

RODNEY SCOUT RESERVATION

Summer Camp Leader's Guide

updated November 4, 2026

Scouting America™

Del-Mar-Va Council

A beacon of Scouting on the Chesapeake Bay for 104 years!

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Scout Leader,

Thank you for choosing Rodney Scout Reservation for your Troop's summer camp experience this year! Scouts are ready for a summer camp experience and you have chosen the best there is. Rodney Scout Reservation is a Nationally Accredited Scouting America Long-Term Camp. Our facilities, program, and staff are top rate. Everyone from the newest Scout to the experienced adult leader, will have an experience that will last a lifetime.

This guidebook, along with the Rodney website - www.delmarvacouncil.org/rodney, will give you the information needed to prepare your Scouts for a great time at summer camp. Rodney Scout Reservation offers a wide variety of program for Scouts of all ages, from Brownsea for first-year campers, to Climbing and Motorboating Merit Badges. Please take time to share this information with your Scouts and their parents so that everyone can be well prepared. We will be making periodic updates to this Leader's Guide, so be sure to check back!

Each year we do a Web-based Virtual Leaders Meeting. We will cover all the latest camp program information updates, answer any questions you might have and introduce some of the senior camp staff for this summer. A live video conference meeting will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2027 at 7pm. Thank you again for choosing Rodney Scout Reservation and we look forward to seeing you soon.

If you would like a tour of camp, they are available any weekend, simply reach out to rsr@dmvc.org and we will set up a staff member to guide you.

We're incredibly excited about this upcoming summer, and we cannot wait to see you at Rodney!

Yours in Scouting,
Rodney Scout Reservation Leadership



Damian Ambrozewicz
Camp Director



Connor Leigh
Program Director



CENTRAL STAFF TEAM



Ellie Drost
Asst. Program Director



Matt Krystkiewicz
Camp Ranger



Rob Linhart
Camp Ranger

BE PREPARED

This guide will help you begin planning for the summer camp experience of a lifetime at Rodney Scout Reservation. Time and again, research has shown that Scouts remain in our program when in Troops that plan a strong outdoor program. Our camp staff is eagerly awaiting your Troop's arrival. We know that Troops who plan their summer experience before they arrive are the ones that leave camp the most satisfied. Please make the information in this guide available to all Scouts and Leaders attending camp.

As the Scout Motto goes... Be Prepared!

This guide and other related summer camp documents are available on the Rodney Summer Camp website:
scoutingevent.com/081-RSRSummer

Online Pre-Camp Leaders Meeting

Our Pre-camp Leaders Meeting is hosted online with the Camp Director and key summer staff. The meeting will be recorded and available online after the live event concludes for those who are unable to attend. Topics of discussion will include preparing for your Troop's summer experience, program highlights, and more.

On Sunday, May 2, 2027 at 7PM, a live video conference meeting will be held via the Zoom platform. Pre-registration is required. Please use the following link: To be distributed at a later date.

If you have any questions, or want to schedule a visit to Rodney, contact the Camp Director at rsr@dmvc.org or by calling 410-287-5888.



Tours of Camp

We have staff available in camp every weekend, they will be glad to give you a tour of the property or showcase your Troop's summer campsite. Email rsr@dmvc.org if you want to schedule a tour.



Infectious Disease Planning

The ever-changing nature of infectious diseases including COVID-19 can unfortunately impact us in camp.

We encourage all Troops to use the Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist BEFORE driving to camp.
https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-102_PreEventChklist.pdf





GUIDE CONTENTS

Pre-Camp Information
Goals for Participants 1
Contact Information 2
Fee Schedule & Camperships 3
Refund Policy 4
Cancellation Insurance 4
Medical Forms 5
SYT & Leadership Policy 6

General Camp Information
Camp Staff 7
Food Services 8
Camp Facilities & Equipment 9
Campsite Duties 9
Camp Communications 10
Leaving Camp 11
Visitors in Camp 11

Sunday Check-In Information
Arrival at Camp 12
Uniform in Camp 12
Sunday Opening BBQ 12
Aquatic Classification & Policy 13
"Boat Shoes" Requirement 13

Your Week of Camp Program
Campfires 14
Chapel Services 14
Service & Conservation Projects 14
Camp-Wide Retreats 15
Trading Post 15
Crew 299's Pizza Night 15
In-Camp Signups 16
Other Programs in Camp 16

End of Week & Check-Out
Friday Family Dinner 17
Saturday Check-Out 17
Merit Badge Applications 17

Program Information
Merit Badge Philosophy 18
Session Sign-ups 19
Prerequisites 19
Merit Badge Counselors 20
CPR Requirement 20
Fishing Gear 20

Health & Safety
Buddy System 21
Medications 21
Hydration 21
Camp Security 21
Sunscreen 21
Standards for Privacy 22
Showers 22
Insects/Ticks 22
Hiking 22
Bicycles 23
Motor Vehicles 24
Smoking 24
Other Prohibited Items 24

Emergency Procedures
Siren System 25
Accident or Illness 25
In Case of Fatality 25
Severe Storm 26
Lost Person 26
Other 27
Lost Bather 27
Bullying or Abuse 27
Emergency Numbers

Appendix
Camp Map



GOALS OF THE CAMP

It is the goal of Rodney Scout Reservation to provide a program that contributes to the development of citizenship, character, leadership, and personal fitness in Scouts, Leaders, Staff, and visitors.

Participating in the program at Rodney Scout Reservation allows Scouts, Leaders, visitors and Staff to experience the Scouting program. Demonstrating behaviors associated with the aims of the Scouting program is an integral part of the camp experience. Some examples of desired behavior outcomes include:

Citizenship- Troops and individuals demonstrate respect for our nation by participating in daily flag ceremonies in the morning and at night. Scouts & leaders may also demonstrate citizenship by maintaining a clean campsite, and/or performing a service project to benefit others.

Character- Scouts, leaders, staff, and visitors have opportunities to participate in a rigorous outdoor program. This program will challenge them to act as part of a team to accomplish a community goal. Individuals will learn and demonstrate new skills. A Scout learning to safely climb and rappel from the camp climbing tower for the first time is a prime example.

Leadership- Through our programs all have opportunities to learn and show leadership traits such as resilience, problem solving, motivation and accountability.

Personal Fitness- Scouts, leaders, staff, and visitors are encouraged to participate in a physical outdoor program that promotes an active, healthy lifestyle. All are also encouraged to develop and practice habits associated with healthy, fulfilled living, which may include pursuit of the faith practices of their choosing. Examples could include: Scouts choosing to eat a salad during mealtime as a healthy choice to supplement the camp menu; Scouts and leaders holding a daily prayer in their campsite.

Camp Reservations & Fees

Del-Mar-Va Council Camping Services
1910 Baden Powell Way
Dover, DE 19904
Phone: (302) 622-3300 x127
Email: camping@dmvc.org



Contact Information



Summer Camp Program or Staff Opportunities

Rodney Scout Reservation Headquarters
400 Rodney Scout Road
North East, MD 21901
Phone: (410) 287-5888
Email: rsr@dmvc.org



2027 FEE SCHEDULE
(at Rodney fees are ALL INCLUSIVE)

"ALL INCLUSIVE" means that here at Rodney you do not pay extra for any of the following, they are included in your general camp fee: basketry kits, leather crafts, Rifle ammunition, Shotgun ammunition, ice for your cooler, motorboat fuel, Climbing Wall time, Food for Cooking MB, Second Helpings in the Dining Hall, Coffee & Tea for thirsty leaders, WIFI access, the best sunsets in Scouting America, all the fun and excitement you can bear, and much, much more!!!

