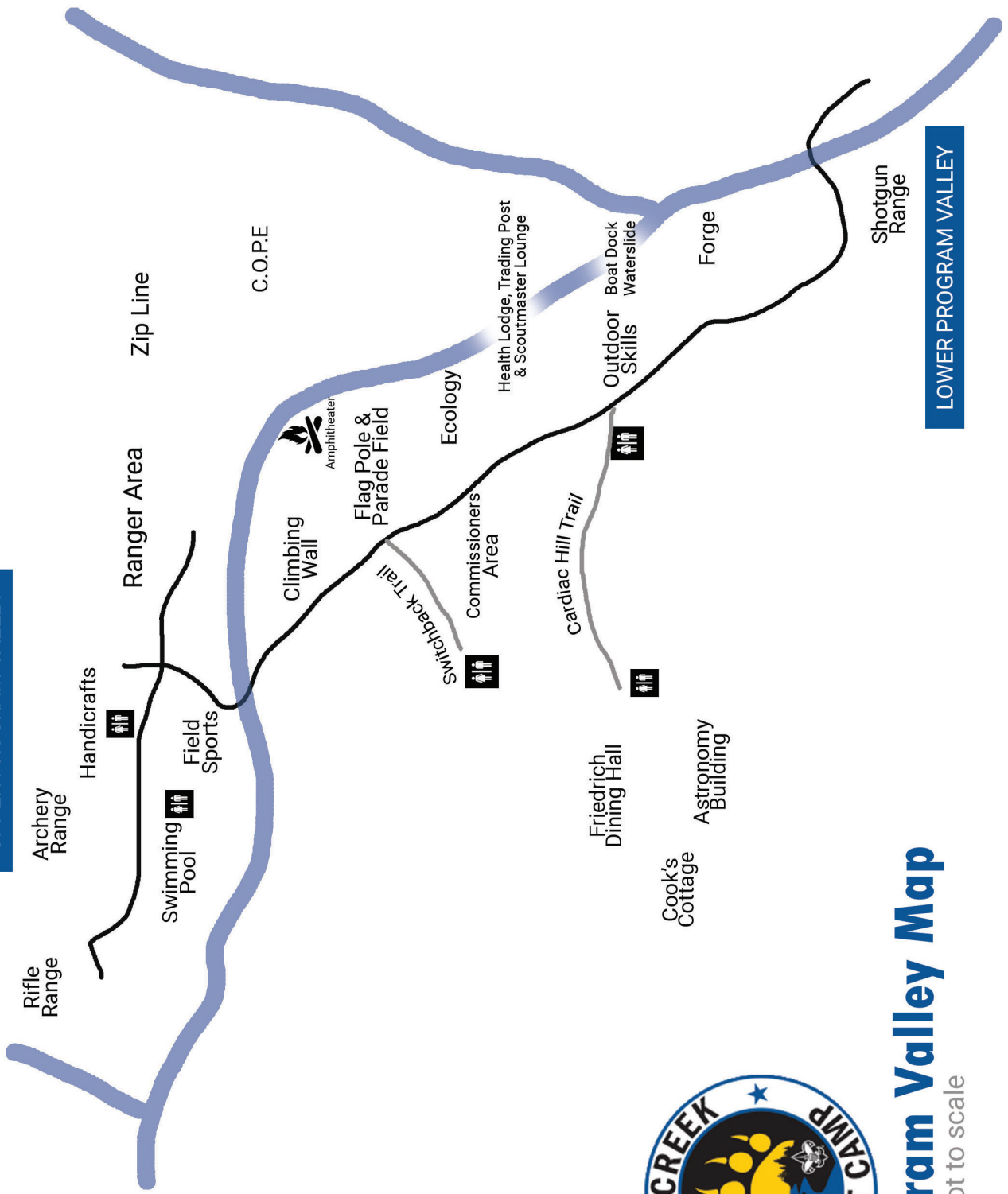
Feet



**Bear Creek
 Scout Camp**

-  Check-in Office / Camp HQ
-  Campsite
-  Restroom/Shower
-  Campfire Ring
-  Facility
-  Med Lodge
-  Waterway
-  Road
-  Trail
-  20-foot Contour
-  Boundary

