

# December Training Newsletter

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## Pandemic Update

Our current training offerings continue to be limited as we abide by council limits on group gatherings, council-run activities, and overnight camping. These limits are based on state and local restrictions. They continue to be evaluated as the pandemic situation evolves.

Here are a few key points to know:

1. **We encourage everyone to take as much training as they can get online.** It's available 24/7 at <https://my.scouting.org>.
  - o If you need to renew your **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**, this is the way to do it.
  - o You can complete **Position-Specific Training** (for the "Trained" patch) for almost every Scouting position through BSA online.
2. **We're also running local webinars.** Our volunteer trainers are continuing to run a series of online training sessions on various topics of interest. Please see the calendar at right, and check the weekly Mayflower Council email for additions to the list.
3. **BALOO training continues to be a challenge.** BALOO training (overnight camping skills) is still required if you take Cub Scouts camping. We know of several packs who have been held back by this rule because we haven't been able to run BALOO training since late 2019. We understand and share your frustration. We've looked into various possibilities for waivers and workarounds, but the National office's policies have not changed. Our current plan is to attempt to run BALOO in some form (if it can be allowed) in early spring 2021.
4. **First aid training options may be available soon.** We are evaluating first aid certification options as the American Red Cross (our training partner) continues to update its options for class structure and format. Please stay tuned for more details!

## Renew Youth Protection Training

Time is running out to renew your Youth Protection Training (YPT)! All registered adult leaders must have current YPT status in order to recharter with a pack, troop, or crew for 2021. A large percentage of leaders last took YPT during 2018, which means the 2-year training has expired or is about to expire. The only way to renew this training right now is at <https://my.scouting.org>. You only need to take the "mandatory" version (it says it's a bit more than 1 hour), but you do need to make sure you do all four parts (three modules plus the quiz).

## Upcoming Online Opportunities



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

- Dec 13\*\*\* Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 1 of 2)
- Dec 19\*\* Den Chief Training Workshop

## Den Chief Training on December 19

A Den Chief is a Scouts BSA (or Venturing) member who helps lead activities with a Cub Scout den. We call it a "win-win-win-win": the older youth gets a confidence-building leadership experience, the Cub Scouts get a role model who can inspire them to grow in Scouting, the pack gets a valuable helping hand, and the troop gets a recruiter. That's why we encourage every Cub Scout pack to connect with local troops and recruit Den Chiefs!

By popular demand, we'll be running a custom webinar version of **Den Chief Training** on **Saturday morning, December 19, 9:00–11:30 AM**. This training will focus on the roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief, tips and techniques for success, and activity ideas and practice. The BSA already offers online training at [www.scouting.org/training/youth/den-chief-training](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth/den-chief-training), which can be a useful introduction for any Den Chief. Our session will provide the same "basic training" credit, but it also includes the opportunity to interact with other people, ask questions, and discuss practical tips—including ideas for how to be an effective Den Chief during COVID. We wish we could do it in person, but we'll try our best to capture some of the same fun online!

This course is free (no patches, snacks, or materials, so no charge!). Register at [www.mayflowerbsa.org/training](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/training).

## Cub Leaders: Get Trained With Us!

Calling all Den Leaders, Cubmasters, and Pack Committee Members: if you haven't taken your Position-Specific Training on My.Scouting yet, join us on **December 13 at 7 PM** for the first half in a live webinar. It's the same material, but with the chance to ask questions, share ideas, and get useful tips from fellow leaders. Please encourage your fellow leaders to join us!

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration: [www.mayflowerbsa.org/training](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/training)
- BSA online training: <https://my.scouting.org>
- Council training chair: Chris Lamie: [chris.lamie@gmail.com](mailto:chris.lamie@gmail.com)
- Staff contact: Kat Nussbaumer: [kat@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:kat@mayflowerbsa.org)

**EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!**

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# 2020 Scouting For Food Collection Reporting

Did your unit participate in Scouting For Food? We have heard a number of units collecting an amazing amount of food for their community food pantries. Northborough Scouts collected over 10,000 items while Westborough Scouts brought in 6,800 pounds of food. How much did you collect? Please fill out our brief form below with the amount of food collected and don't forget to enter your service hours too.

