

2016 Leaders & Parents Guide



Dear Scouts and Scouters,

Summer camp is the heart of a great troop program. We want scouts to know that summer camp is all about opportunities for personal growth, adventure, and advancement! It is important that all Scouts have the opportunity and ability to have a great summer camp experience. We had a great summer and look forward to building upon it this upcoming year, our theme this summer is Mountain Man!

Our council owns and operates Onteora Scout Reservation, in Livingston Manor, NY. Onteora Scout Reservation is a 1,400-acre camp located in the Catskill Forest Preserve, approximately 6 miles from the Livingston Manor exit (Exit 96) on NYS Route 17. Located above the 2,000' elevation, the camp is heavily forested and features fine Brook Trout fishing in Orchard Lake. Directions to the camp can be downloaded from Onteora Online, the camp website at www.trcbsa.org.

We have a brief presentation that demonstrates the fun and adventure you can have at Onteora. We can visit a Court of Honor or Parents' night and answer questions about the camp and enhanced facilities and operations, talk about this summer's exciting new programs, and answer any other questions your scouts may have regarding Onteora. Our Camp Promotion Teams would love to talk to your troop and your families about Onteora Scout Reservation.

Please schedule a camp promotion presentation for January-March; for Theodore Roosevelt units, contact your District Camping Chair. For our out-of-council guests, please contact me through the Council Service Center at 516.797.7600.

Yours in Scouting,

Matthew Conlon
Camp Director
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Robert "Big Daddy"
Thompson
Program Director

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HISTORY, TRADITIONS, AND HERITAGE

OSR sits on 1,400 pristine acres, in the heart of the NY Catskill Forest Preserve, with elevations reaching over 2,000 feet. Our location inside the "blue line" gives us the unique opportunity to truly know the great outdoors. Our Orchard Lake, with its native trout and other exciting fishing, combined with our rugged land and trails, makes OSR the prime place for a Boy Scout Summer Camp Program. The property on which the reservation is located has a long and rich history, which begins with the Lenni-Lenape Indians. They used the Sun Trail to go from the Hudson River to the Delaware. Later that same trail was enlarged by John Hunter and in 1815 became known throughout the area as the Hunter Road. Since it was the first road in the area, many traders and farmers made great use of it. In the 1880's, the property became one of the favorite fishing spots of the area, and a man named Stoddard Hammond built a large manor house on the property. He created Orchard Lake and a fish hatchery for trout fishing, in the 1890's. The Orchard Lake Club was established shortly thereafter, to enjoy the excellent trout fishing, noted in early 20th century fishing magazines.



By the turn of the century, what is now the Al Nassau area of the reservation was then a small town consisting of five houses, a logging camp, and a mill for the Resherif Lumber Company. To this day, the foundations of the houses and mill can be seen.

During the "Roaring 20's", the area was the property of the New York Trout and Skeet Club. Many people came to the area from the city to fish and vacation. During WWII, due to the rationing of gasoline, the club was forced out of business. When put up for sale in 1942, the club was bought by Mr. Charles R. Vose for \$20,000. He used it as a private retreat until 1955 when the Nassau County Council bought the property, with the help of a donation from Mr. Alfred H. Capery. Many generations of Scouts and Scouters have enjoyed the property since its purchase and the establishment of the base camp in 1956.

DIRECTIONS

- Take the Cross Island Parkway north to either the Whitestone or Throgs Neck Bridge;
- Pay toll and follow signs to the Cross Bronx Expressway (CBE) westbound to the Major Deegan Expressway (I-87) Exit north;
- Follow the Major Deegan Expressway north, which becomes the NYS Thruway at the NYC line;
- Follow the NYS Thruway to NY Route 17 west at exit 16; (note - Woodbury Commons, a major shopping outlet complex is the exit immediately after entering Route 17)
- Follow NY Route 17 to exit 96, Livingston Manor; Turn left from the exit ramp onto DeBruce Road;
- Follow DeBruce Road about 2.2 miles to Grooville Road and make a left (there is a sign for OSR);
- Follow Grooville Road about 4.5 miles to the entrance of the camp. Bare left at the camp sign, go past the ranger's house, and follow the dirt road, down to the main parking lot - there is a 10MPH speed limit in camp... Check-in at the Administration Bldg.

REGISTRATION FOR PROGRAMS

Onteora Scout Reservation is accepting registrations based on the following schedule:

Week 1 JULY 10-16	Home Troop Units Council Provisional Troops	Counselor in Training Program
Week 2 JULY 17 - 23	Home Troop Units Council Provisional Troops	Counselor in Training Program
Week 3 JULY 24 - 30	Home Troop Units Council Provisional Troops	Counselor in Training Program
Week 4 JULY 31 - Aug 6	Home Troop Units Council Provisional Troops	Counselor in Training Program
Week 5 Aug 7 - 13	Home Troop Units Council Provisional Troops Venture Crews	Counselor in Training Program

FEE STRUCTURE:

Camp Fee for Camp of \$400 per scout, including provisional scouts.

\$100 deposit (per scout) paid on March 15th with remaining balance (\$300 per scout) due by May 15th, 2016.

Fee's paid after May 15th, 2016 \$440 per scout.

Additional weeks to appear as follows: 1st Week \$400, 2nd Week \$360, 3rd Week \$320, 4th Week \$280.

Leader fee's first 2 leaders per unit free after that 1 free leader for each additional 10 scouts attending. For example 10 scouts 2 free leaders 20 scouts 3 free leaders 21 scouts 4 free leaders Additional adults \$225 fee.

CAMPING DATES:

- Staff Set Up Week June 25-July 4, 2016
- Soft Week opening of Camp July 5-9, 2016
- Week1 Resident July 10-16, 2016
- Week 2 Resident July 17-23, 2016
- Week 3 Resident July 24-30, 2016
- Week 4 Resident July 30-Aug 6, 2016
- Week 5 Resident Aug 7-13, 2016
- Eagle Week program will be a part of all 5 weeks

OPERATING SCHEDULE

Onteora Scout Reservation operates from Sunday afternoon until Saturday morning. This schedule allows us to provide staff continuity and strong service, while a troop is at camp, as well as giving the staff time to ensure campsites are ready for Sunday's check-in.

Units that are staying in camp for two weeks should contact the Camp Director beforehand to make the necessary arrangements for the weekend, between the two weeks. The camp office can provide you with information on local attractions, community events, and other day trips for your unit during your stay.

CAMP FORMS AND GUIDES

Camp forms and guides are available at

<http://www.trcbsa.org/Resources/Forms/Camping/BoyScoutResidentCamp>

CAMP ACCREDITATION AND SAFETY

Our Camp complies with the NYS Department of Health regulations and is Nationally Accredited annually by the Boy Scouts of America. This accreditation is all encompassing and includes standards that mandate the Certification of our Camp Director, Program Director, Camp Commissioner, Medical Director, Ranger, Aquatics Director, Shooting Sports Director, Scout Craft Director, Ecology Director, ATV Director, and Dan Beard Director.



CAMP PROGRAMS

In Scouting, the Summer Camp Program provides the culmination of the Scouting Year. The Program at Onteora is Top Notch. The sheer amount and variety of Program is sure to please units of all kinds. There are so many things to do at camp, that it's important to find the right mix.

OUR PROGRAM

The Onteora program offers fun and adventure with a specific goal. The Theodore Roosevelt Council provides a program for Troop Leaders to use in helping their Scouts grow and learn. This program is developed to provide activities for the individual Scout, for buddies, for patrols, and for the Troop as a whole.

- **BOY** - Merit badge programs and advancement opportunities are designed to help the Scout meet his own personal advancement goals. In addition, awards are handed out during the week to individuals who demonstrate particular skills in certain areas.
- **BUDDY** - Scouts should always travel in at least a group of two, so certain activities have been prepared during the week which will encourage this to work, and Scouts will have fun together.
- **PATROL** - Baden-Powell once said that the patrol was the secret for the success of Scouting. One job of the summer camp is to strengthen patrols, and events are planned throughout the week to do just that.
- **TROOP** - Troops will also have the opportunity to compete and work with each other in demonstrating their unit pride and troop skill. Unit visitations and recognitions for special achievements as a Unit will be conducted daily.

Every troop is encouraged to use the Individual/Troop Program Schedule along with the Merit Badge and Activity Schedule to plan their week. There is simply not enough time to do everything at camp, so plan wisely. Sample troop program schedules are available at www.trcbsa.org/resources/forms/camping/boyscoutresidentcamp

Be sure to plan your program accordingly to your wants and needs.

TROOP PROGRAM

Be sure to leave yourself enough time to conduct a quality Troop Program. Rank Advancement, Training, Campsite Improvement Projects, and Cracker-barrels are just a few of things that may be right for your Troop.

