

Important Note About Coronavirus and Scouting

Dear Scouting Families,

Recent concern regarding the COVID-19 (coronavirus) has generated much public attention and has caused significant change in travel, personal interactions and in guidelines prescribed by health officials for how to address the growing concern.

As an organization, we have discussed the best approach based on what we know today. At this point in time, we are proceeding forward with all scheduled meetings and events while following the guidelines and advise of medical professionals to help minimize risk to our general membership. Conducting our program elements is key to the success of Scouting but we are also aware of the concern from the general public. If at any point direction changes from state or local leaders, we will revisit and share updates with the council membership.

Recommended steps to remain healthy during this cold and flu season based on recommendations from the World Health Organization and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These precautions include:

- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water or clean them with an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick (this may include avoiding shaking hands or other customary greetings).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

- Maintain at least three feet (one meter) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Please visit this page for additional information: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

If any individuals are uncomfortable attending a meeting or event, we don't want anyone to feel pressure to attend. Each person can make the decision that they feel is in their best interest.

We hope that these preventative measures help to limit the risk and keep our youth and volunteers safe and healthy.

Yours in Scouting,

Michael Rotar
Council President

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

March Training Newsletter



March is "Fix Your Training Record" Month

The records show that about half of our volunteers aren't fully trained for their Scouting positions... but we know more than a few people have courses missing from their records. This could happen for many reasons: a longtime volunteer who got trained before the BSA started putting these things in a database, a course you took recently that never got reported, training you took before you were a registered leader (so we couldn't give you credit at the time), etc. Whatever the reason, this can be fixed!

This month, let's work together to clean up all those old missing records so you can get credit and we can stop nagging you about training you've already taken!

Please start by logging into <https://my.scouting.org>. Check your training completions. If something is missing, please contact your district training chair. If you're not sure who that is, contact the council training chair (see below, right side) to start. In general, we'll ask for proof in the form of a certificate or course director confirmation.

Upcoming Opportunities



* = pre-registration required * = online registration open
* = counts toward basic  requirements for adults

Scout Leader Skills

- Mar 7** Scoutmaster/ASM Pos.-Spec. (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 14* Outdoor Ethics Guide Training (Canton)
- Mar 21*** Troop Cmtee. Position-Spec. (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 21** Youth Protection (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 27-29, Apr 25-26** Wood Badge
- Apr 4-5*** IOLS for Scouts BSA/Venturing (Plymouth)
- Apr 23** Youth Protection (Whitman)
- Apr 25-26** BALOO for Cub Leaders (Bolton)
- May 2* Cub Leader Position-Specific (location TBA)
- May 16-17** Leave No Trace Trainer Training (Sudbury)

Check council website for registration deadlines. Some are a week or more in advance, especially for overnights.

First Aid

- Mar 7** CPR/AED (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 10** CPR/AED (Sudbury)
- Mar 14-15** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Plymouth)
- Mar 21** Red Cross First Aid (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 24** Red Cross First Aid (Sudbury)
- Apr 14** CPR/AED (Sudbury)
- Apr 18-19** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Plymouth)
- Apr 28** Red Cross First Aid (Sudbury)
- May 2-3** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Bolton)

Training Recognition Knots

Have you seen adult leaders wearing the knots below? These knots are our way of recognizing leaders who've taken training and put it to use. Earning and wearing a knot is a great way to show Scouts and parents that their leaders have invested their time in learning how to run a strong Scouting program.



This knot (the "key") can be earned by a unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, etc.) after three years of service.



This knot can be earned by any registered adult leader in a unit. Requirements include two years of service.



This knot can be earned by any Den Leader from Lion through Webelos/AOL. Requirements include one year of service.

Visit www.scouting.org/training/adult.aspx and scroll down to "Training Awards" to get the application forms with the requirements. Some of the requirements include helping your unit earn the Journey to Excellence award.



The Unit Leader's Award of Merit is also available. It can be earned by the unit leader at every level. Learn more at www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/unit-leader.

