

IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING

DISTRICT MAP

The council is divided into 3 service areas called districts, where the Scouting program is delivered to the local communities.



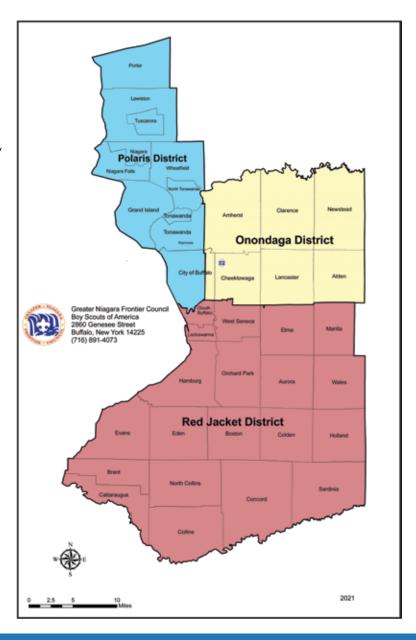
Polaris: serving the Tonawandas- all of them. Niagara Falls, Wheatfield, Grand Island, Buffalo



Red Jacket: serving all of Southern Erie county



Onondaga: serving Amherst, Clarence, Williamsville, Akron, Aldon, Cheektowaga, Lancaster



UNIFORMS APPAREL INSIGNIA LITERATURE CAMPING CRAFTS AWARDS GIFTS

Greater Niagara Frontier Council #380

Boy Scouts of America 2860 Genesee Street Buffalo, NY 14225

Richard E. Garman Scouting Center Hours:

Mon-Fri 9AM-5PM Closed Saturday and Sunday Phone: (716) 891-4073

Scout Shop

Mon-Fri 10AM-5PM (closed 2PM-3:30PM for lunch) Saturday 10AM-2PM Closed Sunday Phone: (716) 891-1689

TABLE OF CONTENTS

www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS

USING THIS GUIDE	
Ideal Year of Scouting Steps	2
A Boy Scout Troop's Journey to Excellence	3
PLANNING & BUDG	ET
Program Planning	
Troop Budget Planner	ć
MEMBERSHIP	
Building Boy Scouting	C
Retention Best Practices	
Webelos to Scout Transition	
PROGRAM	
Advancement	11
Boy Scout Camping	
Service Projects	
Patrol Method	
VOLUNTEER LEADER	RSHIP
Leadership Recruitment	
Trained Leadership	
Training Requirement	17
Succession Planning	18
Friends of Scouting	
PROGRAM RESOURCE	ES
Program Resources / Activities	21
This guide and all <i>Ideal Year of Scouting</i> res	sources can be found online:





IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING STEPS



1. Plan: Work your way through this guide and map out the advancement, activities, camping and training you'll need for your Ideal Year of Scouting.



2. Fund: Determine the expenses from all the activities, advancements, camping and training your units wants to do, then decide how much fundraising your unit must do to cover those expenses.



3. Grow: When you have a good plan, communicate to your current and potential Scouts to engage more boys and girls in the Scouting program, along with their parents to help make it all happen.



4. Train: Plan to promote trainings to your current and new leaders; every Scout deserves a trained leader.



5. Recharter: Re-register your unit, in October/November of 2022 with new youth and parents added to your roster.



6. Assess: Use the Promise to Parents recommendations to measure the success of your plan and your year.

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE QUALIFICATIONS

Complete the 2022 Journey to Excellence Scorecard and submit with your 2022 recharter paperwork before December.

2022 Scouting's Journey to Excellence

"The BSA method for annual planning and continuous improvement"

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
	Planning and Budget				Total F	oints:	200
#1	Planning and budget: Will have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, following BSA policies related to fundraising. (Virtual/remote meetings are acceptable.)	Will have an annual program plan and budget adopted by the troop committee.	Will achieve Bronze, plus troop will conducts planning meeting involving youth leaders for following program year.	Will achieve Silver, plus troop committee will meet at least six times during the year to review program plans and finances.	50	100	200
	Membership				Total F	oints:	500
#2	Building Scouting: Will recruit new youth into the troop in order to grow membership.	Will have membership growth plan that includes a recruitment activity or will use a personalized invitation method and have current pin on beascout.org.	Will achieve Bronze, and either will increase youth members or will have at least 25 members.	Will achieve Silver, and either will increase youth members by 5% or will have at least 35 members.	50	100	200
#3	Retention: Will retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Will reregister 75% of eligible members.	Will reregister 80% of eligible members.	Will reregister 85% of eligible members.	50	100	200
#4	Webelos-to-Scout transition: Will have an effective plan to recruit Webelos Scouts into the troop.	With a pack or Webelos den, will hold two joint activities (live or virtual). Will achieve Bronze, plus will provide at least one den chief to a pack and will recruit five Scouts.		25	50	100	
	Program				Total F	Points:	900
#5	Advancement: Will achieve a high percentage of Scouts earning rank advancements.	40% of Scouts will advance one rank during the year.	50% of Scouts will advance one rank during the year.	60% of Scouts will advance one rank during the year.	50	100	200
#6	Short-term camping: Will conduct short-term or weekend campouts throughout the year. (Alternative home-centered approaches may be used.)	Will conduct four short- term overnight campouts.	Will conduct seven short-term overnight campouts.	Will conduct nine short- term overnight campouts.	50	100	200
#7	Long-term camping: Will participate in long- term camp with a majority of troop in attendance. (includes council-offered alternatives)	Troop will participate in a long-term camp.	60% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	70% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	50	100	200
#8	Service projects: Will participate in service projects, with at least one benefiting the chartered organization. (includes home engagements serving others). Will record service hours	Will participate in three service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/ Internet Advancement.	Will participate in four service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/ Internet Advancement.	Will participate in five service projects and enter hours on the Scoutbook/ Internet Advancement.	25	50	100
#9	Patrol method: Will use the patrol method to develop youth leaders. (Virtual/remote meetings are acceptable.)	The troop will have patrols, and each will have a patrol leader. There will be an SPL, if more than one patrol. The PLC will meet at least four times a year.	Will achieve Bronze, plus PLC will meet at least six times. The troop will conduct patrol leader training.	Will achieve Silver, plus PLC will meet at least ten times. At least one Scout will have at- tended an advanced training course, like NYLT or Order of the Arrow Conference.	50	100	200
	Volunteer Leadership				Total F	Points:	400
#10	Leadership and family engagement: The troop will be proactive in recruiting sufficient leaders and will communicate regularly with parents. (Virtual/remote parents' meetings are acceptable.)	Will have at least one registered assistant Scoutmaster.	Will achieve Bronze, plus the troop will hold two courts of honor, where troop plans are reviewed with parents.	Will achieve Bronze, plus troop will hold three courts of honor, where troop plans are re- viewed with parents. Will recruit at least one new leader	50	100	200
#11	Trained leadership: Will have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training. (Online/remote training is acceptable except for Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.)	Scoutmaster or an assistant Scoutmaster will have completed position-specific training.	Will achieve Bronze, plus the Scoutmaster and 60% of assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining.	Will achieve Silver, plus two- thirds of active committee members will have completed position-specific training and at least one person will have attended an advanced training course involving a total of at least five days.	50	100	200
	Bronze: Earn at least 525 points by earning points			Total poi	nts earned:	: .	
	Silver: Earn at least 750 points by earning points Gold: Earn at least 1,000 points by earning points		ast Bronze in #6 or #7.	No. of ob	jectives wi	th points:	

Bronze: Earn at least 525 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives. Silver: Earn at least 750 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.		Total points earned:
Gold: Earn at least 1,000 points by earning points in at least 8 objective and	at least Bronze in #6 or #7.	No. of objectives with p
Our troop has completed online rechartering by the deadline in order to maintain	ain continuity of our program.	
We certify that these requirements have been completed:		
Scoutmaster	Date	
Committee chair	Date	
Commissioner	Date	

This form should be submitted to the Scout service center or your unit commissioner, as directed by your council.