UPPER PROGRAM VALLEY



LOWER PROGRAM VALLEY



Program Valley Map

Map is not to scale

PACKING LIST

CAMPING GEAR

Trunk or Footlocker
Drinking Cup or Second Water Bottle
Daypack
Twin Size Sheet/Blanket/Sleeping Bag
Pillow
Cot
Tent
Ground Cloth/Tarp
Mosquito Net and Frame
Camp Chair (small/easy to carry)
Pocket Knife (and Totin' Chip Card)
Headlamp / Flashlight
Battery-power fan
Personal First Aid Kit
Sunscreen
Bug Spray

TOILETRIES

Bath Towels (2)
(one for aquatics, one for showers)
Washcloth
Toilet Paper
Deodorant
Comb / brush
Shower Shoes
Body-wash / Shampoo / Soap
Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Other / Feminine Hygiene / Shaving
Chapstick
Facial wipes
Hand Sanitizer

CLOTHING

Full BSA Field Uniform
OA Sash (OA Members Only)
Hoodie or Light Jacket
T-shirts (enough for 6 days)
Shorts or Pants (enough for 6 days)
Socks (enough for 6 days)
Underwear (enough for 6 days)
Flip Flops (for shower use ONLY)
Rugged Pants (for service project)
Long Sleeve Shirt (for service project)
Work Gloves
Rain gear/jacket
Hiking boots / closed toe shoes
Hat / cap (for sun protection)

SUGGESTED EXTRAS

Clothes Hanger for Uniform
Sunglasses
Cooling Towel
Camera & film
Compass
Bag for laundry
Spending money for the Trading Post
Camera
Watch
Diatomaceous Earth
Book of Faith
Extra batteries for all items

AQUATICS

Swim Suit
Quick dry towel
Goggles (optional)
Swim Shirt (optional)
Water shoes or sandals for boating area (optional)

MERIT BADGE ITEMS

Scout Handbook
Writing Items (pen/pencil/paper)
Prerequisites done before camp
Compass (required for Orienteering MB)
Fishing Pole (required for fishing MB)
Personal First Aid Kit (required for First Aid MB)

ITEMS TO LEAVE AT HOME

Sheath knives
Fireworks
Skateboards & scooters
Valuables
Electronic games
Pets

MAKE SURE TO MARK ALL ITEMS WITH SCOUT'S NAME AND UNIT NUMBER

TROOP PACKING LIST

Leader YPT copies
Copy of Insurance (out of Council units)
Scout & Leader Medical Forms (page 27-30)
Signed Permission Slips for Cowboy Action
Activity (page 34)
Troop Flag
Rope & Twine
Dutch Oven & Utensils

Patrol Flags
Water Cooler for campsite
First Aid Kit
American Flag
Merit Badge Book Troop Library
Foot Locker for Valuables
Flagging Tape
Medications



FLAGS

Troops should bring U.S., troop and patrol flags to be posted in your campsite. Camping is done using the patrol method. All campsites are graded daily for neatness, symbolic display of flags and troop spirit.

THE UNCLE DUDER HONOR TROOP AWARD

The Uncle Duder Honor Troop Award is presented to all units meeting the Uncle Duder standards of Good Camping. The award is designed to encourage Unit participation in the wide range of activities and to provide units and individual service opportunities. Units that meet or exceeds the Camp standards during their week Bear Creek will be known as an "Uncle Duder Honor Troop" and awarded a flag pennant at the Friday night campfire.

