

Important Note About Coronavirus and Scouting

Dear Scouting Families,

Recent concern regarding the COVID-19 (coronavirus) has generated much public attention and has caused significant change in travel, personal interactions and in guidelines prescribed by health officials for how to address the growing concern.

As an organization, we have discussed the best approach based on what we know today. At this point in time, we are proceeding forward with all scheduled meetings and events while following the guidelines and advise of medical professionals to help minimize risk to our general membership. Conducting our program elements is key to the success of Scouting but we are also aware of the concern from the general public. If at any point direction changes from state or local leaders, we will revisit and share updates with the council membership.

Recommended steps to remain healthy during this cold and flu season based on recommendations from the World Health Organization and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These precautions include:

- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water or clean them with an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick (this may include avoiding shaking hands or other customary greetings).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

- Maintain at least three feet (one meter) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Please visit this page for additional information: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

If any individuals are uncomfortable attending a meeting or event, we don't want anyone to feel pressure to attend. Each person can make the decision that they feel is in their best interest.

We hope that these preventative measures help to limit the risk and keep our youth and volunteers safe and healthy.

Yours in Scouting,

Michael Rotar
Council President

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

March Training Newsletter



March is "Fix Your Training Record" Month

The records show that about half of our volunteers aren't fully trained for their Scouting positions... but we know more than a few people have courses missing from their records. This could happen for many reasons: a longtime volunteer who got trained before the BSA started putting these things in a database, a course you took recently that never got reported, training you took before you were a registered leader (so we couldn't give you credit at the time), etc. Whatever the reason, this can be fixed!

This month, let's work together to clean up all those old missing records so you can get credit and we can stop nagging you about training you've already taken!

Please start by logging into <https://my.scouting.org>. Check your training completions. If something is missing, please contact your district training chair. If you're not sure who that is, contact the council training chair (see below, right side) to start. In general, we'll ask for proof in the form of a certificate or course director confirmation.

Upcoming Opportunities



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

Scout Leader Skills

- Mar 7** Scoutmaster/ASM Pos.-Spec. (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 14* Outdoor Ethics Guide Training (Canton)
- Mar 21** Troop Cmtee. Position-Spec. (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 21** Youth Protection (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 27-29, Apr 25-26** Wood Badge
- Apr 4-5** IOLS for Scouts BSA/Venturing (Plymouth)
- Apr 23** Youth Protection (Whitman)
- Apr 25-26** BALOO for Cub Leaders (Bolton)
- May 2* Cub Leader Position-Specific (location TBA)
- May 16-17** Leave No Trace Trainer Training (Sudbury)

Check council website for registration deadlines. Some are a week or more in advance, especially for overnights.

First Aid

- Mar 7** CPR/AED (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 10** CPR/AED (Sudbury)
- Mar 14-15** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Plymouth)
- Mar 21** Red Cross First Aid (Easton @MBU)
- Mar 24** Red Cross First Aid (Sudbury)
- Apr 14** CPR/AED (Sudbury)
- Apr 18-19** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Plymouth)
- Apr 28** Red Cross First Aid (Sudbury)
- May 2-3** Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Bolton)

Training Recognition Knots

Have you seen adult leaders wearing the knots below? These knots are our way of recognizing leaders who've taken training and put it to use. Earning and wearing a knot is a great way to show Scouts and parents that their leaders have invested their time in learning how to run a strong Scouting program.



This knot (the "key") can be earned by a unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, etc.) after three years of service.



This knot can be earned by any registered adult leader in a unit. Requirements include two years of service.



This knot can be earned by any Den Leader from Lion through Webelos/AOL. Requirements include one year of service.

Visit www.scouting.org/training/adult.aspx and scroll down to "Training Awards" to get the application forms with the requirements. Some of the requirements include helping your unit earn the Journey to Excellence award.



The Unit Leader's Award of Merit is also available. It can be earned by the unit leader at every level. Learn more at www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/unit-leader.

How to apply: Each form must be signed by your unit committee chair. Submit scanned or electronic applications to awards@mayflowerbsa.org. They will be routed for approval.

When are knots presented? They can be presented at any time of year. Knots can be given at a district dinner or roundtable, a unit event, or a regular unit meeting.