Scouting's Journey to Excellence

2022 Troop Planning, Performance, and Recognition

Journey to Excellence uses a balanced approach to measure performance. It guides program planning before the year begins, monitors activities for continuous improvement during the year, and recognizes performance at the end of the year. In planning your strategy, use actual numbers from the previous year to guide your performance improvement goal planning. The period for measuring performance will be the calendar year.

	Planning and Budget Measures
1	The troop will have program plan and budget reviewed at all troop committee meetings. Troop will follow BSA policies relating to fundraising and fiscal management as found on Unit Money-Earning Application form and any other publication that the council has developed for fundraising and fiscal management. A meeting will be held with youth leaders where they are involved in developing plan for next program year. The troop's program plan should be shared with unit commissioner. Separate troops for males and females under the same chartered organization may have a shared unit committee. Committee meetings may be held remotely.
	Membership Measures
2	The troop will have growth plan to serve diversity of our community and will conduct formal recruiting event. On December 31, 2022, the troop will have an increase in number of youth members as compared to the number registered on December 31, 2021. A membership growth plan template can be found at www.scouting.org/membership. The troop has an up-to-date pin on the "Be a Scout" website. Given current challenges, holding formal recruiting events may not be possible. Bronze may be achieved by developing and implementing a recruiting plan involving direct personal invitations for youth to join.
3	Number of youth members on most recent charter renewal (A) divided by number of youth registered at end of prior charter year (B) plus all new youth joining(C) minus any ageouts (D). Total = (A) / (B+C-D). Age-outs are youth too old to reregister as Scouts. Compare membership at 2022 reregistration with membership at 2021 reregistration For December charter expiration, use Jan, 2023 and Jan.2022 recharter.
4	Will hold at least two activities with a pack or Webelos den, and will recruit new Webelos Scouts into the troop. Den chiefs will be provided to one or more Cub Scout dens. Virtual gatherings are acceptable.
	Program Measures
5	Total number of Scouts advancing at least one rank (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, Eagle) during the calendar year (A), divided by the number of youth registered at the end of the year (B). Advancement = (A) / (B). The troop is strongly encouraged to use Scoutbook to track each individual's advancements.
6	Will conduct short-term (at least one overnight) campouts throughout the year.
7	Number of Scouts who attend any in-council or out-of-council long-term summer camp (of at least five nights), high-adventure experience, or jamboree, or serve on camp staff within the past year, divided by the Scout membership on June 30, 2022. Youth attending long-term specialty camps such as NYLT or STEM are also counted. Alternatives that spread the camping nights over multiple experiences may be included. Virtual alternatives are acceptable. These include virtual camping programs and other remote activities.
8	The troop will participate in service projects during the year and enter them on the internet advancement website or through Scoutbook. The projects may be completed as joint projects with other organizations. At least one project must benefit the chartered organization. Service projects may include home-centered efforts providing they serve others outside the home.
9	The troop is separated into patrols and each patrol has an elected patrol leader. If the troop has more than one patrol, there is an elected senior patrol leader. If the troop has more than one patrol, the PLC will meet at least four times each year. The troop will hold patrol leader training each year, and youth will have the opportunity to participate in advanced training. PLC meetings may be held remotely.
	Volunteer Leadership Measures
10	The troop will have Scoutmaster, ASM, and committee of at least three members. Ideally, chartered organization representative should not be dual registered as one of the committee members. Separate troops for males and females with same chartered organization may have shared unit committee. Troop will conduct courts of honor where youth are recognized and program plans shared with parents. Courts of honor may be done remotely. Ideally, "new" leader has never been registered before, but at least must not have been registered within past three years.
11	All leaders have completed youth protection training. Scoutmaster and 60% of the assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining. Two-thirds of active committee members (including chartered organization representative) will have completed position-specific training. For Gold, one leader must have attended an advanced training course involving a total of 5 days or more, such as Wood Badge, Summit or Philmont Training Center, at some point in their Scouting tenure.

Scoring the troop's performance: To determine the troop's performance level, you will use the above information to determine the points earned for each of the 11 criteria and then add those individual point scores to determine a composite score. Count only the highest point total achieved in any one criterion. Bronze level requires earning at least 525 points in at least 7 criteria, Silver level requires earning points in at least 8 criteria and 750 points, and Gold level requires earning points in at least 8 criteria, meeting at least bronze standards in either short-term or long-term camping, and earning at least 1,000 total points.

For more resources including workbooks and planning guides: www.Scouting.org/jte



PROGRAM PLANNING

PLANNING & BUDGET:

Utilizing Journey to Excellence criteria, the first step on the *Ideal Year of Scouting* path helps you develop an annual program plan, a budget to go along with that plan, and a fundraising plan to reach your program goals. The result is a well-managed, well-financed Scouting unit that spends time Scouting and not raising money.

Item	Objective	ive Bronze Level Silver Level		Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
	Planning and Budget				Total F	Points:	200
	Planning and budget: Will have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, following BSA policies related to fundraising. (Virtual/remote meetings are acceptable.)	Will have an annual program plan and budget adopted by the troop committee.		Will achieve Silver, plus troop committee will meet at least six times during the year to review program plans and finances.	50	100	200

^{#1} The troop will have program plan and budget reviewed at all troop committee meetings. Troop will follow BSA policies relating to fundraising and fiscal management as found on Unit Money-Earning Application form and any other publication that the council has developed for fundraising and fiscal management. A meeting will be held with youth leaders where they are involved in developing plan for next program year. The troop's program plan should be shared with unit commissioner. Separate troops for males and females under the same chartered organization may have a shared unit committee. Committee meetings may be held remotely.

TROOP PROGRAM PLANNING CONFERENCE:

Each Patrol should elect a Patrol Leader to serve on the Patrol Leaders' Council. Once your Patrol Leaders' Council is formed, the troop should hold a Program Planning Conference. This conference should serve as the starting point for creating your annual program plan. While drafting your annual program plan it's important not to get stuck on what you have "always" done, but what you would "like to do." Steps in annual program planning include...

- **Brainstorm:** Brainstorm ideas of things you would like to do as a troop. Include a wide range of activities from campouts to service projects. At this point, everything goes on the board no evaluation happens at this point.
- **Evaluate:** The troop committee evaluates each suggestion and goes
- back to the troop with the "approved list." Have youth vote on their First, Second and Third choices.
- Draft the Plan: Put together a draft of your annual program calendar. Assign potential activities for further
 research (cost, times, availability, etc.). Then finalize your plan including a budget and share with youth and
 troop families. Be sure to plan your calendar around council and district events. Review the Heart of America
 Council calendar online at

www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS.

FUNDING YOUR PROGRAM:

So you've got a great program plan in place...but now how are you going to pay for it? To get started download the Troop Budget Planner at: **www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS.**

Four Steps for a Successful Fundraising Campaign

- 1. Establish an annual plan and budget using the Troop Budget Planner on the next page.
- 2. Determine the expenses from all activities, advancements, camping and training your unit wants to do, then decide how much popcorn your unit must sell to cover those expenses.
- 3. Set a troop fundraising sales goal and break down to a per-Scout-goal based on your budget.
- 4. Put together an exciting popcorn kickoff for your unit. Communicate sales goals and share Trails End prize program details. Offer additional incentives for Scouts to sell. For example, sell \$100 and you get to throw a pie in your Scoutmaster's face!