UNCLE DUDER HONOR TROOP AWARD REQUIREMENTS:

1. At least one adult from the unit must attend all required meetings. Additionally, the SPL, ASPL or designated youth must attend all required youth meetings.
2. The unit must maintain a clean and organized campsite. The site should be free of litter, gear stowed appropriately in tent and pavilion areas. The Troop members comply with all camp policies.
3. All vehicles must be removed from the campsite by 9:00 AM on Monday morning unless they display a medical pass issued by the Camp Medic or Director. Vehicles must remain in the designated parking areas until after the Friday night campfire or unless approved by the Camp Director.
4. All liquid fuels (charcoal lighter, etc.) must be properly stored in the campsite. Any not properly stored will be removed by Commissioners. No fires are to be left unattended.
5. Participate in a Troop Service or Conservation Project, such as:
 - a. Raise or Lower the Camp Flags (Dining Hall).
 - b. Raise or Lower the Valley Flag.
 - c. Conservation project approved and supervised by the Ecology Director for at least one hour and involve at least 75% of the unit and one troop leader.
 - d. Sweep the Dining Hall after a meal.
 - e. Pick up litter in a location identified by the Camp Commissioner/Camp Director.
 - f. Gather firewood for Friday night campfire – see Camp Quartermaster for details.
 - g. Other service project approved by the Camp Commissioner or Camp Director.
 - h. At least 75% of the unit attends Vespers Wednesday evening or Troop conducts a Vespers program in their campsite.
6. Troop members assist in maintaining a safe and clean restroom area by cleaning the bathing and toilet facilities. It is anticipated that Troops will clean the facility nearest their campsite and also the common use facilities in the Valley and Dining Hall. More than one Troop can be involved in cleaning a facility each day.
7. The Troop must attain at least a score of 90 on their Troop and Campsite Evaluation for at least three days at camp



SCORING

The score for item #1 will be based on meeting sign-in sheets. Senior Patrol Leaders, with Scoutmaster guidance, will inspect campsites each day and record a score for items 2, 3, and 4. These scores may be adjusted by Camp Commissioners as they spot-check campsites. Scores for item 5 and 6 will be based on sign-up sheets located at the Commissioner's pavilion, inspection of facilities by Commissioners, and reports from the Ecology Director and Quartermaster.



BE AN UNCLE DUDER TROOP

(A minimum score of 90 Points on each of three days is required for the Uncle Duder Award.)

TROOP # _____ **CAMPSITE** _____

#	Item	Possible Points	Actual Points				
			Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
1	At least one adult from the unit must attend all Scoutmaster meetings. Additionally, the SPL, ASPL or designated youth must attend all required youth meetings.	20					
2	The unit must maintain a clean and organized campsite. The site should be free of litter, gear must be stowed appropriately in tent and pavilion areas. The Troop members comply with all camp policies.	20					
3	All vehicles must be parked outside the campsite unless they display a medical pass issued by the Camp Medic or Director.	10					
4	All liquid fuels (charcoal lighter, etc.) must be properly stored in the campsite. (Commissioners will remove any liquid fuels not properly stored.) No fires are to be left unattended.	10					
5	Participate in a Troop Service or Conservation Project, such as: Raise/Lower the Camp Flags, a conservation project, sweeping dining hall, litter patrol, vespers, and other approved projects	20					
6	Troop members assist in maintaining a safe and clean restroom area by cleaning the bathing and toilet facilities.	20					
	Total Points	100					
	Senior Patrol Leader's Initials						
	Scout Master's Initials						

Troop Service and Facility Cleaning Projects

Monday: _____
 Tuesday: _____
 Wednesday: _____
 Thursday: _____
 Friday: _____

BEAR CREEK GAMES

The Bear Creek Games are a series of events that welcome the participation of any troop to showcase their skills in the many areas of Scouting. All troops are welcome to participate in any or all events, and each event will be held at specific times and locations from Monday through Thursday during the evening program hours. Friday's evening program will be reserved for having relaxing, fun, free time. Each event will name its own champion out of the participating troops and will present an award at the closing campfire on Friday. At the end of all events, scores will be compiled to name the Overall Bear Creek Games Champion(s). The more events a troop participates in, the higher the chance of them being named the Bear Creek Games Overall Champion(s).

During the games, Scouts are expected to demonstrate the highest understanding and practice of the Scout Oath and Law. Any violation of safety or show of unsportsmanlike conduct may be grounds for disqualification and removal from the games.