CUSTOM TROOP PROGRAM

Want to do something that you haven't found in the regularly scheduled program? Have a Troop Tradition you would like to continue? The Onteora Staff is here to assist you. Talk to the Program Director if you would like to design a Custom Troop Program. We will do everything we can to make it work!



PROGRAM AREAS

Each of our Program Areas has enthusiastic and knowledgeable staffs that have been well-trained. The activities that go on in our Program Areas are what you come to camp for! The camp has its own equipment for you to use. **Please do not bring Your Own Firearms, Ammunition, Archery Equipment, or Boats.**

AQUATICS

Check out the Aquatics Program at Orchard Lake! All Aquatic Programming is under the supervision of a Nationally Certified BSA Aquatics Director. All of our Aquatics Staff are BSA Lifeguards and hold CPR Certifications. Our Boating area has **Paddle Boards, Rowboats, Canoes, Kayaks, and Sailboats**. Fishing poles are available for sale at the Trading Post. **Adult Leaders are asked to serve as additional lifeguards in their free time.**



CRAFT LODGE

Everyone should leave camp with something they made! Work on a variety of craft projects and merit badges. Work on making or updating your Troop Plaque. This area is PERFECT for scouts of all ages.

DAN BEARD *(First Year Camper)*

We strongly recommend that all first time summer campers participate in the Dan Beard Program.

The Dan Beard Program focuses on:

1. Camp Orientation/Familiarity
2. Rank Advancement Instruction, through First Class
3. Scout and Citizenship Training

The Dan Beard Program meets at the Cou-Tou-See Campsite every weekday. There is a Half day program in morning or afternoon, to be selected prior to unit arrivals at camp.



FIELD SPORTS *(New Area: James E. West Shelter)*

Our Field Sports program is the place not only for merit badges, but planning any games or sports you troop wants to try. So, if you're interested in shooting rockets, riding mountain bikes, or playing some Can Jam, meet with your Field Sports Staff.



THE GLAIZE

In 1794, when the zone of contact had reached the Eastern Midwest, a single northern Ohio town, "the Glaize," was made up of hundreds of Shawnee, Miami, and Delaware Indians, British and French traders and artisans, several Nanticokes, Cherokees, and Iroquois, a few African American and Caucasian American captives, and Caucasian Americans who had married in to or been adopted by Indian families. Come visit this historical Utopia at the **TR Shelter**, where you will have the opportunity to participate in activities like blacksmithing, tomahawk throwing, native Pow Wow dancing, and Mountain Man rendezvous.

NATURE/ECOLOGY *(New Area: Bobcat Shelter)*

Our Nationally Certified BSA Ecology Director and his/her trained staff will be sure to help your scouts earn Ecology Badges and get a better understanding of our land, air, water, and life systems. Nature-Ecology is located at the **Bobcat Shelter**. Camp conservation projects are available for units that want to do troop team-building, develop youth leadership, and improve their camp.

SCOUTCRAFT

Our Nationally Certified BSA Scout Skills Director and his/her trained staff can demonstrate a huge variety of outdoor and scouting skills. Program takes place at the Otter Shelter. Join the fun!

SHOOTING SPORTS

Check the Program Schedule and decide when you're going up to the Ranges. Whether it's Archery, Bolt-Action .22 Caliber Single Shot Rifles, or 12 and 20 Gauge Shotguns, Shooting Sports will teach you how to do it safe, and then let you test your skills. A Nationally Certified BSA Shooting Sports Director runs all the ranges with his trained staff. Participants must be **12+** for rifles and **13+** for shotguns. NEW this summer Paint Ball Range!



CLIMBING

This year we will welcome the return of the Climbing Wall and Zip Line and will offer a unique program area for our scouts 14 and older. Don't miss this opportunity to challenge yourself and experience something new!

OLDER BOY

In our Older Boy Program area, taking place at the Maintenance Shop, we will offer Farm Mechanics, Home Repair, Welding, and Electrical Merit Badges. We are focused on working in and around the trades programs to spike an industrial interest with a multitude of hands on activities and experiences.



COMMUNICATIONS

Scouts will have the opportunity to earn Communications, Theatre, Public Speaking, Cinematography, Photography, Journalism, Music, Bugling, Citizenship in the Nation, and Citizenship in the World. Join us at the Council House for the experience of a lifetime!

TRADING POST

Our Trading Post Program focuses on fiscal literacy and management, alongside personal financial and career development. We offer Personal Management and Entrepreneurship to enforce these values for our Scouts.

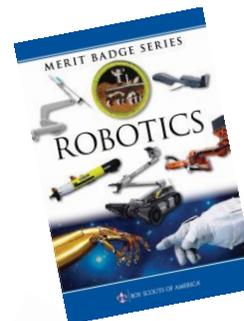


HEALTH & SAFETY

Our Health & Safety Program Area focuses on delivering basic First Aid and Emergency Response Training to our Scouts. Merit badges include First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, and Search & Rescue.

STEM (Council House)

In our unique STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Program, Scouts will have the opportunity to participate in merit badges including but not limited to Robotics, Engineering, Game Design, Inventing, Computers, and more! This Nationally recognized BSA program is at the forefront of Scouting and United States Educational Initiatives. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in this exciting new camp program!



ATV (ATV Track)

The ATV RiderCourse provides a fast-paced half-day hands-on training session, which includes pre-ride inspection, starting and stopping, quick turns, hill riding, emergency stopping, swerving, and riding over obstacles. You'll also learn about protective gear, local regulations, places to ride, and environmental concerns. And, of course, you'll get the opportunity to test out our new ATV track and All-Terrain Trails.



GENERAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00		Revile and Troop Assembly in-site				
7:45		Camp Assembly and Flag Ceremony				
8:00		BREAKFAST				
9:00		MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions
10:00	Camp Staff Meeting	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions
11:00		MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions
12:15	Camp Check-in, Medical Re-checks, Swim Test, and Site Setup	Emergency Drill @ LH	Camp Assembly			
12:30		LUNCH				
1:30		Troop Open Program – SM Merit Badge Program				
3:00		MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions
4:00		MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions	MB Sessions
5:45	Camp Assembly and Flag Ceremony					
6:00	DINNER (Wednesday Buccaneers Themed Dinner)					
7:00	Adult and leaders Meeting.			OA Ice Cream Social		
AFTER DINNER	Evening Program	Evening Program	Evening Program	Evening Program	Evening Program	Evening Program
8:30	Opening Campfire	Night Program	Night Program	Night Program	Night Program	Closing Campfire
10:00	Lights out – Quite Time from 10 pm to 7 am next day					

CAMP MERIT BADGES (Subject to change)

The merit badges *ARE EXAMPLES* of what is to be offered at Onteora, this year:

COMMUNICATIONS	Journalism, Cinematography, Photography, Music, Bugling, Theatre, Citizenship in Nation/World
AQUATICS:	Canoeing, Kayaking, Lifesaving, Rowing, Small-Boat Sailing, Swimming
HEALTH & SAFETY:	Emergency Preparedness, First Aid, Search & Rescue
CRAFT LODGE:	Art, Basketry, Leatherwork, Wood Carving, Sculpture
FIELD SPORTS:	Athletics, Fishing, Personal Fitness, Sports
THE GLAIZE:	Archaeology, Indian Lore, Metalwork
NATURE:	Sustainability, Energy, Environmental Science, Fish & Wildlife Mgmt., Forestry, Geology, Mammal Study, Nature, Reptile & Amphibian Study, Soil and Water Conservation, Weather
SCOUT CRAFT:	Backpacking, Camping, Cooking, Geocaching, Hiking, Orienteering, Pioneering
SHOOTING SPORTS:	Archery, Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting
OLDER BOY PROGRAM	Electrical, Home Repair, Farm Mechanics, Welding
STEM	Robotics, Engineering, Game Design, Inventing, Computers
CLIMBING	Climbing
TRADING POST	Personal Management & Entrepreneurship

SELECTING MERIT BADGES

Scoutmasters must approve every Merit Badge that a scout takes, and should be sure that he is taking age/experience appropriate badges. Scoutmasters and scouts should review requirements and determine what pre-camp preparations may be needed to complete the badge at camp. These Merit Badges are marked with an asterisk (*) on the Merit Badge/Activity Schedule that **will be release as part of the Program guide, on March 15, 2016. Subsequently, the online Merit Badge Registration System will become active, on April 15, 2016.** These badge requirements needed to be done before camp (Scoutmaster must provide written record of completion) or after camp (scouts will receive a Partial Completion card and can finish the badge at home).

Scouts need to come to the first class of each Merit Badge they wish to work on with a completed "Blue Card" Application for the Merit Badge, filled out and signed by the Scoutmaster. Blue Cards are available for purchase at the Trading Post.

