

A Special Note from Your {\$eventInstanceTitle} Course Director:

Thank you for registering for this important training.

You'll have a veteran training staff for this training that wants, more than anything, for you to enjoy and gain lots from it. First and foremost is fun. Well, ok, safety is first and of course, next is respectful treatment of others. Fun is next though. The staff will sneak in tons of skills, tips, and tricks while you complete interesting activities. Plus, we have the pleasure of hosting you at Camp Rodney, the "Scout Camp on the Chesapeake". It spans more than 900 acres and is internationally renowned. Beginning in 1923 BSA was gifted with these diverse shores on the Chesapeake Bay and North East River. It's rolling hills and dense flora provide a perfect setting to practice your outdoor camping skills, and that is what you will do.

On arrival you'll drive past posts displaying the Scout Law. You'll later recite it. Just beyond "Reverent", your IOLS adventure begins at SHAWNEE Campsite. Check-in begins at 7pm and continues through 9pm. We highly encourage arrival on Friday night so that you are in camp and ready to go. If you cannot arrive on Friday night, Check-In reopens at 7am on Saturday. Participants **MUST** be checked-in and ready to participate by the start of the first session at 8am on Saturday.

"Be Prepared". In the pages below you will find helpful information and a map Rodney Reservation. Please read this entire package. IOLS participants camp Friday and Saturday evenings whereas BALOO participants camp Saturday night only. BALOO participants may camp Friday night, but we would need to know my contacting **{\$volunteerContact}**.

The two groups will be combined for some sessions depending on the number of participants and training staff. All will attend the evening campfire on Saturday and the closing mid-morning Sunday.

COVID can't be ignored so it's covered right here > We will follow the CDC guidelines. Most of your training is outdoors where masks are not necessary but for the indoor sessions if you are concerned that social distancing cannot be maintained, please feel free to wear your mask.

We have two questions. Please respond to {\$volunteerContact} to let us know.

1. Do you have any dietary restrictions or severe allergies of any type?
2. Do you need a power source at your tent site?

That's it, well, except for the following novelette. Please read it.

The Training Team

Frequently Asked Questions:

Are we camping outdoors? You betcha! Rain, shine, or snow. This is a chance to prove and hone your skills. If you have concerns or need assistance of any kind, please let us help you. Just as you would for a Scout. Shawnee is circled in red on the attached map. We will have access to the comfort station nearby throughout the weekend.

Are we backpacking to the site? No, it is a short trip from the main road back to Shawnee – if you need, we will have access to a wagon to load equipment into for the short walk back to the site. You can unload at Road by the triangle marked on the attached map in blue and then park in the general parking lot down by the parade field also marked in blue.

What do I need to bring for camping? Ummm... have you consulted your Scout Handbook? Don't have one? Get one. You will find it great reading for those cozy pre-sleep periods or down-time between activities. Plus, how can you teach the material if you don't have the book? You'll find the guidance you seek in this very valuable resource. (for a fairly comprehensive list that you can use with your Troop as well check out this link <https://scoutlife.org/outdoors/outdoorarticles/6976/scout-outdoor-essentials-checklist/>)

OK. Anything SPECIAL I should bring? Yes, please bring a **pocket-knife, note taking materials, water bottle, mess kit, comfy camp chair, hot beverage container (we don't do paper and plastic) and a compass**. A fire-starting contest will be held so bring your bag of **fire building tricks**. Note: Accelerants, except nature-made, are not permitted.

Uniform? Yes please, if you have one. Don't rush out on our account but you should have one. As a leader you set the example. We will wear them during events that the Scouts and Scouters would be expected to wear them.

Do I need to bring food? No, unless you have a special diet. Feel free to bring your own snacks or beverages (non-alcoholic. Need I mention?). We will supply all food including fruits and a variety of things to drink. Vegetable options will be included. We will also provide all gear for food preparation, cooking, and clean-up.

Is there pre-training or reading that I need to do to prepare for this course? If you have not already, take on-line Youth Protection NOW. Otherwise, there is no prerequisite for this weekend course. EVERYONE must complete Youth Protection Training. On-line courses can be found at <https://myscouting.scouting.org>.

Do I have to attend the whole weekend since I have camped numerous times with the troop and family? Yes. We validate and present course completion cards at departure Sunday, but not before. There is no partial credit for this course.

Should we bring single person tents or can we use family tents and bunk together? Your call. Some bring single person, some two-person, some cabin tents, and some don't bring a tent at all and practice "under the stars" camping. Use what you have or can borrow. Maybe even buy something new. Just know how to use it.

Won't it be cold? Heaters using combustible fuels are never permitted in a tent. Even if you don't catch on fire, you can asphyxiate from the CO2 accumulation. Staying warm, dry, and comfortable should be a top priority. Do your homework. Test your gear. Here are some pointers for camping in the cold. https://scoutingevent.com/Download/081108897/SM/Happy_Camping_in_the_Cold.pdf

What kind of mess kit do I need? There are some nifty kits in almost any camping or sporting goods store you but don't have to spend a bunch of money. A Tupperware® container and lid, some compact or nesting silverware, or even an old Scout kit will work just fine.