CAMPER FEES

	Early Fee (Paid in Full by May 1)	Regular Fee
Dining Hall or Heaterstack Dining	$615	$640
Troop Commissary (see page 8 for description)	$565	$590

ADULT LEADER FEES

(based on the number of youth attending camp from your Troop)

# of Scouts in attendance	# of FREE ADULTS	All other Adults
1-9	1	$225 each
10-19	2	$225 each
20-29	3	$225 each
30-39	4	$225 each
40-49	5	$225 each
50-59	6	$225 each
60+	7	$225 each
	+1 for every additional 10	

CAMPERSHIPS

Every Scout deserves the opportunity to attend summer camp at Rodney Scout Reservation. Scouts who may have financial difficulties should consider applying for campership funds. Check online at www.delmarvacouncil.org/camperships for more information.

REFUND POLICY

Partial refunds for Scouts not attending camp will be given only if the unit notifies Camping Services, in writing at least two weeks prior to the unit's scheduled arrival date at camp. There will be no refund for cancellations within two weeks of camp attendance, except for medical reasons. A doctor's note must be sent no later than the completion of the unit's week at camp. The $50 non-refundable registration fee will not be returned. After June 1, contractual fees increase the non-refundable amount to $100 regardless of the reason for cancellation. Any refunds will be made to the unit after the close of the summer camping season. It is the unit's responsibility to be sure that all parents are aware of the refund policy.



Cancellation Insurance

Even with the best intentions, sometimes things get in the way of your Scouts' coming to camp. Family emergencies and medical emergencies can stop even the most diehard Scout from completing Swimming Merit Badge and singing songs at campfires. Things happen and we at Rodney recognize this. So, while unable to protect Scouts' and Scouts' parents time investment in camp, there is an option to protect the financial investment. By teaming up with Trip Mate Inc., a leisure insurance specialist, parents can now purchase protection against their child's inability to attend Summer Camp. This coverage does not include everything. If your Scout suddenly doesn't want to go to camp or is restrained by certain obligations like Summer School, this coverage will not take effect. Please read the Trip Mate Policy Specifics to get exact details as to what is covered and what is not. Additionally, this coverage extends to emergencies that happen while a covered Scout is in camp such as medical evacuation and also covers lost and stolen personal items.

Please note that to be covered your insurance would have to be purchased prior to your final payment.

For more information about program protection or to get a quote or purchase a plan visit **https://www.aplusplans.com/index.php/consumer/index/dlmv11**. Fill out the "Get a Quote" section to start the process of purchasing a plan. If you or a parent have questions about this program, please contact Trip Mate Inc. at 800-420-5378 or at info@travelpolicyadmin.com.

Please note that this program is not administered in any way by Rodney Scout Reservation or the Del-Mar-Va Council. This is not an exception to Rodney's no refund policy nor does this program constitute a subrogation for camp fee payment.



MEDICAL FORMS

The Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Record is mandatory for all youth and adult participants.

The form can be downloaded at www.delmarvacouncil.org/rodney/summer/planning. This is the current national Scouting America form and is the only form to be accepted. **It is unacceptable to use a sports physical form as a substitution.**

Per National Standard, all participants staying in camp overnight are required to have Parts A, B and C completed. All three sections (A, B, and C) must be turned in at the medical recheck. The form must be signed by a licensed medical practitioner within the past 12 months and have a parent or guardian signature granting permission to render emergency treatment. Adults and youth must sign their own form. **No one will be able to stay in camp without the proper medical form, regardless of how many nights.**

We strongly encourage Troops to make copies of the medical form to turn in at medical recheck. **Medical forms may not be returned at the completion of summer camp.**

All Scouts and adults will receive a medical screening soon after arrival at camp. **Camp is inherently a close quarters community, in an effort to minimize the risk of having an outbreak of illness, any Scout or Scouter with a temperature of greater than 100 degrees will be sent home if medically safe to travel.** In the interest of everyone's health, please make sure to have parents check campers' temperatures before leaving home. Scouts and leaders with temperatures over 100 should delay their arrival until their temperature returns to normal range.



The safety of our youth and adults is always of utmost importance at camp. There are Scouting America standards and Del-Mar-Va Council policies in place to help ensure that safety.

Two registered adult leaders, 21 years of age or older are required per Safeguarding Youth guidelines for the duration on all trips and outings. A female unit must include at least one registered female adult age 21 or older. There are a few instances in camp, such as patrol activities and merit badge classes, where no adult leadership is required, as Scouts will be under the supervision of adult Staff, but observation is always welcome.

Youth need to be under the constant supervision of an adult while in camp per Maryland state regulations.

Current SYT Required for all Overnight Adults

Any Adult staying overnight at a Del-Mar-Va Council summer camp must complete Safeguarding Youth Training prior to their stay in camp.
The training is available online through www.my.scouting.org.

Current Scouting America Registration Required for all Adults Staying Overnight

Effective Sept. 1, 2023, all adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant.

"**Q**. Our Scouts BSA boy troop and our Scouts BSA girl troop are linked and would like to host a joint outing or activity. Do we have to provide adult leadership from each troop?
A. Yes, each troop is a separate unit, and therefore, each troop/unit must provide its own two-deep leadership, meeting the leadership requirements outlined in Scouting's Barriers to Abuse."

THE RODNEY STAFF

Our Staff

Rodney Scout Reservation takes pride in its summer camp staff. Each year the camp employs over 100 seasonal staff ranging in age from 15-75+. Many senior staff attend Scouting America's National Camping School. All of the staff are ready and prepared to provide an amazing experience and field questions upon your arrival.

You will find that the Rodney Staff is like no other that you have experienced at Scout camps. Customer service is a way of life for our team. You will find that the statement is true, "Ain't no staff like a Rodney Staff!"

If you have any Scouts who would like to be a part of the Rodney Scout Reservation team, please have them fill out the online staff application at this web address 247scouting.org/forms/081-staff



Counselors in Training

Each year, Rodney Scout Reservation trains the next generation of camp staff in its Counselor-in-Training program. Each "CIT" participates in a 3+ week program to both experience multiple areas of camp program and to get a first-hand look into the life of a camp staff member. Many CITs return the following summer to be employed as a full-summer staff member. The CIT program is open to those 14 years of age.





FOOD SERVICES

Rodney Scout Reservation offers three different types of food service for units in camp: Dining Hall, heater stack, or Troop commissary.

Dining Hall - The most common means of food service at Rodney. All campsites located in the Pathfinder and Wilderness camps attend meals at the Dining Hall. There are 2 services for each meal and your Troop will be assigned a service ahead of camp. You will either be “first seating” or “second seating” and will remain at those times throughout the week. The Dining Hall works on a “waiter” system; please have the waiter from each table report 15 minutes prior to each meal. No Scouts are permitted to leave the dining hall area until dismissed by the camp staff.

Breakfast - 7:00AM - 7:45AM or 8:00AM - 8:45AM
Lunch - 12:00PM - 12:45PM or 1:00PM - 1:45PM
Dinner (except Friday) - 5:00PM - 5:45PM or 6:00PM - 6:45PM

Heater Stack - Troops in campsites located in the Lenape side of camp at Rodney will have their meals delivered to them via heater stacks. All meals are delivered on a set schedule, so these Troops eat at the same time as Dining Hall Troops. All eating utensils and supplies are also delivered, so no extra preparation is needed. This method works well to have your meals and relax in your Troop site. Camp staff can be available to join you for meals in your Troop site and can add to the mealtime program if requested.

