Updated 4/14/2021

Rhodes-France Scout Reservation

Greater St. Louis Area Council, BSA

Cub Scout Summer Camp & Webelos Woods Camp Manual

2021

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For our camp COVID procedures, visit stlbsa.org for full list of information

Rhodes-France Scout Reservation Contact:

Scouts like to receive mail while at Rhodes-France! Please inform your Scouts and their parents of your Pack's summer address:

Your Scout's Name, Pack Number
Rhodes-France Scout Reservation
815 North 500 East Road
Pana, IL 62557

In the event of an emergency during the camping season, you may call Rhodes France (please be prepared to give the Name and Pack Number of the person you are trying to contact) at (217) 562-5223. If you are unable to reach someone at the camp number, please contact the Greater St. Louis Area Council Central Illinois Service Center and they will get a message to camp staff, if it is during the week.

Administration Building

The Administration Building is the centerpiece of the front of camp with our giant Eagle statue out front. Located down Bungard Parkway just across from McCoy Village, the Administration Building is the home of the Camp Director and Program Director's office, First Aid Station, small Kitchen, Meeting Room, as well as adult only restrooms including a women's shower.

In need of toilet paper for the latrines or trash bags? You can go to the Administration Building's Command Central in the meeting room of the building to obtain these items.

In the afternoons, leaders may enjoy fresh coffee or simply plug in their phones, in the Administration building. There may be classes going on in the administration building meeting room each morning until noon, because of this we ask that there is no traffic in and out of the meeting room door. There is a sign-out sheet located in the meeting room for use when the trading post isn't open.

The First Aid Office is located on the front corner of the Administration Building. Staffing times will be posted at camp. Look for the sign on the door to notify campers of hours of operation (except emergencies) and location of Medical Officer's sleeping quarters. All Scout medications should be dispensed by the parent or unit leader in camp. When requested, the medical officer will hold medications requiring refrigeration, or those that adults feel uncomfortable holding.

Female adults may use the shower facilities each day from noon until 7pm. This is the main staff shower facility and will be utilized by the staff early each morning and late each evening. An additional female shower is available in the pool house for participant use.

Pool

The pool and pool house facility is located just south of the Bungard Parkway. There are three sections to the pool house: The section on the west is the Men's side and should only be used by males 18 or older. The center section is the female section and should only be used by females. The east section is the Youth side and should only be used by youth. Youth are not allowed in the other two sections. Only in the case of an emergency should an adult ever be in the youth side.

No males are allowed in the female side and vice versa. There are shower facilities as well as flush toilets in each section of the pool house. Please understand our lifeguards clean the pool house each day and may restrict access while they are clean

Firebowl

One of the wonders at Rhodes-France Scout Reservation is the Firebowl Arena. This picturesque amphitheater is set on Lake Millikin with the woods as a backdrop. Straight across from the Firebowl arena at the top of the hill, the Order of the Arrow Ceremonial Tipi can often be seen.

The switchback trail leading up the hill is reserved for use by the Order of the Arrow ceremonies team and is off limits to any other scouts or adults.

The songs and skits acted out here the Scouts learn to be goofy, have fun, and become comfortable getting in front of large groups. Each unit is asked to perform at least one song and/or skit for our closing firebowl.

Chapel

Located just south and west of the parking lot, set back into the woods, is the open-air Chapel. With seating for 100+, the Chapel provides non-denominational services for Scouts and adults, and provides a quiet area to reflect upon things, meditate, or simply enjoy the scenery. Services are held Sunday morning.

Trading Post

Located east of the Administration Building along the paved sidewalk is the Trading Post. Come in on a hot day for some ice cream or a slushie. Need something for your uniform or a handbook? We have those too! The trading post is also where picture media of camp, Duty to God patches (at Webelos Woods only) and Webelos Woods Marksmanship Patches can be purchased on the last day of camp. Bring cash, check or credit/debit and see what we have! Ice may be purchased in the Trading Post also.

Scouts wishing to purchase knives must have a parent or leader present. The knife will be handed to the adult. Scouts carrying knives must have their Whittlin' Chip on their person.

Food Services

One of the busiest places on camp is the Food Services Camp Kitchen. This is located directly behind the trading post. The north door of Food Services is where participants for Webelos Woods can pick up their rations for lunch on Friday and Saturday.