2022-23 TROOP 123 PROGRAM CALENDAR

	August				Septembe					
Data	August	Time	Lagation				Laastiaa			
Date	Activities	Time	Location	Date	Activities	Time	Location			
8/8	Troop Meeting	6:30 PM	Elementary School	9/18		7:00 PM	Elementary School			
8/22	District Kick-off	6:00 PM	Nearby Park	9/22	Court of Honor	7:00 PM	Fire House			
8/16	High Adventure	5: 00 PM	Cool Park	9/15	Recruitment Night	7:00 PM	Elementary School			
				9/29	Troop Campout	4:00 PM	Nearby Camp			
1/0				9/27	Popcorn Blitz	2:00 PM	Elementary School			
1/0										
	October				Novembe	mber				
Date	Activities	Time	Location	Date	Activities	Time	Location			
10/2	Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Elementary School	11/3	1.00.1.1.0.0	7:00 PM	Fire House			
10/6	oopeeg	7:00 PM	Fire House	11/6	Troop Meeting (Pot Luck)	2:00 PM	Elementary School			
10/20	Camporee	7:00 PM	Fire House	11/17	g (g	7:00 PM	Fire House			
10/26	Webelos Woods	7:00 PM	Nearby Camp							
			mount, comp							
1/0	0			1/0	0					
	Decembe				January					
Date	Activities	Time	Location	Date 1/5	Activities	Time	Location			
12/1		7:00 PM			Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Fire House			
12/4	Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Elementary School	1/10	Court of Honor	7:00 PM	Elementary School			
12/17		7:00 PM	Fire House	1/17	Klondike	5:00 PM	Nearby Camp			
12/20	Christmas Party	7:00 PM	Elementary School							
1/0	0									
1/0	0									
	February	,			March					
Date	Activities	Time	Location	Date	Activities	Time	Location			
2/2	Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Fire House	3/2	Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Fire House			
2/5	g	7:00 PM	Elementary School			7:00 PM	Elementary School			
2/16		7:00 PM	Fire House	3/16	Troop Campout	7:00 PM	Fire House			
2/21		5:00 PM	Elementary School	3/28		2:00 PM	Elementary School			
				5, = 5						
1/0	0			1/0	0					
	April				May					
Date	Activities	Time	Location	Date	Activities	Time	Location			
4/1	Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Elementary School	5/4	Webelos Crossover	7:00 PM	Fire House			
4/6		7:00 PM	Fire House	5/7	Troop Meeting	7:00 PM	Elementary School			
4/18	Scouting for Food	2:00 PM	Elementary School	5/9	Family Weekend	4:00 PM	Scouthaven			
4/20		7:00 PM	Fire House							
1/0										
1/0	U									
	June				July					
Date	Activities	Time	Location	Date	Activities	Time	Location			
6/13	Court of Honor	7:00 AM	Fire Hall	7/25	Parade	8:00 AM	Main Street			
6/26	Pack Hike	11:00 AM	LSSR	7/30	Summer Camp	2:00 PM	Scouthaven			
1/0	0			1/0	0					
Cubmaster:_			Phone:		_ E-Mail Address					
Chair:	Chair:			Phone: E-Mail Address						
New Member										
Coordinator:			Phone:	Phone: E-Mail Address						
_			-		_					

For a fillable document, please visit www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS.

This calendar can be shared with potential new parents to showcase the amazing program you have planned!

TROOP BUDGET

ONLY ENTER DATA IN HIGHLIGHTED SPACES

- 1. Enter Information in the yellow highlighed portions
- 2. Enter your number of scouts & adults, and unit commission.

TWIN LAKES	District (select for dropdown)		
Troop	Unit Type		
123	Unit #		
25	Number of Youth	12	# Adults
50%	Unit Commission %		•

	Attendance						Unit Budget Review				
Date	Activities	Cost	Est	imate	:	Α	ctual		Difference	Date	Notes
8/18	Troop Meeting	\$0.00	21	\$	-	25	\$	-	\$ -		
	District Kick-off			\$	-		\$	-	\$ -		
	High Adventure			\$	-		\$	-	\$ -		
				\$	-		\$	-	\$ -		
				\$	-		\$	-	\$ -		
				\$	-		\$	-	\$ -		
	Monthly Program Totals:	\$0.00	\$;	-	9	S	-	\$ -		

	September	Attendance					Unit Budget Review				
Date	Activities	Cost	Esti	mate	Actual			Difference		Date	Notes
9/18	Court of Honor	\$2.00	20	\$ 40.00	21	\$	42.00	\$	2.00		
9/22	Recruitment Night	\$2.00	20	\$ 40.00	23	\$	46.00	\$	6.00		
9/2	Troop Campout		25		18			\$			
9/27	Popcorn Blitz	\$5.00	25	\$125.00	18		\$90	\$	-		
				\$ -		\$	-	\$	-		
				\$ -		\$	-				
	Monthly Program Totals:	\$9.00	\$	165.00	\$	_	136.00	\$	(29.00)		

	October	Attendance						Unit Budget Review			
Date	Activities	Cost	Esti	mate	A	ctual		Dif	ference	Date	Notes
10/2	Troop Meeting	\$2.00	20	\$ 40.00	28	\$	56.00	\$	16.00		
10/6		\$0.00	20	\$ -	19	\$	-	\$	-		
10/24	Camporee	\$2.00	20	\$ 40.00	20	\$	40.00	\$	-		
10/26	Webelos Woods	\$0.00	20	\$ -	21	\$	-	\$	-		
				\$ -		\$	-	\$	-		
				\$ -		\$	-	\$	-		
	Monthly Program Totals:	\$4.00	\$	40.00	\$		40.00		\$ -		

	November	Attendance						Unit Budget Review			
Date	Activities	Cost	Esti	mate	Actual			Diff	erence	Date	Notes
11/3		\$2.00	20	\$ 40.00	18	\$	36.00	\$	(4.00)		
11/6	Troop Meeting (Pot Luck)	\$0.00	20	\$ -	20	\$	-	\$	-		
11/17		\$0.00	20	\$ -	25	\$	-	\$			
				\$ -		\$	-	\$			
				\$ -		\$	-	\$			
				\$ -		\$	-				
	Monthly Program Totals:	\$2.00	\$	\$ -		\$ -		\$	-		

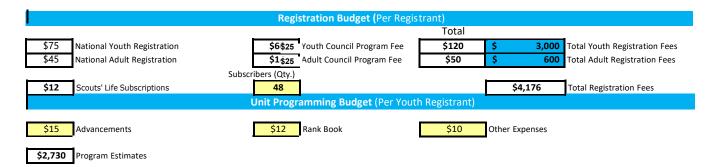
	December			At	tendance				Unit	Budget	Review
Date	Activities	Cost	Esti	imate	Ad	tual		Dif	ference	Date	Notes
12/1	Troop Meeting	\$0.00	20	\$ -	21	\$	-	\$	-		
12/4		\$0.00	20	\$ -	19	\$	-	\$	-		
12/17		\$2.00	20	\$ 40.00	22	\$	44.00	\$	4.00		
12/20	Christmas Party	\$5.00	25	\$ 125.00	25	\$	125.00	\$	-		
				\$ -		\$	-	\$	-		
				\$ -		\$	-				
	Monthly Program Totals:	\$7.00	\$	165.00	\$		169.00	:	\$ 4.00		

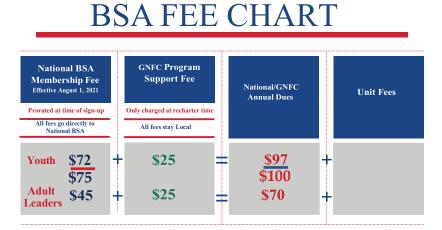
^{*}actual budget will continue through July of next year *

Inputting information in the calendar will auto-populate your budget. Then identify the cost of each activity **per scout**. For a flat rate activity, calculate cost using the anticipated number of scouts who will attend.