Troop Commissary - Back to basics, this is the true Scouting method of food service. This method is for Troops who wish to bring their own ingredients and cook all their own food for the week. This also serves as a great opportunity to strengthen the Patrol method in the Troop and offer food choices that just might not be available from the camp's kitchen. Be aware, if you cook anything extraordinary... the Camp Staff may follow! This method is typically only available in Lenape campsites.

Dietary Restrictions - If any of your adults or Scouts have dietary restrictions, including food allergies, please fill out and submit the Dietary Restrictions form found online at scoutingevent.com/081-RSRSummer. Also please communicate with the Food Service Manager upon your arrival in camp. The camp is ready and prepared to work through most situations.

CAMP FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

During summer camp, all Scouts will stay in 2-person, platform wall tents, equipped with army-style canvas cots. When planning the number of tents needed in a site, If the site has a cabin or bunkhouse, it is our expectation that leaders will stay in it. In order to make your stay more comfortable, it is strongly recommended that you bring mosquito netting or plan to purchase some in our Trading Post for use in your tents. We have recently found that some Troops like to bring personal or Troop tents to use instead of the wall tents. If you plan to do so, please let our commissioner staff know when they call you ahead of camp.

Each unit is provided with picnic tables and benches, fire ring, bulletin board, and a flagpole for campsite ceremonies. A dining fly or tarp can be provided if desired. We have found that many Troops prefer to use a Troop provided “car port” style fly.

The camp furnishes major facilities and equipment. Your Troop is responsible for conducting a check-in inventory, with your assigned staff guide, to be sure everything is in your site. If something is missing, please ask for it to be replaced. Be sure to check ALL equipment carefully before you sign the inventory form, as you are then responsible for the items in the inventory. Loss or damage to equipment will be charged to you at the end of your camp session. Note carefully with your staff guide any damage that exists when you move in. If the camp cannot replace an item, make note of it on the inventory form.

A few words about camp facilities – The camp is like a small city with many of the same requirements: water supply, sewage, garbage disposal, firefighting, policing, food supply, housing, etc. Latrines are designed for disposal of human waste only; they are NOT garbage cans or trash disposal places. They were not designed to digest cans, foam products, bottles, or greasy dishwater.

CAMPSITE DUTIES & INSPECTIONS

Your campsite Commissioner does campsite visitations daily. Be sure to keep your Troop responsible for the cleanliness of their own living areas along with the general campsite.

Certain responsibilities will be given to your Troop while in camp and may include cleaning your campsite, your latrine or a shared comfort station, or keeping water-filled fire buckets in the site. Senior Patrol Leaders will be briefed on all duties and expectations upon arrival.

CAMP COMMUNICATIONS

Mail at Camp

Scouts love to receive mail while at camp! Each unit may pick up their mail at the camp administration building. Outgoing mail service is also available. All incoming mail should be addressed as follows:

(Scout's Name), Troop #, Week #
Rodney Scout Reservation
400 Rodney Scout Road
North East, MD
21901

For your Scouts to receive mail while in camp, please be sure parents know to mail it in advance of your session at camp.

A better way to ensure Scouts receive mail while at camp is to give personal letters to your adult leaders that are dated for when your Scout should receive it. This prevents the risk of letters not arriving in time to reach your Scouts.

Telephones at Camp

Rodney Scout Reservation has a limited number of telephone lines to serve the business functions of the camp. Scouts are not permitted to use the camp's phones except in the case of an emergency. Incoming calls should be of the utmost importance and may require locating a Scout or Leader. A return phone number must be left.

Individual Troops are encouraged to have a policy on Scouts using cell phones while at camp. Please be sure to advise parents what your Troop's policy on Scouts using cell phones will be.

Wi-Fi at Camp

Scouting in the modern age often comes with a need for internet communication.

At Rodney we have several Wi-Fi hotspots in camp for use by campers as needed. This includes the Dining Hall, Leader's Lounge, Nature Lodge, and others





Leaving Camp

During the week all Scouts and leaders who intend to leave camp must sign-out at the Camp Headquarters building.

For the protection of your campers, they may not leave camp without parental permission. Leaders should be aware of a Scout's need to be out of camp in advance, if possible, and know the person taking the Scout out of camp. Before 4 PM on Friday afternoon, any Scout leaving camp must sign-out through the Camp Headquarters building with their Unit Leader and the person taking them from camp. The Scout will be asked to identify the person taking them out of camp, as will the Unit Leader. If the person taking the Scout from camp is not a parent or guardian, the camp reserves the right to contact the parents for permission. After 4 PM on Friday afternoon, the Scouts are the responsibility of their unit leader and may sign-out with them when necessary.

Visitors in Camp

Summer camp is a great opportunity to cultivate new leaders or invite special guests to see your unit in action. Visitors are welcome in camp and must sign-in and sign-out through the camp Headquarters building. Visitors may join your unit for a meal with the purchase of a meal ticket 24 hours in advance through the camp Headquarters building. Rates for meal tickets are:

Breakfast - $15 Lunch - $15 Dinner $18

Overnight adult visitors will be charged $45 per night or $225 per week. Sleeping facilities will not be guaranteed for adults staying less than a full week. Rodney Scout Reservation will provide camp tent space if available and/or space to bring and set up their own tent. Youth visitors may not stay overnight. Family and friends traveling a distance are asked to book local accommodations if necessary.

Sunday Arrival at Camp

Your week begins with your Troop's arrival at camp at 1:00 PM on Sunday. A Camp Staff member will meet you upon arrival and serve as your guide for the afternoon to help you get checked-in, settled, and started on your program. To help speed up your check-in, please be sure that:

- All camp fees are submitted at least 14 days prior to the start of your session.
- All medical forms have been collected by your Troop in advance and are ready to be turned in to the camp Health Officer.



Uniforms in Camp

Campers are encouraged to have a full Scouting America Field Uniform while in camp. Uniforms are encouraged to be worn on Sunday during check-in, evening meals, and most camp-wide ceremonies. Our staff wear their "Class B" Activity Uniforms at other times, and you may too.

Customized "Class B" t-shirts are available for purchase beginning May 3rd by visiting our online Trading Post at https://councilstuff.com/081-RodneyTShirts. They may be customized with your Troop number and hometown. Advance orders can be available upon your arrival at camp if ordered at least 3 weeks prior to your first date of camp.



Opening Day BBQ Picnic

Everyone's first meal at Rodney Scout Reservation will be the Sunday evening barbecue, regardless of the food service plan you have chosen. If weather permits, the barbeque will be held on the main Parade Field immediately following the Opening Flag Ceremony. No visitors please. Due to the messy nature of a BBQ Picnic, Troops are welcome to wear Activity Uniforms (Class B) to flags and dinner on Sunday as we do not want your Field Uniforms (Class A) BBQ stained on the first day of camp!



AQUATICS CLASSIFICATIONS

At the beginning of each camp session if not before, Scouts and Leaders will take a swimming test to determine their aquatic classification. Everyone will be classified into one of three ability groups: Non-Swimmer, Beginner, and Swimmer. Everyone must take an approved swim test to use the swimming pool or waterfronts. Ability groups will determine what color wristband you receive for your stay in camp. If a wristband is tampered with or lost, the Scout or leader may have to retake the swimming test as directed by the camp's Aquatics Director.

