

Four Mile Run District
Fall 2026
LOST PATROL!!!
Camporee



For Scouts BSA
16-18 October 2026
Camp Manidokan
Knoxville, Maryland

Open to All Registered Scouts BSA Scouts & Adult Leaders of
4MR and Adjoining Districts

Email: kuduhorn@verizon.net
(Advanced Copy V2.0 – Subject to Change)

4MR District Lost Patrol Fall Camporee

Friday-Sunday 16-18 October 2026

Orientation Guide for Patrol Leaders and Crew Leaders

PROGRAM

Level Up your outdoor skills that actually matter! Master survival & search skills. Earn Search & Rescue Merit Badge. Take on formidable fun challenges and prove you & your patrol can handle anything nature puts in your way.

Program MAY include some or all of the following (depending on volunteer staff resources - see below):

- staying & getting found (signaling, emergency beacons, “foxhunts”)
- landnav (maps, compass, GPS, grid coordinates, orienteering)
- hazards/first aid
- search & rescue (tracking, searching)
- primitive firebuilding
- wilderness water management
- NIGHT games
- MORE!

Watch Milepost for more details

We are actively recruiting units and adult volunteers to run activity stations. Interested or want to find out more?

Please reach out to Rob Faris (robfaris26-AT-gmail.com) & Joe Mazel (scoutmastertroop164- AT- gmail.com)

CAMPOREE PROGRAM

SATURDAY PROGRAM

During Saturday's program, patrols will use their skills as above

There will be multiple activity stations patrols can visit to earn participation points.

Interested scouts can also work on and complete Search and Rescue Merit Badge.

We also hope to offer a JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) ham radio station for interested scouts (more details coming).

SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM:

Sunday morning program will be a SCORE-O. Scouts will divide up into buddy teams and use maps and compass bearings to find targets. This simplified Score-O event will be primarily focused on map reading and trails. There is some compass bearing work, but it will be mostly short distances from trail intersections or salient trail features (streams, power-lines, etc).

FAQ:

Can scouts earn a merit badge at the Camporee?

Yes the plan is to enable scouts to complete all requirements for Search and Rescue Merit Badge during the camporee.

Do we have to already have basic land navigation & orienteering skills and first aid skills to participate? No, we will be offering training at the Camporee and the activity stations will also provide training. But troops are strongly encouraged to prepare and train in advance. You have many resources at your disposal. A good idea would be to build your October troop meetings around the camporee theme. For ideas on how to do that, see

<https://troopleader.org/program-feature-orienteering/>

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Orienteering.pdf

How should I train my scouts?

It would be a good idea to work with your scouts in advance on the following skills (please refer to SAR merit badge requirements):

- (a) hazards and first aid taking
- (b) finding a grid coordinate on a topographic map.
- (c) following a compass bearing

Does each patrol need to carry a smart phone?

Yes. SMs should have the number for each Scout patrol, pair or triple, and Scouts should have their SM's number programmed into their phones (which should be fully charged - and it should be emphasized to all Scouts that a phone that's dead because you were playing with it at every chance all Friday and all Saturday, "will not be very helpful" if you desperately need it Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning).

What topo map will we be using?

USGS HARPERS FERRY QUADRANGLE WEST VIRGINIA-VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5-MINUTE SERIES
SCALE 1:24 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

Should each scout be encouraged to bring his/her own compass?

Yes. The Sunday morning orienteering competition will require each pair (buddies or triplets) of scouts to have a compass.

Can our troop or crew attend Saturday only as opposed to the entire weekend?