UNIT IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING SAMPLE BUDGET PLANNER (CONT.)

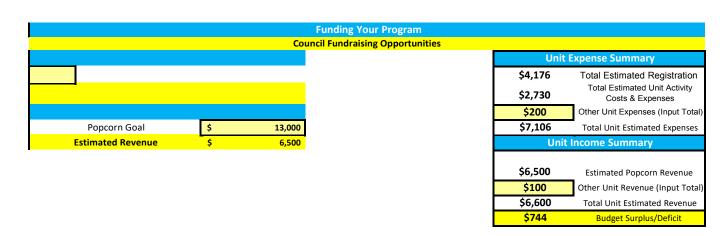
Pay particular attention to the bottom portion of the Budget Planner.





Current National BSA fees will autopopulate in your budget. You will need to indicate the number of Scout Life subscriptions you anticipate.

You will also estimate the cost of advancements per Scout. If you provide a Program Book, indicate that (leave as \$0 if not applicable). Costs not associated previously with an activity can be entered under other expenses (Leader Training, Neckerchiefs, Pack website renewal fees, etc.)



The final portion of the Budget Planner helps you identify your Popcorn goals. Enter the anticipated overall retail goal for your Pack's Popcorn Sale. You can determine the Scout goal by dividing this number with the number of Scouts in your Pack. Also be sure to enter the total amount of fees and additional fundraising money. Ideally your final Budget Surplus/Deficit will be near \$0. All money collected through fees and fundraising should go back into the program for that year.

MEMBERSHIP

BUILDING BOY SCOUTING

The next step on your path to the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is recruitment. Recruiting new youth is the lifeblood of our organization and is essential to ensure the longevity of any Boy Scout Troop. All troops should strive for an increase in Boy Scout membership annually and hold recruitment events year-round including their own Troop Open House.

	Membership				Total F	Points:	500
#2	Building Scouting: Will recruit new youth into the troop in order to grow membership.	Will have membership growth plan that includes a recruit- ment activity or will use a personalized invitation method and have current pin on beascout.org.	Will achieve Bronze, and either will increase youth members or will have at least 25 members.	Will achieve Silver, and either will increase youth members by 5% or will have at least 35 members.	50	100	200
#3	Retention: Will retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Will reregister 75% of eligible members.	Will reregister 80% of eligible members.	Will reregister 85% of eligible members.	50	100	200

^{#2} The troop will have growth plan to serve diversity of our community and will conduct formal recruiting event. On December 31, 2022, the troop will have an increase in number of youth members as compared to the number registered on December 31, 2021. A membership growth plan template can be found at www.scouting.org/membership. The troop has an up-to-date pin on the "Be a Scout" website. Given current challenges, holding formal recruiting events may not be possible. Bronze may be achieved by developing and implementing a recruiting plan involving direct personal invitations for youth to join.

Troop Open House

The Troop Open house allows a troop to open its doors to prospective youth. It provides a forum to show off Scouting activities and the troop's accomplishments. Hosting a Troop Open House is a five-step process that has been proven in troops throughout the nation.

- Present a school rally to fifth and sixth graders. Have them complete the High Adventure Survey.
- Email or mail the parents of interested youth a personal invitation to the Troop Open House.
- 3. Follow the invitation with a telephone call to the parents.
- 4. Host the Troop Open House for youth and their parents.
- 5. Organize a troop or district activity to involve new Scouts right away.

When thinking of different recruitment ideas for your unit, create a unit information sheet to include meeting dates, times, and locations; a troop calendar; a list of leaders' contact information; other information about events and activities.

Go to **www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS** for Troop Open House resources including High Adventure Surveys, New Parent Surveys and more.

The Troop's Role in School Night for Scouting

School Night for Scouting is the council's annual fall recruitment drive. A School Night or Join Scouting Night will be held at every elementary school within the Heart of America Council. Troops should contact their feeder pack to assist with School Night. Troops should also be in attendance at School Night to welcome Boy Scout age youth to the troop.



^{#3} Number of youth members on most recent charter renewal (A) divided by number of youth registered at end of prior charter year (B) plus all new youth joining(C) minus any ageouts (D). Total = (A) / (B+C-D). Age-outs are youth too old to reregister as Scouts. Compare membership at 2022 reregistration with membership at 2021 reregistration.. For December charter expiration, use Jan, 2023 and Jan.2022 recharter.

RETENTION BEST PRACTICES

While recruiting new youth is essential, it is just as critical to retain current Scouts. The Scouting program transforms lives and the longer a young man is in the program, the more impact it has on his life. Troops should set a goal to re-register at least 85% of eligible youth members each year. Use the following tips to strengthen your retention efforts.

- Attend a Heart of America Council summer camp. Studies show Scouts that attend camp are more likely to stay involved in the program.
- Every new Scout should advance in rank, earning at least Tenderfoot within his first two months. An appropriate goal is to earn First Class at the end of the first year.
- Adult leadership in your troop should build an active relationship with the family of each Scout. Have conversations on a regular basis to discuss a boy's Scouting career.
- Attend a BSA High Adventure Base. The thrill of our High Adventure Bases runs far and wide across America, and nobody in the world is better at sharing those experiences than the BSA.

	Membership				Total F	Points:	500
#4	Webelos-to-Scout transition: Will have an effective plan to recruit Webelos Scouts into the troop.	With a pack or Webelos den, will hold two joint activities (live or virtual).	Will achieve Bronze, plus will recruit two Webelos Scouts.	Will achieve Bronze, plus will provide at least one den chief to a pack and will recruit five Webelos Scouts.	25	50	100

#4 Will hold at least two activities with a pack or Webelos den, and will recruit new Webelos Scouts into the troop. Den chiefs will be provided to one or more Cub Scout dens. Virtual gatherings are acceptable.

WEBELOS TO SCOUT TRANSITION

One of Scouting's greatest challenges is to make the next level of Scouting readily available for a young man once he meets the joining requirements. It should be the goal of every troop to make sure all Webelos Scouts have a troop to join. Here are 5 tips to help aid in your troop's Webelos to Scout transition process.

- 1. Select Scouts to serve as den chiefs for each Webelos and Cub Scout den.
- 2. Work with pack leaders to plan and conduct Webelos overnight activities.
- 3. Arrange for Webelos dens to visit a troop meeting.
- 4. Work with the Cubmaster in planning a meaningful crossover ceremony at the pack's blue and gold banquet.
- 5. Have youth crossover in November/December and recharter with the troop.

BOY SCOUT PROGRAMMING

Another important component of the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is program. Program is the "core" of Scouting and encompasses everything from the outdoors to advancement. Exciting programs are why boys join and stay in Scouting! It's our job as leaders to make sure there's adventure at every turn in a young man's Scouting journey.



	Program				Total F	oints:	900
#5	Advancement: Will achieve a high percentage of Scouts earning rank advancements.	40% of Scouts will advance one rank during the year.	50% of Scouts will advance one rank during the year.	60% of Scouts will advance one rank during the year.	50	100	200

#5 Total number of Scouts advancing at least one rank (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, Eagle) during the calendar year (A), divided by the number of youth registered at the end of the year (B). Advancement = (A) / (B). The troop is strongly encouraged to use Scoutbook to track each individual's advancements.

ADVANCEMENT:

It's important to regularly recognize achievements and advancement for Boy Scouts. This is what keeps boys in Scouting. Monthly submission of earned achievements is vital. As boys start working on various ranks, especially the Eagle rank, it is vital for the Scout's BSA record to be up-to-date, so the processing of his rank paperwork can occur in a timely manner. Troops should plan to have at least 60% of their Scouts advance in rank each year.

Make sure every new Scout advances in rank, earning at least Tenderfoot within his first two months.