Food Collection Form

To report service hours to JTE, follow the instructions below. Every person and hour counts. Please be sure to use our link to report food collected directly to the council as we do not have access to that data through JTE, only your hours reported roll up to the council score.

Instructions

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## Farewell Good Friend

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Rick Poirier, Director of Support Services. Rick has been an integral part of the Mayflower Council and the Boy Scouts of America for 38 years. He is an Eagle Scout, NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout, Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow and

past recipient of the Founder's Award among many other achievements and accolades.

Rick started his career with the BSA in 1982 as a District Executive in the Narragansett Council in Rhode Island. In 1986 he joined the legacy Old Colony Council as where he served in many positions including: Senior District Executive, Field Director, Camp Squanto Camp Director, Assistant Scout Executive and staff advisor to various council, regional and section committees over the past 35 years. In 2017 he was named the Director of Support Services for the Mayflower Council overseeing the council's camping operations and summer camp programs.

Rick has been a staple of the Scouting program for nearly four decades and his knowledge, skill, and passion for Scouting will be greatly missed! On behalf of the council executive board, staff, volunteers and Scouts of the Mayflower Council we wish Rick the best.

Please join us in wishing Rick well as he retires from professional service on December 1 by submitting a congratulatory letter to be put into a memory book for him as he opens a new chapter in his life. Letters may be emailed to [farewell@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:farewell@mayflowerbsa.org) or mailed to Mayflower Council, BSA 83 Cedar Street, Milford, MA 01757. Kindly submit by November 25.

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# Youth Protection Training Guide

# Tips For Taking Youth Protection Training Online!

Learning Plan

Total time: 72 minutes

## Description

The safety and well-being of our youth is of paramount importance to our organization, and integral to everything we do. We must continue our commitment to providing a safe and secure environment at all times for all our youth members. After completing all three modules and passing the exam, it may take up to 24 hours to see your certificate in My.Scouting.

## Overview And Policies V2 – total time: 24m

This module will help you to recognize, respond and report the different kinds of abuse experienced by youth. Importantly, you will also know the barriers to abuse and how to utilize them to help create a safe space for youth. After completing all three modules and passing the exam, it may take up to 24 hours to see your certificate in My.Scouting.org

## Sexual Abuse V2 – total time: 25m

Child sexual abuse is considered a public health concern by experts and health organizations. This module covers the different types of sexual abuse. After completing all three modules and passing the exam, it may take up to 24 hours to see your certificate in My.Scouting.org

## Bullying V2 – total time: 13m

Bullying is any unwanted, aggressive behavior by an adult, a

youth, or a group that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated or is likely to be repeated multiple times. This module covers various forms of bullying. After completing all three modules and passing the exam, it may take up to 24 hours to see your certificate in My.Scouting.org

## YPT Certification Test V2 – total time: 10m

This exam must be passed with a 75% or better passing criteria along with the other mandatory modules to receive credit for the YPT course. After completing all three modules and passing the exam, it may take up to 24 hours to see your certificate in My.Scouting.org