Our Merit Badge Counselors have structured their classes to be sure to give the scouts enough time to travel to their next activity. Special attention needs to be paid to the locations of Merit Badge Sessions. Be sure that all scouts' schedules take distance and terrain into account. However, classes start on time and continued lateness needs to be avoided.

All units earning advancement in camp must submit the report to their Council.

PARTIAL COMPLETIONS

If a scout does not complete all of the requirements for a merit badge during the week, he will receive a "Partial Completion" and have his Blue Card returned to him, indicating the requirements that he **did complete**. Scouts can earn the badge by completing the requirements with a counselor at home, or at camp next year. Scouts cannot "fail" Merit Badges; there are only **different levels of completion**.

NOTE: Please check the most recent merit badge pamphlet for the most current information. All Scouts should bring paper and pencil for merit badge classes and money to buy merit badge pamphlets.

Scouts will not be permitted to be in Merit Badge classes with cellular phones on, nor will they be held by staff members at aquatic facilities.

NEW CAMPERS

Onteora has the Dan Beard program for the first year camper. Primary focus should be on the Tenderfoot, Second, and First Class skills taught in the program. We recommend new scouts take **1-2** badges so that they have the time to work with the Dan Beard program and participate in unit and other camp activities. We strongly recommend that all first time summer campers participate for:

1. Camp Orientation/Familiarity
2. Rank Advancement Instruction through First Class.
3. Camp and Citizenship Training



The Dan Beard Program meets at the Cou-Tou-See Campsite every weekday.

Suggested merit badges for first year campers:

Art	Great for all ages. Can be completed at camp.	\$5 to \$10
Basketry	Materials may be purchased in the Trading Post.	\$25 to \$30
Fish and Wildlife Management	Any Scouts may take	None
Fishing	Orchard Lake is home to native brook trout.	None
Leatherwork	Great for younger Scouts. Materials can be purchased in the Trading Post.	\$10 to \$15
Mammal Study	Writing intensive course.	None
Nature	Any Scouts may take	None
Space Exploration	Rocket kits will be purchased at the Trading Post	\$20 to \$25
Sports	Please provide verification of participation in team sports.	None

2nd YEAR CAMPERS

Scouts back for their second year can build upon their skills in earning their Second Class and First Class awards by earning more challenging merit badges and participating in the evening Onteora programs. We recommend scouts take **3-4** badges a week so that they have the time to experience the rest of camp.

Suggested merit badges for 2nd year campers:

Astronomy	Recommended for older Scouts because of complex material. Will require some work at night, dependent on weather.	No costs
Camping	Scouts will only complete some requirements at camp: others must be done with home Troop	No costs
Cooking	Recommended for Scouts who are 1 st Class rank. Now Eagle Required	No costs
First Aid	Complete all first aid requirements through 1 st Class rank.	No costs
Forestry	Extensive field and class work.	No costs
Indian Lore	Can be completed at camp.	\$10 to \$15
Metalwork	Scouts will learn about the properties of metal, how to use simple metalworking tools, and basic metalworking techniques.	No costs
Pioneering	Recommended for Scouts who have completed 1 st Class knot-tying requirements.	No costs
Reptile & Amphibian Study	Bring colored pencils.	No costs
Rowing	Scouts must have passed the swimmers test.	No costs
Rifle Shooting	Rifle fee is \$15. Fee provides unlimited shooting during class and free shoot periods until qualification is reached. Scouts must be 12 years or older.	\$15
Shotgun Shooting	Shotgun fee is \$25. Proficiency and experience is required. Scouts 1 st Class and 14 years or older. Will require practice during Free Shoot.	\$25
Swimming	Must pass swimmers test. A long sleeve, tightly-woven shirt, long pants, shoes, socks, and belt are needed.	No costs
Weather	Great for scouts of all ages.	No costs
Wilderness Survival	Recommended for those with camping experience. Bring materials for req. 5 (can also be purchased at Trading Post).	No costs

VETERAN CAMPERS

The Older Boy Program Area is designed to provide more opportunity to our seasoned campers. In addition, below listed are some highly recommended badges, for our more experienced and well-matured Scouts.

Suggested merit badges for veteran campers:

Archaeology	Scouts should have interest in this field and can do research.	None
Archery	Proficiency and strength are necessary for completion. Not recommended for younger scouts. 2 nd Class and above.	None
Athletics	A great badge to learn more about training and physical fitness.	None
Backpacking	Recommended for those with camping experience.	None
Canoeing	For older scouts with physical endurance. Scouts must have passed the swimmers test.	None
Climbing	A chance to learn a level of confidence and Challenges that will last you a life time	None
Electrical	A chance to get to learn a trade	None
Energy	Scouts will need to cite articles and perform surveys at home and school.	None
Sustainability	Recommended for older scouts because of difficult concepts. Will require work outside of class.	None
Farm Mechanics	Come learn about tractor repair and maintenance of farm equipment	None
Robotics	Difficult for very young scouts.	None
Hiking	Document hikes taken with the Home troop. Work on req. 5, 6, and 7 before camp.	None
Home Repair	A chance to be more efficient with general repairs around the house	None
Kayaking	Scouts must have passed the swimmers test.	None
Lifesaving	Young scouts should not attempt this badge. Must have earned the Swimming MB before camp. Bring Lone-sleeve	None
Orienteering	Difficult for very young scouts.	None
Personal Fitness	A 12-week training program with doctor and parent endorsement must be planned completed before arrival at camp.	None
Small Boat Sailing	Scouts must have passed the swimmers test.	None
Soil and Water Conservation	Can be completed at camp.	None

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS FOR OLDER SCOUTS

Specialty programs are designed to allow older Scouts and leaders at Onteora to explore these areas of interest in greater depth.

BSA LIFEGUARD

Earn BSA Lifeguard, Aquatic Supervision: Swimming and Water Rescue. First Aid and Professional Rescuer CPR/AED certifications need to be earned prior to camp or after completion - must be finished within 180 days of starting the program.

Participant qualifications: Minimum Age: 15; Swimming MB & Lifesaving MB; 1st Class rank or recommendation of unit leader.

The purpose of the BSA Lifeguard is to provide an intensive training program in aquatics safety for older Scouts and adult leaders.

Completion of the course earns participants a 3 year lifeguard certification, recognized at all BSA camps and events. In many states, BSA lifeguards may work at public beaches and camps.

Our BSA Lifeguard Program will also provide participants with training, information and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to swimming emergencies during unit swimming activities. It expands the awareness instruction provided by **Safe Swim Defense** training. Persons completing the training should be better able to assess their preparation, to supervise unit swimming events. Skills training will include



- Multiple rescue techniques, including rescue from a watercraft
- swimming extension rescue
- active and passive drowning rescue
- submerged victim rescue
- First Aid and Professional Rescuer CPR/AED

PATH TO EAGLE Program – No longer a stand alone camp will be a part of the day to day camp program which scouts star to life can sign up to take. Programs will be offered during afternoon and evening programs

Participant Qualifications: Minimum Age: 14; Star or Life rank, or recommendation of unit leader. The Path to Eagle Camp is designed to prepare Scouts to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. Each day, Scouts will have the opportunity to attend an Eagle Scout preparation class..

- **EAGLE PROCESS:** Scouts will go over the process to becoming an Eagle. The topics include rank advancement, leadership, and required merit badges.
- **LIFE TO EAGLE PACKET:** Scouts will be shown how to fill out the Packet with all the necessary information needed to prepare it properly.
- **EAGLE PROJECTS:** Scouts will be given examples of leadership styles for Eagle Projects and project planning. Scouts will be given the opportunity to present their thoughts and ideas on at least 3 projects proposals as well.
- **EAGLE BOARD OF REVIEW:** Scouts will be taught what the Eagle Boards expectations will be of them.
- **EAGLE COURT OF HONOR:** Scouts will learn how to prepare for their Court of Honor. Time frames needed and suggested guest list information, are some of the topics to be discussed.

A mock project will also be conducted to provide practical experience in the planning and execution of a project that demonstrates leadership.



COUNSELOR –IN –TRAINING PROGRAM



The Counselor in Training/Apprentice Program is an intensive training program designed to improve the leadership and instructional skills of scouts from age fourteen and up. The skills a scout will learn, as a CIT will help him to become an effective leader in his unit, his daily life, and potentially as a member of the Onteora Staff. The scout needs to be 14 years of age by June 1, 2016.

Much like the training for volunteer leaders in the Boy Scouts of America, the Counselor in Training Program is divided into two Program Specific Weeks. The **course** focuses on personal growth for the CIT. By concentrating on self-confidence, self-motivation, and initiative, CIT's are able to realize a higher level of potential. CIT's are trained in leadership development and teamwork by operating within

the group, to accomplish tasks. There is an emphasis on team unity and learning how to effectively set the example. Written evaluations help to gauge progress and improvement. This is a necessary preparation to be successful as a CIT and future staff member.