Activity Building

Our Activity Building is used for a host of things, located just north of the Food Services/Trading Post Building. During mealtime this is our dining hall complete with serving line inside the building. As soon as mealtime is over it becomes a classroom for Cub Scouts. During the evenings, the Activity Building may host a Cracker Barrel or an Ice Cream Social. Boasting a large stone fireplace, the Activity Building is a major hub of camp. After each meal, the unit is responsible for cleaning off the table with the spray provided and sweeping under their table(s) and chairs.

Campsites

Rhodes-France has 13 campsites. Each campsite is equipped with at least one picnic table and a fire ring. Some campsites have pavilions, some do not. If your unit is interested in adopting a campsite, let the Camp Director or Camp Ranger know! The one thing that all campsites have in common is raccoons. Practice Leave No Trace and don't leave any food out for them to scavenge. Trash bags should be tied into a knot and placed by the road each day as directed. If you need additional trash pick-up let your Patrol Guide/Den Chief know.

Most campsites have their own latrine facilities, but a few campsites share latrines. It is the responsibility of each unit using these latrines to make sure they are stocked with toilet paper and cleaned out. There are hoses provided for cleaning purposes and should be sprayed out each morning. Any maintenance needs should be reported immediately to the Patrol Guide/Den Chief or Camp Director.

Shooting Sports

Rhodes-France offers both a BB, Archery and Slingshot Range. The camp furnishes all BB guns, archery equipment and slingshots. No personal equipment is allowed!

Lakefront

The lakefront will be closed during camp except for special events posted while at camp.

1. NO ONE is allowed on the dock at Lakefront.
2. Fishing may be done at the dam on either lake.
3. Please keep in mind we are a catch and release facility.

Check-in Times

Prior to camp your unit leader will receive an email (or phone call) from the Camp Director about unit check-in times. Leaders may arrive early (times to be announced) to set up their campsites, however, they are required to go through the check-in process with the rest of the unit at their scheduled time.

Check-In Procedures

Members of your unit should arrive at registration at the same time and go through the check-in process together as a pack beginning at the specified time. Upon your arrival at Rhodes-France, you will proceed to the Registration Building located just south of the Parking Lot. You will be assigned to a campsite and meet your Patrol Guide/Den Chief. From here, you will be directed where to go next in the check-in process.

If you have adults coming in early or late they will need to stop at the Registration Building and let Camp Staff know they are in camp and find out what campsite your unit is in. These individuals are still required to be present during your unit check-in process. If the Registration Building is closed, individuals should go to the Trading Post to begin their check-in process.

Medical Rechecks (Activity Building)

Each Scout and leader must participate in a medical recheck. Everyone should have their health form and any medication in hand ready to go. (Leaders should ensure that health forms have all the signatures and have been fully filled out before arrival at camp.) Your Patrol Guide/Den Chief will receive your buddy tag for the pool at the completion of the medical recheck.

Dining Hall Talk (Activity Building)

After completing Medical Rechecks, you should go to the East end of the Activity Building. This is where you will receive your camp mug and learn about Dining Hall procedures. **Anyone with a food allergy should have marked that in the online registration.**

Business (Trading Post)

This is where any outstanding fees are paid. T-shirts will be picked up from here as well. Unit's should have everyone come through here as t-shirts will be handed out on an individual basis.

Swim Check (Pool)

You must go through medical rechecks to get your buddy tag for the pool. During the check-in process the Aquatics Director will be in the Activities Building. If your unit has completed their swim checks prior to camp, forms should be turned in to the aquatics during this time in the Activities Building.

Leaders should make copies of these forms for their own records. Anyone not wishing to take the swim test or those units who have completed the Pre-Swim Check will receive their wristbands at this point. Those individuals receiving their wristbands here should not go to the pool later to take the swim test. Basic aquatics rules will be discussed in the Activities Building as well.

Individuals who want to take the swim test will go to the campsite to begin setting up. A staff member will come to the campsite when it is time for the swim test. At the completion of the Swim Test campers will receive a wristband. This wristband will distinguish swim level by color and should be worn at all times.

