

Boy Scouts of America



Troop 374

Soaring Eagle District
Mid-America Council, BSA
Omaha, Nebraska

Chartered Partner:
Piedmont Wycliffe Neighborhood Association
Omaha, NE 68154

Scoutmaster: Ed Krenk
Committee Chair: Mark Roberts

January 1, 2009

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	1
CONTACTS	1
GOALS OF TROOP 374.....	2
BECOMING A BOY SCOUT.....	2
PARENT INVOLVEMENT.....	2
FEES	3
Fund-Raisers	3
Camping Trips	4
UNIFORM	4
BEHAVIOR.....	5
MEETINGS	5
Troop Meetings.....	5
Patrol Meetings.....	5
Weekend Camp-outs	5
Alternate Activities	6
PLC Meetings	6
Troop Committee Meetings	6
Court of Honor	7
Summer Camps.....	7
ADVANCEMENT	7
Rank Advancement.....	7
Merit Badges.....	8
Youth Protection	8
Recognition.....	9
TROOP POSITIONS and ELECTIONS	9
OUTDOOR ACTIVIES	9
ADULT LEADER TRAINING.....	10
TRANSPORTATION	10
INSURANCE	10
MEDICAL	10
EQUIPMENT INFORMATION.....	11
Appendix A Troop 374 Uniform Requirment's.....	12
Appendix B Camping Equipmment.....	13
Appendix C Rank Requirements	15
Appendix D Web Pages of Interest.....	27

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America, incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916, is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

The Boy Scouts is an organization for boys to help them to become better citizens. The Scouting movement was founded in England by Sir Robert Baden-Powell (later Lord Baden-Powell) in 1908. It was brought to the United States by W. D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher, and was incorporated February 8, 1910. Today the Boy Scouts has grown to a current membership of more than one million Scouts and adult leaders.

Boy Scouts has a national program to build up the minds and bodies of its members. Scouts are taught service to God and country and duty to all human beings. "Be Prepared" is the motto of Boy Scouts, with learning by doing being the way to preparedness. Camping and related outdoor activities have been a major focus in the Scouting program since its inception. "Scouting is Outing" is a term you will hear often.

The National Boy Scout Office is located in Irving, Texas. The Omaha area is served by the Mid-America Council with offices at 12401 West Maple Road, Omaha, NE 68164-1853, phone 431-9272, fax 431-0444, Scout Shop 431-0700. The Mid-America Council includes counties in Eastern Nebraska, Western Iowa and part of South Dakota.

Troop 374 was originally chartered with the Cottonwood Parent Teacher Organization in 1981. In 2000 the Piedmont Wycliffe Neighborhood Association voted to become the Troop's Chartered Partner. A plaque honoring the scouts in Troop 374 that have achieved the rank of Eagle is on display in Cottonwood School.

CONTACTS

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GOALS OF TROOP 374

The purpose of Troop 374 is to provide an effective program to build desirable qualities of character, responsibility, citizenship, and personal fitness. It is our aim to develop American citizens who:

1. are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit with a high degree of self-reliance, initiative, courage and resourcefulness;
2. have personal values based on religious concepts;
3. have the desire and skill to help others;
4. understand the principles of the American social, economic and governmental systems;
5. have an understanding of America's role in the world;
6. have a keen respect for the basic rights of all peoples;
7. have respect for the environment;
8. are prepared to accept the responsibilities of participation and leadership in American and international society; and
9. have FUN while accomplishing the above goals.

BECOMING A BOY SCOUT

A boy is eligible to become a Boy Scout upon completing the fifth grade and being 10 1/2 years old or being 11 years old to 18 years old. In joining Boy Scouts, a boy must first be able to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He must also be able to demonstrate the Scout sign, salute and handclasp, and understand and agree to live by the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan and Outdoor Code. He must describe the Scout badge and demonstrate that he can tie a square (Joining) knot. In addition, with a parent or guardian, he must complete the exercises in the pamphlet "How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse" (located as a pull out section in the Boy Scout Handbook). Finally he must take part in a Scoutmaster Conference. A Cub Scout of appropriate age who has earned the Arrow of Light Award has essentially completed these requirements and will review these with the Scoutmaster at the Scoutmaster Conference.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Scouting is a boy run organization with adults present as advisors, administration and for transportation.

As parents of Scouts in Troop 374, your participation is of vital importance in the operation of the Troop as well as to your boy's participation. All of the adult leaders and committee members of the Troop care about the Scouts in the Troop as well as how the Troop is

operated. The Scouts run the Troop with the help of the adult leaders. All parents serve as advisors to the Troop leadership.

Your involvement as parents comes in three areas.

First is your involvement with and encouragement of your son as he progresses in the advancement program. Helping him at home, transporting him and attending his Scout functions are significant participation opportunities that will help ensure his success and the enjoyment in the program.

Second, parents are expected to periodically assist in providing transportation and supervision for campouts, hikes, summer camp, and other Troop outings. Active support is also expected for Troop fund raising activities. We need formal support from parents in the advancement process by teaching skills at Troop meetings and/or becoming counselors for specific merit badges.

Third, registered adult leadership is always needed and welcome. Taking a more active role by serving on the Troop committee or as an Assistant Scoutmaster can be a very rewarding experience for you as well as for the Troop and its Scouts. Adult leader training is provided through the Soaring Eagle District and the Mid-America Council.