The following events are to occur throughout the week:

RIFLE

This event will take place during the Monday evening program at 8pm. One scout will represent their troop in this event. This event will be located at the Rifle range. Scouts participating will be given five rounds to shoot at a typical NRA qualifying target. The scout with the highest total score will be named the champion of this event.

ARCHERY

This event will take place during the Monday evening program at 8pm. One scout will represent their troop in this event. This event will be located at the archery range. Scouts participating will be given a quiver of five arrows to shoot at a typical archery qualifying target. The scout with the highest total score will be named the champion of this event.

SWIM RELAY

This event will take place during the Tuesday evening program at 8pm. This event will be located at the pool. Two scouts will represent their troop in event. One scout will feet-first dive into the pool, perform the BSA regulation swim test, and then swim back to the middle of the pool. The second scout, still on the edge of the deep end, will throw a ring buoy to the first scout. Each group of scouts will be timed. The scouts who perform the swim test and rescue exercise the fastest will be named champion of this event.

ECOLOGICAL TRIVIA

This event will take place during the Wednesday evening program at 7pm. Anywhere between one and three scouts may represent their troop. This event will be located at the Ecology area. Staff will provide a test with ten written questions. Scouts must answer all of the questions to be qualified for the title-- if scouts are unable to answer all the questions, they may convene with other scouts in their group. This is a timed test. The scouts with the fastest time will be named champion-- in the event that there is a tie, the group with the highest score and fastest time will win the event.

PATROL FLAG COMPETITION

This event will take place during the Tuesday evening program at 7pm. Any number of scouts from a troop may participate. This activity will be located in the Handicrafts area. Staff will provide acrylic paints and canvas material to participating troops. Troops are encouraged to use their creativity to make an original patrol flag for their troop-- they may also submit a troop flag that was brought with them to camp; only one flag is allowed to be submitted per patrol. At the end of the week the Handicrafts staff will evaluate all submissions, and choose the most creative flag-- the chosen flag will be the champion. All flags will be returned to units to take home with them.

PIONEERING COMPETITION

This event will take place during the Wednesday night program at 8pm. Any number of scouts from a troop may participate. This event will be in the Skills area. Staff will provide rope and wooden poles to last the tallest free-standing structure. The structure must stand through the inspection of all submissions to be considered for the award. The tallest free-standing structure that lasts through the judging will be named champion of this event.

SCOUTMASTER EVENTS:

Scoutmaster Sculpt - This event will take place during the Tuesday and Wednesday evening program from 7pm-9pm. One scoutmaster will represent their troop in this event. This will be located at the Handicrafts area. Staff will provide clay and paint to each participating scoutmaster to construct into an original sculpture. At the end of the week, the Handicrafts staff will evaluate all submissions and choose the most creative sculpture for a champion. All sculptures will be returned to scoutmasters at the end of the week.

Scoutmaster Shoot - This event will be held at the shotgun range on Tuesday afternoon from 3pm-5pm before dinner. One scoutmaster will represent their troop in this event. Scoutmasters should buy 3 shotgun tickets at the Trading Post prior to attending the event. This will involve shooting clay pigeons in varying angles. The scoutmaster with the best accuracy and highest score will be named champion.

Scoutmaster Dutch Oven Cook-off - Submissions for this event are due on Thursday at 5:30pm. Any number of Scoutmasters from a troop may participate in this event. This event will be located at the overflow dining hall during dinner. The submissions should be a cobbler. A panel of impartial judges will be formed to evaluate all submissions. The submissions with the most favorable scores from all judges will be named champion of this event.



AINA TOPA HUTSI LODGE ORDER OF THE ARROW ALAMO AREA COUNCIL, BSA

The Aina Topa Hutsi Lodge of the Order of the Arrow serves our council throughout the year, providing bridge ceremonies for Cub Scout Packs, setting up and putting away summer camp, and helping to maintain our council camps at Bear Creek near Hunt, Texas and McGimsey Scout Park and Mays Family Scout Ranch in San Antonio. We also do service projects for our community.

Our yearly activities include a Spring Fellowship at McGimsey, a Fall Fellowship at Bear Creek which includes a very impressive Vigil Call-Out Ceremony, our Winter Banquet in late January, ceremonies for the Induction of Candidates and Brotherhood Ceremonies at most all of our events.