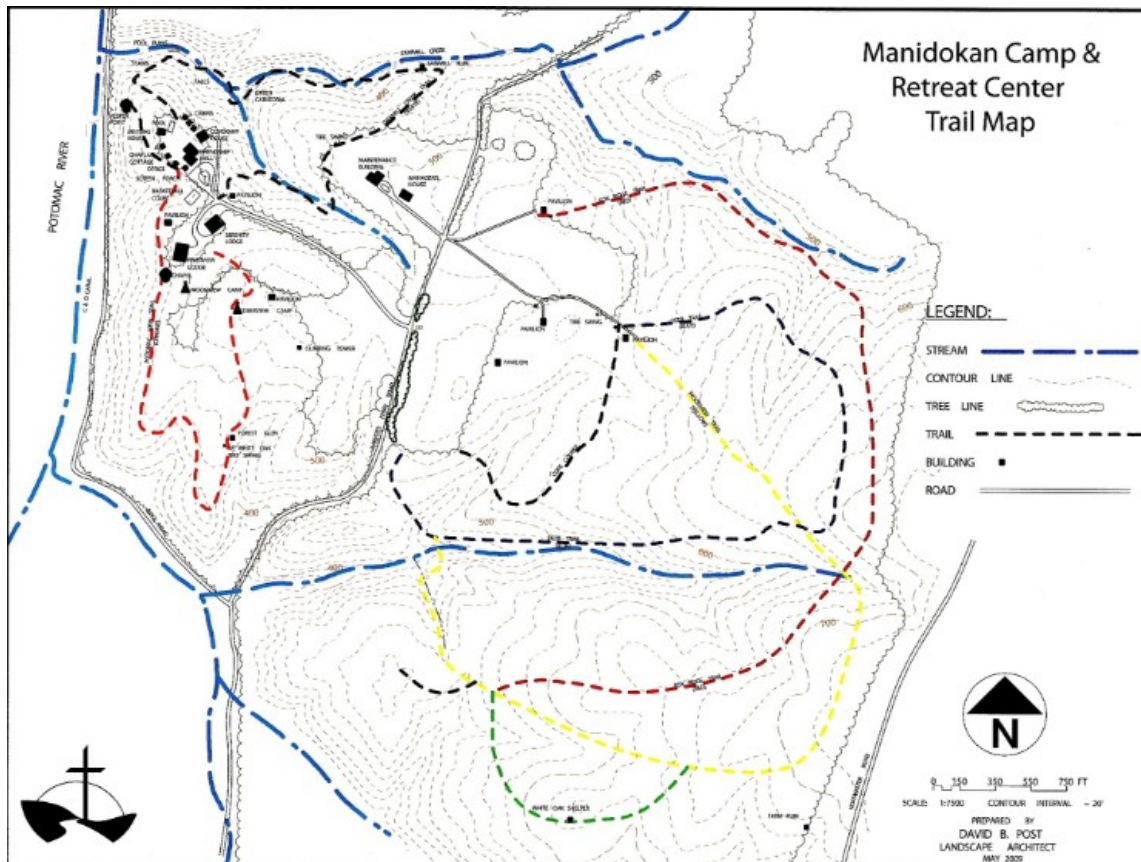
Yes. It would be helpful for someone from your group to come down Friday night and be present at the Friday evening PLC for orientation.

Can we bring take our troop trailer to our campsite?

Yes, each group will be allowed to use one vehicle to pull their trailer or haul their gear to their campsite. All vehicle traffic into the camp will be under the strict supervision of the Camp staff.

Will we be permitted to keep a vehicle in our campsite?

No, vehicles may only be used to transport trailers and gear. They must be removed as soon as possible and parked in the lot in the parking lot front of camp.



FACILITIES

Campsites: You will be assigned a campsite when you register and check in on Friday night.

Fuel and Campfires: We may have ground fires, but no fire pits may be dug. Leave No Trace techniques recommend use of a fire pan such as a “half barrel”, a metal oil pan, the coal insert to an old smoker, etc. There may be loose stone campfire rings at

some campsites, but there won't be enough campfire rings if more than 10-12 Troops come. Please note the FIREWOOD TRANSPORT BAN; i.e., only kiln dried firewood or untreated lumber (i.e., 2x4s) may be brought from home. As usual, scouts should be cautioned to leave live trees alone.

Water: Limited water is available on site at a distance from the campsite. We are exploring having a water buffalo onsite. But we strongly recommend that you fill up all of your water containers before loading them into your trailer or other transport.

Trash Disposal: Please follow instructions onsite.

First Aid Station: A clearly marked First Aid Station will be staffed during the event. All injuries should be brought to the attention of the Health Safety Officer/First Aid Staff.

Tick Checks: We have had a long hot summer and there are many deer at Camp Manidokan. Please check yourself and your buddies often for ticks.

Lost & Found: Any items found should be turned into the registration tent. Items may be claimed during the event or at the November district roundtable.

Conduct/Discipline: All scouts are expected to live and abide by the principles of the scout oath, law, motto & slogan and the Outdoor Code. Use of the patrol method is strongly encouraged with the patrol leaders in charge of patrol activities and responsible for each member of their patrol. If any serious misconduct occurs, individuals may be asked to leave the event or other disciplinary measures may be taken. Please don't put the staff in a position where difficult decisions must be made.