FEES

Annual Troop dues are **\$100.00**, payable in full and prorated for when a Scout first joins the Troop (first time Scouts, transfers in from Cub Scouts, or transfers in from another Troop) and annually thereafter at the time the Troop re-charters (currently January 1 through December 31). For new scouts joining in February, after the 15th, fees will be \$80.00 less any funds received from the pack.

These fees cover the registration fees, insurance, Troop neckerchief, badges, program materials, Troop equipment, and most overnight camping fees. Leaders registration fees are covered by the troop. Food on campout are addition and run around \$7.00-\$12.00. Camporees, summer camps and high adventures will have an additional fee paid by the scouts and leaders attending. For campouts were travel is greater than 50 miles, milage will be reinburst by the troop for the individual pulling the trailer at \$0.30 per mile.

Fund-Raisers

The Troop has monthly aluminum can drives and periodic fund-raisers (usually 2-3 a year) to help defray the annual dues and to provide supplemental funds to help support the Troop programs for the boys, storage facilities, equipment needs and leaders' registrations and summer camp fees. Each Scout and his family are expected to support these fund raising efforts to the best of their ability.

Money earned on these fundraisers will go into the general troop fund and/or the scouts' individual account. The Scout can use the money in their account to pay for scouting events including summer camps and annual dues. Any funds left in the scouts account become part of the general fund if the scout leaves the troop for any reason and is not transferable to another scout and cannot be used for any other purpose.

These fund-raisers include an **aluminum can drive** on the first Saturday of month. Scouts and their families meet at the Cottonwood School parking lot at 10:00 AM as the monthly whistle is tested. The first \$75.00 goes to pay for the storage facility where the troop equipment is stored. The balance is then divided among the scouts assisting. Each scout can receive up to four shares, one for helping pick up cans, one for helping at the can pack and one for a parent helping at each.

Popcorn sales are another of the annual fundraisers occurring in October of each year. Money earned will go into the scouts' account.

Greens sales are another of the annual fundraisers occurring in the fall and usually arriving around Thanksgiving. Money earned will go into the scouts' account.

Other fundraiser such as **Garage Sales** and **car washes** are scheduled during the summer months on an as needed basis. Money earned will go into the general fund for a specific need or into the scouts' accounts as determined by the fundraising chair and the troop committee.

Each February (Scouting's birth month) each family will be given an opportunity to financially support the Mid-America Council through the Friends of Scouting (**FOS**) campaign. These funds are used by the Council to supplement the operating and capital improvement parts of its budget. This includes helping pay for camp maintenance and improvements, office functions, Council professional staff, and training and support for your Troop's volunteer leaders. The quality program we have today is, in part, a direct result of this financial support through Friends of Scouting. The Troop encourages each family to contribute as their budget allows.

The Fundraising Chair, Treasure and troop committee will determine the need for fundraisers to maintain the general troop fund balance.

Camping Trips

For camping trips, each Scout and adult participating in the event is expected to cover his share of the food cost. This typically runs about \$10-\$15 and is payable to the patrol member responsible for purchasing food for that trip at the Troop meeting BEFORE the campout. Scouts who fail to pay their food money will be unable to participate in that outing. Once the money has been used to buy food, it is no longer refundable, even if the Scout or adult is unable to attend. Certain outings may require the Scout to pay an admission or other fee. Notification of this will be made during the planning for the outing at a Troop meeting prior to the activity.

UNIFORM

Boy Scouting is a uniformed organization. The Boy Scout uniform is practical attire for most Boy Scout activities. The uniform provides unity among the Scouts. It makes the Troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. The uniform also provides a way for each Scout to proudly display the badges that they have earned.

There are two uniforms worn at troop 374 activities. The class "A" uniform is the official uniform and the class "B" uniform includes troop and camp tee shirts.

The items required by the Troop as its official uniform are listed in Appendix A at the end of this packet. The Troop official uniform is to be worn by all Scouts and registered adult leaders for ALL Scout activities unless informed otherwise in advance. The uniform (except merit badge sash and progress toward rank beads) is to be worn to all activities as determined, primarily including troop meetings (except at park in the summer), off site tours, Courts of Honor, popcorn sales and campfires at summer camp. All other activities the class "B" uniform is to be worn. These include primarily scout meetings in the park, service projects, alternate activities, summer camps, high adventures, can drives, weekend camp outs, other fund raising activities, i.e. car washes and garage sales.

BEHAVIOR

Scouts are expected to behave within the guidelines of the Scout Oath and Law at all Scouting functions, whether in uniform or not. Scouts, who demonstrate unwillingness to comply with requests for reasonable behavior, detract from the learning, enjoyment and safety of the rest of the group. Therefore, in such situations, the Scout's parents will be called to come pick him up from the activity. Adults are also expected to act in a manner conducive to positive role modeling for the Scouts. No alcoholic beverages, recreational drugs, profanities, or abusive behavior will be tolerated from either a Scout or adult. Adults who smoke should refrain from doing so at Scout functions in the presence of the Scouts. Scouting has high standards so that we can provide the best possible program to help each Scout develop his character to its fullest potential.

MEETINGS

Troop Meetings

Troop meetings are held at Kiewit Middle School during the school year when the facility is available and in the Piedmont / Wycliffe Park during the summer in Omaha. Please promptly pick up your Scout at 8:00. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend the Troop meetings. A typical meeting includes Troop business, work on Scout skills or merit badges, patrol meetings planning for upcoming events, announcements and possibly a game or contest. The Scoutmaster will be available before and after meetings for scoutmaster conferences as requested and required. Boards of review can also be scheduled before and after meetings.