BOY SCOUT CAMP

Camping is an integral art of the Scouting program. Whether you're searching for fun, learning, advancement or adventure, the Greater Niagara Frontier Council has an outdoor opportunity for all Scouts. Choose your own outdoor adventure at either Camp Scouthaven or with the Birchbark Expeditions.

CAMP SCOUTHAVEN: For over 100 years Scouts of all ages have explored the outdoors and honed their Scout skills at Camp Scouthaven. Come enjoy the beautiful views of Crystal Lake and see if you can make it to the top of our Iceberg at the Waterfront! Scouthaven boasts a new State of the art Shooting Sports area as well as an advanced STEM Center. Our other excellent program areas include Ecology, Scoutcraft, and the Craft Lodge.

For more information visit: www.wnyscouting.org/summercamp

BIRCHBARK EXPEDITIONS: A Nationally Accredited week-long, fully guided high adventure canoe experience, steeped in the rich Age of Exploration history. Operated by volunteers from the Greater Niagara Frontier Council of the BSA, the program offers three different options:

- 1. Adirondack Adventure: a 7-day High Adventure experience based in New York's beautiful Adirondack Park, it operates four weeks from mid-July to mid-August
- 2. WNY Waterways: A local one or two-day canoeing expedition on one of the many waterways in Western New York. An ideal first opportunity to experience canoe tripping with an optional over-night stay.
- 3. Algonquin Adventure: also a 7-day High Adventure experience, but based in the remote Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario (on hold until border crossing restrictions are lifted)

For more information visit: www.wnyscouting.org/birchbark

SHORT TERM CAMPING/OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

As Scouts begin to take more leadership in their unit, it is important for the adult leaders to help support and guide youth in the planning of their own outdoor experiences. A great way to do just that is to provide them with tools to help make their planning successful.

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/boyscouts/pdf/512-505-2016-Scout-Planning-Worksheet.pdf

		Program				Total F	oints:	900	L
I		Short-term camping: Will conduct short-term or weekend campouts throughout the year.	Will conduct four short-	Will conduct seven	Will conduct nine short-				
	#h	(Alternative home-centered approaches may be	term overnight	short-term overnight	term overnight	50	100	200	

CONSERVATION, HIKING, RIDING, AND ADVENTURE

When a Scout excels in outdoor participation, there are awards to show for it! This program, conceived by the BSA's

	Program				Total F	oints:	900
#7	Long-term camping: Will participate in long- term camp with a majority of troop in attendance. (includes council-offered alternatives)	Troop will participate in a long-term camp.	60% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	70% of Scouts will attend a long-term camp.	50	100	200

#7 Number of Scouts who attend any in-council or out-of-council long-term summer camp (of at least five nights), high-adventure experience, or jamboree, or serve on camp staff within the past year, divided by the Scout membership on June 30, 2022. Youth attending long-term specialty camps such as NYLT or STEM are also counted. Alternatives that spread the camping nights over multiple experiences may be included. Virtual alternatives are acceptable. These include virtual camping programs and other remote activities.

National Camping Task Force, includes a series of six badges designed to recognize a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer who has exemplary knowledge and experience in performing high-level outdoor activities.

The award consists of up to six emblem segments positioned around the perimeter of a beautiful center emblem. All are embroidered in full color. The segments represent six areas of emphasis: Camping, Aquatics, Conservation, Hiking, Riding, and Adventure, with rigorous requirements to earn each segment. The center emblem features an outdoor scene with fleur-de-lis and the words "National Outdoor Awards."

For a complete list of the requirements, go to

https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/noa/



SERVICE PROJECTS

Giving back is an essential part of the Scouting experience. Nothing your Scout unit can do raises community awareness more than a service project. These good turns are some of our best marketing tools and they send the message that Scouts are here and they're making life better for others. Plan to participate in at least 3 service projects each year with your pack and make sure you record your project and hours online at **www.scouting.org/jte**.

	Program				Total I	Points:	900
#8	Service projects: Will participate in service projects, with at least one benefiting the chartered organization. (includes home engagements	Will participate in three service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/	Will participate in four service projects and enter hours on Scoutbook/	Will participate in five service projects and enter hours on the Scoutbook/	25	50	100

^{#8} The troop will participate in service projects during the year and enter them on the internet advancement website or through Scoutbook. The projects may be completed as joint projects with other organizations. At least one project must benefit the chartered organization. Service projects may include home-centered efforts providing they serve others outside the home.

MAJOR COUNCIL SERVICE PROJECTS

Scouting for Food

Participate in the Council's annual Scouting for Food campaign that serves over 60 different food pantries across Central Indiana. This service project aims at addressing the issue of hunger in our communities. Through a partnership with Kroger and Gleaners Food Bank, Scouts canvas their neighborhoods to collect can goods to donate to their food pantry of choice. This project occurs from March to April. Bags and stickers will be available at March roundtable and participants will earn a patch.

Adopt-A-School

The Boy Scouts of America Adopt-a-School program is a way for youth to give back to their elementary schools. Each quarter, the youth and their leaders conduct a service project benefiting their school. These projects are based on the needs of the school, which may consist of grounds beautification, building improvements, teacher appreciation, clean-up before or after school events, and help during festivals/ carnivals.

• Other Ideas for Service Projects:

Remember to check with your unit's chartered organization to see if they have any projects.

- Place American flags on gravesites for Memorial Day
- Assist agencies that provide food to those in need
- Participate in caroling at a nursing home
- Adopt-a-park
- Send cards to service members and spouses
- Plant trees



HOW TO LOG SERVICE HOURS

Log your Scout's service hours at http://servicehours.scouting.org

First Time Users: Log In >>

What you will need:

- Your unit ID (five to 11 digits)
- Your unit number (four digits, no letters ex. Pack 62 = 0062)

If you do not have this information, call your district or council and they can supply your unit ID.

To register on the site:

- Place your cursor over the words New Users Click Here and click the left mouse button.
- Click I agree at the Confidentiality Statement window. If you disagree, you will not be allowed to enter information into the site.
- 3. Use the unit ID (five- to 11-digit number) and local unit number (four-digit number) you received from the council to fill in the three fields on the user profile page. In the second field, select the type of unit you are registering. If you have not received your unit's ID number or local unit number, call your local council or your district executive. If you are a volunteer for several units, each unit will have a separate ID and local unit number. (Keep this information somewhere where you can find it, because you will need it to change your user name or password.)
 - TIP: If your unit number has less than four digits, add zeros in front of the number so that you have four digits (example: Unit 12 = 0012)
- 4. Enter your name, address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address.
- 5. Type in a user name of your choice. If the user name you typed in is already in use, you will be asked to select another user name.
- Type in and verify your password. This can be anything you choose between six and 10 characters.
- Click Register. The Home page of the data collection site appears.

If you have problems logging in, contact the local council or your district executive to verify your unit ID.

Returning Users - Log In >>

Type the user name and password that you created when you registered at the site.

- If you forgot your password, see the next section titled Forgotten Passwords.
- If you forgot your user name, you will need to contact your district executive or the council so that they can give you the user name you registered.
- If you have problems logging in, contact the local council or your district executive to verify your unit ID.

For more information and other project ideas, go to **www.** wnyscouting.org/civicservice



PATROL METHOD

	Program				Total I	Points:	900	
#9	Patrol method: Will use the patrol method to develop youth leaders. (Virtual/remote meetings are acceptable.)	The troop will have patrols, and each will have a patrol leader. There will be an SPL, if more than one patrol. The PLC will meet at least four times a year.	Will achieve Bronze, plus PLC will meet at least six times. The troop will conduct patrol leader training.	Will achieve Silver, plus PLC will meet at least ten times. At least one Scout will have attended an advanced training course, like NYLT or Order of the Arrow Conference.	50	100	200	

#9 The troop is separated into patrols and each patrol has an elected patrol leader. If the troop has more than one patrol, there is an elected senior patrol leader. If the troop has more than one patrol, the PLC will meet at least four times each year. The troop will hold patrol leader training each year, and youth will have the opportunity to participate in advanced training. PLC meetings may be held remotely.