To qualify as a Beginner, a Scout or leader must: Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off and swim 25 feet on the surface. Stop, turn sharply, resume swimming for an additional 25 feet.

To qualify as a Swimmer, a Scout or leader must: Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off and swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl, then swim 25 yards using an easy resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be completed in one swim without stops and must include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

Your Troop is highly encouraged to conduct swim tests prior to their arrival at camp. This will ease Scout anxiety, speed up the check-in process, and allow Scouts and leaders to better plan their weekly activities. Specific instructions, qualifications, and forms are at scoutingevent.com/081-RSRSummer.

Please email completed forms to rsrpd@dmvc.org so that we can have your records prepared ahead of time.
The camp's Aquatics Director reserves the right to refuse swim tests performed outside of camp if proper procedures have not been followed or have any Scout or leader retake a swim test if deemed necessary.

At Rodney Scout Reservation, all swimming must be done only in the swimming pool. The waterfront areas are not considered swimming areas and are restricted for approved boating activities only.

Watercraft may only be checked out with the aquatics staff through the buddy board. For safety reasons, all boating will be done with a buddy and/or a buddy boat.

All occupants of all watercraft must wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) and 'boat shoes' at all times. **"Boat shoes"** refer to the footwear required to be worn while boating or wading in the bay. These can be old sneakers, boots, or shoes to be worn only for this purpose. Wet shoes that are worn around camp will cause blisters. Crocs™ or Keen™ sandals that have thick soles and will not slip off your feet are acceptable.

CAMPWIDE PROGRAMS

Campfires

During your stay, you'll be able to experience at least two exciting campfires. Shortly after your arrival, on Sunday night, the Opening Campfire will be organized and performed by the camp staff. This campfire will offer an introduction to the staff as well as a fun experience for all the Scouts to help kick-off the week. All Scouts and leaders are expected to attend. On Friday night the Scouts will have the opportunity to entertain, during the closing campfire, with the skits, songs, and stories that they practiced all week. All Troop additions to the Friday night campfire MUST audition with the Campfire Directors during the week. You will get notified of the audition time at the Sunday Leader's meeting. ACE Scouts, our older-Scout program, will also have the opportunity to attend a campfire held special for them during the week.

Chapel Services

Being reverent is not only a part of the Scout Law, it's a part of camp life. Under the direction of the Camp Chaplain, Troops are encouraged to attend the weekly chapel service as listed in the camp program schedule. Interested Scouts, especially Chaplain's Aides, are encouraged to talk to the chaplain about opportunities to be involved in the service. See the program schedule for more information.

Service Projects

If your Scouts would like the opportunity to work on some projects during their stay in camp, there are always some available through the Camp Ranger. Conservation project ideas may be obtained from the N.E.S.T. Director. Scoutmaster approved projects at camp can count for advancement up to Life rank. Eagle projects are not permitted.





Camp-wide Flag Ceremonies

Citizenship is an important part of Scouting and a memorable part of camp life. Camp-wide retreats are held on the main parade field with the Chesapeake Bay as the backdrop. All Troops are expected to attend these retreats. Camp-wide retreats will be held on Sunday night before the barbecue and Friday night while family and friends are in attendance.

Your Troop is encouraged to perform their own daily flag ceremonies in their campsite.

Trading Post

Our camp is home to a full-service Trading Post, carrying anything you might need while in camp. The store also carries anything you might want to remember your camp experience. Basic equipment, booklets, and other Scouting related merchandise are readily available, along with souvenirs for family and friends back home.

If you are hungry between meals, the Main Trading Post, as well as the "Snack Shack" in Sampson Lodge, carries an extensive selection of food and drink. The Trading Post and Snack Shack are open daily with hours posted at camp.

Crew 299's Pizza Night

Venturing Crew 299 is made up of current Rodney camp staff and camp staff alumni. The Crew meets monthly throughout the year to do service projects at camp that help increase program opportunities and better your unit's experience. As a fundraiser to support these monthly projects, the Crew will sell pizzas as a late-night snack for Thursday night each week during summer camp. Enjoy a great snack with your Scouts and help support the camp staff at the same time! More details will be presented at the Sunday night leaders' meeting when you arrive at camp.



Other Programs in Camp

A week of summer camp at Rodney is so full of a variety of programs that no Scout can possibly do them all in a single week. Below is a list of Troop and Scout activities to be aware of so that you can make the most of your week. Learn more about each of these programs and many more in our Description of Programs document in the appendix and also found a scoutingevent.com/081-RSRSummer. Info on when programs occur can also be found in the camp Program Schedule. A draft of the schedule will be published by February 1st.

Troop/Patrol Activities

Bay Hike
Polar Bear Swim
Iron Scout
& more!

A Scout and their Buddy

Climbing
Firem'n Chit
Kayaking
Leathercraft and Branding
Mile Swim
Open Range & Target Activities
Rodney Regatta
Snorkeling
Tie Dye
Totin' Chip
Tubing
& more!

Sunrise - Sunset Programs

In 2023, we revamped our early and late programs in the Early Morning and Evening time slots. This was done to diversify the offerings, while also allowing the staff to have two evenings and two early mornings off.

Programs designated as “open” do not require any preregistration. Other Sunrise and Sunset programs have strict maximum capacities, and may not be able to accomodate walk-ins.

Some highlight programs have limited capacities due to equipment or staffing requirements, but we have added a number of programs to ensure your Scouts are not bored. You also have the choice to sleep in or to have a program in your campsite in the morning or evening.

Friday Family Dinner

The last evening meal at Rodney Scout Reservation will be the Friday evening family dinner. Be sure to extend an invitation to all Scout families and supporters to attend. To ensure space for your visitors in the dining hall, dinner tickets can be purchased online at https://scoutingevent.com/081-FamilyDinner. The cost of each ticket is $18.

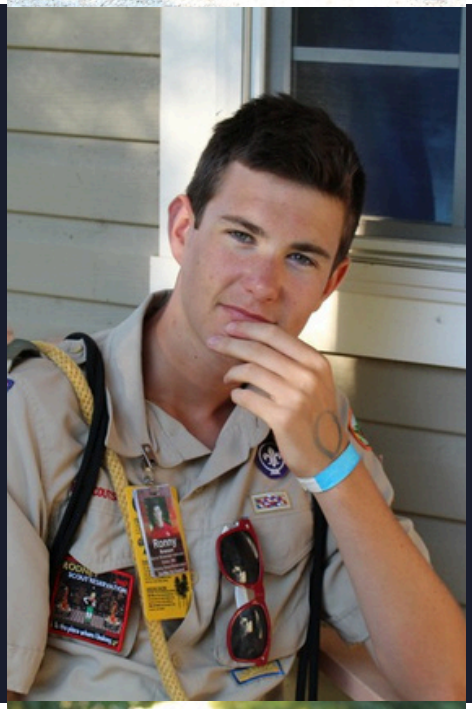
This dinner will be served at 5:00pm and 6:00pm seatings. The Troops staying in Lenape campsites will eat in their campsites. The camp reserves the right to change a Troop's dinner seating if necessary, and will give the Troop notice as far in advance as possible to contact Scout families.



Saturday Check-Out

Although we do not want to see your Troop and Scouts leave camp, the time will come on Saturday morning to pack up your things and say goodbye. Prior to leaving camp on Saturday morning, your Troop leadership will be presented with all Merit Badge completion reports and any other achievements or awards.

The final section of your check-out on Saturday will be in Headquarters, where you will receive the last of your paperwork.