Patrol Meetings

Occasionally, a patrol will meet at a time other than the regular Troop meeting time. The time and location of these meetings will be determined by the patrol. Other meetings may be necessary from time to time. The time, location, and purpose of these meetings will be announced.

Weekend Camp-outs

Troop 374 is a camping troop. Weekend campouts are scheduled monthly from January through November, unusually on the third weekend of the month unless announced otherwise. December is by patrol. The troop departs from Cottonwood school at 6:00 PM on the Friday of the campout. The Friday evening meal should be eaten before leaving. The troop will return

Sunday morning after breakfast. Parents are encouraged to attend. A current Class 1 physical is required for weekend camps.

Alternate Activities

Alternate Activities are encouraged monthly in place of a regular meeting. These are planned by the PLC (Patrol Leaders Council) and have included bike rides, bowling and swimming.

PLC Meetings

PLC, or Patrol Leaders Council, meetings will be held monthly. Meetings are Monday after the campout, from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM unless otherwise announced. This is where the Senior Patrol Leader, Asst. Senior Patrol Leaders and Patrol Leaders plan the coming activities. The SPL will lead these meetings. The Scribe also attends, but does not have voting power. All Scouts holding a leadership position are encouraged to attend and all scouts are welcome to attend, but may not vote or offer input unless asked.

Troop Committee Meetings

The Troop Committee meetings will be held monthly. Meetings are from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM on the first Sunday of the month that falls after the District Round Table meeting, unless otherwise announced. The Troop Committee Chair will lead these meetings. All registered leaders including committee members, officers, assistant scoutmasters and the scoutmaster should attend. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters act as teachers. The Troop committee members are the administrators and planners. The Troop Committee will determine if the activities the PLC (patrol Leaders Counsel) proposed are appropriate and able to be done.

The Troop committee will have a majority vote to with over half present to modify the information contained in this document.

Adult leader positions include:

Chartered Organization Representative: Liaison between Chartered Org and the troop.
Committee Chair: Leads the Committee, handles administration of the troop (e.g. rechartering).
Committee Members: Assist in planning and administration.
Scoutmaster: Teaches the scout skills, Directs SPL.
Committee Secretary: Records minutes at committee meetings.
Treasurer: Tracks and records money.
Advancement Chair: Tracks advancements and activities .
Assistant Scoutmasters: Teaches the scout skills.
Training Chair: Coordinates training.
Fund raiser Chair: Fund raising ideas and coordinates the volunteers to run fund raisers.
Popcorn Kernel: Coordinate popcorn sales.
Greens Chair: Coordinate greens sales.
Can Drive Chair: Oversees the can drive.
FOS (Friends of Scouting) Chair: Assist with FOS.
Tour Captain: Get Tour permits for campouts.
Religious Advisor: Assists Chaplain's Aid.
Merit Badge Coordinator: Assigns merit badge counselors to scouts working on badges.

Recruiting Chair: Assists Den Chiefs. Coordinates with Cubmaster and Den leader for Den Chief and troop/pack activities.

Adult Quartermaster: Assists troop Quartermaster and address equipment needs.

Campmaster: Coordinate summer camp.

High Adventures Coordinator: Coordinate high adventure outings.

Eagle Advisor: Assist scouts working on their eagle rank.

Most positions do not involve much work, a little coordination and organization. It makes it easier if everyone does a little so there are more opportunities for activities. There is a need to be involved and know what is happening and to be able to have a say to help you son get what you want from the troop.

Court of Honor

There will be a Court of Honor on the last Monday in the months of March and September during which the Scouts receive their earned badges, ranks, and other recognition. It is very important that the Scouts families attend. Advancement in Scouting is exciting for the Scouts. The Scouts' families should be present to share in these moments.

A Court of Honor will typically be scheduled for early spring and early fall after summer camps. These will usually include a potluck dinner starting at 6:30 with awards at 7:00.

Summer Camps

Troop 374 will attend one or two summer camps annually depending on interest. Camp Cedars near Fremont, NE is the local council camp. The troop may elect to attend an out of council camp such as Camp Many Point near Detroit Lakes, MN, Ben Delatour Scout Ranch near Estes Park, CO or Laramie Peak in Wyoming. A current Class 2 (3-year) physical is required for weeklong camps.

High Adventure

The troop will schedule high adventure outing in early June when possible. These include canoeing and caving trips in SE Missouri, Boundary water trips in northern Minnesota, backpacking treks in Wyoming and trips to Philmont in New Mexico. Snow skiing trips have also been part of this. The scouts must be 14 years of age, at least the rank of first class and have the first aid merit badge to participate. Aquatic high adventures will also require the swimming merit badge and two people trained in safe swim defense and safety afloat. Additional requirements or exceptions may relate to specific trips and are allowed by the High Adventure Coordinator and the Troop Committee. A current Class 3 (annual) physical is required for high adventures.

ADVANCEMENT

The Boy Scout advancement program provides a series of progressive challenges and attainable goals. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he meets each new challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement program help a boy grow in self-reliance and in their ability to help others.

