

Youth Protection

Over the past two years, the BSA has 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 National ScoutsFirst 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.

In addition to updated training and resources, the BSA announced new policies to ensure compliance with mandatory training requirements. These policies have been in place in the NCAC for a number of years. These policies include:

- As of January 1, 2018, no new leader can be registered without first completing youth protection training.
- As of January 1, 2018, no council, regional or national leader will be allowed to renew their registration if

- they are not current on their youth protection training.
- As of September 1, 2017, no unit may re-charter without all leaders being current on their youth protection training. Registrars no longer have the ability to approve charters without full compliance.

****Of Special Note****

By *October 1, 2018*, all new and currently registered leaders will be required to complete the updated training. The enhanced and updated content will allow leaders and councils to comply with all current legal requirements. While this may be inconvenient for some, it reflects the BSA's commitment to the safety of all youth.

For camps this summer across the BSA:

Adults accompanying units on activities who are present at the activity for 72 hours or more, must be registered and take Youth Protection Training. The 72 hours need not be consecutive. If your unit desires to set a more strict policy, like ALL adults going to camp must be registered and have current YPT, that is certainly permitted.

This training is now available on my.Scouting at <https://my.scouting.org/>

You may download a "HOW TO GUIDE FOR TAKING YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING"

Introducing ScoutsFirst Helpline

ScoutsFirst is a new national tool to help with questions, concerns and reporting. The ScoutsFirst Helpline also makes it

easier for volunteers and families to address dangerous situations. If a leader or parent has a question about a situation, or something they've seen or if they want to report a possible incident, they can contact the Helpline for assistance. In cases of abuse, they should also notify the local authorities. **ScoutsFirst Helpline (844)-Scouts1 or (844)726-8871.**

ScoutsFirst for Counseling and Support. The Boy Scouts of America is committed to providing ongoing support to victims and their families, including counseling. We want to help victims heal, on their own terms, with a professional counselor of their choice. Through the ScoutsFirst Helpline, the Boy Scouts of America offers assistance with counseling to any youth member, former youth member, or the family of any youth member who suffered abuse during their time in Scouting. To reach the ScoutsFirst Helpline, call **(844)-Scouts1 or (844)726-8871**, or email **scouts1st@scouting.org**. Support is available 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Coming Soon:

In-person youth protection training available June 2018.

Spanish-language resources will be available later in August 2018.

Youth protection training for youth members will be available in 2019. More details will be shared as they become available.

For more Youth Protection resources check out,
<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>

Patriot's Day

The Marlborough and Canton Service Centers will be closed on Monday, April 16th in honor of Patriot's Day.

Blue District Needs A New Name

Who is eligible to participate: Persons living in or associated with scout units confined within the towns of Hudson, Marlborough, Northborough, Southborough, Westborough, Ashland, Hopkington, Milford, Hopedale, Mendon, Franklin, & Bellingham

When is the Deadline: Submissions will be accepted until Sunday April 22nd then a committee of "Blue District" stakeholders will make a final selection of a new name which will be submitted to Council VP of District Operations for final approval.

How Do I Enter: By completing the below form prior to Sunday April 22nd

ENTER HERE

New Adult Paper Applications

The Boy Scouts of America National Council has released a new version of the adult paper application. Physical copies are available at our Service Center. Here is the digital version.

If you have a physical copy of the new application, please make sure that the Unit Copy and the Applicant Copy have the social security number blacked out. If you have a copy where it's not, use a black marker to block it out. Help to keep our volunteer information secure.

Taking The Confusion Out Of Applications

With spring recruitment just around the corner, we have included a cheat sheet on how to fill out the New Adult and Youth Applications. As always, if you have any questions, please contact your District Executive or call: 508-872-6551. All applications should be sent to:

Mayflower Council, BSA

2 Mount Royal Avenue, Suite 100

Marlborough, MA 01752

Adult Application

Youth Application

Scout Days at Fenway Park

Kick-off the summer with your Cub Scout Pack, Boy Scout Troop or Venture Crew, family, and friends watching the Boston Red Sox!

Two dates available this year:

Sunday, April 8, Red Sox vs Rays – this date includes a Red Sox Scout Day patch and a pre-game parade on the field.

Sunday, May 27, Red Sox vs. Braves – this date includes a Red Sox Scout Day patch.

Tickets are extremely limited so place your order today to avoid disappointment. We'll see you at Fenway!

Wednesday, March 14th

The Canton Service Center will be closed on Wednesday , March 14th.

The Marlborough Service Center will be opening with a two hour delay.

Postponed – Merit Badge University 2018

Due to the anticipated weather and power outages expected, it has been decided to postpone tomorrow's Merit Badge University 2018. There are currently communities without power and many roads are unsafe. The safety of Scouts and Family is our first priority. Please stay safe and inform your Scouts, units, and leaders. We look forward to seeing you on the second Saturday, March 10th.

More information will be forthcoming.

In honor of President's Day, the Marlborough and Canton Service Centers will be closed on Monday, February 19th.

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.