March Training Newsletter

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MAYFLOWER COUNCIL

Training News
March 2019

Upcoming In-Person Training

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

----------Scout Leader Skills----------

Mar 9	°⁺*	Scoutmaster Position-Specific *(Easton)*
Mar 16	*⁺	Cub Leader Position-Specific *(Foxboro)*
Mar 23	*⁺	Troop Committee Position-Specific *(Easton)*
Mar 30	°⁺*	Trainer's EDGE ("train-the-trainer") *(Canton)*
Apr 6-7	°⁺*	IOLS for Scouts BSA/Venturing *(Plymouth)*
Apr 27-28	°*	BALOO for Cub Leaders *(Bolton)*
Apr 27-28	°*	Intro to Backpacking *(Framingham)*
May 4	°⁺	Scoutmaster Position-Specific *(Norwood)*
May 4	°	Den Chief Training *(Norwood)*
May 10-11	°*	BALOO for Cub Leaders *(Wrentham)*
May 18-19	°*	Leave No Trace Trainer *(Plymouth)*
Jun 15	°	Beyond the Basics: Advanced Outdoor Skills
Jun 30-Jul 5	°*	Nat'l Youth Ldr Training (NYLT) *(Plymouth)*
Aug 11-16	°*	Nat'l Youth Ldr Training (NYLT) *(Bolton)*

----------First Aid----------

Mar 9	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Easton)*
Mar 9	°*	CPR/AED *(Easton)*
Mar 9-10	°*	Wilderness and Remote First Aid *(Sudbury)*
Mar 26	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Sudbury)*
Apr 6-7	°*	Wilderness and Remote First Aid *(Plymouth)*
Apr 9	°*	CPR/AED *(Sudbury)*
Apr 23	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Sudbury)*

…plus more in May and beyond…

MBU Training Dates Shifted

Due to the March 2 Merit Badge University (MBU) "snow day," we've shifted the MBU adult training courses in line with the new MBU schedule. March 2 courses (Scoutmaster PST, CPR, and First Aid) will now be on March 9. The March 9 Troop Committee PST will now occur on March 23. These changes are reflected in the schedule above. Online registration has been extended.

Looking for Advanced Skills?

We often hear from adult leaders who'd like to learn more than the basic camping skills that are taught at BALOO and IOLS. Well, here's your answer!...

- **Intro to Backpacking: April 27-28.** Hands-on training to build adult leaders' confidence in taking Scouts backpacking. Registration is open!
- **Beyond the Basics: June 15.** A relaxed day at Camp Squanto with opportunities to learn advanced rope skills, orienteering, cooking, woods tools, etc., from experienced Scouters. Registration open soon!

March 16 is Cub Scout Leader Training Day

It's been on the calendar for a while, and we finally have the details!

- March 16, 8:30am–12:30pm, at Foxborough Regional Charter School (conveniently located near I-95 and I-495).
- We'll run separate sessions of position-specific training for Den Leaders, Cubmasters/Assistant Cubmasters, and Pack Committee members.
- We also hope to run workshops on a few additional program topics. Please tell us what topics you'd be most interested in when you register!

There are many benefits to completing your basic leader training in person instead of online. Here are the "bonuses" we're offering on March 16:

- Leader guides for sale, registration materials, and other resources to save you a trip to the council office or the Scout store.
- Fun activities for your Cub-age youth while their parents are getting trained.
- A chance to meet fellow leaders and get resources to help your program!

Please register at www.mayflowerbsa.org/training.

Youth Protection Training Revised

Don't worry; this is not a new requirement. But we do want you to be aware.

On March 1, the BSA updated its official online youth protection training (YPT) course. It includes policies and procedures implemented since the last revision in February 2018, as well as four new optional modules for anyone who would like to become better at recognizing and dealing with violence, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect. When we offer in-person YPT, we will cover the required parts of the new training.