Rank Advancement

There are two types of advancement awards that a Scout can earn, ranks and merit badges. The following are the ranks of Boy Scouts: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The rank of Scout and Tenderfoot get the Scout started on the right track on the trail to Eagle. The rank of Scout is accomplished when the boy joins Boy Scouts and has his first Scoutmaster's Conference. With the help of older Scouts and Assistant Scoutmasters, they work together to advance toward First Class during their first year or so in Scouting. While advancing to First Class, a boy will learn about and demonstrate his knowledge of scout craft, camping, outdoor cooking, first aid, map and compass, a healthful lifestyle and citizenship in keeping with Scouting traditions. There are more than 120 merit badges in subjects related to hobbies, outdoor activities, sports, and career fields. Merit badge requirements and supporting information are available in a merit badge pamphlet that is available for each merit badge. The Scout must earn twenty-one merit badges for Eagle, twelve of these merit badges are required and nine are electives selected by the Scout according to his own personal interests. A certain number of these required merit badges are also required for the rank of Star (4) and Life (3). Please see the requirements in appendix "C" and the Boy Scout Handbook for details

Merit Badges

The scout may work on merit badges individually or with others, at summer camp, or the troop may put on a merit badge.

Work on merit badges must be done with an approved merit badge counselors. The troop has merit badge counselors in many areas and the Soaring Eagle District also has merit badge counselors from other troops and organizations that serve as merit badge counselors in their specific fields. When a Scout chooses to begin to work on a merit badge, he must first seek approval of the Scoutmaster or merit badge Coordinator to receive a merit badge card and assigned a merit badge counselor. This approval will generally be given unless the Scout is having trouble progressing with his other, more basic, Scout requirements. The Scout then contacts the merit badge counselor and works with the merit badge counselor on earning this award. The merit badge counselor will go over the requirements with the Scout and describe what is expected of the Scout for the completion of that particular badge. Some merit badges are relatively simple and can be done in a fairly brief period of time. Others, however, can be quite lengthy and somewhat complex and require significantly more effort on the part of the Scout in order to earn this. It is one of the roles of the parents to provide transportation for their Scout to sessions with the merit badge counselor. There must always be a third person present at any meeting with the scout and merit badge counselor.

Youth Protection

In this day and time, one of the basic rules of Scouting is that there will never be a one on one contact with a Scout and an adult, whether that is Scoutmaster, troop committee person, or merit badge counselor. Therefore we require that boys work on merit badges in pairs or more when visiting the merit badge counselor. If the Scout is working on the merit badge alone, then one of his parents should always be with him during the time he is meeting with the merit badge counselor. We will from time to time work on certain merit badges as a Troop and have a merit badge counselor come in and include this as part of the Troop meeting.

Recognition

Merit badges and rank advancements are awarded by presenting the badge to the Scout as soon as possible at the first meeting of the month, and is then recognized at the Court of Honor following the Scout's earning of the badge being presented with the rank or merit badge card that has the name of the award as well as the date earned. These cards should be kept by the individual Scout as he will need to refer to these as he applies for his Eagle rank.

TROOP POSITIONS and ELECTIONS

Each scout must hold a leadership position for rank advancement to Star, Life and Eagle.

Troop Elections are held every 6 months, usually in March and September. Elections will be for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders. Each scout wishing to run for an office must notify the scoutmaster of his desire to hold the position and prepare a brief speech before the election. The Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders will appoint Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders.

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) runs the troop as a President will run a company. The SPL reports directly to the Scoutmaster. The Patrol Leaders (PL) and Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders (ASPL) report to the SPL.

The Patrol Leaders (PL) will run their patrols with the help of their Assistant Patrols Leader (APL).

The Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders (ASPL) will supervise the support positions such as the Quartermaster and Scribe. He will also take the place of an absent SPL.

The scoutmaster assigns all other positions. These include Scribe, Quartermaster, Instructor, Bugler, Den Chief, Troop Guide, Librarian, Historian and Chaplin Aide.

Scouts holding leadership positions must attend JLT (Junior Leaders Training).

OUTDOORS ACTIVITIES

Boy Scouting is designed to take place primarily in the outdoors. It is in the outdoors that Scouts learn to share responsibilities and live with each other. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at Troop meetings come alive with purpose. Being in the outdoors helps the Scout gain an appreciation for nature's handiwork and mankind's place in it. The outdoors provides the setting for a Scout to learn ecology and practice conservation of natural resources.

Troop 374 tries to have at least one hike or overnight activity every month to a place of interest within the area. Some of the major activities that we do on a routine basis are one week of summer camp, district camporees (fall, winter, and spring), Scout-o-rama, various service projects, and our fund raising activities. Parents need to attend these activities, both for transportation support and to share these experiences with their Scouts. A calendar of Troop activities will be distributed periodically throughout the year to keep everyone informed of upcoming activities and is posted on the troop web page. However, as with any long-range plan, specific dates or places will be subject to change. These changes will, be announced at

troop meetings wherever possible. It is the responsibility of the Scout to make note of these changes and inform his parents.

ADULT LEADER TRAINING

No one can be expected to do a job well without being trained in what is expected of him or her. Troop 374 requires that all adult leaders have been trained in at least Boy Scout Fast Start Training (done via videotape and work book at the Troop level) and Youth Protection Training (done via presentation and interaction at the District or Council level). These are minimum requirements for all adults working in the Scouting program.

Additional training opportunities include Boy Scout Basic Leader Training, Wood Badge, BSA Lifeguard, Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense, monthly leader roundtables, and other training opportunities that are available from time to time. Please contact the Troop Committee Chair or Training Chair for specifics on training opportunities.

