

## **Four Mile Run District IOLS Participant Packet**

### **What is IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills)?**

This in person course is intended for every adult leader in every Troop/Ship/Crew. It is designed to provide a working knowledge of the basic outdoor skills necessary to succeed as a Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. Outdoor skills are critical to the success of the Scouting program, and IOLS will provide leaders with the basic outdoor skills information needed to start a program right.

The skills taught are based on the outdoor skills found in the Scouts BSA Handbook. The course is also ideal for Venturing leaders because it focuses on skills that build confidence and competence in leaders conducting outdoor camping experiences. Instructors will help you learn how to set up camp, cook, and work with woods tools, and about ropes, planning campfire programs, map reading and compass skills, hiking and packing techniques, nature identification, and outdoor ethics. IOLS will bring to life the pages of the Scouts BSA handbook to help you deliver the promise of Scouting to yourself and the youth you serve. It will increase your comfort level and give you confidence as a trained, skilled leader. The program will also give you the opportunity to work with other Scout leaders from your area, meet new friends, and reinforce skill techniques with fellow unit leaders.

### **Frequently asked questions:**

1. Are there directions?
  - A. Yes. Navigate to 16091 Croom Airport Road. Do not take an earlier left-hand turn to Patuxent River Park; continue on Croom Airport Road until you reach a "T" intersection, with an overflow parking lot on your right and a large monument straight ahead. Turn left, follow the road to Campsites A-D.
2. Is this an overnighter and do I need to stay the whole time?
  - A. Yes. You will be sleeping over Saturday night and must attend all the sessions outlined in the syllabus.
3. Is camping required?
  - A. Yes. This is a policy set by the National BSA.
4. Do I bring my own food?
  - A. Only if you camp Friday night and want breakfast on Saturday. Your registration fee covers Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast.
5. Do I need a tent and what type should I bring?
  - A. Yes, you will need to bring your own tent or share with another student (consistent with BSA policies). Very large tents (6-person or more) are discouraged.
6. What do I need to bring for the weekend?
  - A. See the packing list below for personal gear; patrol gear will be discussed prior to the program.
7. I am an Eagle Scout, can I test out?
  - A. No. Even though we will be teaching all the skills you learned as an Eagle Scout, the

purpose of this training is to teach you how to teach the scouts in your unit.

8. Is a uniform required?
  - A. This is a uniform activity, so the BSA Field Uniform (Class A) is highly recommended. If you do not have one, please wear scouting appropriate apparel.
9. I have dietary needs, do I bring my own food?
  - A. There is a question on the registration form for any dietary restrictions. Please note the restrictions here.
10. I have physical disabilities, how can I be accommodated?
  - A. We will make every effort to accommodate your physical needs. Please note your disability on the registration form and a staff member will be in touch with you before the course.

### **Check In:**

Registration starts at 8:00am, at the campsite, although you can check in Friday night if you wish to arrive ahead of time. Our program will start at 8:30am SHARP!

### **Medical Forms:**

You must bring your completed medical forms with you to check-in. Medical A&B:  
[https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001\\_AB.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf)

### **Uniform:**

As with all training sessions, Scouters are expected to wear their uniforms on Saturday and Sunday.

### **IOLS Suggested Personal Gear List**

- Tent and ground cloth
- Sleeping bag
- Sleeping pad or mattress (this is very important if you'd like to stay warm!)
- Sturdy shoes or hiking boots
- Change of clothes
- Extra socks
- Sleeping attire
- Sun protection (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen) (although we will largely be in the woods)
- Coat or jacket, cap, gloves (for cold weather)
- Rain gear
- Water bottle
- Mess kit (plate, cup, bowl, utensils)
- Soap, washcloth, towel
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Camp chair
- Notebook, pen, pencil
- Hand sanitizer
- Medicine
- Daypack
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Pocketknife
- Personal first aid kit

### **A few nice-to-haves:**

- Pillow
- Trash bag
- Insect repellent
- Scouts BSA Handbook