Climbing and COPE Training

Are you interested in becoming a certified climbing or COPE instructor? Our neighbors at Spirit of Adventure Council are running a course for our area on May 29-31 and June 12-14. Age 15 and up. To register, visit www.scoutspirit.org and visit their council calendar.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration: www.mayflowerbsa.org/training
- BSA online training: <https://my.scouting.org>
- Council training chair: Chris Lamie: chris.lamie@gmail.com
- Staff contact: Rick Riopelle: rick@mayflowerbsa.org

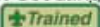
EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

Page 2: In-Person Training We Offer

The success of every Scouting program depends on having well-trained leaders. They not only bring a quality program to their units, but they also have more fun doing it. Everything we do in Scouting has a purpose. Training is the key to recognizing, understanding, and achieving the purpose behind every activity. **If you're a registered leader, there's a training course for you!**

Course	What it is	Who it's for	Time	When and where
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	A hands-on intro to outdoor skills for the Cub program, taught on an overnight campout. If your pack goes camping, at least one BALOO-trained adult must be there.	Cub Scout adults	1.5 days	2–3 times/year, spring and fall. Various camps.
Cub Leader Position-Specific Training (PST)	Classroom overview of the Cub Scouting program, advancement, leader roles, and resources to help you run a strong program. (Also available online.)	Cub Scout adults	4 hours	At least 4 times a year, mostly fall. Locations vary.
CPR/AED	American Red Cross certification in CPR and AED (defibrillator) use, valid for two years.	Adults and capable youth	3.5 hours	8+ times/year, often Nobscot or Canton.
Den Chief Training	Roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief. Includes tips, games, songs, and other fun activities for working with Cub Scouts. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA and Venturing youth	2–3 hours	4–6 times/year, mostly fall. Locations vary.
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)	Overnight intro to skills like map/compass, woods tools, cooking, and knots/lashings. Learn new skills, reinforce old ones, and build confidence to teach.	Scouts BSA and Venturing adults	1.5 days	2–3 times/year, spring and fall. Various camps.
Leave No Trace Trainer Training	Hands-on training in the seven principles of Leave No Trace and advanced camping methods.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	Spring and maybe fall at BSA camps.
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	Advanced leadership development course for youth. Ideal for youth who aspire to Senior Patrol Leader, ASPL, or other key leadership positions.	Scouts BSA and Venturing youth	1 week	2 times each summer: Squanto and Resolute.
Red Cross First Aid	American Red Cross certification in basic first aid skills, valid for two years.	Adults and capable youth	3.5 hours	8+ times/year, often Nobscot or Canton.
Scoutmaster/ASM PST	Fundamentals of running a successful youth-led troop, patrol method, and more. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	4–5 hours	6+ times/year. Locations vary.
Troop Committee PST	Learn how an effective Troop Committee can support a successful youth-led troop. (Also available online.)	Scouts BSA adults	2–3 hours	A few times/year. Locations vary.
Wilderness and Remote First Aid	Hands-on training to treat injuries in the backcountry. American Red Cross certification valid for two years.	Adults and youth 14+	2 full days	5 times/year. Nobscot/Squanto.
Wood Badge	The BSA's premier leadership skills course. Grow as a leader, apply leadership concepts and methods, and gain inspiration to deliver the promise of Scouting.	All adults	2 week-ends	1 or 2 times/year, at BSA camps.

Our in-person courses are organized and taught by trained volunteers who have been "in your shoes." Live training is a great way to meet fellow leaders, share ideas, get answers to questions, and get a chance to practice key skills. We try to offer these courses at a variety of times and locations, but we can also add certain courses on demand, if requested.

We offer other courses periodically, too. You can also take many training courses online at <https://my.scouting.org>. For most Scouting positions, online training covers all the requirements to be considered "trained" for your position and wear the  patch. See the requirements for your position in our Quick Guides at www.mayflowerbsa.org/training.

COPE and Climbing Course

Would you like to learn how you can safely manage or staff Cope and Climbing programs for your camp, district or unit? Join fellow Scouters this spring for a 2 weekend training course on 5/29-31 and 6/12-14. The Spirit of Adventure Council is hosting this training. It will be held at Base Camp, 411 Unquity Road, Milton, MA.