TRANSPORTATION

It is the parents' responsibility to furnish transportation for their Scouts to and from Troop meetings, and occasionally, for various Troop activities. If there is not enough transportation available, then the outing will be canceled. For your protection, we urge you to carry at least the following automobile liability insurance limits: \$100,000/\$300,000/\$50,000. All drivers must be at least 18 years old. When the troop uses trucks for the purpose of transporting equipment, all passengers will ride in the cab. No passengers will be allowed in the back of a truck for even a short ride. All vehicles carrying passengers are required to have a seat belt for each passenger. It is our Troop policy, as well as National Boy Scout policy that all persons participating in a Scouting activity (Scouts, leaders, and parents) will wear a seat belt at all times when the vehicle is moving.

INSURANCE

The Boy Scouts of America has a program of liability insurance, which covers most normal liability exposures of Boy Scout functions and activities. The liability insurance covers the local scout council, its units and all scouting officials, employees, volunteer workers, young adult leaders and members.

The Troop subscribes to a medical and accident insurance policy, the cost of which is part of the Scout's initial registration fee. This is provided when the Scout registers with the troop. This insurance is secondary to your family medical and accident insurance. For additional details on this insurance plan, you may contact the Troop Committee Chairman.

MEDICAL

As part of the initial registration in Scouting, each Scout's parents must fill out consent to medical care and treatment form. A physical examination will be required before a Scout can attend summer camp. The health and welfare of your son is a major concern of the leaders of the troop. Your input as to his health condition is a must. Should your Scout need to take medicine or be limited in any way as to his activities with the Troop, the Troop leadership, and specifically the adult leader in charge of each outing, must know these limitations or medications. Any particularly complicated medical problem or treatment should be discussed directly with the Scoutmaster and the trip leader.

EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

Appropriate equipment is an essential part of making Scouting enjoyable for your Scout. Particularly on outings where the weather may be less than ideal, appropriate clothing and rain gear is a must in order for your Scout to remain comfortable. You will find a list of suggested equipment in Appendix B at the end of this packet. As you look over this equipment list, you will note that it is rather extensive and can represent a sizeable investment. Some of the key items for comfort are indicated. Certainly your son does not have to have all of this equipment purchased at his beginning in Scouts. In general, however, it is worth the money to know that your son has the appropriate equipment necessary to be warm, dry, and comfortable to help him enjoy his outdoor experience.

Many of the items of major equipment such as clothing, boots, backpacks, and sleeping bags can be purchased "experienced" through some of the second hand stores or from older Scouts who have outgrown the equipment. Birthdays and other holiday times can be opportunities for friends and relatives of the Scout to help provide appropriate equipment. It is also encouraged that the Scout does extra chores to help him earn money towards the cost of some of his equipment. A Scout that is properly equipped will have a good trip and come home safe and sound. Any questions regarding equipment should be directed to the Scoutmaster.

The Troop currently owns some of the basic camping supplies such as tents, cooking stoves, tarps, cooking equipment and saws. From time to time the Troop will replace worn out items and expand its inventory to accommodate the number of Scouts in the troop. Maintenance and storage of Troop equipment is a shared responsibility of all of the parents in the Troop.

If Troop equipment or personal equipment belonging to another Scout or leader is damaged intentionally or through carelessness of the Scout, the Scout will be expected to pay for its replacement.

The use, care, and packing of equipment are a part of the Scouting experience and will be taught at Troop meetings. Specific equipment requirements for a given outing will be discussed at the Troop meeting. If the Scout does not present himself ready to go on the outing with the proper equipment, then he will not be allowed to go on the outing.

The Gottschalk Scout Store at the Boy Scout Service Center, 12401 Maple Road, has a fully stocked Scout Store where you can purchase just about anything found in the Boy Scout Catalog and other items related to Scouting and camping. Another official Boy Scout supplier is Canfields' at 84th & Center, Mooses Tooth, Backwoods, and Lawlors Sporting Goods also carry camping and outdoor gear. There are also several mail order camping gear equipment suppliers. If you have particular questions or want advice on the purchase of equipment for your Scout, please consult the Scoutmaster or one of the Assistant Scoutmasters.

Appendix A

TROOP 374 UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Class 'A' Uniform is the expected for all Troop functions unless otherwise noted. This includes the Scout Handbook, pen or pencil and paper or note pad.

Provided by the Scout

- _ Uniform shirt with proper insignia (Class A uniform):
 - _ Mid-America Council patch
 - _ red shoulder loops
 - _ Arrow of Light if earned
 - _ religious award insignia if earned
 - _ name tag (optional)
 - _ earned temporary insignia
 - _ Service Stars earned in Tiger Cubs and Cub Scouts
 - _ patrol emblem
 - _ Troop numerals (374)

- _ neat jeans (no holes) or shorts (with belt loops)
- _ appropriate socks and footwear (neat) for the activity
- _ Boy Scout Handbook
- _ pen or pencil
- _ note pad
- _ Merit badge sash once the Scout has earned badges to wear on it

Provided by the Troop

- _ Neckerchief
- _ Neckerchief slide
- _ Earned rank patches
- _ Service Stars earned while in the Troop
- _ Quality Unit Award for the current year if earned
- _ Merit Badges earned

Optional uniform items provided by the Scout

- _ Boy Scout pants or shorts
- _ Scout belt
- _ Billed Scout cap
- _ Red Boy Scout polo shirt (Class B uniform)
- _ Official Scout Socks
- _ Troop or camp tee shirts

Appendix B

CAMPING EQUIPMENT

All Personal gear should be marked with Scout's name.