These Program Specific weeks are designed to give CIT's the opportunity to serve under the tutelage of the Onteora Staff. The goal for the CIT is to gain a working knowledge of the responsibilities of a staff member as well as getting a clearer picture of the structure of the Onteora Staff and its varied departments. Staff will work side-by-side and coach the CIT's in the different program offerings, in their respective departments.

COUNCIL PROVISIONAL TROOP

Scouts who are unable to attend summer camp with their troop or want to go alone, can attend camp as part of a Provisional Troop at Onteora. Scouts sign up individually for this program and are grouped together with other single scouts.

The Troop is supervised by full time staff that ensure that the Scouts' week at camp is the best it can be. To join the provisional troop, please download or complete online the registration form (available after March 1, 2014). All information must be completed for the registration to be processed. Omitting information will delay the registration process.

1. Complete Contact Information: This information is used by the Council office staff to contact you in the event that there is a problem with your registration. Complete, accurate information will assist us in serving you better. All information will be used for camp related correspondence only.
2. Choose Your Week: Pay close attention to the week you select. Dates are NOT the same as last year.

Week 1 JULY 10-16

Week 2 JULY 17-23

Week 3 JULY 24-30

Week 4 JULY 30-Aug 6

Week 5 AUG 7-13

3. Return the registration form with payment in full. Registering early will help ensure that you get the week you requested. Please have a second week in mind, in case we cannot accommodate your first choice.

Mail forms to: Council Provisional Troop Registration, Theodore Roosevelt Council BSA, 544 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758.

4. Complete the medical form and appendix for NYS compliance and bring it with you when you arrive on the first day of camp. Boys will not be permitted to stay at camp without a completed medical form.

ARRIVING AT CAMP

The check in process for provisional campers is the same as for other Scouts. **The camp gates open at 11 Am. Plan on arriving at, or shortly after, 11 AM.** The camp staff will greet parents and Scouts at the gate, and assist with a camp tour and the dissemination of other important information. **Units will be allowed to have one vehicle in their campsite for the duration of your stay. The purpose is for emergency use only.** The Provisional Scoutmaster will take charge of the boys and guide them through the check-in process, which will include a medical screening and a swimming test.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS

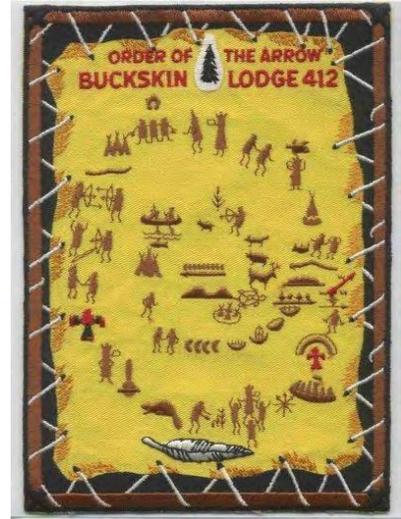
Provisional campers are housed in 2-person canvas platform tents in the camp's provisional campsite. The Provisional Scoutmasters will have his/her own tent and will keep a close watch over the boys. Meals will be served in the Long House Dining Hall, except when our camp program encourages in-site cooking. Scouts should bring a mess kit to be prepared for in-site meal or even an overnight if they sign up for our Older Boy Program "camp-in-camp" program.

Onteora Scout Reservation complies with the regulations of the NYS Department of Health for accommodations and food safety.

ORDER OF THE ARROW - BUCKSKIN LODGE

The Order of the Arrow is a vital part of the summer camp program and is fully present and visible many times during your stay at Onteora. The purpose of the [Order of the Arrow](#) is to recognize those Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law. Those who are elected candidates and wish to complete their Ordeal at Onteora may do so. The richness and folklore of the [Lenni-Lenape](#) lives on through the traditions of our lodge. The Order of the Arrow is a vital part of the summer camp program. The purpose of the Order of the Arrow is four fold:

- To recognize those campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their everyday lives, and by such recognition cause other campers to conduct themselves in such a manner as to warrant recognition.
- To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit.
- To promote Scout camping, and help strengthen the district and council camping program, both, year-round and in the summer camp
- To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.
- Ordeals to be offered between weeks 1 and 2 and weeks 3 and 4. Ordeal will start on Friday at the conclusion of the campfire and run thru Saturday Dinner



As such, Buckskin Lodge will continue to maintain a high Order of the Arrow presence at summer camp in the above areas. Buckskin Lodge will offer service and fellowship opportunities throughout the summer, in addition to an Ordeal and Brotherhood ceremony.

CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

Current fees are posted on the roster form (download from the camp website). Upon arrival at Onteora Scout Reservation, leaders should turn in a roster and the additional fees for both Ordeal and Brotherhood Candidates upon check-in. Please submit the OA Candidate Registration form with individual candidate registrations attached, to the Camp OA Coordinator. Buckskin Lodge will be handling its own paperwork at summer camp, so please do not include any Order of the Arrow fees with any other camp fees.

** Fees includes any respective meals provided

OA FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND

Buckskin Lodge is pleased to host a Fellowship Weekend for Scouts who have summer school or work commitments that do not allow them to attend summer camp. **The Fellowship Weekend is scheduled on the weekend between Week 1 and Week 2 (July 8th - 10th, 2016).** Ordeal and Brotherhood candidates who cannot attend the fall and spring weekends are welcome to join the brothers of the lodge for this opportunity. Registration forms will be posted by the lodge in the late spring, with fees and instructions to prepare for the weekend.

ACTIVITIES & TRAINING FOR UNIT LEADERS & ADULTS

Adult leaders are encouraged to participate in all activities in camp. This includes merit badges and camp-wide activities such as the new SM MB (which can be earned by participating leaders - will encompass every aspect of our camp program). In addition, there are special programs designed specifically for leaders. We also will have contests throughout the week designed specifically for adult leaders. These will be announced during the week and will also be posted on the bulletin board outside the dining hall. Our camp staff will provide the following training for adult leaders amongst various other opportunities throughout the week (more course opportunities will be released in the Program Guide):



Safe Swim Defense

Trek Safely

Safety Afloat

Leave No Trace

Climb On Safely

BSA Lifeguard

ATV AIS Training

Basic Leader Training

Depending on the availability of the Training Committee, The training staff will provide Boy Scout position specific training (SM, Troop Committee) and IOLS Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

VOLUNTEERING AT CAMP

Could you spare a week this summer to help troops have a successful camp experience? Volunteer for a week at summer camp as a Camp Commissioner! We also have a need to have volunteers assist with Merit Badge Instruction. If you have a badge that you would like to offer at camp, while you're with or without your Troop, please fill out the Volunteer Merit Badge Counselor Form, and get in no later than May 1st.

<http://www.trcbsa.org/Resources/Forms/Camping/BoyScoutResidentCamp>

Each week during the summer season, a group of Camp Commissioners assist the staff in helping the troops have a successful camp experience. Commissioners are provided with housing, meals, and the normal facilities of a staff member. Commissioners arrive early on Sundays, and depart late on Saturdays. They visit the troop sites on a daily basis, and work to resolve any challenges. They can assist with instructing Boy Scout Leader Fast Start Training, and Youth Protection Training. Camp Commissioners must be experienced Scouters, with the ability to physically endure a week of walking at and around the camp.

Contact the Council Service Center to request more information – application forms for volunteers are available at the council website.

CAMP STANDARDS AND CONDUCT

The Scout Law

The twelve points of The Scout Law guide Onteora.

At Onteora we cannot tolerate or permit activities, which would call any of these virtues in to question. We appreciate your assistance in helping us to create and ensure the healthiest moral Scouting atmosphere.



CODE OF CONDUCT: all participants are expected to follow rules outlined in the Camp Leaders and Parents Guide. This includes the ability to self-monitor and the ability for participants to foresee the consequences of their actions. Theodore Roosevelt Council, BSA does not provide one-on-one supervision. The Camp will provide reasonable accommodations, but will remove from the program campers who present an undue risk to themselves or others, and those who significantly detract from the Camp experience.

THE BOY SCOUT UNIFORM

The Boy Scouts of America is proud to be a uniformed organization, representing values in America's youth. We wear the Boy Scout Uniform because it sets the standard to be met, promotes the spirit of our organization, and makes each one of us equal from the start. The Onteora Staff proudly wears the Boy Scout uniform and encourages all campers of Onteora to do the same. Class A Uniform is always appropriate dress for evening ceremonies, campfire, and during all formal camp occasions. Class B Uniform is appropriate throughout the rest of the week.

Campsite Visitations

Your commissioner will visit your site at least once each day. Part of your Commissioners visit will include a daily campsite inspection. Inspection criteria are based on good scout camping skills and habits.