This course will help you to solidify your climbing knowledge and skills. It will cover current policies and standards of the Boy Scouts of America climbing program.

This course is intended for anyone 15 years of age or older (age exceptions with course leaders consent).

While there is an advantage to having a climbing background, one is not required.

You are welcome to bring your own climbing gear (harness, helmet and climbing shoes), but it is not required. All gear that is required for the completion of this course will be provided.

Upon successful completion of this course, based on experience, judgement and skill displayed, you will receive a certificate as a "BSA Climbing/Cope Instructor 1 (good for 1 year) or 2 (good for 3 years). Previously trained level 1 or 2 may use this course to be re-evaluated.

Lodging and meals for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday are included.

The cost for this course is: \$125.00

For more information, please contact Mike Jones.

Example of Weekend Syllabus
[Register Here](#)



February Roundtable – Cranberry Harbors

Below are the event flyers, training newsletter and other

information from the February Roundtable.

Cranberry Harbors District Dinner

2020 Scouting Report to the Commonwealth Flyer

2020 Staff Flyer Camp Resolute and Squanto

Cranberry Harbors Dist Pinewood Derby

Providence Bruins SPECIAL SCOUT MEET & GREET!

2020 Polar Challenge Freeze Out

Mayflower training news Feb 20

Outdoor Ethics Guide Course

Cranberry Harbors Roundtable Slides

An Important Update from the Mayflower Council

Dear Scouting Community,

Today, the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy to achieve two key objectives: equitably compensate victims who were harmed during their time in Scouting and continue to carry out Scouting's mission for years to come.

I want to highlight important points that are most relevant

to the Mayflower Council:

- **The Mayflower Council has not filed for bankruptcy.** Our Council is legally separate, distinct and financially independent from the national organization.
- **Scouting programs will continue.** This means that unit meetings and activities, district and council events, other Scouting adventures and countless service projects will take place as usual. In short, we expect no changes to the local Scouting experience in the Mayflower Council.
- **Scouting is safer now than ever before.** Over many years, we've developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization. I can also assure you that our volunteers and employees take youth protection extremely seriously and do their part to help keep kids safe.
- **Restricted donations – past, present or future – can only be used for their designated purpose.** In addition, Friends of Scouting (FOS) and other annual donations made to our Council will continue to fund necessary day-to-day expenses that are critical to local Scouting programs.

While we do not anticipate the national organization's bankruptcy filing will have any direct impact on the local Scouting experience or your involvement with our Council, I understand you may still have questions about these issues and things you will see in the news. To that end, the national organization has established a dedicated restructuring website, www.BSArestructuring.org.

This site includes a helpful Resources page, where you will find a short video explaining what Chapter 11 means for Scouting, as well as a FAQ. The site's Milestones page will be your best source for the latest updates throughout this process.

If you have any questions about local Scouting, you can always feel free to reach out directly to me or your usual contact within our Council.

Through your engagement and dedication to Scouting, the Mayflower Council will continue to bring adventures, values and lifelong benefits to youth and our communities for generations to come. Thank you for your trust and support as we continue this important mission.

Yours in Scouting,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryan Feather".

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO

New Headwaters Eagle Scouts – January 2020

Please join the Headwaters District Advancement team in congratulating the following Scouts on their achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout with the completion of their Board of Review this past month:

- Steven M. – Troop 100 Westborough
- Colin K. – Troop 92 Southborough
- Justin B. – Troop 2 Milford
- Andrew Z. – Troop 1 Southborough
- James G. – Troop 512 Hudson

- Nicholas D. – Troop 4 Hopkinton
- Noah A. – Troop 8080 Franklin
- Paul P. – Troop 51 Marlborough
- Reed P. – Troop 51 Marlborough
- Frederick P. – Troop 51 Marlborough
- Joshua D. – Troop 8080 Franklin
- Brendan J. – Troop 8080 Franklin
- William F. – Troop 99 Worcester
- Maxwell C. – Troop 100 Westborough

It is an honor and privilege to congratulate these exceptional Scouts for their achievement. As less than 5% of Scouts become Eagles, these are truly the best of the best, the most dedicated, and the most determined to succeed!