Each Friday evening at summer camp, camp staff who are members of our Order conduct a Call-Out ceremony for all Scouts and Scouters who have been duly elected this year as Candidates for membership in the Order of the Arrow. We have a spectacular setting which is backed by Bear Creek and a 120-foot cliff.

SCOUTING'S NATIONAL **HONOR** SOCIETY

OA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR THEIR
SASH ON FRIDAY

REGISTERING FOR THE CALL-OUT

Troops that have had Unit Elections earlier this year may submit the names of those eligible to be called out to our Camp Chief at any leaders meeting. All names are subject to verification and additional names can be added up until Thursday of your unit's week in camp.

Those elected to become members, called "Candidates," have a period of one year from the date of their election to complete their Induction or they must be re-elected to become a candidate again.

OUT-OF-COUNCIL UNITS

Units from outside the Alamo Area Council must provide a copy of their Unit Election Report or a letter from their home lodge which lists the names of those who have been elected from their unit this year. Only those with proper documentation will be called out.

FOLLOWING THE CALL-OUT

After the Call-Out ceremony, the Candidates will be led to a designated area. Those from the Alamo Area Council will be given information about their opportunities for induction into the Order. Those Candidates from other councils may return to their campsites and contact their home lodge when they return from summer camp.



CAMP POLICIES & PROCEDURES

INTRODUCTION

It is the goal of Bear Creek Scout Camp (BCSC) to provide a safe, quality program to our campers. In addition to the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Guide to Safe Scouting, and Scouting Code of Conduct, the following rules have been established to ensure the continuation of Bear Creek Scout Camp's excellent safety record.

Leaders are asked to cooperate in the observance of these rules and in the common-sense operation of their troop. For the safety and enjoyment of all scouts in camp, troops unwilling to observe camp rules and policies will be asked to leave. Any questions or comments of these rules and policies can be addressed before camp by emailing [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org). We ask that leaders read all policies and procedures as they may be referred to while at camp and we want to make sure everyone is well informed.

REGISTRATION

Every youth and adult that attends summer camp must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America. BSA Charter Rosters with participants highlighted must be turned in to the front office upon check-in at camp as proof of registration.

UNIT LEADERSHIP

Each unit must have a minimum of two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required in camp at all times. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over present in any unit serving females. The leaders' primary responsibility is the safety of their Scouts, 24 hours a day. Adult leaders are also responsible for the discipline and control of Scouts they bring to camp. Some leaders have a great deal of knowledge of camping, scouting skills or merit badges and are asked to help in program areas. BCSC is grateful for any adult leader willing to lend a hand with camp programs.

PARENTS AND VISITORS

In effort to keep accurate records of Scouters at BCSC, and ensure Scout safety, individuals are not permitted on camp property without prior authorization. All visitors must check in and out at Camp HQ.

Parents or visitors planning to attend the Friday Family Dinner event must follow the instructions listed in the appendix on page 24. For questions, email [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org)

LEAVING CAMP

Anyone leaving camp must sign out at the Camp HQ. The front gate of BCSC will be closed at all times. Scouts will not be allowed to leave camp with someone other than their parents or legal guardian without the approval of the Scoutmaster. Scoutmasters should be advised not to allow Scouts to leave camp.

TOBACCO/VAPING

Use of Tobacco or vaping products are prohibited on all Alamo Area Council properties.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The first aid lodge is available with a qualified health officer on duty 24 hours a day. In addition, BCSC has an agreement with local physicians and hospitals if additional medical treatment is required. In the case of non-life-threatening injury or illness, the unit leader will be asked to provide transportation to the hospital or clinic as directed. Emergency services will be called in the case of accidents or illness of a more critical nature. There is no charge for medical services performed in camp. All campers needing services from hospitals/clinics are required to handle payment through their insurance policy.

INSURANCE

The Alamo Area Council provides council-wide accident and sickness insurance coverage for all registered Scouts and leaders within the Alamo Area Council.

