

New National Registration Fee Announced

Scouting Family,

For more than 100 years, Scouting has helped build future leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun and adventure in the outdoors. At Boy Scouts of America, we are dedicated to developing leaders of character by preparing young men and women for life by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The timeless ideals of the Scout Law, such as being trustworthy, helpful, kind and brave, make up the foundation young people need to address and overcome challenges in their lives and the issues facing their generation.

Here in Mayflower Council, Scouting serves more than 11,000 youth in 62 cities and towns. Now as we continue the Scouting mission, it is important that we keep pace with an ever-changing world. While costs to the organization have increased every year, the Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible by subsidizing core costs, including liability insurance we must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. Unfortunately, it is no longer possible to subsidize at the level we have in the past, especially as the cost of insurance has increased dramatically. We kept the cost low to make Scouting available to as many young people as possible but keeping the cost artificially low for many years now magnifies the impact of changes.

To ensure we have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting despite increasing operating costs, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America has made the difficult but necessary decision to increase the annual

membership fee effective January 1, 2020 to:

- \$60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts,
- \$36 for youth members in Exploring, and
- \$36 for adult members
- \$60 for unit charter fees

Every dollar of the national membership fee will go toward the cost of essential services, including liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, program resources, safety standards, youth protection and personal safety training, and services to councils nationwide to sustain Scouting. The National organization will also continue to develop and improve resources that support our volunteers and youth members such as online registration, Member Care and Scoutbook, which now includes the Den Leader experience to ensure the safe and consistent delivery of Cub Scouting; as well as improvements aimed at simplifying the annual renewal process. In Mayflower Council, we will continue to bring Scouting to our communities and families through quality programs, delivered through our units, districts, and council volunteers and professional staff.

Across the country and in our own community, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make to support young men and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. From once-in-a-lifetime adventures to merit badges that spark interests and future careers; from campouts under the stars to service projects that leave a lasting impact on our communities; Scouting's year-round program expands horizons and provides young people with a safe and welcoming place to learn, grow, and thrive.

That is why we are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to our existing council and unit membership assistance, we have

established a national Growing Future Leaders Fund, which is funded entirely through donations, to provide additional financial support to those who need it.

Thank you for your continued role in empowering a generation of future leaders of character through Scouting programs.

2019 Distinguished Citizens Award Dinner

Donate Here

**You are invited to the Inaugural
Distinguished Citizen of The Year Award
Dinner**

Mayflower Council will be honoring:



Fredrick W. Clark, Jr. Esq

President, Bridgewater State University

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Boston Marriott Quincy

1000 Marriott Drive, Quincy

Online Trail's End Popcorn Winners

Congratulations to the following Scouts for being the highest online seller in your district! Great job!

Your drone will be flying to you soon.

Special Week			
District	Unit	Town	Name
Sachem	Troop 1022	Weymouth	Emily W
Cranberry Harbors	Troop 1	Hingham	Drew V
Headwaters	Pack 100	Westborough	Cuinn F
Post Road	Pack 355	Newton	Owen J
Metacomet	Pack 113	Medfield	Giovanni L
Week 1 – Oct 9 – 15			
District	Unit	Town	Name
Sachem	Pack 303	Weymouth	Liam H
Cranberry Harbors	Pack 7	Scituate	Jonathan L.
Headwaters	Pack 31	Marlborough	Bobby B.
Post Road	Pack 60	Sudbury	Ethan M

Metacomet	Pack 200	Medfield	AJ H
Week 2 – Oct 16 – 22			
District	Unit	Town	Name
Cranberry Harbors	Pack 27	Hingham	Huck S
Post Road	Pack 157	Weston	Bennet D
Metacomet	Pack 49	Norwood	Archer M
Head Waters	Pack 42	Marlborough	Patrick C
Sachem	Pack 303	Weymouth	John B

October Roundtable

Below are the event flyers, training newsletters and other information from our October Roundtable.

2019 Museum of Science Overnight Flyer

2019 Tread Lightly Trainer Course

District Leadership Summit

Freeze Out 2020

Mayflower training news Oct 19

October P-Bruins Game Tickets

November P-Bruins Game Tickets

Scouting-for-Food-Kickoff-flyer-2019

Finding A Merit Badge Counselor

The Mayflower Council is utilizing the power of Scoutbook to enhance the functionality of our merit badge counselor list.