YOUR CAMPSITE

Sites are all named for either a Native American *Chief* or *Tribe*. The sites are all prepared for your arrival with 9 x 9 canvas wall tents on wood deck platforms and 2 cots in each tent. Each site has an assigned latrine and washstand. Additionally, all campsites have one or more wood framed lean-tos. There are **No Flames Allowed in Any Camp Structures**, including tents and latrines. The term *flames* include but are not limited to: matches, lighters, candles, cigarettes, hot sparks, and incendiary insect repellents.

Campsites are a unit's home for the week. As such, we must take extra care to respect our own, and each other's homes. Remember that one of the first rules of Scout camping instructs us to "*always leave a place better than we found it.*" Another unit's campsite should never be entered without permission. Violators of this rule are to be reported to the Camp Director, for disciplinary action. **Under no circumstance must anyone under the age of 18 be left unattended.**

FIREWOOD

There is an ample supply of downed firewood throughout Onteora. Please note that no live trees are to be cut at any time. Leaders may not use chain saws to cut firewood in camp. **DO NOT BRING FIREWOOD FROM YOUR HOME**, as it is a violation of state regulations, designed to prevent the spread of insect infestations that can destroy woodlands.

WILDLIFE

Onteora is blessed with a wide variety of wild creatures. Our animals are an important part of the camp, but may be dangerous if cornered or threatened. Under no circumstances should anyone touch or disturb snakes (some are poisonous) or other animals. They're to be observed, not captured or caged.

CAMP LEADERSHIP AND POLICIES

THE CAMP DIRECTOR AND CAMP STAFF

The Camp Director oversees the entire OSR operation and is ultimately responsible for everyone in Camp. There are specific directors for each area of Camp Operation including Program, Service, Medical, Food Service, Business, and Trading Post. Everyone works together with the common goal of ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all individuals within the camp. With safety well in hand, the focus turns to creating a positive and fun camping adventure in which our aim is that all campers (youth and adult) experience as much of Onteora as possible.

THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The Program Director oversees the program at camp. He/she works with the Area Directors to make sure that their staff is prepared to work with each scout, providing quality instruction and ensuring that scouts have every opportunity to earn their badges and enjoy the program. The Program Director leads all camp related activities from Flags to afternoon & evening programs. The Program Director is the heartbeat of the camp, working with scouts and scouters to make sure that they're getting the most out of their camping experience, while at Onteora. The Program Director is also responsible to ensure that the needs of the unit are met.

THE CAMP COMMISSIONERS

Your Camp Commissioner is your unit's best camp resource. Whether it's to answer a question, help with scheduling, solve a problem, procurement of supplies, or to listen or visit for a cup of coffee; your commissioner is here to serve as your unit's summer camp liaison. Onteora has a Commissioner Corps staffed by a dedicated team. Their goal is to ensure that your week at camp allows you to capture the "Spirit of Onteora."

UNIT LEADERS

The Adult Leaders within the units are key to the success of camp. It's the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that at least two adult leaders, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips or outings. Camp Leaders must be registered leaders of the Boy Scouts of America and be trained in Youth Protection. Youth Protection training is available any time before you arrive at camp, on our website: www.trcbsa.org. As a Scout Camp Leader, you play a key role in the success of your unit. Responsibilities that will help you make your unit's week successful include:

- ✦ Be a registered member and Youth Protection Trained Leader of the Boy Scouts of America.
- ✦ Support your Senior Patrol Leader, and guide him to be the most effective leader possible.
- ✦ Notify your Commissioner, Program Director, or Camp Director if you need any assistance.
- ✦ Show Scout Spirit.
- ✦ Ensure that each Scout in your unit is using the Buddy and Bracelet Systems effectively.
- ✦ See that Scouts are actively pursuing the afternoon & evening programs, advancement, patrol and troop activities, individual time, and camp-wide events. And, set the example through active participation.
- ✦ Ensure that Scouts are on time for Flag ceremonies, meals, and all other camp-wide programs or events.

GETTING TO KNOW THE STAFF

Onteora is always sure to recruit the highest qualified people to fill the prestigious ranks of the full time staff. The Volunteer Staff and Adult Leaders are a vital part of the equation, too. Working together, we form the Onteora Staff; one team, with the common goal of delivering the best programs and camping experiences possible to each and every scout who camps at Onteora.

Onteora has a trained full-time staff of over 50 men and women. The staff undergoes a rigorous week of training just prior to the opening of camp. The Staff will assist and accommodate your unit in every way possible, as we work to provide exceptional customer service and ensure that each camper gets all that Onteora has to offer.

- ⤴ Attend and ensure proper behavior and family style manners at each meal.
- ⤴ Provide guidance and coaching to Scouts who may show signs of homesickness or conflict with other Scouts or Leaders.
- ⤴ Attend Adult Leader information and feedback meetings (held daily).
- ⤴ Fill out the camp evaluation form and return it to your commissioner prior to checkout Saturday morning.

THE SENIOR PATROL LEADER IN CAMP

The SPL is the Key Boy Leader in your Troop! OSR believes in the time honored Scouting adage of “*boys leading boys, under the guidance of adults*”. Thus the daily operation of your unit lies in the hands of your Senior Patrol Leader. With his council of leaders, the SPL should use the following list as a guide of responsibility:

- Read and familiarize yourself and your PLC with this guide.
- Show Scout Spirit, and set the example for others to live by.
- Organize and administer troop activity scheduling.
- Participate with and supervise your unit in the daily good turn to keep Onteora beautiful.
- Attend all SPL informational and feedback meetings (held daily).
- Be knowledgeable and able to assist the Scouts in your unit with the afternoon and evening programs.
- Coordinate your unit’s efforts towards daily campsite inspection.
- Camp-wide event participation.
- Troop Reports.
- Work closely with the adult leaders to ensure a well run, safe, and most importantly FUN and enjoyable week at Onteora.



THE SCOUT IN CAMP

Every grain of Onteora’s existence is geared towards each Scout having the most incredible experience possible while at camp. We urge you to:

- Take full advantage of the opportunities provided.
- Realize that YOU ARE the “Spirit of Onteora.”
- Suggest things to your Senior Patrol Leaders, Scoutmaster, and Staff Members that you would like to experience at camp.

And most importantly, enjoy YOUR camp, and return to her each year with the same amount of excitement you had the first time you gazed at the pure and natural magnificence of a busy Orchard Lake on a warm summer day.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

“A Scout is Reverent.” Religious services will be announced at the opening leader’s meeting. Details are available through the Camp Chaplain or your Camp Commissioner.

PROGRAM GUIDE

The 2016 Onteora Scout Reservation Program Guide, which will provide thorough and accurate information regarding the camp's entire program, will be released March 15, 2016. This guide will include, but not be limited to, information on merit badges being offered this year, afternoon programs, evening programs, leaders' programs, OA, training opportunities for youth and adults, campsite visitation & inspection information, camp theme details, specialty programming, a detailed daily program schedule, merit badge schedule, Trading Post details, merit badge pre-requisites listing, and more. Please make sure to read and share this document with your unit, as soon as it is released on the Council Website, at trcbsa.org.

ONLINE MERIT BADGE REGISTRATION

Subsequently, after the release of the OSR 2016 Program Guide, the Online Merit Badge Registration Portal will open, on April 15, 2016. Only assigned unit leaders will be allowed to access the registration, and they will be responsible for signing up each member of their unit for their respective courses (the assigned unit leader will default to the Scoutmaster, unless otherwise specified). Due to safety and the assurance of quality program delivery, merit badge classes are limited in size, and vary course to course. In turn, please sign up your scouts as soon as possible, as the online system is based on a first come first serve ideology. You can reach the online registration via the Council Website, at trcbsa.org. Also, please note that in addition to merit badges, the online system will be used to sign up for the Dan Beard Program and the ATV Program (again, on a first come first serve basis).



YOUTH PROTECTION GUIDELINES

The following policies have been adopted by the Boy Scouts of America to provide security for the youth in our program. In addition, they serve to protect adult leadership from situations in which they are vulnerable to allegations of abuse.

- **Two-Deep Leadership:** Two responsible registered leaders, one of which must be at least 21 years of age and the other at least 18 years of age, are required in camp, for the full week, with the troop.
- **No One-On-One Contact:** between youth and adult members is permitted. In situations that require a personal conference, the meeting should be conducted in view of other adults and youth.
- **Respect for Privacy:** Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing into swimming suits or taking showers, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety requires. They must also protect their own privacy in similar situations.
- **Separate Accommodations:** When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of another adult, other than his own parent or guardian. Separate shower and latrine facilities for females should be available, and when separate facilities are not available, time for male and female use is to be scheduled and posted.
- **Proper Clothing:** Proper clothing for program activities.
- **Constructive Discipline:** Discipline in Scouting should be constructive (supportive) and reflecting the high values of Scouting. Corporal punishment is unacceptable.
- **Supervision:** Leaders must monitor and guide the leadership techniques used by junior leaders and see that Boy Scouts of America policies are followed.