Patrols are the building blocks of a Boy Scout troop. A patrol is a small group of boys who are similar in age, development, and interests. Working together as a team, patrol members share the responsibility for the patrol's success. They gain confidence by serving in positions of patrol leadership.

The patrol leaders are elected by their patrols to represent them at the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) meetings.

The PLC meets monthly to fine-tune the plans for the upcoming month. The PLC also helps facilitate the annual Troop Program Planning Conference.

Download Troop Program Planning Conference resources at: www.wnyscouting.org/IYOS

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

BOY SCOUT LEADERSHIP

Volunteers make the Scouting program go. The BSA relies on its dedicated volunteers to promote its mission of preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Ensuring adequate volunteer support is the final step in the Ideal Year of Scouting.

	Volunteer Leadership				Total F	oints:	400
#10	Leadership and family engagement: The troop will be proactive in recruiting sufficient leaders and will communicate regularly with parents. (Virtual/remote parents' meetings are acceptable.)	Will have at least one registered assistant Scoutmaster.	Will achieve Bronze, plus the troop will hold two courts of honor, where troop plans are reviewed with parents.	Will achieve Bronze, plus troop will hold three courts of honor, where troop plans are re- viewed with parents. Will	50	100	200

#10 The troop will have Scoutmaster, ASM, and committee of at least three members. Ideally, chartered organization representative should not be dual registered as one of the committee members. Separate troops for males and females with same chartered organization may have shared unit committee. Troop will conduct courts of honor where youth are recognized and program plans shared with parents. Courts of honor may be done remotely. Ideally, "new" leader has never been registered before, but at least must not have been registered within past three years.

LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT

Your troop could always use more volunteer help, right? But before you recruit a new leader, it is important to know what you need. Use the Troop Succession Planning Worksheet on the next page to find out what volunteer positions are vacant. You should also plan your succession strategy to make sure you identify future leaders now instead of later.

New recruits will also want to know their responsibilities and your expectations for them. Ask your troop families what volunteer positions they would like to fill. Use the New Parent Survey to help identify potential volunteers.

Download the Family Talent Survey at

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/CubScoutMeetingGuide/PDF/Appendix/34362.pdf

TRAINED LEADERSHIP

Every Scout deserves a trained leader. A trained leader is knowledgeable and more confident in the role being performed. Trained leaders exhibit a knowledge and confidence that is picked up by people around them. Trained leaders impact the quality of programs, leader tenure, youth tenure, safety, and a whole lot more. A trained leader is better prepared to make the Scouting program all it can be!

Visit www.wnyscouting.org/training for the list of required trainings or to complete online training.

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
	Planning and Budget				Total F	oints:	200
#11	Trained leadership: Will have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training. (Online/remote training is acceptable except for Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.)	Scoutmaster or an assistant Scoutmaster will have completed position-specific training.	Will achieve Bronze, plus the Scoutmaster and 60% of assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining.	Will achieve Silver, plus two- thirds of active committee members will have completed position-specific training and at least one person will have attended an advanced training course involving a total of at least five days.	50	100	200

#11 All leaders have completed youth protection training. Scoutmaster and 60% of the assistants will have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining. Two-thirds of active committee members (including chartered organization representative) will have completed position-specific training. For Gold, one leader must have attended an advanced training course involving a total of 5 days or more, such as Wood Badge, Summit or Philmont Training Center, at some point in their Scouting tenure.

WOOD BADGE

Wood Badge is advanced Scout leader training that began in 1919 by Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Scouting and Wood Badge's first director. It came to America in 1948 and has been updated to reflect current BSA policies and programs. Incorporating the best techniques available, Wood Badge has become the most advanced leadership training course in Scouting!

Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout leadership training and provides participants with the tools to be a well-rounded leader. The leadership skills taught are for volunteers from all Scouting areas including Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing and the district and council.

The course is delivered over two weekends. The first half of the course utilizes a classroom environment and practical exercised to teach the essentials of leadership. The second half offers classroom and outdoor experiences to help you learn the application of leadership skills. Finally, you will write and complete a "ticket". The "tickets" consists of five written goals. These goals connect your new leadership knowledge to your role in Scouting.

Any adult volunteers who has completed basic training for their registered position can attend.



MANDATORY YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

Over the years, we have worked with experts in the field of child abuse, child sexual abuse and maltreatment to develop new training and resources that will further strengthen our ability to protect youth. These changes include:

- Fully updated and revised Youth Protection Training developed with leaders in the field of child abuse prevention and includes insights from experts, survivors and the latest strategies for recognizing and preventing major forms of abuse. This is the designated Youth Protection training for all adults.
- Expanded youth protection content across all our communications channels will inform and engage our volunteers and parents.
- An expanded "Scouts First" Helpline to aid volunteers and families in addressing potentially dangerous situations.
- The BSA also provides unlimited counseling and support for healing to anyone who has ever been abused in Scouting.
- Youth protection training for youth members will be available in 2019.

Greater Niagara Frontier Council is a leader in the movement to provide safe spaces and protection to our scouting families. We are committed to having all registered adults complete the Mandatory Youth Protection Training prior to registering as a leader.

The Boy Scouts of America's updated Youth Protection Training is mandatory for all registered adult leaders in all BSA programs. Other adults participating in Scouting are strongly encouraged to take this 90 minutes online training.

The mandatory training modules are the following:

- Overview and Policies
- Sexual Abuse
- Bullying
- Test

The prior version of BSA's Youth Protection trainings will no longer be available. The updated training replaces other Youth Protection trainings and is required for all BSA programs.

Go to **my.scouting.org** to take the training. Click here for instructions on completing the training.

If you have questions please contact **GNFC@wnyscouting.org** for more information.

IOLS

Working as patrols, this hands-on course provides adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. Upon completion, leaders should feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First Class rank. Along with Scoutmaster Specifics this course is required of all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters registered in Scouts BSA Troops in order to be considered "trained".

TRAINED LEADER PATCH

This special council shoulder strip is available to all leaders who complete the required trainings for their PRIMARY POSITION ONLY. If you are already a trained leader, stop by a council office to confirm your records and verify that youth protection training will not expire in the next year, and a patch will be mailed to you. If any trainings are missing from your records, please fill out and turn in this form to update your profile!

UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING

The University of Scouting, the premier training event in the council, is one of the easiest ways for adult volunteers to learn how to enhance their yearly program for their Scouts . This single day training event is designed to supplement any leader's training This event has something for everyone. There are courses designed for all adult leaders in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and Venturing There are also classes for Scouts BSA and Venturing Scouts, and a Kids Club Day Camp for kids age 4-10. Courses are available on anything from how to run a Pack meeting to How to conduct a High Adventure Trek.

NYLT

The National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is the premier outdoor leadership experience geared towards present and future leaders of Scouting. Participants will be engaged in hands-on training led by Western New York's finest youth staff. The training will cover skills essential to leadership within your unit, school, and life activities. The training activities will mimic one month of your units program. This program is youth led under the mentorship of trained adults who provide a safe friendly Scout environment.



