

Arrow of Light: Trailhead 2026

Cherokee Scout Reservation
3296 Boy Scout Camp Road
Yanceyville, NC 27379



What is AOL: Trailhead?

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- The purpose of Arrow of Light: Trailhead is to encourage current Arrow of Light Scouts to transition to a Scouts BSA troop during the January-February 2027 period (The goal is for all Arrow of Light Scouts to transition to Scouts BSA no later than February 28).
- We will provide Arrow of Light Scouts with experiences they could not do as Cub Scouts and whet their appetites for what they can do as Scouts BSA.
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What is AOL: Trailhead?

- We encourage parents/guardians of Arrow of Light Scouts to attend Arrow of Light: Trailhead to have a fun experience with their Scout and learn what it means to be a Scouts BSA parent versus a Cub Scout parent. There will be a training session for Arrow of Light parents/guardians.

What happens at AOL: Trailhead?

Program

Program - Friday

- No meal provided on Friday night
- Opening Campfire
- HUGE, AOL Celebration Party (Cracker Barrel)
- Leaders Meeting

Program – Saturday Day

- Opening Flag Ceremony
- Most program is centered around the Trading Post
 - Scouts will go to the Metalwork Shop and Climbing Tower
- Scheduled Round Robin
- AOL Parent Meeting – How to support your Scout in Scouts BSA
- Mid-afternoon Departure

Saturday Round Robin Activities

- BB Gun Challenge Shoot (Activity Field)
- Climbing Tower (Climbing Tower)
- Blacksmithing (Metalwork Shop)
- Fireman Chit: Responsible Use of Fire While Camping (Fitness Shelter)
- Scouts BSA 10 Essentials (Anderson Shelter)
- Laser Shot (OA Lodge)
- Indoor Catapults (Pennington Porch of Trading Post)

Schedule – Friday + DRAFT

Friday, November 13

5:00 – 7:30 pm

Participant Arrival

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Staff Dinner (Floating)

8:00 pm

Opening Campfire

9:00 pm

Cracker Barrel

10:00 pm

Unit Leader Meeting

10:00 pm

Taps

Schedule – Saturday + DRAFT

Saturday, November 14

7:00 am	Breakfast
7:45 am	Opening Flag Ceremony
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Program Round Robin Begins
12:15 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Program Round Robin Continues
1:15 pm – 3:15 pm	Scouts BSA Parent Orientation
3:15 pm	Closing Flag Ceremony
3:30 pm	Dismissal
4:30	All Participants Depart Camp

Meals

- Friday night supper should be eaten/obtained prior to arriving
- Provided
 - Friday night cracker barre
 - Saturday breakfast
 - Saturday lunch
- All meals are cafeteria style
- Special dietary needs request must be submitted during the registration process in Black Pug
- Vegetarian options are available at all meals

Primary Menu

Saturday Breakfast

- Scrambled Eggs
- Sausage
- Biscuits
- Cereal
- Apples and Oranges
- Milk/Juice/Coffee/Hot Chocolate

Saturday Lunch

- Hamburgers
- Tater Tots
- Lettuce, Tomato, Pickels, Onions
- Baked Beans
- Mandarin Oranges
- Tea/Lemonade

AOL Celebration Menu Ideas

- AOL Cupcakes
- Ice Cream Cups
- Mac & Cheese Cups
- Pizza
- Pigs in a Blanket with honey mustard
- Meatballs
- Oreo Rice Krispie Treats
- Pretzel Wands
- Carmel-coated Popcorn
- S'mores Muffins
- Hot Chocolate Station
- Punch/Tea/Water

Parent Meeting

- Topics
 - Differences between pack and troop operations
 - How to support your Scout in the transition
 - How to support your Scout on the trail to Eagle Scout
 - How do parents fit into the Scouts BSA program
 - How do Safeguarding Youth policies and practices differ between Cubs and Scouts BSA
- 1:15 – 3:15 Saturday, November 14
- Dining Hall
- Parents of AOL Scouts and Cub Leaders
- Parents can register as a day camper to attend the parent meeting (no cost)

Dates

Dates

- Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14
- Does conflict with National Service Day

Who Can Attend?

Who Can Attend?

- Arrow of Light Scouts
- Parents/Guardians of Arrow of Light Scouts
- Arrow of Light Den Leaders
- Cub Scout Adult Leaders

How do you register

How Do You Register for AOL: Trailhead?

- Registration is completed by the pack
- You must register using Black Pug – our event management tool
- Registration link: <https://scoutingevent.com/070-aoltrailhead>
- Option 1: One person in the pack can register everyone
- Option 2: Turn on parent portal to allow parents/guardians to complete registration data and submit payment
 - Both options require management and leadership from the pack
- You can attend as a den, or family
- There can only be one reservation for each pack

How to use the Black Pug Parent Portal

- These links can help you remember how to use the Parent Portal.
 - [Parent Portal](#)
 - [Parent Portal Leader Guide - Enabling Parent Portal on Your Registration](#)
 - [Parent Portal Parent Guide](#)

Registration Deadlines

- Registration closes:
 - Tuesday, November 10 at 11:59 pm

What is the Event Cost?