Scouts and leaders from outside the Alamo Area Council must provide certification that they have troop and/or council insurance coverage. It is necessary that your troop be covered by medical insurance at camp. A copy of your certificate of insurance and necessary information for processing a claim must be on file with the camp medical officer before your troop can camp at BCSC. This allows the BCSC staff to arrange medical services quickly if needed. If your troop does not have insurance, please contact your local council. A national policy is available at a minimal fee.

MEDICAL RE-CHECK

All Scouts and adult leaders must complete the current Annual Health and Medical Record with parts A, B & C completed within the last 12 months, if staying at camp for any length of time. If a camper arrives at camp without their medical record, it is the camper's responsibility to obtain the physical examination and complete the form before being allowed to participate at camp.

During check-in the Camp Health Officer will check each troops roster and medical forms to confirm that all participants are covered. The Health Officer will interview troop leadership to confirm that all campers are in good physical health. The camp retains the right to send Scouts and leaders home if it is deemed that they pose a significant health risk to themselves or others.

MEDICATION

All Prescription Medication must come to camp in the

CAMP POLICIES & PROCEDURES

original bottle from the pharmacy.

The Label must Contain:

- The campers name
- Date of prescription
- Doctor's name & phone number
- Correct dosage

No handwriting will be allowed on prescription medication bottles.

All over the counter medication must come to camp in the original containers.

The taking of medication is the responsibility of the individual taking the medication and/or their parent/guardian. A Scout leader after obtaining all the necessary information, can agree to accept the responsibility of making sure a Scout takes the necessary medication at the appropriate time. BSA policy does not mandate nor necessarily encourage the Scout leader to do so.

All prescription medication must be accompanied by a note from a parent or guardian giving permission for the medication to be administered by the Scout leader.

Medical marijuana/cannabis is not authorized for use by Scouts or leaders during their time at camp.

IMMUNIZATIONS

BSA Rules and Regulations require that all participants have current Tetanus immunization prior to attending summer camp.

SCOUT UNIFORM IN CAMP

Scouts are expected to wear the BSA field uniform to breakfast, morning flags, evening flags, dinner, and to the Friday's closing campfire. Scoutmasters and adult leaders should instruct their troop in how to properly wear the uniform in line with the BSA Guide to Awards and Insignia.

SWIMMING ATTIRE

Swimsuits must be modest. Outside of aquatics areas all campers are required to wear shirts and shorts or pants.

FOOTWEAR

Campers will need sturdy shoes for hiking and a spare pair in case their shoes get wet. No open toed shoes. Water shoes are encouraged for boating areas. Foam shoes are not sturdy enough for Bear Creek terrain.

EVERYBODY GET A BUDDY

No Scout should be without a buddy at camp.

QUIET HOURS

Quiet hours are from 10:00pm to 6:30am.

CAMPSITES & BATHROOMS

Campsite and bathroom cleanliness are the responsibility of the campers who use them. Any damage done to camp property by campers will be the responsibility of the individual's troop. Campsites may be inspected at any time to ensure the health and safety of all campers.

Few campsites have access to electric outlets. Electric is a shared resource between the troops staying in the campsite and special consideration must be made for campers who require electricity for medical purposes.

A Scout is helpful, courteous, and clean, and we ask that troops work together to make sure that restroom facilities are cleaned daily. The camp will supply all necessary items to clean and sanitize restrooms.

Before checking out of camp, the camp staff will inspect all facilities to insure they are clean and free of damage.

CPAP MACHINES

Leaders with CPAP machines are encouraged to bring battery packs for their equipment. Many insurance providers now cover these batteries. The Camp cannot accommodate special campsite requests for electricity.

ICE

Ice is available for purchase throughout the week. It can be purchased from the cafeteria.

GARBAGE & FOOD IN CAMPSITES

The Quartermaster Staff will pick up trash nightly before 9:30pm. Bag and place trash on the roadside of the nearest restroom to be collected. No food is allowed inside of tents, food left in campsites must be secured in wildlife-proof container or secured inside a covered trailer.

BCSC is in the country where there are raccoons and other smaller animals who will make a mess of unsecured food or garbage.