If you have a valid YPT completion, it's still good for two years. You do not need to retake this new course right away. But we do want you to be aware that anyone who takes YPT from now on will be taking the new version—and it's there for anyone else who wants to learn more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- *Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration:* www.mayflowerbsa.org/training
- *BSA online training:* https://my.scouting.org
- *Council training chair:* Chris Lamie: chris.lamie@gmail.com
- *Staff contact:* Nick Keyes: nick.keyes@scouting.org

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

Providence Bruins Games

Mayflower Council is working with the Providence Bruins to provide our Scouts with discounted tickets to some of there great games. Fun for the whole family.

Please see the attached flyers for more information and to reserve your tickets.





Council Service Centers Closed

Due to the current weather forecast, the Marlborough and Canton Service Centers will be closed on Monday, March 4th.

Merit Badge University – Postponed

In an abundance of caution, the Mayflower Council has postponed the Merit Badge University and the adult training classes being offered at the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School on Saturday, March 2, 2019 due to weather conditions. While we share our participants' obvious disappointment, the safety of our participants and staff is most important. Weather tracking has indicated there is an elevated risk for significant snowfall in the area of the event. In addition, driving conditions are expected to deteriorate with the snowfall. Both of these factors have influenced this difficult decision. Saturday, March 9th will follow our Day 1 schedule and Saturday, March 23rd will follow our Day 2 schedule.

Cranberry Harbors District Training

Chris Lamie, Mayflower Council's Training Chair, and a lot great volunteers put on an in-depth seminar for Cranberry Harbor's District Committee on Saturday, January 12th.

Topics included:

- Chairs/Vice Chairs
- Activities and Civic Service
- New Unit Organizers
- Training
- Advancement

- Fund Development
- Camping/Outdoor Program
- Membership

We hope some of you were able to attend, and more will be able to attend this type of training in the future.

For more information, please visit https://www.mayflowerbsa.org/program/adult/training

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Custom BSA Unit Flag Discount

FINAL DAYS, ORDERS DUE MARCH 15

Show your community the colors of Scouting with an official BSA unit flag, a great way to show your Unit pride.

The Mayflower Council is proud to offer discounted pricing for Scout units that wish to order a new unit flag or a replacement flag. The flags are printed single reverse, each made out of heavy-duty nylon, with canvas header and brass grommets. Features include unit type and number, chartering institution name and city/town & state of which your unit is based and each imprinted with Mayflower Council.

3′ x 5′ – regularly $100, our discount pricing to your unit $75

Orders must be received by 11:59pm on Thursday, March 15. Flags will take approximately 6-8 weeks after that for arrival.

Click here to order your unit’s flag.

District Realignment is Here

You've probably heard about the Mayflower Council's district realignment plan in some way or another over the past few months. We are excited to report that on January 24, 2018, the Council's Voting Members unanimously approved the plan set forth by the District Operations Committee. The new realignment structure will allow the council to serve more youth within our communities and help us create the best possible Scouting experience for our families and volunteers. The new district realignment structure will permit the more effective assignment of Scouting professionals to support volunteers in the delivery of the Scouting program. To learn more, please visit our Council Districts page.

The Wait is Over. Our Online Store is Open!

We are excited to announce that our online store opened it's doors today. You can now shop for Mayflower Council items online. To celebrate our store's launch all orders will be shipped for free. New items will continually be added.

Our online store is the only place to get the new Mayflower Council Shoulder patches. These patches will not be available from any Scout Shop until after April 1, so stop by our online store and order yours today!

Click here to visit our online store

Just a reminder…
Each member of the Mayflower Council will be receiving a free silver bordered first edition council shoulder patch when the unit's charter has been completed. Your district executive will arrange a time to present the patches to your unit.

Service Center Closure – Jan 15, 2018

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr, the Marlborough and Canton Service Centers will be closed on Monday, January 15th.

Den Chief Resources

Basic Information

What is a Den Chief?

A Den Chief is a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer assisting a Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos Scout den. The Den Chief assists the den leader with meetings; helps lead activities, games, and ceremonies; helps Cub Scouts learn to be leaders; sets a good example; and encourages Cub Scouts to become Webelos Scouts and Webelos to become Boy Scouts.