Congratulations!



Once an Eagle Scout, Always an Eagle Scout!



Buy a Patch & Help Scouts in Australia

When disaster strikes, Scouts step up.

They've been there after tornadoes, wildfires and hurricanes destroyed homes and uprooted lives in communities across our country.

This time, even though the disaster is a little farther from home, it affects the Scouting family all the same.

Scouts Australia is selling patches to benefit Scouts who lost their homes in the country's devastating wildfires. Their goal: to make sure these Scouts can "remain connected to

Scouting as they work through this traumatic period,” according to Scouts Australia’s official site.

Like the Boy Scouts of America, Scouts Australia is a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. There are more than 50 million Scouts across 171 countries, and these Aussie Scouts wear the purple World Crest just like we do.

Many BSA members were able to meet Australian Scouts at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree, held last summer at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia.

About the council patch order patch

The Mayflower Council is pleased to provide an opportunity for Scouts, Scouters, units and friends to order patches as part of group purchase to reduce shipping costs from Australia. The patches cost \$4 dollars each and include shipping to you once they are received. Click [here](#) to order your patches now. Order deadline is 11:59pm on February 28.

100% of the proceeds will benefit Scouts Australia.

“Australian Scouts thank our international Scouting friends for your support during this difficult time,” a message on the order page says.

Questions answered from January Roundtable

Hello Headwaters,

A lot of questions were asked at our January Roundtable! Below

are the answers to the questions we had.

1. How long can an unregistered youth attend unit events without registering? Are they covered by BSA insurance?
– A Scout may attend a trip, meeting or overnight to see if joining the unit is the right fit for them. For these occasional events, the prospective youth is covered by the BSA's liability insurance. Unit leaders should use their discretion and good judgement to avoid a youth from creating a pattern for participation without being registered.
2. What is the difference between a "Near Miss Incident" and an "Incident"
 1. A near miss is an incident that did not result in injury, illness, or damage by definition but that had the potential to have done so. Reporting these is important in order to track dangerous conditions or situations that arise during your unit's program.
 2. Here is the link to the BSA's incident reporting website: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/>
3. Does a Charter Organization's insurance become involved when an incident occurs? – This depends on the incident. At our Roundtable we talked about approved and not-approved Scouting activities that units can look up in the Guide to Safe Scouting (Link here). If a unit is intentionally not following the GSS, a Charter Organization could be liable for damages or injuries that occur. Charter Organization Representatives should communicate with Committee Chairs and Unit Leaders to ensure that Safe Scouting practices are being followed on trips and at meetings. (Link to Age Appropriate Guidelines for Scouting Activities and Link to Age Appropriate Camping Guidelines)
4. How many Scouts can share a tent at summer camp? What about when there is an odd number of Scouts? – The troop

should use their best judgement in this situation. There is no reason why a youth can not be alone in a tent if the Troop leaders expect them to be responsible. Troops probably shouldn't have a first year Scout alone in a tent if it can be avoided.

Make sure to sign up for Mayflower Today, the Council's weekly newsletter, at the bottom of the website! It has launched a new, biweekly segment called "You Ask, We Answer" where your questions will be answered and shared. Submit your questions at this link!

Please join us the first Thursday of the month at Milford High School at 7:00 pm for more news, training, information and Scouting connections!

February Roundtable

Below are the event flyers, training newsletter and other information from the February Roundtable.

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2020 Scouting Report to the Commonwealth Flyer

2020 Staff Flyer Camp Resolute and Squanto

Cranberry Harbors Dist Pinewood Derby

Providence Bruins SPECIAL SCOUT MEET & GREET!

2020 Polar Challenge Freeze Out

Post Road District Dinner

Headwaters District Dinner

Headwaters Pinewood

Mayflower training news Feb 20

Outdoor Ethics Guide Course

February Roundtable

Below are the event flyers, training newsletter and other information from the February Roundtable.

Summer Camp Openings

Square Knot

Report To The Commonwealth

Providence Bruins Game

Polar Challenge

New Member Coordinator

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February Training Newsletter

February Training Newsletter Page 2

District Nomination Form

District Award of Merit Page 2

District Award of Merit Form