Merit Badge Applications

Blue cards will be recorded online in the Scouting Event (or Black Pug) system. Once at home, the Troop or Scout can print the blue cards or other reports as needed. There is no need to bring physical blue cards to camp.

"Completed" will be noted on the online blue cards at the end of the week. All completed requirements will be updated online prior to the end of the Closing Campfire on Friday night.

On Saturday morning, Area Directors are available to discuss any issues or discrepancies so that they can be cleared up before the Troop leaves camp.



MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Philosophy

At Rodney Scout Reservation, our camp staff takes pride in the fact that any Merit Badge earned at camp was truly earned. It is a national policy that no Merit Badge requirements be waived or altered in order to accommodate the camp situation. In other words, every requirement must be met, including those that cannot be completed in camp. There are, therefore, some badges that simply cannot be completed in a one week stay in camp. We do everything we can within the requirements to help Scouts of all abilities meet the requirements as written.

Our philosophy as a camp is that Merit Badges completed at camp are to be meaningful experiences for the Scouts.

All Troops should conduct a conference with each Scout attending camp to help them determine their program needs and interests. NO SCOUT SHOULD COME TO CAMP WITHOUT KNOWING BEFOREHAND WHAT PROGRAMS THEY PLAN TO ATTEND. The Scout should also be aware of all requirements, especially those that require completion prior to camp (see Rodney Scout Reservation's program descriptions, age levels, and requirements found in the Class Catalog at scoutingevent.com/081-RSRSummer).

Be careful not to let the Scouts over program themselves with Merit Badges. ***There is more to summer camp than earning Merit Badges!*** Don't let your Scouts miss out on the other opportunities available!



MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Session Sign-ups

All sessions must be signed up for online at https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA081&reservationFromEmail=true&myRoster using your Troop's Black Pug sign in registration access link that is received once your Troop is registered for summer camp.

Signups will open on Saturday, April 10th at 9am

Using the online sign-ups, some sessions will have a strict maximum number of participants that can register. Sessions like Water Sports or Motorboating, will have a strict capacity based on equipment restrictions. Other sessions, like Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting, Archery, or Climbing will have a strict capacity based on safety regulations. When possible, large size sessions will be split into multiple groups to allow for more individual attention toward each Scout for a better experience. Individual Troops will be limited to not more than half of the period capacity for any period of any program. If additional capacity space exists at the start of your week of camp, Troop capacities may be adjusted.

First priority for all sessions will be to those who registered for their sessions online before camp, as long as they have met all session pre-camp or age requirements. Every attempt will be made to ensure that every Scout gets to enjoy a program of their interest. General interest sessions (i.e., Chapel service, open programs, etc.) do not require advanced sign-ups and will be open for walk-ins during camp.

Prerequisites

Every effort has been made to make programs have the least pre-requisites possible; most work will be completed in camp. The pre-requisites or preparatory information, for each Merit Badge or program, is listed in the Descriptions of Programs document available online at scoutingevent.com/081-RSRSummer. In order for a Scout to complete a badge they should have completed all pre-requisite work prior to their arrival. The pre-requisites for some badges should be approved ahead of camp by the Scoutmaster of the Troop. Those requirements are on the Pre-requisite Completion Form available in the Forms section of the registration page.



MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Merit Badge Counselors

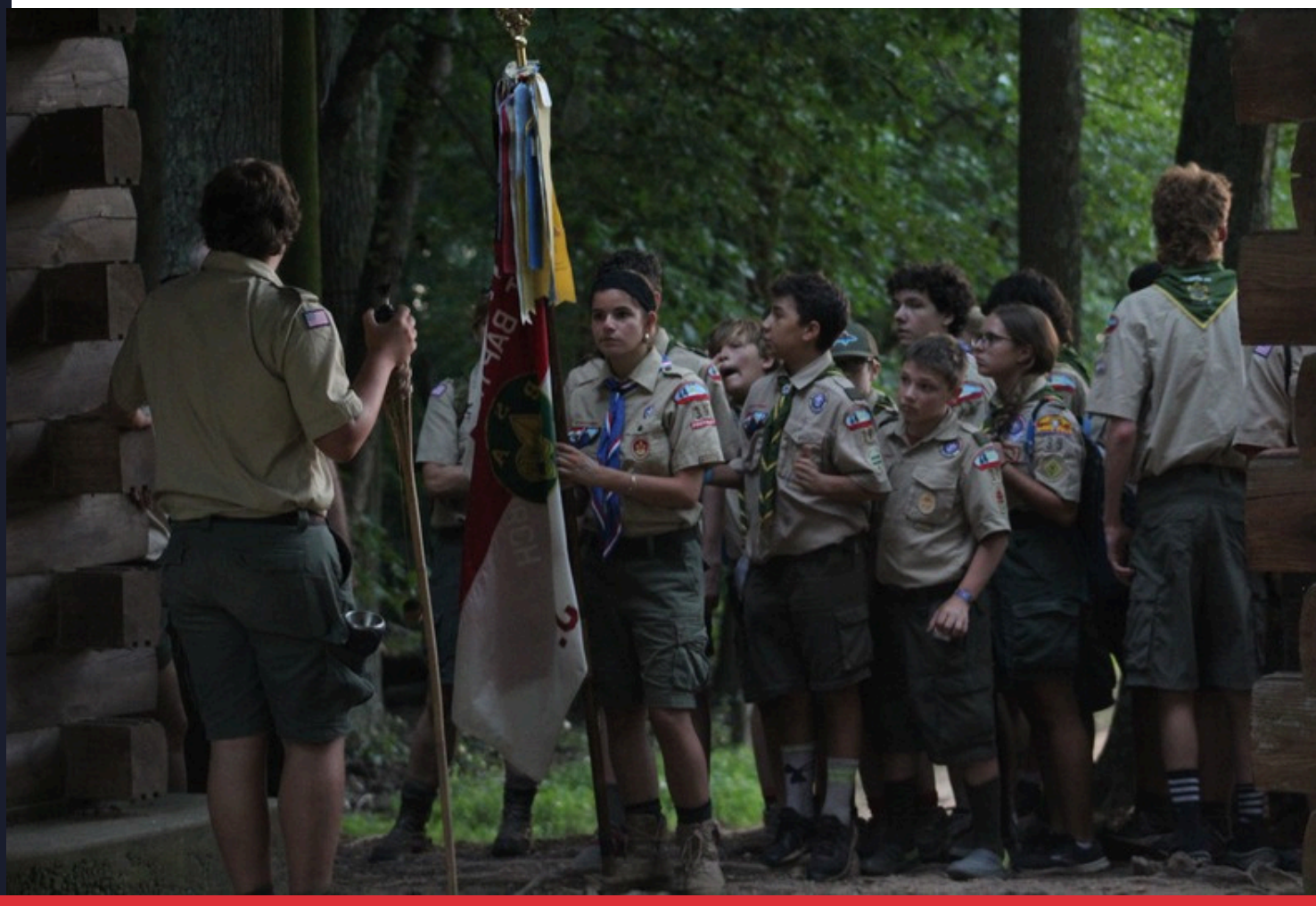
All camp staff are qualified instructors under the direct supervision of their program area directors and the Program and Camp Directors. Most area directors have attended a National Camping School for specific training in their program area, Merit Badge counseling, and staff management. All Merit Badge counselors at camp are registered with the Del-Mar-Va Council's Advancement Committee.