All personal items are the responsibility of the Scout. The Troop will not be responsible for items lost misplaced, broken or stolen.

Additional information about equipment can be found in the Boy Scout Handbook, Chapter 2.

Essentials required for all outings (hikes and campouts).

- Scout uniform (Class "A" or "B" as required, see Appendix A)
- Wear clothing and footwear appropriate for the season and weather
- Extra clothing- (especially socks, jacket)
- Rain suit, raincoat or poncho
- Any medications being taken
- Canteen or water bottle -1 quart at least (additional for backpacking outings)
- Folding pocket knife (sharpened)
- Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- Compass (and map if available)
- Personal first aid kit (see Second Class requirement #6b)
- Matches in waterproof container
- Sun protection-hat, sunglasses, lip-balm, and sunscreen
- Trail food- (no candy)

Items for overnight camping:(These items will vary according to the type of outing, prevailing weather conditions and specific experiences of the Scout)

- Tent (shared) with Ground cloth (shared)
- Sleeping bag (not a slumber bag)
- Air mattress, foam pad or self-inflating pad
- Backpack or duffel bag to carry gear (backpack needed for backpacking trips)
- Footwear-always bring two pair
- Hiking boots (strongly recommended for maximum comfort)
- Tennis shoes (recommended only in addition to boots)
- Extra pair of pants for each day of camping
- Extra underpants for each day of camping
- Extra shirt for each day of camping
- One pair of thin socks (wool or polypropylene) for each day of camping
- One pair of thick socks (wool or insulating) for each day of camping
- Hooded sweatshirt
- Coat or jacket (always bring a coat expecting the weather to turn colder)
- Personal toilet Kit (washcloth, hand towel, toothbrush/case, toothpaste, handkerchief, comb, soap in a plastic container, dental floss, toilet paper in a plastic bag)
- Personal eating gear - unbreakable plate, bowl, and cup (or stackable personal mess kit) and knife/fork/spoon
- Pencil or pen
- Pocket size notebook or note pad
- Boy Scout Handbook

Additional items recommended for winter camping (October through April):

- Extra blanket or slumber bag in winter (to be used as a liner for the sleeping bag to increase warmth)
- Foam pad to place under the sleeping bag
- Warm nightclothes (sweat suit or long johns, stocking cap, warm socks or booties)
- Mittens or gloves
 - at least two pairs in wet weather or snow
- Boots - in winter you should bring snow boots, overshoes, or insulated waterproof boots
- Warm hat for daytime use
- An additional flannel or wool shirt for winter camping
- Thermal underwear for daytime use (polypropylene is best)
- Water repellent pants to wear over jeans and wet snow or rain-also helpful to block the wind

Extra items the Scout may wish to bring.

- Camera and film
- Merit badge pamphlets
- Boy Scout Field Book
- Bird, plant, or mammal identification books
- Bible
- Small musical Instrument
- Watch (not an expensive one)
- Insect repellent (try the non-aerosol kind-better for the environment)
- Binoculars or magnifying glass
- Other items specified for the given activity

ITEMS NOT TO BE BROUGHT ON ANY SCOUTING EVENTS (These items may be confiscated and returned to the PARENT upon returning from the outing.

- Any type of fixed-blade knife (Rambo, hunting, sheath, etc.)
- All personal knives shall be folding pocketknives.
- Radios/Walkman/Tape player/ CD player
- Video games
- Other electronic gadgetry
- Anything of value you don't want lost, dirty, or broken
- Fireworks of any kind
- Alcohol or recreational drugs (needed prescription medications must be in their original container and the trip leader informed of the proper use and dosage of the medication).
- Tobacco products

Appendix C

Rank Requirements



Eagle Scout Required Merit Badges

 Camping	 Citizenship in the Community	 Citizenship in the Nation	 Citizenship in the World
 Communications	 Environmental Science	 Family Life	 First Aid
 Personal Fitness	 Personal Management	  Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving	
   Cycling OR Hiking OR Swimming			



Boy Scout Joining Requirements (Scout Badge)

1. Meet age requirements. Be a boy who has completed the fifth grade or is 11 years old, or has earned the Arrow of Light Award but is under 18 years old.
2. Complete a Boy Scout application and health history signed by your parent or guardian.
3. Find a Scout troop near your home.
4. Repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Demonstrate the Scout sign, salute, and handshake.
6. Demonstrate tying the square knot (a joining knot).
7. Understand and agree to live by the Scout Oath or promise, Law, motto, and slogan, and the Outdoor Code.
8. Describe the Scout badge.
9. Complete the pamphlet exercises. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*
10. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference. Turn in your Boy Scout application and health history form signed by your parent or guardian, then participate in a Scoutmaster conference.



Tenderfoot Scout Rank Requirements

The following new requirements for the rank of Tenderfoot Scout

NOTE: These requirements may be worked on simultaneously with those for Second Class and First Class; however, these ranks must be earned in sequence.