What is the Cost?

- The cost is \$35 for Arrow of Light Scouts.
- The cost for all types of adults is \$30.
- The cost for den chiefs is \$30.

What does the Fee Include?

- Each attendee receives an Arrow of Light: Trailhead patch
- All meals: Friday cracker barrel, Saturday breakfast, and Saturday lunch
- Program supplies and materials for a day full of adventure
- Camp usage fees and facility rental fees

Event Logistics

Pre-event Logistics

- Campsite Assignments
 - Made by the camp director
 - Communicated to pack POC by Thursday
- Housing
 - Adirondacks, with mattresses
 - First come, first serve
 - Bring own personal tent
 - Use hammocks

Day Camper Logistics

- Yes, we have added a day camper option due to demand and interest.
- Arrow of Light Scouts can register as Arrow of Light - Day Camper (8:00 am - 4:00 pm) - \$35
- Family members have two options as day campers:
 - Option 1 - Family Member - Day Camper (8:00 am -4:00 pm) - \$30 - Parent/guardians who plan to stay the entire day with their Arrow of Light Scout
 - Option 2: Family Member - Day Camper (Orientation Only) - \$0
Parents/guardians may arrive at 1:00 to participate in the Scouts BSA Parent Orientation, at no charge, by selecting Family Member-Day Camper (Orientation)

Arrival

- Friday
 - Packs/dens may arrive on Friday between 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm
 - Eat Friday supper before you arrive
 - Arrow of Light Celebratory Campfire starts at 8:00 pm
 - Families will be able to drive to the campsite to unload gear
 - Must remain on the graveled road
 - Must park at the graveled lot for each campsite
 - Unload gear
 - Move car to the parking lot
 - Return to campsite and set up camp

Arrival

- Saturday
 - Day campers should arrive between 7:00 am and 7:30 am
 - Park in the main parking lot
 - Check-in at headquarters
 - Submit necessary paperwork
 - Be at flag pole at 7:45 am

Check Out on Saturday

- A Scout is Clean.
- Leave campsite better than you found it.
- Garbage in trashcans.
- Pack up gear on Saturday morning
- Carry gear to parking lot and store in car
- Or, you may drive in to pick up gear after flag lowering at 3:30
- Depart camp prior to 4:30 pm

Safeguarding Youth

Safeguarding Youth: Buddy System

- Buddies are always the same gender
- Buddies must be no more than three years apart in age
- Parents can now be buddies with their children
- Triple – group of three
 - Can be used if necessary
 - Can be mixed gender
 - Must be no more than three years apart in age

Safeguarding Youth: Accommodations

- Parent/guardian may share accommodations with their family
 - Grandparents, aunts/uncles, fiancés, unmarried significant others cannot share housing with Scouts
- For Scouts not tenting with their families, tentmates cannot be more than two years apart in age
- For Scouts not tenting with their families, tentmates must be the same gender

Safeguarding Youth: Supervision/Membership Status

- Each pack (group) must have 2 adult leaders who are over-21 years of age, registered with Scouting America as a unit leader with the pack, who have a completed criminal background check, and an unexpired Safeguarding Youth certification
- Since AOL: Trailhead is a council-sponsored event, BALOO recommended but not required
- Parents do not have to be registered members of Scouting America to camp overnight with their Scouts
 - Parents must review [“How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide”](#)
 - Non-member parents must always be under the supervision of an adult who is 21 years old and youth protection trained
- With the exception of parents, all other adults must be members of Scouting America to camp overnight

YOUTH PROTECTION



**How to Protect Your
Children From Child Abuse:**
A Parent's Guide



“How to Protect Your
Children From Child
Abuse: A Parent’s
Guide”

English & Spanish versions
are available on Black Pug

“How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide” Verification

Pack Number: _____

Event: _____

Event Leader for Pack: _____ Unit Leader Signature _____

Which Leader is BALOO trained: _____

The adults/parents listed below reviewed the “How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide” content within a whole group on (this date) _____

	First	Last
1	_____	_____
2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____
4	_____	_____
5	_____	_____
6	_____	_____
7	_____	_____
8	_____	_____
9	_____	_____
10	_____	_____
11	_____	_____
12	_____	_____
13	_____	_____
14	_____	_____
15	_____	_____

- “How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide” Verification
- Available on Black Pug
- Submitted to Camp Director at Friday Night Leader Meeting

Behavior Expectations

Code of Conduct

- **Cherokee Scout Reservation operations are governed by:**
 - Federal, state, and local laws
 - The Scout Oath, Scout Law, and the Outdoor Code
 - *Guide to Safe Scouting*
 - National Camping Accreditation Program (NCAP)
 - Scouting America's Safeguarding Youth policies and Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

Code of Conduct

- **Respect the rights and property of others:**

- I will keep my hands and unwelcome comments to myself.
- I will not touch other people's belongings.
- I will not use disrespectful and abusive language - No profanity, slurs, or putdowns.
- I will not harass or haze others.
- I will be respectful of others (this includes personal space, religious and other deeply held beliefs, ethnic and life histories, gender, and life choices).
- I will follow my unit's dress code.
- I will not bring my pet to camp.