PETS/ANIMALS/WILDLIFE

No pets of any kind may be brought to camp. Wild animals are not to be fed, teased or captured. If there is a wild animal that poses a danger to campers, notify the staff. Please remember that camp is in a natural environment. Snakes or other critters will be spotted. If it does not pose a threat, Scouts and leaders should take the opportunity to view nature from a safe distance and does not warrant notifying camp staff. If an animal is found inside a tent, building or in an area that would put Scouts in harms way please call the staff to safely remove the animal.

VEHICLE POLICY

The speed limit on the county road which parallels a portion of BCSC is 30 mile per hour (MPH). The speed limit on roads on camp is 10 MPH with the following

CAMP POLICIES & PROCEDURES

exceptions:

- a. The speed limit in the Program Valley (the area after the second low water crossing) is 5 MPH.
- b. The speed limit in campsite areas is 5 MPH.

It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that: Seat belts are required for all occupants in vehicles. The driver of any vehicle operated on camp must be at least 18 years of age. The beds of trucks or trailers, or fenders, must never be used for carrying passengers.

Vehicles may be allowed in the campsite to deliver camping equipment on the day of arrival. Troops may leave trailers in campsites. Trailer tow vehicles may also remain in the campsite under the following conditions:

- a. The trailer and tow vehicle remain connected throughout the week.
- b. Both the trailer and the tow vehicle are at least three feet from the edge of any camp road.
- c. The tow vehicle is not moved during the week.

All other vehicles must be removed to a designated parking area for the duration of their visit. Driving in the Campsite areas or Program Valley is not permitted.

HANDICAP VEHICLES

Only vehicles with state issued Disabled Parking placards or license plates may park in designated Disabled Parking spaces.

Driving in the Campsite areas or Program Valley is not permitted unless the participant has a state issued handicap placard. State issued placards are issued as an accommodation for a disability, and therefore should also be noted on the camper's Medical Record.

Vehicles are to be used as a mode of transportation, not as a carpool or shuttle for able Scouters. Likewise, permitted transportation is for essential locations only - *not for sightseeing purposes.*

If transporting a Scout under the age of 18, all Youth Protection Policies must be met.

Individuals needing accommodation, must have a handicap placard or license plate, and notify the Camp Director via email at [BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org](mailto: BearCreekSummerCamp@alamoareabsa.org) by May 15 to ensure the assigned campsite has accessible parking.

GATE POLICY

Perimeter gates MUST remain closed at all times - no exceptions. If you find a gate open, close it.

EMERGENCY DRILL

There will be a camp wide emergency drill within the first day of camp. Emergency procedures will be posted on camp bulleting boards in all campsites. As a rule, Scouts and Scouters hearing vehicle horns honking repeatedly must report immediately to the nearest gathering point without delay.

Gathering points are:

- If on the Friedrich side of camp - meet at the Dining Hall
- If on the Rickenbacker side- meet at the conference center
- If in the Lower Valley - meet at the Eco Pavilion
- If in the Upper Valley - meet at the Handicrafts Area

It is the responsibility of the leaders to make sure the Scouts are aware of what to do during an emergency. Consult the camp maps on pages 16 and 17 to locate these areas.

LOST CAMPERS

Please inform staff if you need help finding a lost camper. BCSC staff has procedures in place to search camp safely and quickly. Youth campers should never be sent to search for lost campers.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

The following activities are forbidden and violators may be immediately escorted off camp property.

1. Hunting.
2. Unauthorized use of all-terrain vehicles.
3. Pets.
4. Starting fires with gasoline, oil, diesel fuel, lighter fluid, propane, etc.
5. Starting fires outside of designated areas. No flames in tents or cabins, this includes lit mosquito coils, candles & hot plates. Please check with the camp staff to see if any burn bans are in effect before starting a fire. When not in use, all fuel (propane, white gas, etc) must be kept locked up.
6. Towing passengers on sleds, trailers or any other conveyance not intended for such use. No Scouts or leaders may ride in the back of pickup trucks.
7. Firearms and ammunition are available at the camp for use ONLY at the rifle and shotgun ranges. No other firearms are permitted on camp property. Do not bring your personal firearms, ammunition or bows.
8. Use of fireworks.
9. Absolutely no alcohol or illegal drugs will be allowed on camp property. Drug and alcohol laws will be strictly enforced according to the laws of the state of Texas. Use of these substances will result in immediate removal from camp.
10. Chainsaws are not allowed at camp unless prior permission is received. National BSA has implemented stringent new rules for their safe use.