1. Present yourself to your leader, properly dressed, before going on an overnight camping trip. Show the camping gear you will use. Show the right way to pack and carry it.
2. Spend at least 1 night on a patrol or troop campout. Sleep in a tent you have helped pitch.
3. On the campout, assist in preparing and cooking one of your patrol's meals. Tell why it is important for each patrol member to share in meal preparation and cleanup, and explain the importance of eating together.
4.
 - a. Demonstrate how to whip and fuse the ends of a rope.
 - b. Demonstrate you know how to tie the following knots and what their uses are: two half hitches and the tautline hitch.
5. Explain the rules of safe hiking, both on a highway and cross-country, during the day and at night. Explain what to do if you are lost.
6. Demonstrate how to display, raise, lower, and fold the American flag.
7. Repeat from memory and explain in your own words the Scout Oath, Law, and slogan.
8. Know your patrol name, give the patrol yell, and describe your patrol flag.
9. Explain why we use the buddy system in Scouting.
10.
 - a. Record your best in the following tests: Pushups, Pull-ups, Sit-ups, Standing long jump, 1/4 mile run/walk.
 - b. Show improvement in the activities listed in requirement 10a after practicing for 30 days.
11. Identify local poisonous plants; tell how to treat for exposure to them.

12.
 - a. Demonstrate the Heimlich maneuver and tell when it is used.
 - b. Show first aid for the following:
 - Simple cuts and scratches,
 - Blisters on the hand and foot,
 - Minor burns or scalds (first degree),
 - Bites and stings of insects and ticks,
 - Poisonous snakebite,
 - Nosebleed,
 - Frostbite and Sunburn
13. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
14. Complete your board of review.



Second Class Scout Rank Requirements

NOTE: These requirements may be worked on simultaneously with those for the Tenderfoot and First Class ranks; however these ranks must be earned in sequence.

1.
 - a. Demonstrate how a compass works and how to orient a map. Explain what map symbols mean.
 - b. Using a compass and a map together, take a 5-mile hike (or 10 miles by bike) approved by your adult leader and your parent or guardian.*
(* If you are using a wheelchair or crutches, or if it is difficult for you to get around, you may substitute "trip" for "hike" in this requirement.)
2.
 - a. Since joining, have participated in five separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), two of which included camping overnight.
 - b. On one of these campouts, select your patrol site and sleep in a tent that you pitched.
 - c. On one campout, demonstrate proper care, sharpening, and use of knife, saw, and ax, and describe when they should be used.
 - d. Use the tools listed in requirement 2c to prepare tinder, kindling, and fuel for a cooking fire.
 - e. Discuss when it is appropriate to use a cooking fire and a lightweight stove. Discuss the safety procedures for using both.
 - f. Demonstrate how to light a fire and a lightweight stove.
 - g. On one campout, plan and cook over an open fire one hot breakfast or lunch for yourself, selecting foods from the four basic food groups. Explain the importance of good nutrition. Tell how to transport, store, and prepare the foods you selected.
3. Participate in a flag ceremony for your school, religious institution, chartered organization, community, or troop activity.
4. Participate in an approved (minimum of 1 hour) service project.
5. Identify or show evidence of at least 10 kinds of wild animals (birds, mammals, reptiles, fish, mollusks) found in your community.
6.
 - a. Show what to do for "hurry" cases of stopped breathing, serious bleeding, and internal poisoning.
 - b. Prepare a personal first aid kit to take with you on a hike.
 - c. Demonstrate first aid for the following:
 - Object in the eye

- Bite of a suspected rabid animal
 - Puncture wounds from a splinter, nail, and fish hook
 - Serious burns (second degree)
 - Heat exhaustion
 - Shock
 - Heatstroke, dehydration, hypothermia, and hyperventilation.
- 7.
- a. Tell what precautions must be taken for a safe swim.
 - b. Demonstrate your ability to jump feetfirst into water over your head in depth, level off and swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming, then return to your starting place. **
(** This requirement may be waived by the troop committee for medical or safety reasons.)
 - c. Demonstrate water rescue methods by reaching with your arm or leg, by reaching with a suitable object, and by throwing lines and objects. Explain why swimming rescues should not be attempted when a reaching or throwing rescue is possible, and explain why and how a rescue swimmer should avoid contact with the victim.
8. Participate in a school, community, or troop program on the dangers of using drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, and other practices that could be harmful to your health. Discuss your participation in the program with your family.
9. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
10. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
11. Complete your board of review.



First Class Scout Rank Requirements

NOTE: These requirements, and those for Tenderfoot and Second Class may be worked on simultaneously; however these ranks must be earned in sequence.

1. Demonstrate how to find directions during the day and at night without using a compass.
2. Using a compass, complete an orienteering course that covers at least 1 mile and requires measuring the height and/or width of designated items (tree, tower, canyon, ditch, etc.)
3. Since joining, have participated in ten separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), three of which included camping overnight.
4.
 - a. Help plan a patrol menu for one campout - including one breakfast, lunch, and dinner - that requires cooking. Tell how the menu includes the four basic food groups and meets nutritional needs.
 - b. Using the menu planned in requirement 4a, make a list showing the cost and food amounts needed to feed three or more boys and secure the ingredients.
 - c. Tell which pans, utensils, and other gear will be needed to cook and serve these meals.
 - d. Explain the procedures to follow in the safe handling and storage of fresh meats, dairy products, eggs, vegetables, and other perishable food products. Tell how to properly dispose of camp garbage, cans, plastic containers, and other rubbish.
 - e. On one campout, serve as your patrol's cook. Supervise your assistant(s) in using a stove or building a cooking fire. Prepare the breakfast, lunch, and dinner planned in requirement 4a. Lead your patrol in saying grace at the meals and supervise cleanup.
5. Visit and discuss with a selected individual approved by your leader (elected official, judge, attorney, civil servant, principal, teacher) your constitutional rights and obligations as a U.S. citizen.
6. Identify or show evidence of at least 10 kinds of native plants found in your community.
7.
 - a. Discuss when you should and should not use lashings.
 - b. Demonstrate tying the timber hitch and clove hitch and their use in square, shear, and diagonal lashings by joining two or more poles or staves together.
 - c. Use lashing to make a useful camp gadget.
8.
 - a. Demonstrate tying the bowline knot and describe several ways it can be used.
 - b. Demonstrate bandages for a sprained ankle, and for injuries on the head, the upper arm, and the collarbone.