SCOUTS BSA POSITION TRAINED REQUIREMENTS

	BEFORE 1ST MEETING	
SC0_481	SCOUTING ORGANIZATION	12:20
SC0_472	AIMS & METHODS OF SCOUTS BSA	8:30
SC0_479	ROLE OF THE UNIT KEY 3	7:00
SC0_480	ROLES OF SCOUTMASTER & SP LEADERS	13:00
SC0_484	TROOP MEETING	10:10
	TOTAL TIME: 50.30 MIN	.30 MIN

	FIRST 30 DAYS	o
SC0_478	PATROL METHOD	00:01
SC0_471	ADVANCEMENT	10:00
SC0_477	PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING	11:00
	TOTALTIN	TOTAL TIME: 31 MIN

FIRST 60 DAYS	6 OUTDOOR PROGRAMS 10:00	32 TROOP COMMITTEE 14:00	35 SCDUTS BSA UNIFORMS 11:30	TOTAL TIME: 35:30 MIN
	SC0_476 0	SC0_482 T	SCO_485 S	

13.30 MIN	TOTAL TIME: 1 HOUR 13,30 MIN		
13:00	JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE	SC0_530	
31:00	HAZARDOUS WEATHER TRAINING	SC0_800	
7:30	OUTDOOR ETHICS	SC0_475	
8:00	INTRODUCTION TO MERIT BADGES	SC0_474	
14:00	ANNUAL TROOP PROGRAM PLANNING	SC0_473	
	POSITION TRAINED		
35:30 MIN	TOTAL TIME: 35:30 MIN		
11:30	SCO_485 SCOUTS BSA UNIFORMS	SC0_485	

MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS BEFORE 1ST MEETING

8:30	8:00	7:00	TOTAL TIME: 23:30 MIN		10:00:	TOTAL TIME: 10 MIN
AIMS & METHODS OF SCOUTS BSA	INTRODUCTION TO MERIT BADGES	WHAT IS A MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR	TOTAL TIME	POSITION TRAINED	ADVANCEMENT	TOTALT
SC0_472	SC0_474	SC0_486			SC0_471	

	12:00	8:30	14:00	TOTAL TIME: 34:30 MIN
BEFORE 1ST MEETINGS	SCOUTING ORGANIZATION	AIMS & METHODS OF SCOUTS BSA	TROOP COMMITTEE	TOTAL TIME
	SC0_481	SC0_472	SC0_482	

TOTAL TIME: 1 HOUR 6:30 MIN

10:00	10.01	11:30	14:00	8:00	13:00	6:30 MIN
OUTDOOR PROGRAMS	ADVANCEMENT	SCOUTS BSA UNIFORMS	ANNUAL TROOP PROGRAM PLANNING	INTRODUCTION TO MERIT BADGES	JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE	TOTAL TIME: 1 HOUR 6:30 MIN
SC0_476	SC0_471	SC0_485	SC0_473	SC0_474	SCO_530	

BEFORE 1ST MEETING

12:00	8:30	7:00	14:00	6:00	47:30 MIN		10:00	10:00	11:30	14:00	8:00	13:00
SCOUTING ORGANIZATION	AIMS & METHODS OF SCOUTS BSA	ROLE OF THE UNIT KEY 3	TROOP COMMITTEE	TROOP COMMITTEE MEETINGS	TOTAL TIME: 47:30 MIN	POSITION TRAINED	OUTDOOR PROGRAMS	ADVANCEMENT	SCOUTS BSA UNIFORMS	ANNUAL TROOP PROGRAM PLANNING	INTRODUCTION TO MERIT BADGES	JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE
SC0_481	SC0_472	SC0_479	SC0_482	SC0_483			SC0_476	SC0_471	SC0_485	SC0_473	SC0_474	SC0_530

THE ONLINE TRAINING PLANS LISTED ABOVE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN A CLASSROOM FORMAT:

froop/Team Committee Chair & Committee: WS10 Troop Committee Challenge Scoutmaster & Assistant Scoutmaster: S24 Scoutmaster Specific Training Merit Badge Counselor: D76 Merit Badge Counselor Orientation Training

S11 - Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) is an outdoor classroom training required for Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters to be classified as position trained.



TROOP SUCCESSION PLANNING WORKSHEET

POSITION	CURRENT	NEXT	NEXT	COMMENT
CHARTER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE				
SCOUTMASTER				
ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER				
ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER				
COMMITTEE CHAIR				
SECRETARY				
TREASURER				
ADVANCEMENT				
MEMBERSHIP/ RECRUITING				
QUARTERMASTER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				
COMMITTEE MEMBER				

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

What is Friends of Scouting? What does it mean to be a Friend of Scouting? And why should you consider becoming one?

First, the basics: Friends of Scouting is your council's annual giving campaign. In most councils, Friends of Scouting (or FOS) represents the council's largest source of income.

Friends of Scouting campaign typically begins in November and ends in March. During the campaign, a volunteer will visit your pack meeting or troop court of honor to explain the campaign and make an appeal for your support. You'll be asked to make a tax-deductible pledge to your local council.

The natural next question is: Why should I give money to my local council? Many councils answer this with what's called "The Iceberg Analogy."

What do councils provide? In other words: What's beneath the surface?

- Volunteer and staff training
- Insurance coverage to protect volunteers, chartered organizations, staff members and properties
- Support staff for registration, publications and other program support
- Camp promotion for Cub Scout day camp, Boy Scout summer camps, high-adventure bases and more
- Camp rangers to keep the council camp up-to-date and ready for Scouts and families
- Camp equipment, like tents, cooking equipment, camp vehicles, building repairs, canoes, equipment replacement and repair, and general upkeep of council camps
- Recognitions for leaders who complete training, volunteer for special projects and help in many Scouting roles
- Professional staff to work with volunteers to organize new units, manage fundraising programs, conduct training, assist membership recruitment, provide counsel and direct support for district, camps and

programs

- Administrative needs, including postage, computers and links to the National BSA computer system, copy machines, folding machines and a printing shop
- Service centers to provide additional support to volunteers
- Audio-visual supplies used in training, at camp and in volunteer meetings
- Postage to mail materials to leaders, parents and youth members
- A council website to keep you informed
- Reference publications and resources, including program planning kits and to camping cookbooks
- Camp scholarships, uniforms and registration fees for disadvantaged young people

As you can see, there's more happening at your council than the average volunteer sees. And it can't happen without the support of volunteers like you.

EMPLOYEE MATCH PROGRAMS

Some companies, possibly including the one for which you work, will match their employees' charitable contributions. Be sure to see whether your workplace has such a program. If so, you'll double your impact.

How does it work?

The Friends of Scouting (FOS) annual giving campaign is planned, directed and conducted by volunteers - and its success depends of them! Each volunteer team has a professional advisor (usually a district executive) to assist with communication, training and supplies.

The campaign kicks off during the Governor's Luncheon for Scouting in December and wraps up by March. Each presented with receive council prepared materials to make a successful 10 minute presentation.

Instant recognition for all gifts and pledges is done at a pack or troop meeting for any giving level. The presenter will be responsible for following up with the unit FOS chairman to contact the families that were not at the presentation. They will collect the pledge cards and the contributions and deliver them to the district executive or local council service center.

For more information, please go to http://www.wnyscouting.org

POPCORN

One of the goals of Scouting is to teach a Scout to become self-reliant and to earn their own way. Through a proper money-earning project, leaders have the opportunity to show Scouts how they, through their individual and combined efforts, can earn all the money it takes to operate their pack, troop, team or crew for the entire year. The only limiting factor is their level of participation.

Important Date to Remember

- Units commit to selling popcorn-June 1
- Initial orders are due- August 3
- SALE BEGINS- August 19
- SALE ENDS- December 31
- Final Order Due- October 31
- Prize orders due- December 31
- Final Payment- December 1

POPCORN SALES METHODS

ONLINE

Average Sale Per Customer: \$45

Description: Scouts solicit customers via email or social media. Customers order popcorn using Scout's online link or searching for them on **ordering.campmasters.org**. Then customers pay shipping and receive popcorn within 3-9 business days.