SUPERVISION OF SCOUTS

The State of New York requires supervision of Scouts in overnight camps and that all leaders are held responsible for the safety and care of youth. Leaders are to be advised of the intent of the law and their responsibility for adhering to and complying with its provisions.

For proper supervision, Units must maintain a **1 Adult to 10-boy ratio**. In addition, leaders are directly responsible for the supervision of all members of their unit not participating in camp program during program hours and all hours allotted as troop time.

Units must use the Buddy System in camp and a check in/out board in their campsite to indicate the whereabouts of all Scouts in their charge. Scouts shall not be permitted to roam the camp unsupervised. No Scout will go unsupervised in the campsite. *These principles must be met, in order to ensure compliance with NY State Health Laws.*

DISCIPLINE ISSUES

Reoccurring or severe discipline issues shall be reported to the Camp Director. Under no circumstances shall a camper be deprived of food, isolated, subjected to corporal punishment or abusive physical exercise, or verbally abused as a means of punishment.

Initiation or hazing of scouts is **not permitted**, and is in direct violation of the Boy Scouts of America and its policies. "Raiding" of other campsites, program areas, the dining hall, or any camp structure is strictly prohibited, and will result in those responsible being removed from camp.

MEDICAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The camp has a resident Health Officer and is assisted by qualified volunteers. The Medical Staff is based out of the Blauvelt Health Lodge. We are prepared for emergencies 24 hours a day.



When we think of resident camping, we should think of fun and excitement. Yet even more importantly, at Onteora Scout Reservation, health and safety are always our *top priority*. Illness and injury can sometimes accompany the camp experience. In order to facilitate a more positive stay at Theodore Roosevelt Council Camps, we need to have accurate health information for your camper. It's very important to be thorough when completing these forms. Knowledge of allergies, recent injuries, immunization records, and any other special circumstance will assist the Camp Staff in providing an optimal experience for your camper. (It is also an NYS Health Department requirement).

Timely and full completion of these items will greatly expedite your unit's check-in upon arrival at Camp.

- *Please have parents download the Annual Medical Form from www.trcbsa.org and have the camper's physician provide a complete response. Make sure all forms are signed, have the physician complete, sign and stamp them where necessary, and give them to your unit before the camper's arrival. Please note: writing in "up-to-date" for immunization records is NOT ACCEPTABLE. Immunization records can be filled in on the **Annual Medical Form** and the **Supplemental Immunization and Meningitis Vaccination Response Form***
- *Unfortunately, we cannot admit campers with incomplete medical forms; no overnight accommodation is possible with incomplete forms. The camp DOES NOT keep forms "on file" for use in subsequent years.*
- **Prescription Medications and Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications brought to Camp: Any prescription medications brought to Camp must be brought to the Camp Health Officer immediately upon registration. No medications, prescription or over-the-counter (OTC) supplements, may be kept by participants. Campers who conceal the possession or use of medication will be discharged from camp. In accordance with NY State Law, over-the-counter and prescription medications may not be administered to campers without individual written orders by a licensed physician. Please do not send non-prescription (over-the-counter) medications or supplements with your camper.**
- **The Medication Authorization Form must be completed by each camper's primary health care provider, to allow the administration of any medication.** Prescription medications and supplements must remain in their original container(s), must *clearly* state the camper's name, contents, and the physician's instructions; and must include the dates of use, name of prescription, dosage amount, and time(s) of day to be administered. The use of medication is closely monitored to protect all campers, and must be stored under lock in the Camp Health Office. Please reclaim it from the Camp Health Officer at the close of the camper's session.
- **Insurance Coverage:** Please make sure you have completed the **insurance information** on the **Annual Medical Form** and the **Consent-to-Treat form**. *All campers must carry their own medical insurance.*

The following should be discussed with your camper and his parent(s)/guardian(s) prior to arrival at camp. Please advise your camper:

- to wash his hands regularly with soap and water;
- to brush teeth daily;
- Shower as appropriate, and care to other hygienic needs.
- Proper rest, protection from sun exposure, good nutrition, and moderation in exercise.
- Children should also not touch each other or share personal items or food.

SWIM CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES

The swim classification of individuals participating in a Boy Scouts of America activity is a key element in both Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. The swim classification test is renewed annually, preferable at the beginning of each outdoor season.



All persons participating in BSA aquatics are classified according to swimming ability. The classification tests and test procedures have been developed and structured to demonstrate a skill level consistent with the circumstances in which the individual will be in the water. The Swimmer's Test demonstrates the minimum level of swimming ability for recreational and instructional activity, in a confined body of water, with a maximum of 12-foot depth and with shallow water footing or a pool or pier edge always within 25 feet of the swimmer.

The various components of each test evaluate the several skills essential to the minimum level of swimming ability. Each step of the test is important and should be followed as listed below (**intended to ensure a fun safe experience**).

Swimmers Test

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, and begin swimming. Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: side stroke, breast stroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting back stroke. The 100 yard swim must be continuous and include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

Beginner's Test

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming as before, and return to starting place.

Waterfront Safety

The waterfront is one of the most popular areas in camp. At the waterfront, our main focus is the safety of campers, leaders, and staff. The following rules must be followed:

1. The Camp Health Officer issues buddy tags only to those whose medical exams indicate that they are physically fit for swimming.
2. Those who wish to use the waterfront must take the Swim Classification Test.
3. Each adult leader should participate in the Safe Swim Defense Plan class.
4. Everyone must wear footwear to and from the waterfront area.
5. The waterfront area may only be entered with the permission of the staff and a proper buddy tag.
6. The Buddy System is used for all water activities. Buddies must stay within 10 ft. of each other.
7. Troop swims must be conducted using the Safe Swim Defense Plan and only with the Waterfront Director's permission.
8. Swimming is allowed at the waterfront only
9. Good discipline will be enforced at all times. Running, pushing, and horseplay are not permitted.

The Waterfront Director has complete authority for the operation, Safety, and interpretation of all rules and policies.

BICYCLES IN CAMP

Personal Bicycles will be permitted in camp. Those Scouts bringing their bicycles to camp must: Have the permission of their Scoutmaster; have the bike inspected and tagged by a member of the camp management, placed out of harms way; a helmet **must** be worn at all times; and bicycles are ridden with a buddy. Bicycles must appear to be in good working condition with Mountain Terrain tires (no "touring" tires are permitted). A complete list of rules will be discussed with the Scout upon inspection. Cyclists not following the rules will have their bike "impounded" for the remainder of the week. The Theodore Roosevelt Council, BSA and Onteora Scout Reservation will not be responsible for bicycles or equipment lost, stolen, or broken during the week.

Bicycle Riders/Owners Must:

- Wear a helmet at all times
- Observe all posted speed limits
- Give the right of way to those on foot and vehicles
- Ride only on trails that are wide enough for motor vehicles or prescribed MTB trails, **no foot trails or bridges**
- Be responsible for their bike. The Theodore Roosevelt Council, BSA and Onteora Scout Reservation assume no responsibility for any bike that is lost, stolen, or damaged while in camp.
- Recommended to lock their bike when not in use.
- Do not park the bike on trails, roadways, or access points- park in appropriate area.
- Understand that the Staff of Onteora Scout Reservation will not make any repairs to any bike not owned by the Theodore Roosevelt Council.
- Assumes responsibility to any damage that may be caused during the operation of the bicycle including property or person. If the rider is found to violate any rule he/she will be warned once and upon the second infraction have the bicycle impounded for the remainder of the week of camp.
- The Theodore Roosevelt Council and Onteora Scout Reservation reserve the right to discontinue the use of private bicycles in camp or alter these rules at any time, if it's deemed necessary.



SAFE SCOUTING AT ONTEORA

VISITORS AND CAMP IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Each week, over three hundred and fifty people take to the trails of "The Land in The Sky". A combination of Scouts, Unit Leaders, and Staff Members make up the OSR community. The health and safety of each member of our community is always our first priority. To accurately account for each person at Onteora Scout Reservation and eliminate the possibility of an outside or unauthorized person, we follow a very strict bracelet color scheme to ensure accuracy. Scouts, Adults, Staff, and AUTHORIZED Visitors each wear a different colored bracelet. **Bracelets must be worn at all times by all persons with no exceptions.**

Should anyone encounter a person in camp without a bracelet, they should report it to the first Staff Member available. Details of the color scheme are available upon your unit's check-in.

Parents and Scouting visitors are welcome at camp. ALL VISITORS MUST IMMEDIATELY CHECK IN AT THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. We ask that parents arrange visits with both their son's Scoutmaster prior to camp **and** the camp office, at least 24 hours in advance of their arrival.