- c. Show how to transport by yourself, and with one other person, a person:
 - from a smoke-filled room
 - with a sprained ankle, for at least 25 yards.
 - d. Tell the five most common signs of a heart attack. Explain the steps (procedures) in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- 9.
- a. Tell what precautions must be taken for a safe trip afloat.
 - b. Successfully complete the BSA swimmer test. *
(* This requirement may be waived by the troop committee for medical or safety reasons.)
 - c. Demonstrate survival skills by leaping into deep water wearing clothes (shoes, socks, swim trunks, long pants, belt, and long-sleeved shirt). Remove shoes and socks, inflate the shirt, and show that you can float using the shirt for support. Remove and inflate the pants for support. Swim 50 feet using the inflated pants for support, then show how to reinflate the pants while using them for support. *
(* This requirement may be waived by the troop committee for medical or safety reasons.)
 - d. With a helper and a practice victim, show a line rescue both as tender and rescuer. (The practice victim should be approximately 30 feet from shore in deep water.)
10. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
11. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
12. Complete your board of review.



Star Scout

1. Be active in your troop or patrol for at least 4 months as a First Class Scout.
2. Demonstrate scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Earn six merit badges, including four from the required list for Eagle.
4. While a First Class Scout, take part in service projects totaling at least 6 hours of work. These projects must be approved by your Scoutmaster.
5. While a First Class Scout, serve actively 4 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility (or carry out a Scoutmaster-assigned leadership project to help the troop):
Boy Scout troop. Patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, troop guide, den chief, bugler, scribe, librarian, historian, quartermaster, junior assistant scoutmaster, chaplain aide, instructor, or Venture crew chief.
Varsity Scout team. Captain, cocaptain, program manager, squad leader, team secretary, librarian, quartermaster, chaplain aide, instructor, or den chief.
6. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference
7. Complete your board of review.



Life Scout

1. Be active in your troop or patrol for at least 6 months as a Star Scout.
2. Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Earn five more merit badges (so that you have 11 in all), including any three more from the required list for Eagle.
4. While a Star Scout, take part in service projects totaling at least 6 hours of work. These projects must be approved by your Scoutmaster.
5. While a Star Scout, serve actively 6 months in one or more of the positions of responsibility listed in requirement 5 for Star Scout (or carry out a Scoutmaster-assigned leadership project to help the troop).
6. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference
7. Complete your board of review.



Eagle Scout

Be active in your troop or patrol for at least 6 months as a Life Scout.

1. Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
2. Earn a total of 21 merit badges (10 more than you already have), including the following:
 - a. First Aid
 - b. Citizenship in the Community
 - c. Citizenship in the Nation
 - d. Citizenship in the World
 - e. Communications
 - f. Personal Fitness
 - g. Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving*
 - h. Environmental Science
 - i. Personal Management
 - j. Swimming OR Hiking OR Cycling*
 - k. Camping, and
 - l. Family Life.

(* You must choose only one merit badge listed in items *g* and *j*. If you have earned more than one of the badges listed in items *g* and *j*, choose one and list the remaining badges to make your total of 21.)

3. While a Life Scout, serve actively for 6 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility:

Boy Scout troop. Patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, troop guide, den chief, scribe, librarian, historian, quartermaster, junior assistant Scoutmaster, chaplain aide, instructor, or Venture crew chief.

Varsity Scout team. Captain, cocaptain, program manager, squad leader, team secretary, librarian, quartermaster, chaplain aide, instructor, or den chief.
4. While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community. (The project should benefit an organization other than Boy Scouting.) The project idea must be approved by your Scoutmaster and troop committee and approved by the council or district before you start. You must use the Life to Eagle Packet, BSA Publication No. 18-927, in meeting this requirement.
5. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference.
6. Successfully complete an Eagle Scout board of review.



Eagle Palms

The Eagle Palm requirements were revised effective September 1, 1997.

After becoming an [Eagle Scout](#), you may earn Palms by completing the following requirements:

1. Be active in your troop and patrol for at least 3 months after becoming an [Eagle Scout](#) or after award of last Palm.
2. Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life.
3. Make a satisfactory effort to develop and demonstrate leadership ability.
4. Earn five additional merit badges beyond those required for [Eagle](#) or last palm.*
5. Take part in a Scoutmaster conference.

* Merit badges earned any time since becoming a Boy Scout may be used to meet this requirement. You may wear only the proper combination of Palms for the number of merit badges you earned beyond the rank of Eagle. The Bronze Palm represents five merit badges, the Gold Palm 10, and the Silver Palm 15.

Appendix D

Web Pages of Interest

<http://www.bsa.scouting.org/>

<http://www.mac-bsa.org/>

<http://www.meritbadge.com/>

http://www.vikingbsa.org/Programs/BoyScouts/merit_badges/All_Merit_Badges.html

<http://www.usscouts.com/>

<http://www.usscouts.scouters.com/>

<http://www.macscouter.com/>

<http://www.manypoint.org/>

<http://www.aplus.com/seth/bsa/>