Campsite

Once you arrive at your campsite, your patrol guide/den chief will be present to assist you in the campsite portion of the check-in process. At this time, your Scouts may begin setting up until Camp Opening.

Check-Out

Your Patrol Guide/Den Chief or a designated staff member will complete the check-out process with you. This will include a site cleanliness check. Make sure all trash is picked up prior to this time. Unit exit packets will be available in the Administration Building from a staff member. After exit packets are picked up, medical forms should be picked up from the Medical Officer if prior request was put in for health forms. Unit exit packets and health forms should be picked up by a unit leader, not an unregistered parent. The only exception to this is, individuals may pick up their own health forms from the Medical Officer. If the Cubmaster is not attending camp, he or she shall designate one individual to be responsible for picking up both health forms and exit packets. Any health forms not picked up at the close of camp will be destroyed.

Alcohol and Non-Prescription Drugs

- The consumption, possession and/or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or controlled substances while participating in the Scouting program and/or on Scouting Property is not permitted.
- Violations of all local, state and federal laws will be reported.
- Violators will be asked to leave Rhodes-France property.
- No refund of unused fees for individuals removed from camp will be given.

Buddy System

We recommend adults devise a system of check-out/check-in so that they can account for Scouts at all times. The buddy system is in effect at Rhodes-France, meaning Scouts must travel with a buddy wherever they go

Camper Security

- **Wristbands—**Each registered camper (youth and adult) is issued a wristband during swim checks. This wristband signifies that the wearer belongs in camp. Replacement wristbands can be collected from the camp office. Visitors are issued a special wristband upon check-in at the Trading Post.
- **Staff Name Tags—**Camp staff and camp volunteers are issued a Rhodes-France name tag that is to be worn at all times while on the property.
- Anyone not showing a proper identification may be stopped and questioned by a staff member or camper. Visitors should be directed and if necessary, escorted to the Camp Director. Trespassers will be escorted off the property.

Early Release of Scout

Scouts who need to leave camp prior to normal departure time must have a filled out early release form signed by a parent/guardian.

Fireworks, Firearms, and Shooting Sports Equipment

- Personal firearms are not allowed in camp.
- No fireworks of any kind may be kept in the possession of any camper or Unit leader.
- No Archery Bows and/or Arrows may be kept in possession of any camper or Unit leader.
- No BB Guns may be kept in possession of any camper or Unit leader.
- No Slingshots may be kept in possession of any camper or Unit leader.

Fire, Liquids & Propane Fuels

- Fires may be built only at designated areas and under proper supervision.
- Liquid or propane fuels should be used only under adult supervision.
- Replacement propane cylinders and cans of liquid fuel MUST be stored under lock and key at the camp flammable liquids storage area.
- National policy prohibits the use of open flames in tents, which includes mosquito coils, catalytic heaters, gas lanterns, stoves, candles, and smoking materials. This also include cigarettes and ecigs/vaping.
- All tents must be stenciled with or display a sign proclaiming, “NO FLAMES IN TENTS”.
- The pack is required to maintain a fireguard and keep up to date a fire guard chart prominently posted in the campsite.

Footwear

Closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes must be worn at all times while in any camp. Open-toed sandals, clogs, crocs, and flip-flops are NOT permitted except at the pool. This policy applies to all camp participants, family members, staff, and visitors.

Hazing

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Camp is intended to help Scouts grow. There is no room for hazing. Knowledge of any abuse should be reported to the Camp Director immediately.

Health and Safety

A First Aid Office/Area is available with a qualified Health Officer on duty for the duration of camp. In the case of non-life-threatening injury, the pack leadership will be asked to provide transportation to the hospital or elsewhere as directed. Emergency services will be called in the case of accidents or of a more critical nature.

BSA Medical Form Parts A & B are to be completed annually by participants in all Scouting events.
This health history, parental/guardian informed consent and hold harmless/release agreement, and talent release statement is to be completed by the participant and parents/guardians. These are the only parts required for Cub Scout Summer Camp and must be completed by everyone on Camp Property, campers, leaders and staff. **In addition to Parts A & B, Webelos Woods participants (both adults and youth) must also have Part C filled out by a physician.**

Lost and Found

The camp’s lost and found is located at the Trading Post. Leaders are to remind Scouts to have personal gear clearly marked with the Scout’s name and pack number. Each Scout needs to take care of and safeguard his/her personal property. Greater St. Louis Area Council is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. Items not claimed within 30 days of the close of camp will either be donated to local charities or disposed of.