CPR Requirement

Some Merit Badges include the requirement: "Demonstrate CPR knowledge and skills, including rescue breathing, on a mannequin under the guidance of a current CPR/AED instructor trained by a nationally certified provider." Scouts should complete this requirement before coming to camp. Evidence of completion will be noted within the Prerequisite Completion Form.

Fishing Gear

If you wish to fish while here at camp, please make sure to bring fishing gear for fishing from shore in the northern Chesapeake Bay.



HEALTH & SAFETY

Our Health Lodge is located just off the main camp parking lot. The Health Lodge staff can handle most minor illnesses or injuries. ALL illnesses or injuries must be brought to the attention of the Health Lodge as soon as detected. If further medical attention is required, Scouts and adults might need to be transported to the local hospital or urgent care center. Unless the Scout/adult needs to be transported via ambulance, the Troop will be asked to provide the transportation.

It is the responsibility of the unit leader to process all charges for medical expenses through the unit's insurance policy, to have the expenses paid by the unit leader, or to have the expenses billed to the patient's family. Do not send bills to the Scout Service Center or the camp.

Buddy System

It's the Scout way. All campers must use the buddy system at all times while in camp. A minimum of two individuals should remain together at all times.

Medications

All prescription and non-prescription medications must be stored under lock and key during your time in camp. Medications may be controlled and administered by the Camp Health Officer or the Unit Leader. A Unit Leader may administer medications only if they are stored under lock and key (and refrigerated if needed) in the campsite. The preferred position of the camp is for the Unit Leader to store and administer the medication at their campsite. If the Troop Leaders are unwilling or unable to store and distribute the medicine, it may be turned in to a Health Officer who will administer them from the camp's Health Lodge.

Hydration

"A hydrated Scout is a happy Scout." Water will be provided at all program areas and campsites. All Scouts are expected to bring their own container for water. Every person is strongly recommended to drink five (5) quarts of water per day. The number one health problem ailing campers is dehydration!

Camp Security

Wristbands provide an identification system to those who belong in camp. All campers will have wristbands colored by swimming ability. Visitors to camp will also have a different color wristband. Camp staff are unmistakable with their staff polo shirts and name tags. If you come across anyone in camp without a wristband, please alert a staff member or escort them to the Camp Headquarters building to check-in or be dismissed from camp.

Sunscreen

Sunscreen is essential when out camping. Make sure to wear one that's broad-spectrum with an SPF of at least 30. Since you'll probably be engaging in different outdoor activities, find one that's specially formulated for sports and is sweat and water resistant.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Standards for Privacy

Male and female, youth and adults, are required to have separate sleeping facilities, i.e., a separate room or tent. Separate rooms in leader cabins are available only in Shawnee, Minsi, Accomac, Wicomico, Minquas, and Alapocas. These separate rooms are set up to house 1 person. In all other campsites, the gender of leaders in lower quantity will be housed separately in tents. No youth may stay in the tent of an adult. Legally married couples may share the same quarters, provided appropriate facilities are available. Adult leadership needs to respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing into swimsuits and taking showers and intrude *only* to the extent that health and safety require. Leaders must also protect their own privacy in similar situations.

Showers

Personal cleanliness is the number one item in the prevention of illness. There is no substitute for soap and water. Hot showers are located near each campsite. Leaders should make an effort to be sure that every camper stays clean. Showers should be taken daily, preferably before bedtime, and a self-inspection for ticks should be made by each camper.

Separate central shower facilities are available for male and female Scouts and leaders. Each campsite will be responsible for the cleanliness of the closest comfort station on specified days. The schedule will be posted.

Insects/Ticks

A great week of summer camp can be ruined by constant insect bites. Be prepared when you come to camp. A non-aerosol insect repellent is recommended to reduce the likelihood of mosquito and tick bites. Aerosol insect repellents are prohibited in camp because they are extremely flammable and destroy tent waterproofing. Mosquito netting is recommended and can be purchased at the camp's trading post if necessary.

Hiking

Rodney Scout Reservation is fortunate to encompass the Bull Mountain Wilderness on its property with several marked hiking trails. Be cautioned to remain on the marked trails and use the buddy system at all times.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Bicycles

Rodney Scout Reservation
Bicycle Usage Agreement

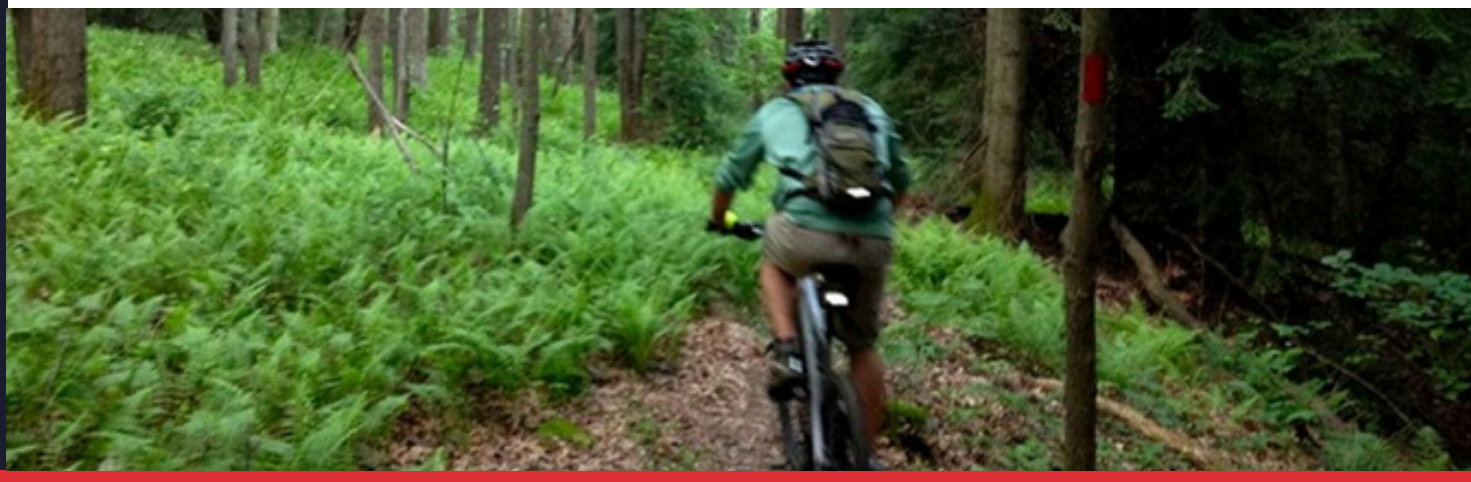
Name_____
Troop_____ Site _____

To ensure that Rodney Scout Reservation is a safe place for all to enjoy, the following terms must be agreed to for a Scout or adult leader to be permitted to use a bicycle while at camp. This form must be always in possession of the rider. The band must be always affixed to the bicycle. I understand and agree to the following:

-Bicycles at camp are a privilege and not a right.
-A properly fitted and buckled bicycle helmet must always be worn while riding a bicycle.
-Bicycles are only allowed between Monday morning and 5pm Friday.
-Riding is allowed on camp roads, but not trails.
-Riding is not allowed in campsites, program areas, or activity fields.
-Riding on trails is only allowed as a part of a supervised camp program.
-Riding after dinner requires properly equipped front and back lights.
-Riding must be at a safe speed appropriate for the terrain, and others around me.
-Walkers have the right-of-way and I will warn them when approaching. Always pass on their left.
-It is my responsibility to keep my bicycle in a safe place.
-Bicycles will be parked in the designated bike areas only.
-Bicycles will be kept out of the roadway and off the trails when parking it near a program area.
-Scouts participating in the Brownsea program should not bring bicycles to camp.
I understand that if I violate any of these terms, my riding privileges will be revoked.