How to apply: Each form must be signed by your unit committee chair. Submit scanned or electronic applications to awards@mayflowerbsa.org. They will be routed for approval.

When are knots presented? They can be presented at any time of year. Knots can be given at a district dinner or roundtable, a unit event, or a regular unit meeting.

Climbing and COPE Training

Are you interested in becoming a certified climbing or COPE instructor? Our neighbors at Spirit of Adventure Council are running a course for our area on May 29-31 and June 12-14. Age 15 and up. To register, visit www.scoutspirit.org and visit their council calendar.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration: www.mayflowerbsa.org/training
- BSA online training: <https://my.scouting.org>
- Council training chair: Chris Lamie: chris.lamie@gmail.com
- Staff contact: Rick Riopelle: rick@mayflowerbsa.org

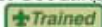
EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

Page 2: In-Person Training We Offer

The success of every Scouting program depends on having well-trained leaders. They not only bring a quality program to their units, but they also have more fun doing it. Everything we do in Scouting has a purpose. Training is the key to recognizing, understanding, and achieving the purpose behind every activity. **If you're a registered leader, there's a training course for you!**

Course	What it is	Who it's for	Time	When and where
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	A hands-on intro to outdoor skills for the Cub program, taught on an overnight campout. If your pack goes camping, at least one BALOO-trained adult must be there.	Cub Scout adults	1.5 days	2–3 times/year, spring and fall. Various camps.
Cub Leader Position-Specific Training (PST)	Classroom overview of the Cub Scouting program, advancement, leader roles, and resources to help you run a strong program. (Also available online.)	Cub Scout adults	4 hours	At least 4 times a year, mostly fall. Locations vary.
CPR/AED	American Red Cross certification in CPR and AED (defibrillator) use, valid for two years.	Adults and capable youth	3.5 hours	8+ times/year, often Nobscot or Canton.
Den Chief Training	Roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief. Includes tips, games, songs, and other fun activities for working with Cub Scouts. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA and Venturing youth	2–3 hours	4–6 times/year, mostly fall. Locations vary.
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)	Overnight intro to skills like map/compass, woods tools, cooking, and knots/lashings. Learn new skills, reinforce old ones, and build confidence to teach.	Scouts BSA and Venturing adults	1.5 days	2–3 times/year, spring and fall. Various camps.
Leave No Trace Trainer Training	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Leave No Trace and advanced camping methods.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	Spring and maybe fall at BSA camps.
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Ideal for youth who aspire to Senior Patrol Leader, ASPL, or other key leadership positions.	Scouts BSA and Venturing youth	1 week	2 times each summer: Squanto and Resolute.
Red Cross First Aid	American Red Cross certification in basic first aid skills, valid for two years.	Adults and capable youth	3.5 hours	8+ times/year, often Nobscot or Canton.
Scoutmaster/ASM PST	Fundamentals of running a successful youth-led troop, patrol method, and more. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	4–5 hours	6+ times/year. Locations vary.
Troop Committee PST	Learn how an effective Troop Committee can support a successful youth-led troop. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	2–3 hours	A few times/year. Locations vary.
Wilderness and Remote First Aid	Hands-on training to treat injuries in the backcountry. American Red Cross certification valid for two years.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	5 times/year: Nobscot/Squanto.
Wood Badge	The BSA's premier leadership skills course. Grow as a leader, apply leadership concepts and methods, and gain inspiration to deliver the promise of Scouting.	All adults	2 week-ends	1 or 2 times/year, at BSA camps.

Our in-person courses are organized and taught by trained volunteers who have been "in your shoes." Live training is a great way to meet fellow leaders, share ideas, get answers to questions, and get a chance to practice key skills. We try to offer these courses at a variety of times and locations, but we can also add certain courses on demand, if requested.

We offer other courses periodically, too. You can also take many training courses online at <https://my.scouting.org>. For most Scouting positions, online training covers all the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position and wear the  patch. See the requirements for your position in our Quick Guides at www.mayflowerbsa.org/training.