2022 ONLINE PRODUCT MIX

Who Buys This Way?

Out-of-town family and friends, parents' co-workers, and social media connections.

Best Practice: Scouts self-register for online selling and create an account at the beginning of the sale (online sales begin Aug.1). They are encouraged to email and share personal order links on social media. Within two weeks, they should follow-up with those who have not ordered and send thank you messages to those who have.

ORDER FORM ("TAKE ORDER")

Average Sales Per Hour: Sky's the limit!

Description: Customer orders popcorn on an order form and waits for it to be delivered in mid-November.

Who Buys This Way?

Family members, friends, neighbors, parents' co-workers, teachers, coaches, hairdressers, and customers purchasing only military magnets.

Best Practice: Before Scouts hit the streets and knock on doors, they should approach closest family and friends, especially during the new two-week blitz (September 1-15). Help Scouts make a list of 10-15 family and friends they know will make a purchase. After initial contacts, they should be close to their goal and feeling confident of their sale victories! Unit decides whether to collect payment at the time of the order or delivery. Remember to explain to the customer that a product delivered back to them later in the sale is mid-November; otherwise, they assume that you will return within the next day or two.

Strategies:

Take the order for to work

 If not allowed to solicit at work, ask if putting a form in the break room is acceptable

· Create a map of your area

- o Print off Google Maps of your area, and give to Scout Families
- o Ask Scouts to mark houses that did and did not purchase

Always save copies of order forms

- Give your Scouts a copy of their previous year's order form to follow up with past customers
- o Always have Scouts turn in their order form, even if they don't

STOREFRONT SALES

Average Sales Per Hour: \$100

Description: Scouts sell popcorn (exchange popcorn and money on-the-spot) to strangers in front of high-traffic stores or events.

Who Buys This Way?

Strangers, grocery store shoppers, college students, sports attendees, and festival attendees

Best Practice: Schedule booth time with store managers as soon as possible. Schedule Scouts to fill two-hour time slots. Try "SignUp Genius" as an easy online tool to manage this. All participating Scouts get equal credit for the day's total sales. This is a great way to increase visibility in the community and recruit new Scouts!

Strategies:

- Secure the right location
 - o Think outside the box- where do the people gather in your community?
- Retail stores, school sporting events, auctions, churches, farmers markets, fairs
 - o Always get permission before selling
- Accept Credit Card Payments
 - Have your unit set up and account with Square, PayPal, Stripe, etc.
- Tell Scouts' stories with pictures
 - o Customers want to know what they are supporting

NEIGHBORHOOD BLITZ/DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES

Average Sales Per Hour: \$200

Description: Scout, with a friend or family member, sells popcorn on-hand (in a wagon or vehicle) to customers at home; delivering the popcorn and collecting payment on-the-spot.

 $\underline{\text{TIP:}} \text{ Present a customer receipt when collecting payment on-the-spot.}$

Who Buys This Way?

Suburban neighborhoods, rural homes, city townhouses, and customers only purchasing military ribbons.

Best Practice: Allow the customer to receive popcorn on-the-spot only after they place an order on the form. Say, "Would you like your product now instead of waiting?" Customers tend to choose the least expensive item that you have on hand, so don't let them see your "stash" right away.

Strategies:

- Popcorn Blitz Day
 - o Pick a day during the Council blitz days (Sept. 1-15)
 - o Set a unit and per Scout fundraising goal for the day
 - o As a group, canvas a large neighborhood in your area
 - Once goals are reached, have an ice cream or hot chocolate party in a nearby park

PROGRAM RESOURCES SUPPORTING YOUR MONTHLY UNIT PROGRAM

One of the most critical components of the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is making sure you have an annual program plan. If you are still looking for a few fun events for the whole Scouting family then look no further. The Council provides a series of activities open to all Scouts and Scouting families. These events, available at a discounted cost exclusive to Scouts, are a great way to support your unit's monthly program. For the complete list of Scout Community Activities visit **www.wnyscouting.org**.

Greater Niagara Frontier Council #380

Boy Scouts of America 2860 Genesee Street Buffalo, NY 14225

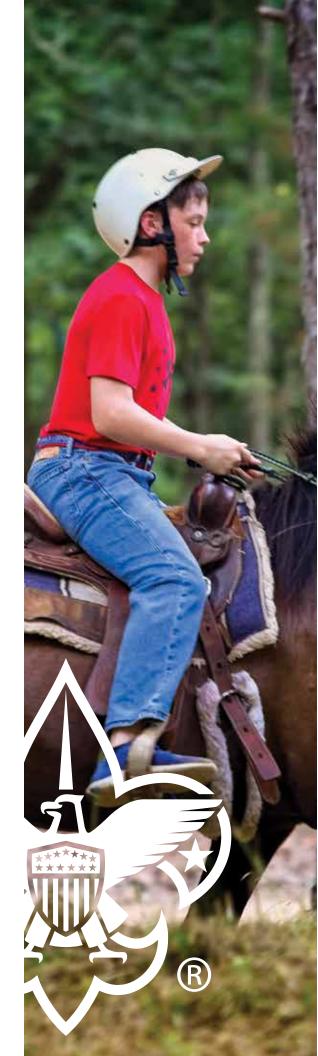
Richard E. Garman Scouting Center Hours:

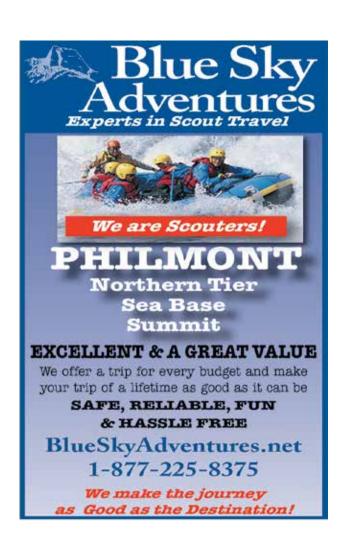
Mon-Fri 9AM-5PM Closed Saturday and Sunday Phone: (716) 891-4073

Scout Shop

Mon-Fri 10AM-5PM (closed 2PM-3:30PM for lunch) Saturday 10AM-2PM Closed Sunday

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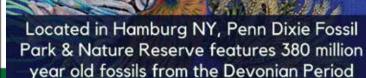
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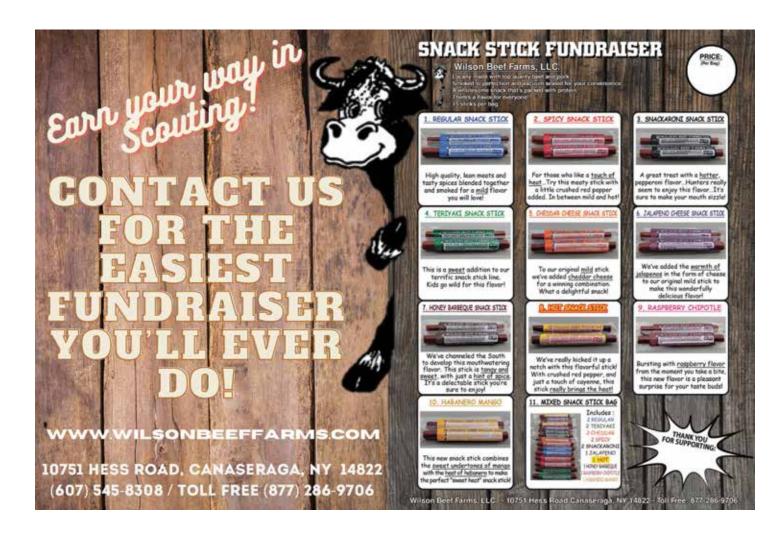
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