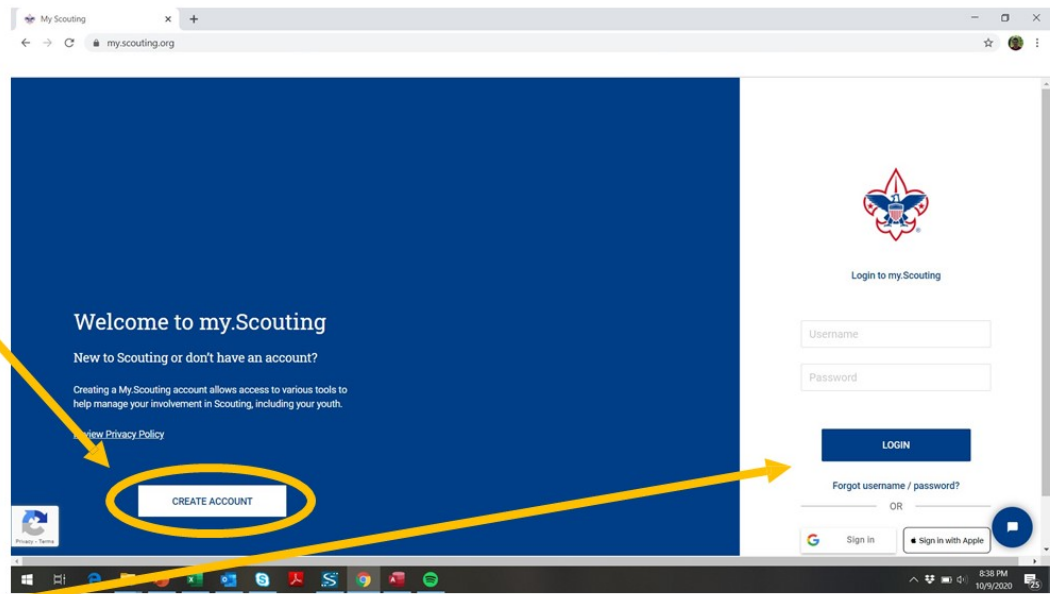
### Down Load Step By Step Guide

Go to <https://my.scouting.org> and log in with your username and password.

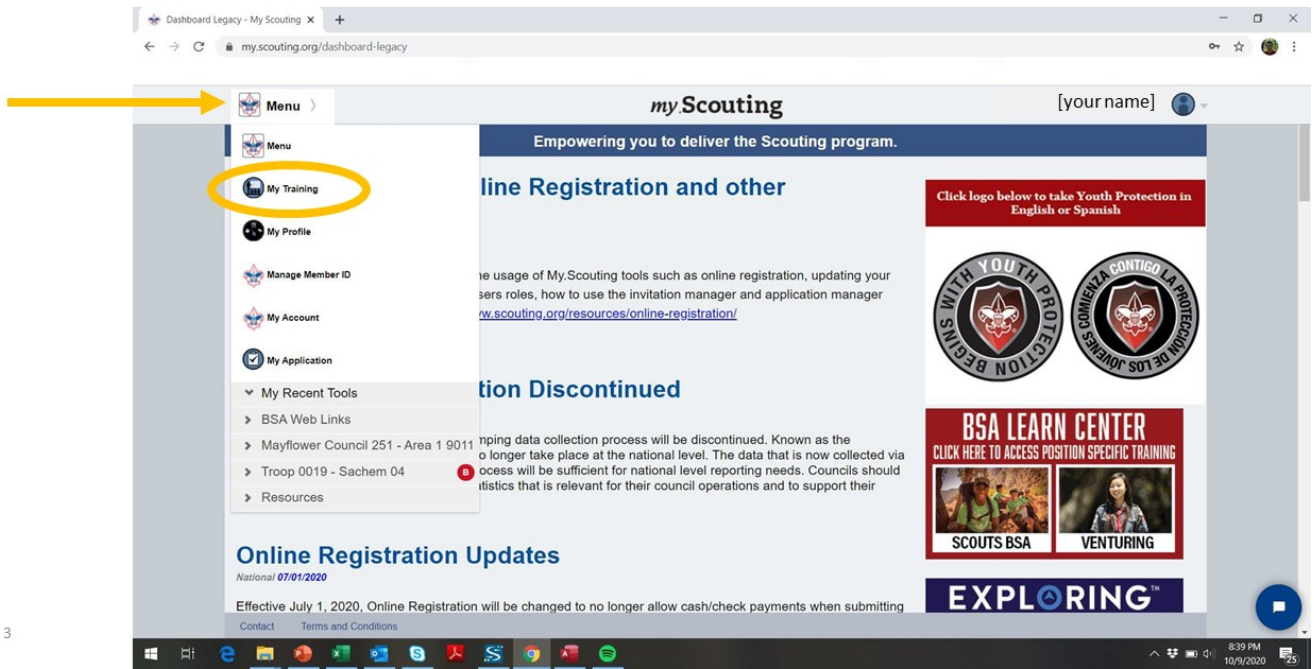
Device and browser: This training may work best on a computer/laptop, rather than a smaller mobile device. The BSA encourages users to try it in the latest version of Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge browser.