Information for Scoutmasters, Crew Advisors and other Troop Adult Leaders

Important Dates:

Thursday 8 October 2026: Staff/Informational Meeting at 7:15 pm before 4MR Roundtable (not mandatory but helpful/useful). Simulcast on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81871430505?pwd=WYJwS6hr0AaQuaWWkrFlv7lF5bwFjB.1>

Sunday 11 October 2026: Unit Online Preregistration Deadline.

Friday 16 October 2026, 3 pm: Camporee Staff Meets at Camp Manidokan to set up.

Friday 16 October 2026, 5:00 pm: Registration Opens at Camp Manidokan

Friday 16 October 2026, 9:30 pm: PLC Cracker Barrel Meeting at Camp HQ (all units to send representatives)

Saturday 17 October 2026, 8:40 am: Flags/Camporee Assembly followed by Program

Advanced Preparation: Green Bar Bill advised Scoutmasters to "Train 'em, Trust 'em, Let 'em Lead". We suggest you work with your unit in advance to train them in the skills your Scouts will need to know.

We Need Your Help

Each Unit is being asked to contribute at least one adult to accept a staff assignment. We need your help in all areas: parking management, registration, start line, supplying and supporting the various activity stations, Please identify a person in advance on your online registration. When you register your unit, please have that person report to registration and accept an assignment. We cannot put on an event of this logistical intensity without your help.

Please Pre-Register

The participation fee for this event will be \$40 per scout & \$30 per adult leader. The fee will pay for the site rental, facilities, patches, program materials, etc. Please pre-register! It is very difficult to plan an event for an estimated 200+ scouts and leaders. If 75 scouts pre-register and 200 attend, it can cause serious logistical problems and lots of chaos. A scout is courteous – please pre-register! If you pre-register your unit by the deadline, you can add more participants without paying any late fee. Fees are non- refundable except in very limited circumstances-- if you pre-register and then do not show up, don't expect to get your fees back! Don't let a little rain keep your scouts away from a very fun and rewarding day of scouting.

Arrival Procedures/Vehicles: Follow the instructions of volunteers on traffic and parking. After unloading, move vehicles to the parking area. Car pool if possible to reduce the number of vehicles at Camp.

Registration: All youth and adults at must be registered. Upon arrival at the event, one adult leader from each unit and the Senior Patrol Leader or their designate must check in at registration. The adult unit representative must have the following:

- Troop Roster of all scouts attending showing name and emergency contact info
- List of Patrols entering the event
- Parts A/B medical form for each participant in a sealed envelope (you may retain onsite).
- Any balance due (checks payable to NCAC are preferred over cash)
- The names and cell phone nos. of adult volunteers (at least one per unit) who will be helping with the camporee program

Campsites: We will attempt to assign campsites in advance on Friday night so any "advanced guard" can start setting up camp before the main POC for your unit arrives.

Fees: All attendees (including all adults) are expected to pay the registration fee. Please use online preregistration, but we suggest you do not pay in advance for anyone you are not pretty sure is coming.

Inclement Weather: This event will go forward rain or shine. Inclement weather will not be a reason to stay home.

Adult Supervision: All units will observe adult supervision and training requirements of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*. This means adequate adult supervision (at least two registered adult leaders over the age of 21, at least one of which must be female if you have any female scouts). Additionally, all adults camping overnight must be registered with Scouting America in a fee-paying position and have completed Scouting America's Safeguarding Youth training within the past year. There are no exceptions. Your adults are "on duty" the entire weekend to supervise your scouts. A large

percentage of youth safety violations that occur in Scouting America are youth-on-youth, so please be vigilant. Incidents occurring at the camporee must be reported to BSA National in accordance with Scouting America guidelines (www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/) and also brought to the attention of the District Executive and (a) the Camporee Health Officer (if medical in nature) or (b) the Camporee Director (if other than medical in nature). Please see a member of the camporee staff if you have any questions or require clarification concerning any of these important safety considerations.

Buddy System: All scouts must observe the buddy system for all activities at camporee. A buddy group can consist of two scouts or three scouts. Every scout should always be near his or her buddy or buddies.

Appropriate Tenting: Boys and girls must tent separately, scouts not in the same family must be aged within two years of each other to tent together, and parents and their children must tent separately except in special needs situations. Please refer to Scouting America's Guide to Safe Scouting for tenting requirements.

Emergency Procedures: These will be briefed at the Friday Night PLC. If you hear an emergency signal consisting of three air horn blasts in rapid succession which is repeated, everyone must immediately assemble at the parade ground in front of flags. Five air horn blasts in rapid succession is a different signal with different instructions.