The Den Chief has the following responsibilities:

- Know the purposes of Cub Scouting.
- Help Cub Scouts achieve the purposes of Cub Scouting.
- Be the activities assistant at den meetings.
- Set a good example in your attitude and uniform.
- Take part in weekly den meetings.
- Assist the den in its part of the monthly pack meeting program.
- Be a friend to the boys in the den.
- Know the importance of the monthly theme.
- Meet as needed with the adult leaders of the den, pack, and troop.

Who can be a Den Chief?

Basic requirements:

- Be a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer.
- Be mature enough to handle the job (for Boy Scouts, usually at least First Class rank).

Why are Den Chiefs such a great idea?

Because everybody wins!

- **The Pack and Den** get a helping hand. Den Chiefs can help teach the Scouting skills they've learned, and they can bring great enthusiasm and spirit to the job.
- **The Cub Scouts** get a role model who can teach them skills and inspire them to keep following the Scouting trail.
- **The Den Chief** can use this position for Boy Scout advancement or Crew recognition. More importantly, the Den Chief gains leadership experience, gains teaching skills, and builds confidence.
- **The Troop or Crew** gets the *perfect* opportunity to recruit future members from the Cub Scout program.

How does the Den Chief program work?

- The Pack and Troop/Crew work together to recruit Den Chiefs.
- A Den Chief is selected by the Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster or by the Crew President and Advisor.
- A Den Chief should be approved by the Cubmaster and Pack Committee, after which the Cubmaster will help match each Den Chief with a den.
- Every Den Chief should get trained!
- The Den Chief attends den and pack meetings and other den/pack activities. The Den Leader should give the Den Chief meaningful assignments to help run activities.
- A Den Chief is recognized right away with the Den Chief patch and cord.
- After a year of service, the Den Chief can earn the Den Chief Service Award.

Training Courses

Online Version

Every Den Chief should start by taking the BSA's online training. It covers the roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief, and it takes about 30 minutes to complete.

Live Training

It's a lot more fun to take Den Chief training in person! This half-day course is a great chance to meet fellow Den Chiefs, share ideas, and "learn by doing." Here's what it covers:

- The roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief
- Tips for working with Cub Scouts
- Games, songs, and other fun activities that you can bring back to your den

Adult leaders are also welcome to sit in and learn how a Den Chief can help your den or pack.

We have four courses on the calendar, all on Saturday mornings. Registration is open for three of them:

- October 14 in Northborough
- October 21 in Hanson/Halifax area TBD (register online)
- November 4 in Weymouth (register online)
- December 2 in Foxboro (register online)

Other Resources

- The **Den Chief Handbook** is available for purchase at the Scout Store (call ahead first to make sure it's in stock). It's also available whenever we offer a live Den Chief training course.
- The Tiger Cub Handbook, Wolf Handbook, Bear Handbook, and Webelos Handbook are also useful tools.
- Requirements for the Den Chief Service Award
- Boy Scout Trail is one of many websites loaded with songs, skits, games, and other activities to do with Cub Scouts.
- Macscouter.com has a useful guide for Den Leaders to help them work effectively with Den Chiefs.

The Den Chief Pledge

I promise to help the boys in my den to the best of my ability; to encourage, guide, and protect them in all den and pack activities; and to show them by my example what Boy Scouts of America stands for.

I will strive to be prompt and dependable, and to cooperate with the leaders in carrying out the den program.

As each boy becomes eligible to move along the Cub Scouting trail, I will encourage him and do all in my power to interest him in someday becoming a Boy Scout.

Purposes of Cub Scouting

- Character development
- Spiritual growth
- Good citizenship
- Sportsmanship and fitness
- Family understanding
- Respectful relationships
- Personal achievement
- Friendly service
- Fun and adventure
- Preparation for Boy Scouts

Den Chief’s Uniform

- Troop or crew uniform
- Den Chief patch on left sleeve
- Cub Scout den chief cord or Webelos den chief cord on left shoulder
- If you’ve taken Den Chief training, you can wear the Trained patch on the left sleeve below the Den Chief patch