

2024 Scouts BSA Summer Camp Parent Guide



GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL
SCOUTING



I CAN DO THAT!





This guide is intended for units preparing to attend one of the Greater St. Louis Area Council's Scouts BSA camps in the summer of 2024. Please distribute this guide to parents/guardians of Scouts so they can use it as a guide to help prepare for their week-long summer camp experience.

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What will my Scout do at camp?

This summer, your Scout will have an active, challenging, and educational week or more at summer camp. Unless otherwise specified, Scouts will be living in a two-person canvas tents and sleeping on a provided cot. Members of the same troop will share a campsite. Depending on their age and which camp your scout attends, activities may include mountain biking, rock climbing, rappelling, horseback riding, water skiing, low and high ropes challenge courses, shooting sports, and much more. In addition, they will be working on Scouting advancement.

Scouts attending camp for the first time often enroll in our First Year Camper program called "Wayfinder". There are sessions designed to help new scouts learn and work toward earning their Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, or First Class ranks.

We offer a wide variety of merit badges at each camp for any age Scout. Scouts start each day at 7:00 AM and lights-out is at 10:00 PM. During their days at camp, scouts will have the time of their life in a tremendous setting with our caring, qualified staff.

2024 Camp Discounts

Second Week and Sibling Discounts will be automatically applied within the registration system, no need to call or email and wait for the discount to be applied by office staff. For Second Week discounts, the registration system will qualify the discount based on two (or more) registrations having a scout with the same first name, last name, and unit number. For the Sibling discount, the registration system will qualify the discount based on two (or more) scouts having the same street address. For each discount one scout/session will need to be paid in full before the discount can be automatically applied to the other scouts/sessions. Discounts are not eligible for NYLT or for Cub Scout Camps.

Second-week discount*: Attend a week of Scouts BSA or Venturer summer camp and get \$100 off a second week of BSA camp (excludes National Youth Leadership Training and Horse camp). Or, get \$50 off a GSLAC camp if you spend a week at another council's camp or high-adventure base. Please contact Council for the \$50 discount.

Sibling discount*: A \$100 sibling discount is available for siblings who also attend a GSLAC BSA Scout camp (excludes Cub Scout camps, National Youth Leadership Training, and Horse camp).

Camperships*: Apply for our Campership assistance program [here](#). All forms must be submitted by May 15, 2024.

Questions about discounts? Contact our council help desk @ help@stlbsa.org



Camper Savings Day

April 10th, 2024 is Camper Savings Day. All Scouts who register for camp and pay in full on or before April 10th will receive a \$20 discount on their camp!

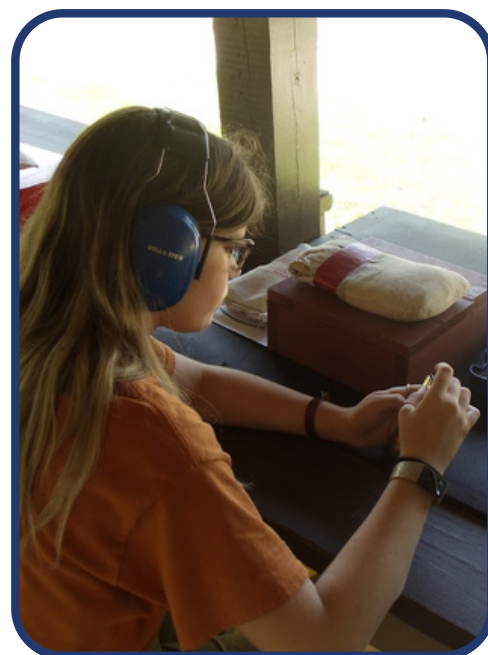
Refund Policy

Refunds may be issued in circumstances involving medical or family emergencies and must be requested online [here](#) before August 31, 2024. Unit should attempt to collect fees from families before making payments. Refund requests from units that make payments on behalf of families that ultimately do not come to camp will only be considered in the case of medical or family emergencies. Refunds are made to the individual or group who made the payment.