At check-in you will receive a color specific visitor's bracelet. Visitor meals may be arranged at that time. This bracelet **must** be worn for the duration of your stay and returned to the Administration building when you check out. If you plan to stay overnight, there is a \$15 guest fee, plus meal fees. Visitor's meals prices are listed on the camp website. The fees are payable upon departure when the visitor signs out. Please make sure the visitor signs out of camp when leaving and settles all fees to avoid additional fees at troop check-out on Saturday.

Meals are available to all AUTHORIZED visitors. The fees for visitor meals are as follows: Breakfast - \$6.00 Lunch - \$8.00 Dinner - \$11.00

SIGNING IN OR OUT OF CAMP

Anyone, youth or adult, leaving camp must sign out at the Administration Building and must sign in when returning to camp.

Youth will be permitted to leave camp only with the custodial parent or someone designated by the custodial parent over the age of 21; dismissal forms must be signed by the custodial parent and submitted to the camp office. Proper photographic identification is required of ANYONE taking a Scout out of camp. The forms can be downloaded from www.onteora.org. This must be on file in the Administration Building.

ORCHARD LAKE

Swimming and boating are permitted only at the Camp Waterfront. Both Swimming and Boating can only be done under the supervision of the trained Aquatics Director and staff of trained Lifeguards. Unauthorized or unsupervised use of the lake is not acceptable, and may result in dismissal from camp.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Our staff is trained on what to do in case of fires, lost campers, severe weather, and a variety of other emergency conditions. A mobilization drill is held Monday at 12:30 PM. Your unit will be given instructions on what to do. Please treat this mobilization drill seriously. In the event of a real emergency, it is essential that you assist us by keeping your unit calm and under control. We also ask that you follow instructions and allow our staff to do their job without obstruction.

MAIL

To send mail to anyone at OSR, use this address, and make sure to send it **by Tuesday** of the week that you would like it to arrive. All letter and packages **MUST** have a return address.

**Camper's Name, Troop #
Onteora Scout Reservation
3 Old Hunter Rd
Livingston Manor, NY 12758**

TELEPHONE

The camp telephone number is (845) 439-5239. Parents are asked not to telephone, except in the case of emergency. Due to the sheer size of Onteora, it's not possible to locate campers at a moment's notice. Urgent messages will be hand delivered by our staff. Any phone messages other than emergencies will be delivered to a leader within the unit at the next meal of the day.

Cell service is readily accessible at the dining hall. There is a public phone located in the Administration building. Outgoing telephone service is available to scouts, only in the case of emergencies. The Scout **MUST** be accompanied by an adult from his unit. All calls from this phone must be either collect or with the use of a phone card.

CELLULAR PHONES

Decent cellular phone coverage is available at Onteora. This represents a much welcome convenience for leaders, and accommodations can be made for leaders to charge cell phones in the lockers. For phones charging at the Long House dining hall, bring a combination lock to secure the locker during your stay. Leaders who leave their cellular phones to charge unsupervised do so at their own risk. (While multiple carriers may have acceptable service, Verizon service is known to be reliable and functional across most of the reservation.)

We strongly recommend that leaders discourage Scouts from bringing cellular phones to camp for a variety of reasons, including:

- Increased probability of difficulties related to homesick Scouts calling home at will, or leaving camp without the knowledge or approval of the unit leadership. This important factor cannot be overemphasized, and unto itself is reason enough to require Scouts to leave their cellular phones at home.
- Cellular phones, like all valuables, should not be brought to camp, so that they cannot be accidentally lost or stolen.
- Cellular phones detract from the type of peaceful, natural environment that is key to a positive outdoor summer camp experience.

PROHIBITED

The following items are not permitted in camp.

<p>Pets Firearms Fireworks Alcohol or Drugs</p>	<p>Non-folding sheath knives Smoking (Scouts) Smoking (In presence of Scouts) Smoking (In any camp structures)</p>
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Valuables should also be left at home. The camp is not responsible for stolen or lost items.

Taps signals the end of each day at Onteora. **We observe Taps at 10 pm.** All scouts should be in bed, quiet, with lights out. The day starts early at OSR and everyone needs their sleep to fully experience the program being offered. If there is a time where a Troop Program runs a little late, please respect your neighbors, and remember that a *Scout is Courteous*.

EQUIPMENT LIST**Camp Site Permanent Equipment**

Each site is equipped with:

- Bulletin Board
- Flag Pole
- Canvas Tents on Platforms
- Latrine
- Fire Rake
- Toilet Paper and Disinfectant
- Broom
- Garden Hose

Suggested Equipment List

General Troop Equipment-

- Axes, Bow Saws
- Campfire Material
- Basic First Aid Kit
- Flags- American, Troop, and Patrol
- Lanterns, Fuel, Extra Mantles
- Map & Compasses
- Paper & Pencils
- Rope, Duct Tape
- Sports Equipment
- Pencils/pens/paper

Scoutmaster's Materials -

- Advancement Records
- Alarm Clock
- Camp Leaders Manual
- Coat Hangers
- Merit Badge Library
- Program Charts
- Poster Board
- Troop Rosters (3 required)
- Scoutmasters Handbook

Personal Equipment -

- Rain Gear
- Bathing suit(s)
- Camera
- Class A & B Uniforms
- Compass
- Handkerchiefs
- Long & Short Pants
- Merit Badge Books
- Pillow
- Poncho/ rain gear
- Shoes (boots or sneakers, closed toe)
- Sweater/ Jacket
- Underwear (6 pairs)
- Socks (6 pairs)

- Sun Block
- Sweat Suits or Pajamas
- Sandals for showers
- T-Shirts (6)
- Wristwatch

Toiletry Kit -

- Comb
- Deodorant (no aerosol)
- Soap in Container
- Toothbrush in container
- Toothpaste
- Washcloth & Towel(s)

Other Items -

- BSA Handbook
- Water bottle
- Extra Batteries
- Flashlight or Headlamp
- Frame Pack or Footlocker
- Mosquito Repellant (non-aerosol)
- Mosquito Netting
- Notebook, pens, pencils, paper
- Pocket Knife (**no sheath knives**)
- Sleeping Bag

Additional Equipment for scouts participating in Wilderness Survival Merit Badge -

- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Rain Gear
- Flashlight
- Knife
- Matches

Items Not Allowed in Camp - Scouts, Leaders and Staff are prohibited from bringing certain items into camp. These include, but are not limited to: archery equipment, and guns of any type, fireworks, drugs, and alcohol. Onteora Scout Reservation reserves the right to deny any item it feels detrimental to the safety of the facility, campers, staff or visitors. **Troop leaders may bring 2-way radios to camp. Please inform the Camp Director when you arrive, so there is no interference with the camp radios.**

*Please do not leave personal effects in shoes while at waterfront; there are boxes at waterfront.

CAMP SERVICES

FOOD SERVICE

At the heart of our food service operation is our Dining Hall; the Long House. With its updated kitchen facility and dining hall equipment, Scouts are sure to enjoy hearty camp food. Scouts will enjoy their daily Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner, throughout the week, in the Long House Dining Hall, which also serves as the center of our camp program.

Your first meal will be dinner on Sunday evening; this is the orientation meal. The dining hall system will be explained at this meal. All meals at the Long House are served family style. The host and waiter system is used.

Waiters will report to the Long House 15 minutes prior to the meal. Under the direction of the Dining Hall Steward, they will set the table, deliver food during the meal, and clean the table and surroundings after the meal. ***Waiter duty should be rotated among the veteran members of your unit for the first two days to show 1st year campers how to be a waiter.***

Hosts: The host sits to the right of the waiter and is responsible for ensuring that every person at the table receives an equal portion of food from the bowls provided. It is his responsibility to ensure that everyone gets fed from the first serving, as it may be several minutes before seconds are available.

Adult Leaders are responsible for the supervision of their unit's tables and ensuring the host/waiter system is being used correctly. As a service to the Units that would like return to a "Buckskin Style" camp for a meal or more, our Kitchen Staff would be happy to make ready the ingredients of meals for preparation in your campsite.

DINING HALL PROCEDURES

Each table requires 2 waiters to arrive 15 minutes prior to the meal. Each Troop requires one adult to arrive 15 minutes prior to the meal and stay until the waiters have completed cleaning:

- There are 2 doors between the kitchen and dining hall. You must go IN the IN door and OUT the OUT door.
- Always set your tables for 10 people. Servings are distributed family style, based on this count.
- When seconds are called, the waiters may take the empty platters, bowls, etc. to the kitchen for a refill.
- You don't have to wait for seconds to be called to get more drinks.
- After the dining hall is dismissed, you may begin cleaning your table.