HOW DO I ACCESS THE LIST

Go to Scoutbook.com and login to your account. If you have the proper rights, you will see it towards the bottom of your troop's page in Scoutbook (MB Counselor List on your dashboard). This list is available to adults who are indicated in Scoutbook as adult leaders and committee members in your troop.

If you do not see it, go to My Dashboard > Administration > My Account > My Positions and make sure there is a green shield next to your troop leadership position. If it is missing, one of your unit admins will need to approve your position.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who will be on the list?

Registered and council-approved merit badge counselors in the Mayflower Council.

Who will see the list?

Adult leaders in troops who are on Scoutbook will see all the merit badge counselors who have indicated to Mayflower Council that they are willing to counsel within your unit or ones who have indicated they are willing to counsel more broadly.

What does it mean for me?

When adult leaders (including committee members) search for

merit badge counselors in Scoutbook, you can be confident that the listed counselors are qualified to counsel on the merit badge, have been approved by the Mayflower Council advancement personnel, and have stated a willingness to work with your unit or units across the council.

Why can't parents see the list?

The merit badge process directs the Scout to the Scoutmaster for a recommended merit badge counselor. That is why the Scoutmaster has access to the list and the Scout and parents do not. It keeps the Scoutmaster in the process. The merit badge process is as follows:

1. The Scout develops an interest in a merit badge and may begin working on the requirements.
2. The Scout discusses his interest in the merit badge with his unit leader (i.e., Scoutmaster).
3. The unit leader signs a blue card and provides the Scout with at least one counselor contact.
4. The Scout contacts the counselor.
5. The counselor considers any work toward requirements completed prior to the initial discussion with the unit leader.
6. The Scout, his buddy, and the counselor meet (often several times).
7. The Scout finishes the requirements.
8. The counselor approves completion.
9. The Scout returns the signed blue card to his unit leader, who signs the applicant record section of the blue card.
10. The unit leader gives the Scout the applicant record.
11. The unit reports the merit badge to the council.
12. The Scout receives his merit badge.

How often will the Scoutbook list be refreshed?

We will be refreshing the list by the seventh of each month.

What do I do if a Scout earns a merit badge at summer camp or

with a merit badge counselor not on the list?

If the Scout earned a merit badge from a registered and approved merit badge counselor, then a troop adult who has the authorization inside Scoutbook to mark merit badges or merit badge requirements as completed or approved will still be able to do so.

Can troop leaders and troop advancement coordinators sign a Scout off on a merit badge? are not authorized to sign a Scout off on a merit badge if they are not also a registered and approved merit badge counselor for that badge.

Troop leaders and troop advancement coordinators are only authorized to sign a Scout off on a merit badge if they are also a registered and approved merit badge counselor for that badge. However, you can record it in Scoutbook as completed and approved after the merit badge counselor has signed off (even if he/she does so outside of Scoutbook) after verifying that the Scout has a signed blue card from a registered and approved merit badge counselor.

Where can units who do not utilize Scoutbook go to find a list of registered and approved merit badge counselors?

Units should activate the Scoutbook account for their troop in order for leaders to be able to see the current list of merit badge counselors. [Click here](#) to find out how to get your unit started with Scoutbook.

Merit Badge Counselors

ABOUT BEING A MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR

Share your knowledge with Scouts. Merit badge counselors teach Scouts a variety of skills. From American Business to Woodwork, there's a badge for everything. All merit badge

counselors must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and approved by the Mayflower Council for each badge listed on the Merit Badge Counselor Information form.

REGISTRATION

The Mayflower Council has the responsibility of approving and maintaining a list of current merit badge counselors. A merit badge counselor is a council-level position, not a troop position, which means leaders must submit a new adult leader application even if already registered in another capacity.

There are four steps for a new merit badge counselor to register with the Boy Scouts of America and begin merit badge counseling:

▪ 1. Complete Online Youth Protection Training

- To become a merit badge counselor, a volunteer must complete youth protection training which can be found on My.Scouting.org. Once complete, you will be offered the opportunity to print or save a completion certificate. It is a good idea to save a copy for your records.