Camp Safety

At our camp, safety is our top priority. We want you to feel confident that your child is in good hands while they're with us. Here's how we ensure a safe environment for all campers:

- **Qualified Staff:** Every adult attending our overnight camps is a registered member of the BSA (Boy Scouts of America) This means they have undergone a criminal background check and completed the BSA's Youth Protection Training.
- **Comprehensive Training:** Our camp staff undergo extensive training to guarantee the safety of our campers. This includes Hazardous Weather Training, Youth Protection Training, Preventing Youth on Youth Abuse Training, and Unlawful Harassment Training, among others.
- **First Aid/CPR/AED Certification:** Each camp ensures that at least 50% of our staff are certified in First Aid, CPR, and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) usage.
- **Health Officer Presence:** Every camp is staffed by a Health Officer who holds credentials as a medical professional, such as a Nurse (RN, LPN, or LVN), Paramedic, EMT, or similar certification.
- **Accreditation Process:** All camps undergo a rigorous accreditation process, which includes inspection visits, to guarantee a safe and nurturing environment for children.



- **Nutrition and Special Dietary Needs:** Meals at our camp are developed by professional, licensed food service providers who can accommodate special dietary or food allergy needs.
- **Risk Management Oversight:** Camp programs and policies are regularly reviewed and approved by a risk management committee comprised of subject matter experts.
- **Emergency Alert Systems:** We have emergency alert systems in place to promptly notify campers of any emergencies.



Before Arrival

Packing List

This is a basic list of items we recommend your scout bring to camp for the week. We strongly encourage you to watch the weather forecast the week leading up to camp and pack accordingly.

Complete Scout Uniform	T-Shirts	Shorts or Long Pants
Swimsuits	Merit Badge Specific Clothing	Underwear
Socks	Insect Repellent, non-aerosol	Footwear for Boating/Shower
Hat (if desired)	Sweater or Jacket	Extra Shoes or Boots
Poncho or Rain Gear	Notebook & Pen	Scout Handbook
Merit Badge Pamphlets	Watch	Washcloth & Towel
Toiletry Items	Flashlight	Sleeping Bag
Pocket Knife	Day Pack	Laundry Bag
Trading Post Money	Alarm Clock	Medications

Please note that the Greater St. Louis Area Council is not responsible for any lost or stolen goods.

Please make sure that all valuables stay home or assume the risk they may not return home.

Medical Forms

The Boy Scouts of America requires each participant that attends Scouts BSA Summer Camp to have a completed BSA annual Health & Medical Record with parts A, B, & C filled out. Part C requires a physician's signature from an annual physical (completed in the 12 months prior to camp). Please make sure that you are using the current form by going to <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/>. Please be sure to fill out the other parts of the form completely!



Dress Code - Appropriate Attire

All clothing must adhere to the guidelines below:

- Shirts must be worn by all participants when not in the aquatics area (see below for swimwear requirements)
- Shirts must be in good Scouting nature. Shirts other than scouting shirts are allowed, such as t-shirts, long sleeve shirts, sleeveless shirts, and jackets. Sleeveless shirts should not show off the chest area. Shirts should not contain inappropriate language, inappropriate graphics, or promote alcohol, drugs, or violence.
- Pants or shorts other than Scout shorts can be worn, such as athletic/gym shorts, jeans, and cargo shorts. All shorts/pants should be long enough to prohibit exposure of any bottom area.
- Closed-toed shoes are required at all times when not at the aquatics area or at the showerhouse. Open-toed shoes (such as flip flops, crocs, and sandals) may only be worn at the aquatics area or at the showerhouse.
- Swimwear should be worn only at the aquatics area. Swimwear should be in accordance with the [BSA's National Aquatics Subcommittee's recommendations](#), which state:

"We recommend that swimwear should be comfortable, functional, and appropriate for the specific aquatic activity. As always, we remind everyone that Scouting's [Barriers to Abuse](#) state, "Appropriate attire is required for all activities". Policies should reflect the BSA's statement and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion."

Medications

Medications **MUST** be kept secure and dispensed by the unit leader. Unit leaders should keep track of when, how much, the type, and by whom the medication was dispensed. When requested, the camp holds medications requiring refrigeration or those that the camper and his leaders feel uncomfortable holding.

Merit Badge Schedule

You can find the most recent merit badge schedules [here](#). Please use that reference if you are helping decide which merit badges your scout is planning to take. Be aware of activities such as open swim periods when selecting badges. Scouts should be able to have some free time at camp to enjoy themselves. There is much more to camp than merit badges!