1. Put all forks in a bowl, all spoons in another and knives in a third.
 2. Scrape all plates into 1 bowl or platter.
 3. Stack your plates.
 4. Carry dishes to dish window.
 5. Paper, plastic and food are thrown into large trash cans.
 6. Pour all liquids, milk, juice, tea, etc. into 5 gallon liquids buckets.
 7. Wash tables with rags that have been provided.
 8. Stack your chairs at the end of your table.
 9. Sweep under and all around your table and chairs.
 10. Mop after each meal.
 11. Waiters may not leave the dining hall until their tables have been inspected. Ask to be inspected as soon as you finish your clean up.
- Troop spirit is considered while determining the outcome of many awards. Show your spirit in the dining hall as well as at flags, along trails, and in program areas.
 - If you have any questions or suggestions don't hesitate to speak with the dining hall staff. If there are any complaints, speak to the Camp Director or Commissioner.

ADDITIONAL DINING HALL OFFERINGS

Units will be able to purchase items for festivities in their campsite. Items such as watermelons, large containers of ice cream, or cracker-barrel snacks like pepperoni and cheese trays will be available for ordering throughout the week.

The Long House can arrange for special diets, vegetarian, and kosher meals, if needed, for an additional weekly fee of \$50.00. Be sure to make arrangements prior to June 1 of the camping season, by submitting a Special Needs form that can be downloaded from www.trcbsa.org.

QUARTERMASTER AT THE CAMP ROOM

The camp room has a range of program items or supplies that your unit can check out for portions of the week. Shovels, rakes, brooms, tools, campsite cleaning supplies or sporting equipment are just a few of the things available from the camp room. The camp room is open each day; times will be announced at the Sunday leaders meeting. Many of these items may be available at other times through your Commissioners.

SHOWER FACILITY

The showers are located a few yards from the Long House Dining Hall. There are handicapped accessible toilet rooms in the building. There are twenty individual shower stalls. Although our staff maintains these facilities, units will be on a rotating "good turn" schedule to help keep them clean. The showers are open from 7:00 AM through 10:00 PM. Leaders are responsible for the conduct of their units in accordance with BSA standards and state supervision requirements.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL AND DUMPSTER

There is a dumpster located behind the Long House Dining Hall. Please make your trash as compact as possible, and use the dumpster wisely to conserve space and reduce waste.

TRADING POST

The Trading Post at the Long House is now stocked by BSA Supply and carries essential camp needs such as propane cylinders, toothpaste, and soap to last minute cracker-barrel ingredients. Merit Badge pamphlets and Scout supplies, snacks and refreshments, specialty camp souvenirs, and outside supplies are available. Campers will want to have spending money. \$50.00 is enough to meet most needs. Be sure to visit the Trading Post each day, during posted hours.

STOVE FUELS

Propane will be on sale at the Trading Post. Propane (LP) Lanterns or Stoves may be used by troops. Extreme care must be taken in the disposal of empty cylinders. Empty cylinders should be returned to the Camp Room or Camp Commissioner for disposal. **Do not dispose of empty propane canisters in the dumpster.**

Consistent with council policy, the use of liquid fuel stoves is permitted. Use must be supervised and stored by an adult leader. Liquid fuel containers **must** be BSA approved "red" containers of 22 ounces or smaller and kept in a secure, lockable, vented container, away from any source of ignition or heat in excess of 100 degrees F. These containers may not be stored in any personal sleeping accommodations.

PREVENTING HOMESICKNESS

“I WANNA GO HOME!”

Most people who have ever spent time in summer camp or even at another home for any extended period of time have felt the awful pit in their stomach of home sickness. It is typically fear of the unknown; unknown surroundings, people, and/or routine.

I can remember the feeling like it was yesterday—the dull pain coming from the hollow pit in my stomach, the overwhelming sense of fear, the terrible feeling that I was lost and alone, even though I knew the people around me. To top it off, I was horrified at the thought that I would feel like this for days on end. That is, of course, unless I could do the one thing that would make it all better—**go home**. When homesick kids tell me, “You don’t understand!” they couldn’t be farther from the truth. I was horribly home sick as a youth, I felt terrified at night in a different surrounding in New Hampshire, and I was convinced I wouldn’t make it through the night. To my surprise the next morning, I did. I had fun and each night it got easier. I would be lying if I said it went away totally, but by the end of the week away from home, I found a new sense of achievement; I did it. I could be by on my own without my family and function, even have fun and be accomplished. That was a turning point of my youth; I was then able to travel around the country as my Mother worked for the airlines. I frequently travelled alone to relatives homes in Florida and California. The ability to have confidence in ones abilities is a wonderful thing, which the Scouting program and Boy Scout Resident Camp affords our boys. I was not able to have that particular experience but am proud to be part of a program that offers such great opportunities.

As adults we may minimize the experience that young children go through when they are homesick. Even if we do begin to understand what a difficult thing it can be, we know that our children must at some point leave the home without being traumatized, so we figure they just have to get through it. While that is often the only way to handle it, it would be better if homesickness could be prevented all together, or at least minimized in its effect on our kids. Sounds too good to be true? Maybe not...

Dr. Christopher Thurber at UCLA has done extensive research in the area of children’s experience of homesickness (you guessed it—he was a homesick camper too). He has come up with several suggestions for preventing homesickness before it appears.

GETTING READY FOR CAMP

We all know getting ready for camp means pulling out the sleeping bag and flashlight, but if you are sending a kid to camp for the first time, there’s lots of *emotional* prep work that needs to be done as well. Here are three “P’s” of Dr. Thurber’s tips:

- 1) **Practice**: Don’t let camp be the first time a child is away from home. That would be enough to handle alone, without the fact that it’s at least a week in an unknown place, often miles from home. Weekends with grandparents or other family or friends are great “practice runs” even if your child doesn’t know it. They learn that when they leave home, the world doesn’t fall apart, and they eventually come home again having enjoyed great experiences. If the Scout has not attended a campout with their unit, camping in a tent with other boys their age, even in the backyard, is very important. If parents wish to be out there with them, that is okay; please set up another tent. The point is for the progression of a family tent to an independent situation, moving to the boys in the backyard by themselves, if possible.
- 2) **Preview**: Part of a child’s preparation will be knowing what to expect at camp. Talks with other campers who have been to camp before, seeing their pictures, or showing them pictures of the camp from our website at www.trcbsa.org can all help them preview what they will experience.
- 3) **Prepare**: Promising your child you’ll bring them home if they don’t have a good time is the same as saying “If you want to come home, here’s what to do: **don’t have a good time.**” I’ve seen more than one homesick camper trying this as their best shot at getting home. Once a child knows they are at camp to stay, they will make the effort to have a good time, but not before. You can always change your mind later, but do your

child the favor by *not* letting them in on the option of an early departure. All kids miss home when they are away (well, OK, maybe not the teens). That's normal. Tell your child that they may feel this way and that it's OK. Another big help is to let them know that *you* will be OK. Many kids' homesickness comes from worrying about how parents are doing at home. Some good intentioned parents tell their kids, "Mommy and Daddy are going to miss you SO MUCH." Instead of conveying love, it tells the kids you need them at home. Let them know that while you will miss them, you will be happy knowing they are having a great time.

WELL, WE TRIED

So, you did all that and still you have a hysterical child calling from the camp director's office? If we at the camp think that an early departure is wise, we will tell you. If we do have to call, it's probably a tactic being used in the camp's treatment of the homesickness. The best thing you can do is support the plan the Scout Master and director are working on, which will probably include: letting the Scout talk about his or her feelings without dwelling too long on them, writing letters and, most importantly, keeping busy. Receiving letters from home will be comforting (you may have to send one before the child leaves to arrive early in the session). Phone calls and visits usually make homesickness much worse, so please refrain from calling or visiting the Camp except for an emergency. If some time passes and the child isn't able to deal better with the homesickness, the Camp Director may suggest an early departure. If that's the case, it will be helpful to reinforce the fact that the child tried in the first place, and leave a door open for next year.

Letters should include positive thoughts such as "we are so excited to hear about the accomplishments of the week, your stories of camp activities, about friends you made, favorite camp memories", etc. The last thing the boys should hear about is the favorite meal they missed, the family pet misses them so much that they won't eat or is sleeping on their bed waiting for their return; you miss them so much, their grandparents visited during their absence... You get the picture. Parents' confidence in the Camp Program and Leadership, as well as the confidence in the Scout that you know they will have fun and do well, is often the most critical piece of a Scout's success. We appreciate your support!

With the right preparation and the right cooperation between parents and camp staff, your child can gain the invaluable experience of being okay away from home. While that is happening, parents can enjoy a guilt-free week or two of peace and quiet, knowing their child is taking some great big steps toward growing up and conquering one of the Scout Laws, being Brave.