Code of Conduct

- **Respect the camp's property:**
 - I will not damage or deface camp facilities or property.
 - I will respect the camp conservation easements.

Code of Conduct

- **Be concerned for the safety of campers and staff:**
 - I will be in my campsite from taps to reveille except when necessary for health and safety reasons.
 - I will wear closed-toed & closed-healed shoes; open-toed & open-healed shoes are not safe on gravel and uneven terrain.
 - I will follow the safety procedures reviewed in each program area.
 - I will wear the safety equipment and clothing required for each program activity.
 - Prescription and over-the-counter drugs will be under the control of an adult (parent/unit leader or staff member).

Code of Conduct

- **The following items are strictly prohibited (there will be no second chances):**
- Campers, adult volunteers, and visitors participating in these actions will be sent home at the first infraction at their own expense.
 - Alcoholic beverages, fireworks, illegal drugs, and tobacco (or any of its derivatives such as vapes) are not allowed.
 - No personal firearms should be brought on camp property. The only firearms and ammunition allowed in camp must be owned by the council.
 - Gambling or betting for money, public displays of affection between anyone, fighting, threatening/physical abuse, stealing, tampering with emergency equipment, being under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed at camp.

Required Paperwork

Required Paperwork

- Collected by Cubmaster
- Submitted to Camp Director at Friday evening leader meeting
- Required items for each person
 - Pre-event Medical Screening Form
 - Health Form Parts A & B
 - Code of Conduct
- Required items for each unit
 - How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide Verification

Pre-event Medical Screening Form

- Completed by the family prior to departing home for camp
 - Elect to stay home if you are ill or you have been in close contact with someone who is ill

Range & Target Activities Hold Harmless

- No longer required for Cub Scout range & target activities

How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide Verification

- Submit one form per unit
- If parents who are not members of Scouting America hold an unexpired Safeguarding Youth certificate, they do not need to review “How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide”
- Use the Safeguarding Youth Aging Report to provide proof of Safeguarding Youth certification
- The Safeguarding Youth Aging Report can be found in My.Scouting

Health & Safety In Camp

Health & Safety

- All first aid instances should be treated at the health lodge
- Medication
 - Must be in the custody of the parent/guardian
 - Must be brought in the primary bottle
 - Can be maintained in the health lodge
 - There is a refrigerator in the health lodge for medications
- Closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes must be worn at all times.
 - No Crocs.
 - Flip-flops/sandals may be worn in the showers.

Sick Child at Camp

- If a Scout becomes sick, the parent/guardian will take the Scout home
- If a Scout needs medical attention beyond basic first aid, the parent/guardian will transport the Scout to the local hospital

Vehicle Traffic

- Personal vehicles are allowed in camp on Friday and Saturday at the designated times
- At all other times, vehicles must remain parked in the camp parking lot
- Approved golf carts may be used to transport Scouts with special needs
- The event will use camp-approved vehicles to support event operations

Mobility

- Mobility needs should be submitted during the registration process in Black Pug
- The camp will NOT provide golf carts for individuals to use
- Families/packs with mobility needs can provide their own golf cart
 - Golf cart must be inspected by camp ranger at check-in on Friday
 - Golf cart must have a first aid kit and fire extinguisher
 - Golf cart can only be used to support Scout/leader with mobility need
 - If you plan to bring your own golf cart, you must inform the camp director the Tuesday before your weekend starts

Early Departures & Late Arrivals

- No one should arrive after 9:00 pm on Friday evening
- Families, singles (not whole packs) that arrive on Saturday should sign-in at the headquarters building
- People who need to leave early, should complete the early release process in the headquarters building
 - An early release document must be on file with the camp

Will the trading post be open?

Trading Post

- Opens on Friday afternoon
- Closes on Saturday afternoon

What to bring?

Suggested Packing List

- At least one change of clothes, preferable two, in case one gets wet, including underwear and socks (warm clothing that can be layered for different temperatures)
- Closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes
 - Sandals, Crocs, flip flops, slides may not be work around camp
 - They may be used in the shower
- Rain gear
- Sweatshirt
- Bag for dirty clothes
- Pajamas or sleep clothes
- Towel and toiletry items

Suggested Packing List

- Tent/hammock
- Sleeping bag/blankets
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Camp chair
- Money for trading post
- Medication in the original bottle with the original dosing instructions
- Snacks

Suggested Packing List

- Cub Scout Essentials
 - Flashlight
 - First aid kit
 - Water bottle
 - Sun protection
 - Whistle
 - Trail food

What not to bring?

Things to Leave at Home

- Please do not bring:
 - Pets (trained service animals are welcome)
 - Fireworks
 - Liquid fuels
 - Personal firearms
 - Do not bring personal bb guns or archery equipment
 - Bicycles
 - Illegal drugs, medical marijuana, and alcohol
- Scouting America events are non-smoking

If I need support, who do I
contact?

Contacts

- Bud Harrelson

Camp Director

bud.Harrelson@scouting.org

- Thanks to Tsoiotsi Tsogalii Lodge for co-sponsoring AOL: Trailhead