Pets

Pets are not permitted at camp. Service animals are welcomed. The Camp Director must be notified if a Service Animal will be brought to camp.

Skit and Song Standards

The Greater St. Louis Area Council and the Boy Scouts of America believe that Scouting is a character building organization, and that this concept should permeate our program to all levels, including skits and songs.

- All acts (skits, songs, run-ons, etc.) must be screened by the unit leader and the person in charge of the event (campfire or song) prior to performance in front of a group.
- Campfire programs are the place where the positive example is set.
- No toilet humor - anything that involves bodily functions, toilet paper, etc.
- No water - where the audience, participants, or stage area gets wet.
- No embarrassing an audience member without their prior knowledge and agreement to participate.
- No racial put-downs, making fun of mental or physical abilities, religious groups, and others.
- No portrayal of violent behavior.
- Avoid anything that is not in keeping with the ideals of the Boy Scouts.
- No performances with sexual overtones.
- Unacceptable acts that get on stage will be removed immediately.

Tobacco

Adults are asked to use discretion when using tobacco products in any form and should avoid them in the presence of campers. Smoking is only allowed in the designated smoking area south of the Food Services Building. Electronic cigarettes, personal vaporizers and electronic nicotine delivery systems are also including in this policy and should only be used in the designated area south of the Food Ser- vices Building. All camp buildings are smoke-free. Smoke-less tobacco should be used only in this designated area also.

Two-Deep Leadership

- Two Leaders are required with each Pack at Rhodes-France.
- Packs with more than 8 boys will need one additional Leader for each multiple of four after 8. (Example: A pack with 9 boys must have three leaders)
- Adults and Scouts may not stay in the same tent unless it is a parent/child situation.
- Adults are responsible for the supervision of their youth at all times.

Vehicles and Parking

Because of safety considerations, vehicle traffic at camp must be kept at a minimum. Personal vehicles of leaders, staff, campers, and visitors are restricted to the parking lot. NO ONE may be transported in the bed of trucks. Remember that everyone riding in a vehicle must wear a seatbelt at all times.

Whittlin' Chip

- The Whittlin' Chip is a license for Scouts to carry a knife. All Scouts must have a Whittlin' Chip card before they may carry a knife at Rhodes-France.
- The Whittlin' Chip and the right to tote may be taken away if the Safety Requirements are violated.

Emergency Procedures

Copies of the Emergency Procedures are posted in each camp office. They will also be posted on each campsite bulletin board. An emergency drill may be conducted within 24 hours of each Pack's arrival at Rhodes-France. The alarm may sound and all campers will report to the designated area as if there were an actual emergency. Please consult your Patrol Guide for the most updated procedures.

First Aid

Report all first aid cases to the Health Officer IMMEDIATELY. If possible, the patient is to be brought to the First Aid Office. If not possible, an adult leader or another Scout should start immediate first aid while the First Aid Officer is on the way.

Child Abuse

Suspected child abuse—whether physical, mental, emotional, or sexual—should be reported to the Camp Director or Program Director.

Unauthorized Person(s)

If you suspect unauthorized person have intruded onto camp property, immediately notify the Camp Director or Program Director. Authorized visitors must sign in at either the Trading Post or Administration Building and obtain a visitor wristband.

General Assembly (Non Emergency)

- **Signal:** 3 blasts of the air horn.
- **Procedure:** This is a non-emergency signal. All Scouts, Leaders, Visitors, and Staff should assemble at the Flag Pole Assembly Area and await further information from the camp staff.

Emergency Assembly

- **Signal:** Wavering up and down siren in short intervals.
- **Procedure:** When this signal is heard all Scouts, Leaders, Visitors, and Staff must proceed immediately to the Flag Pole Assembly Area and await further instructions from the Camp Administration. This signal will be used in cases such as fire emergencies, lost camper emergencies, and any other time that an emergency situation calls for the entire camp to assemble.