Special Needs Accommodations: If your scouts require these, please reach out to our registrar in advance to coordinate and plan.

Patrol Method: A wise Scoutmaster lets the scouts do it themselves. We encourage scoutmasters to volunteer to help staff the event.

Train ‘em, Trust ‘em, Let ‘em Lead! Train your scouts before the event – let your patrol leaders lead their patrols during the event.

Unit Program Assignments: The activity stations are staffed by a number of dedicated Scouters & older Scouts. The District hopes that in addition to more experienced Scouters, a number of older scouts will step forward to help set up and operate the stations. It will take about 20-30 volunteers to run this event.

The assistance of each unit is needed to insure a smooth-running event. Please be prepared to provide the following assistance:

- Units need to provide at least one volunteer prepared to accept assignments to help with a range of tasks including logistical support, parking, etc.
- **We are looking for units to volunteer to take charge of activity stations.**

Medical Forms & Info: Each unit must have, for each attendee, a properly filled out parts A & B medical form upon registration. A physical examination by a doctor is not required – just the form completed by the scout's parents. Units may retain their form so they are available or provide their forms in a sealed envelope to be opened only if a medical emergency arises.

Closest Emergency Rooms:

Meritus Medical Center 11116 Medical Campus Rd. Hagerstown MD 301-790-8000

Alternate: Winchester Medical Center 1840 Amherst St. Winchester VA

Lost & Found: Any items found should be turned in to the registration tent. Items may be claimed during the event or at the November district roundtable.

Conduct/Discipline: All scouts are expected to live and abide by the principles of the scout oath and law and the Outdoor Code. Use of the patrol method is strongly encouraged with the patrol leaders in charge of patrol activities and responsible for each member of their patrol. If any serious misconduct occurs, individuals may be asked to leave the event or other disciplinary measures may be taken.

Radio Communications Policy: If you choose to carry walkie-talkies, please use ODD channel numbers for your unit communications. EVEN numbered channels are reserved for event staff use.

Prohibitions: The Boy Scouts of America and/or Staff will strictly adhere to the following prohibitions:

- No modifying trail blazes
- No unattended fires
- No breaking or cutting of live trees or shrubs
- No open flames in tents
- No vandalism (anyone caught vandalizing property will be turned over to the town police)
- No alcohol
- No illegal drugs
- No firearms (including bb guns)
- No fireworks
- No graffiti or defacement of any property
- No trenching/ditching of campsites or tents
- No pets or animals
- Caution your scouts to keep out of all unauthorized areas including Manidokan's low and high ropes course and zipline.

Thank you for your cheerful cooperation

2026 4MR District Lost Patrol – Proposed Schedule

Friday 16 October

3:00 pm: Staffers arrive to set up

5:00 pm: Registration Opens

5:00 – 8:00 pm Units Set up Camp

9:30 pm: PLC & Leaders Cracker Barrel at HQ (SPL, Patrol Leaders and Adult Leaders invited)

10:30 pm: Lights Out

Saturday 17 October

7:00 am reveille

8:40 am SHARP: Morning Assembly

9:00 am Patrols Dismissed to Activity Stations

12:00 pm: Program Suspended for Lunch (eat in camps)

1:15 pm: Program Resumes

4:15 pm: Patrols return to camp, begin preparing evening meal

7:00 pm: Church services

7:30 pm: Campfire

10:00 pm: Lights Out

Sunday 18 October

7:30 am reveille, breakfast, camp cleanup

8:30 am SHARP: Assemble for Orienteering Competition

10:00 am: Closing Ceremony

10:15 am: Camp Checkout, Split for home

Search and Rescue Merit Badge Requirements

(pls see https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/search-and-rescue/?utm_source=mb_pamphlet%20&utm_medium=qr_code&utm_campaign=merit_badges&utm_content=search_and_rescue for these same requirements with resources)

1. Hazards and First Aid. Do the following:

(a) Show or explain first aid for, and prevention of, injuries and conditions that searchers and subjects could develop during an SAR situation, including:

- (1) Dehydration
- (2) Heatstroke
- (3) Hypothermia
- (4) Shock
- (5) Blisters
- (6) Eye injuries
- (7) Ankle and knee sprains
- (8) Bug bites of chiggers, ticks, mosquitoes, and biting gnats
- (9) Bee stings
- (10) Bites of spiders
- (11) Sting of a scorpion
- (12) Bite of a wild mammal
- (13) Bite of a venomous snake

(b) Explain how the Scout Basic Essentials address hazards outdoors and help lost Scouts stay safe before they are rescued.