Scout Signature _____ Leader Signature _____

Please help keep the camp a safe environment. The ability to use bicycles in camp is a privilege and not a right. The above rules will be enforced by adult leaders. Scouts and Leaders who do not obey the rules may have their privilege to use a bicycle revoked and their bike held under lock and key by the camp administration until the Troop's departure.



HEALTH & SAFETY

Motor Vehicles

In the interest of the safety of our campers who walk and bike along the camp roads, these rules are to be followed:

- **Vehicles may NOT be used to drive around camp after checking in.**
- All vehicles must be parked at the designated parking lot.
- **No vehicles may be parked in campsites.** Exceptions will only be granted by the Camp Health Officer for medical reasons that are identified by a health-care provider on their medical form.
- Vehicles entering or leaving camp must be cautious of campers walking or biking on the roads.
- All drivers must have a valid driver's license and all vehicles must be properly licensed and insured.
- All recreational vehicles are restricted from use as housing.
- Absolutely no passengers may be transported in a vehicle that does not have a seatbelt installed for the purpose of passenger safety. Riders are NOT permitted to ride in the bed of a truck.
- Del-Mar-Va Council is not responsible for damage to vehicles parked in camp.
- Special arrangements can be made for transporting heavy Troop equipment with prior approval of the Camp Director.
- No Scouts are to be driven anywhere in camp by leaders or visiting adults.

Smoking

Smoking is PROHIBITED in camp except in designated areas without youth present. Smoking is not permitted by youth at any time and may lead to dismissal from camp. Adults are discouraged from smoking while in camp as it sets a poor example for the youth. Smoking in the presence of youth, either by sight or smell, may lead to dismissal from camp.

Other Prohibited Items

The following items are prohibited in camp and violators may be dismissed from camp: **Alcoholic beverages, pets (except service animals), large sheath knives, fireworks, illegal drugs, firearms and air guns*, ammunition of any type.**

In accordance with National Scouting America and Del-Mar-Va Council policy, no outside firearms are allowed to be brought into Rodney Scout Reservation

Any questions on the above mentioned items should be directed to the Camp Director.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

All emergencies at Rodney Scout Reservation will be identified by a system of sirens as follows:

1 BLAST - LIGHTNING WARNING

Lightning is in the immediate vicinity, stay alert

Effect:

aquatics areas and climbing tower will close, others will remain open
Further information will be disperse through the text system

3 BLASTS - CAMP-WIDE EMERGENCY

A camp-wide emergency is in progress (see examples below)

Effect:

All Scouts & Leaders must return immediately to their campsites;
Troops need to take attendance and send a text to the main camp office to confirm your Troop's attendance of Scouts and leaders
(i.e., "35 Scouts and 5 leaders from Troop 123 are present" or "John Doe and Sammy Scout are missing from Troop 123").

The text information will be given to Troops upon arrival.

Accident or Illness

- Unit should administer first aid within the limits of their qualifications.
- Report all accidents or illnesses to the Health Lodge immediately.
- If additional help or a hospital visit is necessary, the Health Officer will make the necessary arrangements.
- If the unit is transporting the patient to a medical center or hospital, the Health Officer can provide directions.
- If anyone in the unit has a cellular phone and calls for an ambulance directly, be sure to notify the main camp office (410-287-5888) immediately, so they can direct the ambulance to your exact location.
- Be sure to report back to the Health Officer on the circumstances of the illness or injury, and the condition of the patient.
- If required, completely fill out an incident report recording all information required and file it with the Health Officer or Camp Director.

In Case of Fatality

- Immediately inform the Camp Director or Health Officer. They will summon the proper authorities and notify the Camp Ranger and other appropriate council personnel.
- Out of respect for the victim and their family, keep everyone well away from the area, and do not discuss with other campers, leaders, or staff.
- Assist the police and medical personnel in every way possible.
- Assist the Camp Director in completing an incident report.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Severe Storm

- 3 blasts of the siren will be heard and all campers will be instructed to report to their campsite.
- All units will check to be certain that all campers are present and accounted for. Once campers are present and accounted for, the unit will send a text to the camp Headquarters to report that your unit is all present with a count of Scouts and leaders. A text will be sent with any further instructions to the unit.
- Instruct all campers to secure their personal gear and secure all unit gear.
- Units in lodges or bunkhouses will keep everyone inside. If necessary to leave shelter for any reason, do so only in groups of two or more. Remain indoors until further instructions are issued.
- Units in tents or shelters will be moved to a protected facility if necessary. Once moved, units should be sure to keep everyone inside until further notice. If necessary to leave shelter for any reason, do so only in groups of 2 or more.
- If forecasts indicate the camp is to be evacuated, and sufficient time is available, the camp will be evacuated in an orderly fashion. This will require a minimum of thirty to sixty minutes advance notice. The Camp Director or Camp Ranger will consult with the appropriate council personnel before ordering an evacuation. If time will not allow an evacuation, proceed as outlined in the bullets above.

Lost Person

- If it is suspected that someone is missing, notify the Camp Director or Camp Ranger, who will take charge.
- All members of the unit from which the person is missing will report to their campsite.
- Unit leadership will determine if anyone else is missing with them, or if the camper might have gone home.
- Determine where the person was last seen. Thoroughly check all tents, cabins, bunks, and latrines. Check the waterfront areas for the person or any missing boats.
- If the person is still missing, the camp alarm (3 blasts) will be sounded returning all units to their campsites.
- All units will check to be certain that all campers are present and accounted for. Once campers are present and accounted for, the unit will send a text to the main camp office to report that your unit is all present with a count of Scouts and leaders. A text will be sent with any further instructions to the unit.
- If the person is still missing, the Camp Director or Camp Ranger will notify the appropriate council personnel. They will institute a search of the camp roads and trails, using the Camp Staff and any available leaders over the age of 18 who are familiar with the camp. They will search the camp using a line-abreast pattern and by areas as determined on a map. Campers may be used for this but only in daylight and only when each group of campers is supervised by two adults. Search one area at a time, from one side to the other, and then move on to the next area. If at this point the camper can still not be located, the Camp Director or Camp Ranger will request the assistance of the Maryland State Police. Assist the police as requested and follow their directions.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Fire, Earthquake, Chemical Spill, or Other Disaster

- Immediately upon learning that there is a fire or other incident in camp, notify the Camp Director, Camp Ranger, or other member of the Camp Staff. The Camp Director or Camp Ranger will notify the fire department, Forest Ranger, police or other appropriate emergency personnel.
- The camp siren (3 blasts) will be sounded for all campers to return to their campsites.
- In the case of a fire, the Camp Ranger will direct fire-fighting efforts until relieved by the fire department. The Program Director or Camp Director will remain at the main camp office and direct all other staff members to report to the fire scene and work as directed by the Camp Ranger.
- In other emergency cases, after a camp siren (3 blasts) has been sounded, a text will be sent with any further instructions to the unit.

Lost Bather

When it has been determined that a boater or swimmer is missing, the following procedures will be initiated:

- The Aquatics staff calls out the Scout's name to see if they answers.
- If no answer, the aquatics staff determines where the Scout was last seen.
- The area is quickly scanned. If the Scout is still missing, the Aquatics staff will send all Scouts back to their campsites.
- The Aquatics Director is notified. They will assign a staff member to go to the missing Scout's campsite and verify their campers are all present.
- The Camp Director is notified.