▪ 2. Complete Online Adult Leader Application

- Having completed youth protection training, you need to complete a new adult application. This form is required, even if you hold a current registration with your unit or district. Use the link below to register.

Adult Leader Application

▪ 3. Complete the Online Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Form

- Individuals who aren't currently registered, or have had a lapse in registration, will also need to complete the online CORI form.

CORI Form for volunteer leaders

▪ 4. Complete the Online Merit Badge Counselor Information

Form

- This form is used by the Mayflower Council to know which merit badges you want to teach, to show why you are qualified to teach the listed merit badges, and to approve your request. Merit badge counselors are authorized to counsel anywhere within the Mayflower Council.

COMPLETE MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR INFORMATION FORM

MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR REGISTRATION CONSIDERATIONS

- There is no fee for registering as a merit badge counselor even if you are only registered with the Boy Scouts of America as a merit badge counselor.
- You must be current with Youth Protection Training to work with Scouts and this training must be completed every two (2) years. The council may track this requirement but it is your responsibility to remain current. Failure to keep up to date on youth protection training will also result in being dropped from the list. If a merit badge counselor is dropped from the council list the dropped counselor will have to re-register as a new counselor again.
- Several merit badges involve activities for which BSA has implemented strategies to improve safety, improve the Scouts' experience, and manage risk. These activities often require supervision with specialized qualifications and certifications. Merit badge counselors who do not meet the specific requirements may use the services of others who do. See the Guide to Advancement paragraph 7.0.1.1 for these merit badges and their requirements.
- Consider not limiting yourself to only those Scouts in your troop. Many of the less popular merit badges may not have a counselor in their troop and you could help scouts pursue an interest in an area where you have some expertise.

SCOUTBOOK

Once registered with the BSA as a merit badge counselor, your merit badge counselor position will be added to Scoutbook. If you do not already have a Scoutbook account, an account will be created for you and you will be sent login information by email. You can adjust how you display on the list. Sign onto Scoutbook (if you misplace your login credentials, click login then click the Forgot Password link.) Once you login you will be able to adjust your listing preference between: Council list, District list, Unit list, Worldwide or Not Listed.

For detailed instructions on how to use Scoutbook as a merit badge counselor review this resource Scoutbook Merit Badge Counselor Guide.

If you are a merit badge counselor and your listing is not showing in Scoutbook follow these directions to find out if you are registered as a merit badge counselor:

1. Log into <http://my.scouting.org>
2. Select My Dashboard (upper left)
3. Then select My Profile. You can edit your contact information there. Make sure your email address, ZIP and phone number are there and up to date. Scoutbook requires a valid email address, ZIP and phone number to be listed.
4. Make sure your email address is not used by someone else in your family in Scoutbook. Email addresses in Scoutbook must be unique.
5. If you are registered as a merit badge counselor it will show there as well.
6. While your at my.scouting.org, make sure your Youth Protection Training is current.
7. If you know for sure you are registered with the council, check and make sure your Youth Protection Training is current and sync it inside Scoutbook. Scoutbook will not show merit badge counselors with expired youth protection training. The list in

Scoutbook is updated on a regular basis.

8. For information on how to register as a merit badge counselor see above.

USEFUL LINKS FOR MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS

- Guide for Merit Badge Counselors
- General Merit Badge Information & Requirements
- Instructions for Merit Badge Counselors
- Scoutbook Merit Badge Counselor FAQ
- Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns

ANNUAL RENEWAL OF MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS

All merit badge counselors must confirm their registration annually. In May of each year, currently registered merit badge counselors will be sent an email to confirm their desire to continue as a merit badge counselor. Failure to confirm this information will result in being dropped from the merit badge counselor list.

If a merit badge counselor who was dropped wishes to continue as a merit badge counselor he/she must register as a new merit badge counselor again using the forms and processes listed above.

QUESTIONS

Reviewed all of this information and still have questions? We're here to help! Contact us.