Tornado

- **Signal:** Continuous wavering up and down siren. Please note that if the siren stops prematurely that does not mean “All Clear,” the electricity could have gone out.
- **Procedure:** If Scouts are in activity sessions, they are to follow the instructions of the Area Director or the staff member in charge of the activity. During the day or night, all Scouts and Leaders are to seek shelter in the nearest ravine or depression, lie face down, and cover their heads. DO NOT leave until you are instructed. An all clear will be given in the form of the Emergency Assembly signal or verbally throughout camp. During the assembly the Camp Administration will assess the situation and give further instructions

Inclement or Severe Weather

All aquatic areas will close when thunder or lightning occurs, no matter how distant. Packs should store all loose items and tighten tie-downs for possible high winds. Move away from streams (flooding) and lone trees (lightning hazard).

In case of thunderstorms, Scouts, adults, visitors, and staff will need to take shelter in the nearest pavilion or building until the storm passes.

Updated 4/14/2021

Suggested Equipment Provided by the Pack:

- Pack first aid kit
- Tents
- Lock box
- Binders twine
- Materials for Firebowl skits and songs
- Rope for lashings
- Lanterns
- American Flag
- Pack Flag
- Tarps
- Hand soap for Latrines
- Snacks (opt)
- Matches/Lighter (To be held by Adult)
- Pack Checkbook
- Pushpins for Bulletin Board
- Unit Medical Forms
- Scout Parents contact information
- Clothespins
- Water Jug
- Hammer
- Duct tape
- *What else? We invite you to make your personal notes here:*

Additionally, at Webelos Woods, you will make lunch in your campsites Friday and Saturday. Bring what you think you will need to fix these meals. We will notify Unit leaders of lunch menus closer to camp time so that equipment can be gathered if necessary. **We suggest packing spices, cooking utensils, a Dutch oven, dish soap/pan, hot dog forks.**

Updated 4/14/2021

Recommended Individual Equipment List:

- Tent (As directed by Pack)
- Sleeping bag/blankets
- Pillow
- Personal first aid kit
- Scout Handbook
- Jacket/Sweater
- Poncho or Raincoat
- Underwear
- Swimsuit
- Flashlight
- Socks
- Pencil & Notebook
- Shower Shoes
- Boots
- Toiletries
- Towels
- Sleepwear
- Mosquito repellant
- Jeans/Shorts
- T-shirts
- Spending Money
- Belt
- Scout Uniform (if you have one)
- Backpack
- Sunscreen
- *What else? We invite you to make your personal notes here:*

*Please note that **pets, fireworks, alcohol, sheath knives, nonprescription drugs, and personal firearms are not allowed in camp**. We also do not recommend bringing any items of value nor unsecured food that may attract animals.*

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Your Source for GSLAC & Camp Merchandise

Gateway Traders is your one-stop-shop for
Greater St. Louis Area Council Camp, Order of the Arrow
and Specialty Merchandise and Memorabilia.

2021 Camp Merchandise Pre-Order* thru May 5th!

2021 Camp Shirts, Drawstring bags and masks can be pre-ordered now!

Order by May 5th to guarantee sizes and desired camp logos!

$15 each - GSLAC Masks (Youth or Adult),
Camp Specific T-Shirt or Drawstring Bag

ONLINE ONLY SPECIAL! Camp Combo Pack
Camp T-Shirt and Drawstring Bag—$25
Camp T-Shirt, Drawstring Bag and Mask—$38

Camp shirt and drawstring bag styles available to view and order online include: Beaumont, Famous Eagle, Gamble, Lewallen, Pine Ridge, Rhodes France, S-F, Swift and Warren Levis

Cub Scout STEM Kits

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) kits from the GSLAC STEM Department are available for fun beyond outdoor camps!

GSLAC & Camp Merchandise

Hoodies, Zip-ups, t-shirts, blankets, ornaments, T-shirts, polos, mugs, water bottles, belts, hats, patches, and more!

Pre-Sewn Uniform Shirts

Now available on GatewayTraders.org!

Uniform shirts available for order include girls/boys/mens/ladies pre-sewn with GSLAC shoulder strip, world crest and world crest ring. Unit numbers can be pre-sewn too!

Section C-3B, Shawnee Lodge and Woapink Lodge merchandise

GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

*Masks, Camp shirts, camp drawstring bags and merit badge supplies will ship by June 1st.