Special Diets

Allergies and special diets are a common concern of our campers. Our food service providers are happy to accommodate any diet for religious, medical, or allergy needs. A form must be submitted three weeks prior to arrival. The online form can be found [here](#).

During Camp

Trading Post

Our Camp Trading Posts are the hubs for everything your scout might need while at camp. We recommend that each scout bring a minimum of \$50 to camp to make purchases throughout the week. We take accept credit cards along with Apply Pay & Google Pay. Each Trading Post is stocked with an assortment of patches, cups, Scouting supplies, camp t-shirts, toiletries, snacks, and more!

We strongly encourage scouts and leaders to pre-order summer camp t-shirts. This will ensure scouts get the size & quantity they need. You can pre-order shirts at www.gatewaytraders.org.

Mail

Scouts love getting mail at camp! Mail takes several days to arrive, so you may wish to send mail prior to your Scout's departure for camp. We will attempt to return items received after a Scout leaves camp. To ensure proper delivery to your Scout, use the complete address below **along with their troop number and campsite**. **For S-F Scout Ranch Camps, include the Camp Name (Famous Eagle, Gamble, Swift)**

S-F Scout Ranch 120 US Hwy 67 Knob Lick, MO 63651	Camp Lewallen HCR 1 Box 1955 Silva, MO 63954	Rhodes France 815 N 500 East Rd Pana, IL 62557
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Visiting Your Scout

Parents, family, and friends are all invited to family night and the family night campfire program at each camp. For Camp Lewallen and Rhodes France Scout Reservation, family night is held on Wednesday. For the camps at S-F Scout Ranch (Famous Eagle, Camp Gamble, Swift) family night is on Thursday. We ask that visitors wait until 5:00pm to arrive so that scouts may finish their programs for the day. Families are encouraged to attend the family night campfires at each camp and see the Order of the Arrow Call Out Ceremonies that take place there. Outside of family night, parents wanting to see their scout should coordinate with their troop leadership.



Individual Camp Experiences

The Greater St. Louis Area Council offers several individual camp experiences that scouts can participate in without their troop going. Leadership is provided for each of the camps listed below. These are perfect for scouts who want to spend more than one week at camp, or want to experience different activities and specialty programs. More information on all of these camps can be found [here](#).

S-F Ranger Program

For Scouts and Venturers age 14 and up (or have completed the 8th grade) & adult leaders. This is the ULTIMATE experience for scouts who are looking for fun, adventure, and challenges in the backwoods of S bar F Scout Ranch. If you enjoy hiking and backpacking, this is the program for you. Each session must have at least 6 participants to operate. [Register here!](#)

2024 Sessions:

June 16 - 21

June 23 - 28

June 30 - July 5

July 7 - 12

July 14 - 19

Horse Camp

Spend a week at an advanced riding camp cantering around the trails of the over 2,300 acre Beaumont Scout Reservation! This camp is a great option for Scouts who have earned the Horsemanship merit badge or taken riding lessons and are looking for a fun, fast-paced time to challenge their skills. [Register here!](#)

July 28 - August 3 at Nagel Base, Beaumont Scout Reservation

STEM & Skilled Trades Camp

STEM Camp and Skilled Trades Camp have combined to provide an extraordinary experience for Scouts full of many Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and career-based merit badges and over-the-top activities in addition to all the great outdoor activities that Camp May provides, including a climbing tower, swimming pool, shooting sports, and more. [Register here!](#)

July 14 - 20 at Camp May, Beaumont Scout Reservation



National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

NYLT is a six-day course that delivers training in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ the leadership skills much faster. [Register here!](#)

2024 dates at Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch

June 9 - 15

July 7 - 13

July 21 - 27

Provisional Camping (Attend without your Troop!)

There are times that a Scout is unable to attend camp when his or her troop is attending. We offer opportunities for Scouts to attend by pairing them with another unit for the week they wish to attend camp. This program is called "Provisional Camping" and is available at Rhodes France Scout Reservation, Camp Famous Eagle, and at Swift High Adventure Base.

Scouts will sign up as individuals to attend camp and will be placed with a unit prior to their arrival.

This program is also available during the two Venturing Summer Camp weeks at Swift High Adventure Base. If you have a Scout who is at least 14 years old (or out of the 8th grade) and they want to get a taste of Venturing, this is an excellent opportunity for them. For more information, please contact Camping Director Matt Kaufman at matt.kaufman@scouting.org.