Youth Protection Update

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and Mayflower Council are committed first and foremost to keeping youth safe. Part of that commitment includes continually updating our youth protection policies to help ensure we are always on the

forefront of youth safety.

As you know, one of the BSA's many barriers to abuse is a mandatory criminal background check during the adult volunteer application process. **The BSA will now also perform periodic rechecks of criminal backgrounds to support the continued safety of youth in our programs.**

In order to conduct these background checks, we need a couple things from all registered leaders. Please complete the process listed below at your earliest convenience to help us continue to provide the safest environment possible for our Scouts and leaders. **Please note that these steps must be completed before your 2020 membership renewal and unit rechartering can be processed.**

1. Review the Background Check Disclosure.
2. Then, review the additional disclosures on the "Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization" form, then complete and sign it using an ink/wet signature. Note: Digital signatures from third-party providers are acceptable. Email confirmations, permissions or typed names on the form are not acceptable substitutes for wet signatures.
3. Turn in the signed "Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization" form promptly depending on your registration.
 - **If your primary registration is with a unit,** please give the form with your original signature to your unit leader who will submit it with the recharter paperwork.
 - **If your primary registration is NOT with a unit,** please give the form with your original signature to your district executive, mail it to the Marlborough Service Center, 2 Mount Royal Avenue – Suite 100, Marlborough, MA 01752 or you may email it to membership@mayflowerbsa.org.

If you choose to decline the background check, or if you do not complete and return the Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization form, your personal registration for 2020 will not be processed; this may delay the processing of your unit's rechartering paperwork. **Please note we need a signed authorization form from every registered adult leader.**

Thank you for making this investment of time to help protect our Scouts. We are truly grateful for your continued commitment to keeping youth safe and for helping them learn, grow, and thrive through Scouting programs.

FAQ on the background check disclosures & authorization form

BSA Background Check Update – Additional Info

This week the National Council sent out an email about BSA's efforts to strengthen our youth protection practices by requiring periodic background re-checks for adult leaders. We want to clarify what is needed from you, and how this will be handled in our Mayflower Council.

- **Every registered leader needs to review, sign, and turn in** the "Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization" form in order to renew their membership for next year.
- **If your primary registration is with a unit**, please give the form with your original signature to your unit leader who will submit it with the recharter paperwork.
- **If your primary registration is NOT with a unit**, please

give the form with your original signature to your district executive, mail it to the Marlborough Service Center, 2 Mount Royal Avenue – Suite 100, Marlborough, MA 01752 or you may email it to membership@mayflowerbsa.org.

FAQ on the background check disclosures & authorization form

POPtuber Is Here



WEEKLY DRONE

GIVE-AWAY

Now is the time to DRONE up some online business! We will be giving away a drone to our weekly highest online seller in each of the 5 districts! That is 5 drones per week!

STARTS TODAY!

Be the highest online seller in your district, during the dates listed below and you will receive an email stating you are the winner. We will list your unit, number, and first name on our facebook account, MayflowerPOP and on Mayflowerbsa.org/popcorn.

If you haven't set up your account, there is still time to do so. It will only take 10 minutes.

Click on the picture to download the flyer

Popcornber

WEEKLY DRONE GIVE-AWAY!

Now is the time to DRONE up some online business! We appreciate how dedicated you are and we would like to recognize our highest online sellers. *One winner in each of the 5 districts will win a drone!*

If you have not set up your account yet, it's very simple to do.



Create Your Online Fundraising Page

It takes less than 10 minutes to register, personalize your Scout page, and start selling. www.trails-end.com/registration



Share with Family and Friends

Our built-in sharing capabilities via email, social, and text message make sharing easier than pitching a tent.



Receive Support

Family and friends visit your fundraising page, where the average order value is \$65, and place orders on your behalf.



Track Your Online Fundraising Orders

See who's supported your fundraiser, send them thank you emails, and request additional support.

Contest Dates:

Week 1: Wednesday, Oct 9 thru Tuesday, Oct 15 - Winner announced: Wednesday, Oct 16
Week 2: Wednesday, Oct 16 thru Tuesday, Oct 22 - Winner announced: Wednesday, Oct 23
Week 3: Wednesday, Oct 23 thru Tuesday, Oct 29 - Winner announced: Wednesday, Oct 30
Week 4: Wednesday, Oct 30 thru Tuesday, Nov 5 - Winner announced: Wednesday, Nov 6
Surprise winners being announced on Oct 9. Current highest online seller in each district.