(c) Discuss how the safety gear carried by SAR team members in their field packs address SAR hazards.

2. Staying and Getting Found. Do the following:

(a) Explain how a trip plan and the buddy system help Scouts with staying found and getting found.

(b) Explain how seasonal and daily weather changes affect Trip Plans.

(c) Explain and show how a lost Scout could send signals that would alert a ground, airborne, or water SAR team to their location.

(d) Demonstrate how to use a signaling mirror.

(e) Explain how a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) works and the role of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC).

3. Maps. Using a map, a compass and a GPS device or app approved by your counselor, do the following:

(a) Point out and explain the 5 D's (Date, Description, Details, Direction or Declination, Distance) of the map.

- (b) Choose a location on the map and record the altitude, latitude, longitude, and US National Grid coordinates. Describe how these coordinate systems differ.**
- (c) Orient the map and take a bearing to another map location. Estimate the distance between, and describe the terrain between, the two locations.**
- (d) Show a hypothetical place last seen and point out an area on your map that could be used for containment using natural or human-made boundaries.**

4. Incident Command System (ICS). Do the following:

- (a) Explain how a local ICS is organized and how it compares with Scouting's patrol method.**
- (b) Explain how local community agencies work to train for and manage search and rescue situations.**

5. SAR Teams. Do the following:

- (a) Explain the official duties of a search and rescue team.**
- (b) Explain the differences between wilderness, urban, and water SARs.**
- (c) Identify four types of search and rescue teams and explain situations where they are used.**

6. Search and Rescue Procedures. Do the following:

- (a) Explain the difference between search and rescue.**
- (b) Explain the difference between PLS (place last seen) and LKP (last known point).**
- (c) Explain the importance of effective communication in SAR operations.**
- (d) Explain how predictions of "lost person behavior" determine SAR search plans for a young child, a teenager, and an adult.**
- (e) Explain the following terms:**
 - (1) Evaluating search urgency**
 - (2) Establishing confinement**
 - (3) Scent item**
 - (4) Area air scent dog**
 - (5) Briefing and debriefing**
 - (6) Clue awareness**
 - (7) Evidence preservation**
 - (8) Tracking a subject**
 - (9) Locating a subject using attraction**
 - (10) Hasty search**

(11) Trail sweep search

(12) Grid search

7. Plan and Complete a Search. Do the following with a team of Scouts, friends, or family to execute a practice SAR exercise:

(a) Choose a hypothetical SAR scenario, either one presented in the Search and Rescue merit badge pamphlet or one approved by your counselor.

(b) Develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP) for a hasty search using the scenario information.

(c) Before the search begins, conduct a PAUSE briefing to review hazards, safety concerns, personal and shared Scout Basic Essentials, and other gear.

(d) Execute the search.

(e) After the search, hold a team debriefing to discuss the search, problems, successful and unsuccessful tactics, and ideas for improvement.

8. Careers. Do ONE of the following:

(a) Explore careers related to Search and Rescue merit badge or emergency management. Research one career to learn about the training and education needed, costs, job prospects, salary, job duties, and career advancement. With permission of your parent or guardian, your research methods may include an internet or library search, an interview with a professional in the field, or a visit to a location where people in this career work. Discuss with your counselor both your findings and what about this profession might make it an interesting career.

(b) Explore how you could use knowledge and skills from this merit badge to serve as a volunteer on a disaster relief team, a wilderness rescue team, or a ski patrol. Research any training needed, expenses, and organizations that promote or support it. Discuss with your counselor what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursue this.

Camp Manidokan Driving Directions:

(1) Continue to I-66 W; Take I-495 N, I-270 N and US-340 W to Valley Rd in 11, Sandy Hook 58 min (61.5 mi); Follow Sandy Hook Rd to 1600 Harpers Ferry Rd Knoxville, MD 21758

(2) Continue to I-66 W; Take VA-267 W to VA-7 W/Leesburg Bypass/U.S. Hwy 15/501 S in Leesburg. Take exit 1A from VA-267 W 32 min (32.5 mi); Continue on VA-7 W. Take VA-9 W/Charles Town Pike and State Rte 671 to 1600 Harpers Ferry Rd Knoxville, MD 21758 (Option 2 may really be the only good way to get to Manidokan on a Friday late afternoon).

Note: the listed travel times should be doubled for Friday afternoon departures.