Login: If you're new, click "CREATE ACCOUNT" on the left to get started.

If you can't remember your login information but you think you've already set up a My.Scouting account, please click the "Forgot username/password" link. That's better than setting up a duplicate account that could cause problems in the future.



Click "Menu" to open the menu, then choose "My Training."



# 2021 Silver Beaver Award Nominations

In Scouting, we say "it's about the youth" and none of our adults are involved for the recognition, but every now and then we need to say thanks especially to those volunteers whose leadership and example has left a lasting positive impact on the program and the broader community. One way we do that is through nominating a Scouter for the Silver Beaver Award, the highest adult recognition a council can bestow. Take a few moments to reflect on volunteers within your unit or district and consider nominating them for the Silver Beaver Award.

**A detailed nomination form is available by clicking here and all nominations must be received by Friday, December 4, 2020.**

Completed nominations should be emailed to: awards@mayflowerbsa.org. The awards will be presented at the Council's Recognition Dinner to be held sometime in the Spring of 2021.

**Frequently asked questions about the Silver Beaver Award:**

## **Overview**

To recognize registered Scouters of exceptional character who have provided distinguished service within a council. The award is presented by the National Court of Honor on behalf of councils.

## **Who Can Earn This Award?**

Anyone may nominate any deserving registered Scouter to the council, which selects recipients for the following year. Each council may process their own annual allotment of Silver Beaver awards and shall send a list of Silver Beaver awards presented each calendar year to the National Court of Honor no later than January 31 of the following year.

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# **Mayflower Council Moves to New Headquarters**

Mayflower Council, Inc, Boy Scouts of America, announced that they have acquired an office building in Milford, MA to serve as their new Service Center headquarters. The building, located at 83 Cedar Street, Milford, will provide 8,100 sq. ft. of office and meeting space for the Council's 17 professional and support staff.



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# September Training Newsletter

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## Pandemic Update

Mayflower Council suspended all in-person training courses in the spring. We'd love to be back out there delivering in-person training sessions all across the council now, but until the pandemic is under control, we're operating in a modified capacity to minimize risk to our participants, our trainers, and their families.

Right now, we offer two main avenues for training:

1. **Online training from the BSA:** It's available 24/7 at <https://my.scouting.org>. We know it's not as interactive as in-person training, but it's the most convenient option. Right now, it's also the safest.
  - o If you need to renew your **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**, this is the way to do it.
  - o You can complete **Position-Specific Training** (for the "Trained" patch) for almost every Scouting position through BSA online.
2. **Local webinars:** Our volunteer trainers are continuing to run a series of online training sessions. Please see the calendar at right, and check the weekly Mayflower Council news email for additions to the list. These sessions include:
  - o "Live" versions of certain **Position-Specific Training** courses. For example, we'll run basic training for Cub Scout leaders this fall. It's a good way to (virtually) meet fellow leaders, share ideas, and be able to ask questions.
  - o Webinars on **other timely topics of interest** (see "Scoutbook" training, for example).

There are a few things we can't do. For example, National does not allow us to create our own "webinar" versions of IOLS, BALOO, or YPT. IOLS and BALOO are outdoor camping skills courses where it's just not possible to achieve the learning objectives without a hands-on outdoor component. As for first aid training, we follow the policies of the American Red Cross, which still requires in-person skill verification to get (re)certified.