As the above occurs, the aquatics staff organizes and begins a water search.

- The general camp alarm (3 blasts) will be sounded.
- If the Scout is still missing, the Camp Director will notify EMS and command all other aspects of the search.
- Appropriate Council personnel will be notified.

Allegations of Bullying or Child Abuse

- Suspected bullying or abuse must be reported as soon as it is suspected. Failure to do so may result in criminal or civil penalties. No state requires that you have proof that abuse has occurred prior to making the report, only that it is suspected.
- Call 1-844-SCOUTS1 to report the situation.
- All reports must be immediately reported to the Camp Director. Initial reports may be oral, but any oral report must be documented in writing at the earliest possible time.
- In cases involving allegations of sexual abuse against an individual, the Scout Executive of the council in which the alleged abuser resides is also responsible for implementing proper procedures.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Address: 400 Rodney Scout Road, North East, MD 21901

IN AN EMERGENCY ----------Dial 911

Please inform Camp Health Office of emergency prior to calling 911

Camp Health Lodge ---------- (410) 287-5888 ext 427

Camp Director

Damian Ambrozewicz---------- (410) 287-5888 ext 401
(443) 553-5207 (cell)

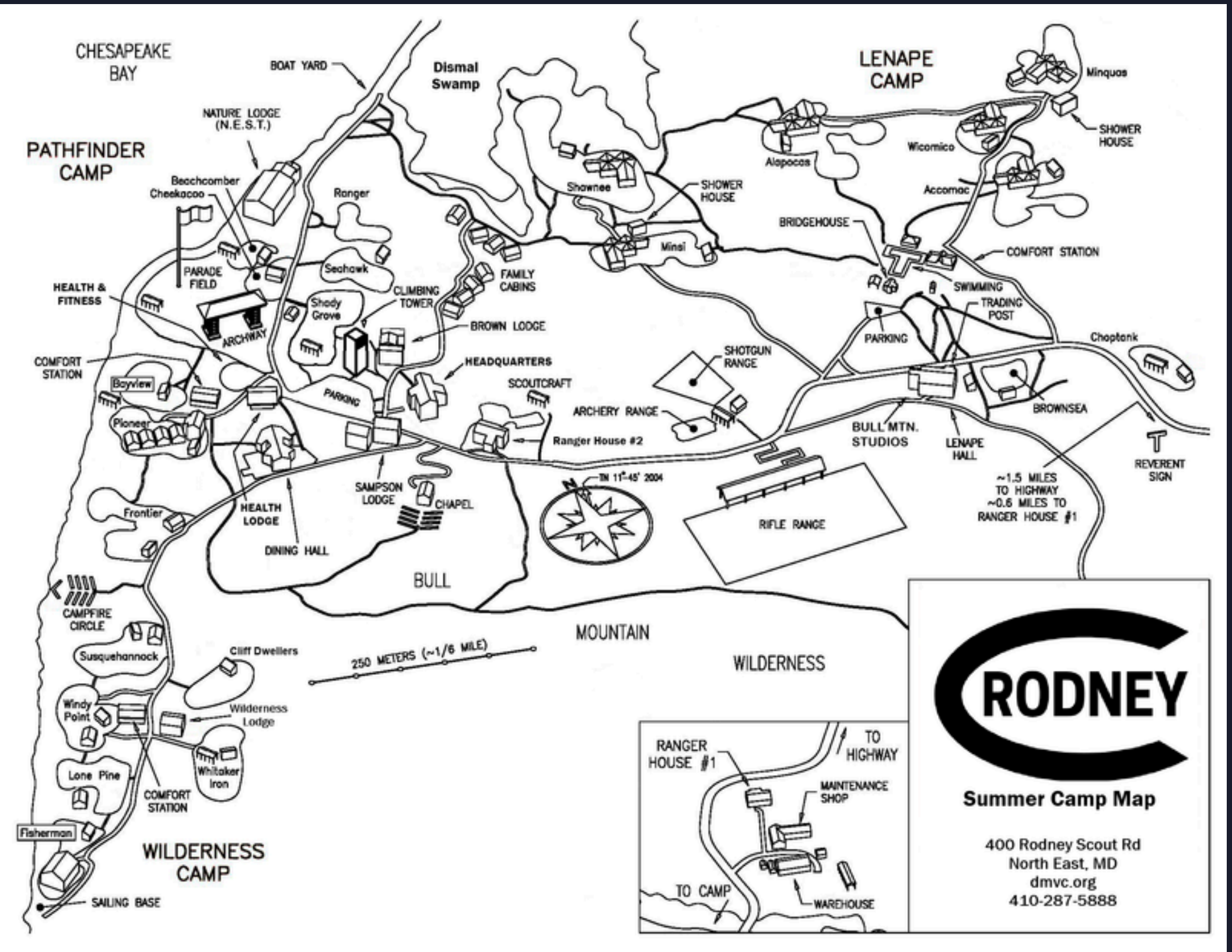
Camp Rangers

Matt Krystkiewicz ---------- (410) 287-5888 ext 435
Rob Linhart ---------- (410) 287-5888 ext 437

Scout Executive, Del-Mar-Va Council

Ray Teat ---------- (302) 622-3300 ext 115
(302) 531-7465 (cell)




CHESAPEAKE BAY
BOAT YARD
Dismal Swamp
LENAPE CAMP
Minquas
SHOWER HOUSE
NATURE LODGE (N.E.S.T.)
PATHFINDER CAMP
Wicomico
Alapocas
Shawnee
SHOWER HOUSE
Accomac
Beachcomber
Cheekacoo
Ranger
BRIDGEHOUSE
Minsi
COMFORT STATION
PARADE FIELD
Seahawk
FAMILY CABINS
SWIMMING
HEALTH & FITNESS
CLIMBING TOWER
Shady Grove
TRADING POST
ARCHWAY
BROWN LODGE
PARKING
Choptank
COMFORT STATION
HEADQUARTERS
SHOTGUN RANGE
Bayview
SCOUTCRAFT
PARKING
BROWNSEA
Pioneer
ARCHERY RANGE
BULL MTN. STUDIOS
LENAPE HALL
Ranger House #2
REVERENT SIGN
IN 11°45' 2004
SAMPSON LODGE
CHAPEL
~1.5 MILES TO HIGHWAY ~0.6 MILES TO RANGER HOUSE #1
Frontier
HEALTH LODGE
RIFLE RANGE
DINING HALL
BULL
CAMPFIRE CIRCLE
MOUNTAIN
Susquehannock
Cliff Dwellers
250 METERS (~1/6 MILE)
WILDERNESS
Windy Point
Wilderness Lodge
Lone Pine
Whitaker Iron
COMFORT STATION
Fisherman
WILDERNESS CAMP
SAILING BASE
RANGER HOUSE #1
TO HIGHWAY
MAINTENANCE SHOP
TO CAMP
WAREHOUSE
RODNEY
Summer Camp Map
400 Rodney Scout Rd
North East, MD
dmvc.org
410-287-5888



THE 2026 RODNEY SCOUT RESERVATION STAFF

Del-Mar-Va Council
1910 Baden Powell Way
Dover, DE 19904
302-622-3300
camping@dmvc.org

Rodney Scout Reservation
400 Rodney Scout Road
North East, MD 21901
410-287-5888
rsr@dmvc.org