APPENDIX

FRIDAY FAMILY DINNER

Anyone planning to attend the Friday Family Dinner should notify their Troop of their intentions prior to the week of camp. There are different requirements for visitors (people coming for the OA Call-Out and dinner) and those who plan to stay Friday night with their unit.

Troops should arrange for a leader or pair of Scouts to meet expected visitors at the Camp HQ and escort them to the appropriate place.

DINNER/CALL-OUT GUESTS (NOT STAYING THE NIGHT)

1. Upon arrival at camp, visitors must check in at Camp HQ, where they will receive a wristband indicating they are a visitor and have been permitted to be on property. Wristbands must be worn at all times while at camp.
5. Dinner is \$10, payable (cash only) at the dining hall.
6. Guests are expected to follow all policy guidelines while at camp. (See policies)
7. Guests must sign out at the Camp HQ and leave camp after the Call-Out Ceremony is over.

GUESTS CAMPING WITH THEIR UNITS FRIDAY NIGHT

No exceptions will be made to the following expectations. For the safety of our Scouts, Friday Night Campers must come prepared with appropriate documentation and registration, or they will be expected to leave BCSC following the Call-Out Ceremony.

1. Anyone camping at Bear Creek Scout Camp MUST be a registered adult with the BSA. Membership is validated with the adult's name appearing on the Troops printed registration forms given to the camp at check-in. BCSC Staff are unable to look up members.
2. Campers must present with a printed current YPT Certificate and health forms A, B & C.
3. Upon arrival at camp, visitors must check in at Camp HQ, where they will receive a wristband indicating they have all the proper documentation and have been permitted to camp for the night with their unit. Wristbands must be worn at all times while at camp.
3. Dinner is \$10, payable (cash only) at the dining hall.
4. Campers are expected to follow all policy guidelines while at camp. (See Policies)
5. Campers must camp with the unit they are a member of.

COWBOY ACTION

This program offers a fun, safe introduction to cowboy action shooting with pistols, rifles, and shotguns. While attending camp this summer, Scouts over the age of 14 can take part in a special shooting experience with opportunities to shoot .22 caliber pistols, .22 caliber lever action rifles, and 12 or 20 gauge shotguns at reactive targets. Parents must sign the permission form before a Scout participates. See page 31 for the permission slip.

BLACK POWDER

Also known as a muzzleloader, a black powder gun uses historical firearm technology, which includes handloading both the ammunition and black powder into the muzzle. Aside from them being fun to shoot, a black powder gun also gives Scouts a hands-on lesson about how bullets are made. The ammunition travels at a slower velocity limiting the range to 100 yards or less, challenging Scouts to be a better marksman. Muzzleloader users typically take pride in the sport, since it relies on their own personal skills instead of falling back on the effectiveness of an expensive firearm.

HUNTER EDUCATION

Hunter Safety is required for obtaining a hunting license if not born before 1972. There is a State mandated fee of \$15.00 for this class. Bring this fee to camp. Registration for this class must be done online through the Texas Parks and Wildlife website. We will email the registration link for this class to leaders in May." Bring this fee, home address, and your email address to the class. Attendance at both nights are required to complete the training.

INSTRUCTIONAL SWIM

Instructional swim is a daily class just like the typical merit badge classes. It is an opportunity for scouts who haven't passed the swim test to develop their skills in a low-risk environment.

MILE SWIM TRAINING

Mile Swim is an award given to those whom train and swim a mile over an approved course. Mile swim is offered everyday like a typical merit badge class. Participants are encouraged to show up everyday so that they may train and understand their limitations before attempting the full mile.