We are investigating whether we can run IOLS or BALOO later this fall. Obviously there would be many modifications in terms of numbers, facilities, equipment, and group teaching to be able to do it safely. A team of volunteers is currently reviewing whether it's possible to do this while staying true to the goals and requirements of the training. We're also following news from National (which is testing an IOLS "hybrid" course) and other nearby councils (some have canceled altogether; others are trying to plan limited fall offerings). We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we try to fulfill our mission without putting people at risk.

## Upcoming Online Opportunities



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

- Sept 3\*      New Member Coordinator Workshop
- Sept 8\*      Tips for Success with Scoutbook
- Sept 27\*     Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 1 of 2)

Dates to be announced:

- Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 2 of 2)
- "Be A Scout"/Membership Tools
- Den Chief Workshop (*maybe... working on it*)
- Merit Badge Counselor Training

## Changes to My.Scouting Interface... But Records Have Not Been Lost!

In late spring, the BSA rolled out some changes to the way you find training courses on My.Scouting. The point of this reorganization was to group individual training segments into a "learning plan" for each position, make it easier to find segments you still need to take (for example, Hazardous Weather isn't hidden in a different place like it used to be), and have credit carry over so you don't have to take the same segment twice for two different positions.

Many Scouters noticed that after this change, their "learning plans" did not list all their previous completions. We heard a lot of questions and concerns about this. Our contacts at National confirmed that this is a known problem, and they were not able to transfer all those completions when they made the switch. **But there's good news!** The training you took in the past **will** still show up on your official record—which is what really counts. Here's how to check your official record:

1. Go to <https://my.scouting.org>.
2. From the menu, choose "My Training."
3. Click "Completions."

We checked this for everyone who asked, and the official records still looked complete. The main case where this won't work is if you have two different My.Scouting accounts or member IDs that still need to be merged.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration: [www.mayflowerbsa.org/training](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/training)
- BSA online training: <https://my.scouting.org>
- Council training chair: Chris Lamie: [chris.lamie@gmail.com](mailto:chris.lamie@gmail.com)
- Staff contact: Kat Nussbaumer: [kat@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:kat@mayflowerbsa.org)

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# Swim Tests

Do you need your BSA Swim test? Join us at Camp Resolute or Camp Squanto. We have three dates available. Space is limited.

September 5th – 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

September 8th – 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

September 9th – 5:30 – 7:00 pm

- Each registrant will be given a time slot in 15 min increments and must adhere to COVID restrictions.
- Please arrive on time and in your bathing suit, there are no changing areas.
- Be prepared to do your swim test and immediately exit the water, there is no free swim time.
- Please wear a mask at all times when not in the water and maintain social distancing.
- Upon arrival there will be a pre-screening of COVID related questions.

The various components of each test evaluate the several skills essential to the minimum level of swimming ability. Each step of the test is important and must be followed as listed below:

## SWIMMER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the individual's head in depth, level off, and begin swimming. Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting backstroke (elementary backstroke). The 100 yards must be swum continuously and

include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

#### BEGINNER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the individual's head in depth, level off, swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming as before, and return to the starting place.

#### NON-SWIMMER TEST:

This is reserved for anyone that attempts one of the swim tests above and does not complete it to a satisfactory degree, subject to the test's administrator (Lifeguard or Scout Leader). Anyone who does not attend swim tests is automatically assigned a "Non-Swimmer" classification. Please do not sign up for these swim tests if you are planning to attempt a non-swimmer test, you will be sent home.

Guide to Safe Scouting; what do Swimmers vs Beginners vs Non-Swimmers do?

Guide to Safe Scouting online version

Age appropriate Guidelines for Scouting activities

Sign Up For Camp Resolute

Sign Up For Camp Squanto

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# The Scout Shop Uniform Sale Is Back

This uniform sale helps you save on essential elements of the Scouting experience as a new Scouting year begins.

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# **New Video Resources Can Help Den Leaders**

With the pandemic limiting some in-person activities, these videos offer an easy-to-deliver virtual alternative for leaders. Your Content Goes Here