Winners will be notified via email. All winners will be posted on www.mayflowerbsa.org/popcorn and [MayflowerPOP facebook](#).

October Training Newsletter

Click on image to download



Get Trained!



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

Scout Leader Skills

- Oct 5°** Scoutmaster Position-Specific (*Braintree*)
- Oct 19-20°** IOLS for Scouts BSA/Venturing (*Wrentham*)
- Oct 26** Cub Leader Training Fest (*Hingham*)
- Oct 26** Den Chief Training (*Hingham*)
- Nov TBD+ Troop Committee Position-Spec. (*Weymouth*)
- Nov 2** Venturing Leader Training Fest (*Norwood*)
- Nov 2-3** BALOO for Cub Leaders (*Plymouth*)
- Nov 9°** Scoutmaster Position-Specific (*Hudson*)
- Nov 9°** Troop Committee Position-Specific (*Hudson*)
- Nov 9** Den Chief Training (*Hudson*)
- Nov 16** Tread Lightly Trainer Training (*Hudson*)
- Dec 7°** Scoutmaster Position-Specific (*Foxboro*)
- Dec 7** Den Chief Training (*Foxboro*)
- Jan 4°** Scoutmaster Position-Spec. (*Framingham area*)

First Aid

- Oct 15** CPR/AED (*Sudbury*)
- Oct 19-20** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (*Sudbury*)
- Nov 12** CPR/AED (*Sudbury*)
- Nov 19** Red Cross First Aid (*Sudbury*)
- Nov 23** CPR/AED (*Canton*)
- Dec 7** CPR/AED (*Foxboro*)

New Dates for BALOO

Due to the EEE threat, we postponed the overnight BALOO training course scheduled for October 5-6. The new date will be November 2-3 at Camp Squanto in Plymouth. Registration is open until October 28. This is a great chance to boost your camping skills in a fun, hands-on environment. When your pack goes camping, at least one leader on the trip must be BALOO trained.

Tread Lightly! Training

Join us on November 16 for Tread Trainer: a workshop we offer once a year to focus on outdoor ethics in relation to motorized recreation. Participants will gain knowledge to recreate responsibly and teach others. Register by November 3!

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!

Recognition Knots



We recognize our Scouts for their achievements... Let's recognize our adult leaders, too! Registered leaders are eligible to receive the Den Leader, Cubmaster/ Scoutmaster, or Scouter (any position) training knots after becoming trained for their positions, serving for a certain period of time, and completing a few additional requirements. Here's how to do it:

1. Find the requirements. Go to www.scouting.org/training/adult and scroll down to "Training Awards" near the bottom.
2. Complete the requirements, fill out the form, and get it signed (usually by your unit committee chair).
3. Send the signed form to awards@mayflowerbsa.org. It will be routed to your district training chair for review and approval. You can also give the form directly to your district training chair.
4. Tell us when you'd like to receive your knot. Some leaders like to get their knots at a district roundtable or the annual district dinner, but we can also give the knot to the unit to present at a pack/troop/crew event.

Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and Crew Advisors can also receive the [Unit Leader Award of Merit](#) knot. See requirements and instructions at www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/unit-leader.

Kickoff for All Cub Leaders!

Join us in Hingham on October 26 for our second Cub Scout Leader Training Festival! This event includes training, resources to save you a trip to the office, and activities for youth while their parents get trained. Pre-registration is appreciated. Lunch is \$5; the rest is free!

Morning session (8:30-12:30):

- Position-specific training for your role (Den Leader, Cubmaster, or Committee Member). This is part of the requirements to earn the "Trained" patch. We're following the new four-hour national curriculum.
- A variety of 1-hour workshops for people who've already taken position-specific training. Register now to tell us what specific topics you'd like us to include!

Afternoon session (12:30-2:00):

- Supplemental position-specific training for anyone who wants to be covered for additional positions.
- Additional workshops on topics of interest.