Scouts BSA

Mobile Area Council

Thanksgiving Camp

November 22 – 25, 2024

Leaders’ Guide

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**Mobile Area Council Fall Camp**

**What is Thanksgiving Camp?**

Thanksgiving camp is a new addition to Mobile Council Camp Opportunities. This event will be held November 22-25 at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL). The camp will focus on STEM related merit badges that are often difficult to complete at other venues. Thanksgiving Camp is not intended to replace winter or summer council camps, but it is intended to provide scouts another opportunity for advancement. A few highlights:

* Scouts and leaders will stay in dorms at DISL
* Meals are served in the dining hall and prepared by DISL staff
* Classrooms and activities in an educational environment
* Opportunities to do nature and STEM activities that are difficult to complete at other camps
* Merit badges are designed to meet all day and to be completed
* All participants will receive a free ticket to the newly reopened and remodeled Alabama Aquarium
* The camp is on the beach!

**Registration**

Registration begins September 1, 2024 and ends October 31, 2024. Because this is a new camp, we are limiting reservations to 75 scouts, first come first serve. We have additional spots for adult leaders and staff. Registration fee is $200 for scouts, $100 for adult leaders and staff registering on or before September 30, and $225 and $125 for registrations on or after Oct 1. This includes all meals and snacks. Camperships are available, please contact the Mobile Council office to apply. Camperships will be evaluated on an individual basis by council staff. We will have a wait list for participants. Fees are not refundable after November 1, 2024. We will have a provisional troop for scouts that wish to come without their troop. We ask that each troop send at least 2 leaders. Register at the following link: <https://scoutingevent.com/004-85081>

**Merit Badges**

The merit badge program is designed so that scouts can complete all badge requirements at camp. In some instances, this is not possible, but we are striving to get badges complete by taking advantage of our location and facilities. Merit badge offerings are listed below. Please note the schedule of each badge. Most are offered on one day. The exception to this is Citizenship in the Community. That class incorporates 8 hours of community service into the activities so that badge can be fully completed during the camp. Scouts enrolled in that merit badge will meet for all 5 merit badge sessions.

**Merit Badges Include:** Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in Society, Motorboating, Oceanography, Mammal Study, Bird Study, Environmental Science, Nature, Fishing, Astronomy, Fishing, Geology, and Mining in Society

**Schedule**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Time | Event |
| Friday Nov 22 | 1800 - 2000 | Check in |
|  | 2030 – 2230 | Movie and cracker barrel |
|  | 2300 | Lights Out |
| Saturday Nov 23 | 0630 | Reveille |
|  | 0700 – 0800  | Breakfast |
|  | 0815 – 1130 | Merit Badge Classes |
|  | 1130 – 1230  | Lunch |
|  | 1230 – 1400 | Free time |
|  | 1400 – 1715 | Merit Badge Classes |
|  | 1800 – 1900 | Dinner |
|  | 1900 – 2030 | Free Time/Fun activities/snacks |
|  | 2230 | Lights Out |
| Sunday Nov 24 | 0630 | Reveille |
|  | 0700 – 0800  | Breakfast |
|  | 0815 – 1130 | Merit Badge Classes |
|  | 1130 – 1230  | Lunch |
|  | 1230 – 1400 | Free time |
|  | 1400 – 1715 | Merit Badge Classes |
|  | 1800 – 1900 | Dinner |
|  | 1900 – 2030 | Free Time/Fun activities/snacks |
|  | 2230 | Lights Out |
| Monday Nov 25 | 0630 | Reveille |
|  | 0700 – 0800 | Breakfast |
|  | 0815 – 1130 | Merit Badge Classes |
|  | 1130 – 1230  | Lunch |
|  | 1230 – 230 | Merit Badge Classes |
|  | 0230 – 0330 | Check Out  |
|  | 0400 | Camp/DISL Closed  |

Merit badge class times are shaded. Most merit badges require attendance during both the morning and afternoon sessions.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Class | Sat AM | Sat PM | Sun AM | Sun PM | Mon AM | MonPM |
| Art |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Astronomy\*\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basketry |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bird Study |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chemistry |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chess |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Citizenship in Society (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Citizenship in Society (2) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Citizenship in the Community\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Digital Technology |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental Science |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finger Printing |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fish and Wildlife |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fishing |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Geology |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Motorboating (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Motorboating (2) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Music |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nature |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oceanography |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orienteering |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Personal Management |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Robotics |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Space Exploration |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\*Scouts enrolled in Citizenship in Community must attend all 6 periods to earn the badge. Community service is included in this time for badge completion.

\*\*Scouts enrolled in Astronomy Merit Badge must attend evening telescope viewing during free time. This may be scheduled Sat or Sun depending on weather conditions.