

2026

TWIN RIVERS DISTRICT

COOK-O-REE

MARCH 27-29

PROGRAM GUIDE

“SOUTHERN COMFORT”



Food for your soul...

To: Coastal Georgia Council Troops and Crews
RE: 2026 Twin Rivers District Spring COOK-O-REE

Dear Unit Leaders,

The Twin Rivers District would like to invite all Coastal Georgia Council Scouts BSA Troops and Venture Crews to participate in the 2026 SPRING COOK-O-REE. The COOK-O-REE will be held the weekend of March 27-29, 2026, at the Evans County Public Fishing Area in Claxton, Georgia.

What is COOK-O-REE?

Traditionally a "CAMP-O-REE" is an activity held at the district or council level that allows area units to show off their Scouting skills in a competitive atmosphere while also allowing for fellowship and camaraderie. The "COOK-O-REE" is a twist on that model showing off each unit's culinary skills while afield. There will be 6 contests or challenges that will be judged by an unbiased panel, and the winners will walk away at the end of the weekend with recognition and bragging rights.

The 2026 event theme is "Southern Comfort, food for your soul."

Who can attend?

All Coastal Georgia Council Scouts BSA Boy and Girl Troops and Venture Crews are invited to attend. Troops are also encouraged to invite their Pack's Arrow of Light Scouts to attend for the day or overnight as long as the Pack provides 2 registered leaders 21 or older.

Who can participate?

Each unit can enter one "Youth" and/or one "Adult" entry as described on the event description page of the Program Guide.

Registration:

Units are encouraged to register "as a unit" online at the Coastal Georgia Council website. Early Bird registration through March 13 will be \$15 per youth and adult. Registration will be limited to the first 200 participants registered. Any registration received after March 13 until the registration cut off on March 20 will be \$20 per person. There will be no walk-up registrations allowed. Please understand there are preparations and purchases that must be made in advance for this event.

Location Considerations:

Since we are camping at a Public Fishing Area you must be aware that the State of Georgia "**normally**" requires that everyone 16 years old and over purchase a fishing license, hunting license, or land pass to use the facility. Because we are using the facility for a Scouting event this requirement has been waived unless you plan to partake in fishing. In that case a valid fishing license can be acquired at your local sporting goods store, on the Outdoors GA APP on your mobile device, or online at www.georgiawildlife.com for as little as \$15 a year or \$5 for a single day (\$1 for additional days). We will be using the honor system and trusting that everyone will follow GA state laws while attending.

Unit Planning Considerations:

- ★ **Trash** - Units should come prepared to take care of their own trash and debris. The use of heavy-duty trash bags is recommended. Each unit is required to police and clean their own campsite area before departing the event on Sunday. ***Pack it in, pack it out!***
- ★ **Fires**- Ground fires are not permitted. Each unit will need to provide its own elevated fire pit or table for wood and/or charcoal fires in your campsites. Units will also be responsible for safe removal of ash or coals from your fires. These materials are not to be dumped unless cold to touch. Extra firewood must also be removed from the facility when you leave. ***Leave no trace!***
- ★ **Parking and vehicle use:** It is important to limit vehicle traffic inside our program and camping area for the safety of our participants. Units will be allowed to unload gear in their assigned campsites, and all vehicles will then be parked in a designated parking area unless attached to your unit trailer. Unit trailers may remain in campsites along with an attached vehicle as long as it does not move until Sunday morning dismissal. Be advised and remind your Scouts that the area is still going to be open to the public, so they need to be aware of vehicle traffic.
- ★ **Bathroom facilities** will be limited but appropriate for the number of participants. The facility only provides one Men's and one Women's restroom. Port-o-lets will be provided for overflow. Please be advised there are no shower facilities available onsite.
- ★ **Food:** The only food items that will be provided will be as follows...
 - Friday Cracker Barrel (for Scoutmasters and Senior Patrol Leaders ONLY)
 - Ingredients for Mr. Frank's Challenge
 - Ingredients for the Chopped GameshowAll other food for the COOK-O-REE is provided by the unit
- ★ **Campfire Program** Saturday evening will require each unit to have a skit or song prepared to share. Entries will be reviewed for appropriateness by the Campfire MC at a time and location announced at the SM/SPL meeting on Friday night.
- ★ **Spirit Stick:** At the beginning of the Campfire Program on Saturday night the COOK-O-REE Spirit Stick will be returned to the MC by the winning unit from the previous year. At the end of the Campfire Program the Spirit Stick will be awarded to the unit that shows the most Scout Spirit throughout the entire weekend.
- ★ **Sunday Morning Scout's Own Worship Service:** Each unit should plan to provide a chaplain's aide to assist with the service.
- ★ **Awards Presentation:** Event awards, event patches, Unit Participation Awards and other special awards will be presented at the conclusion of the Scout's Own Worship Service at the pavilion on Sunday morning.
- ★ **Unit Roster and Medical Forms:** Each unit must turn in a completed roster of all participants at the Friday night Scoutmaster/Senior Patrol Leader Meeting at the pavilion. The unit must also have a BSA Annual Health and Medical Record Form for each participant with parts A & B completed. These forms must be available upon request.

Thank you to all who have supported this event year after year!

Jim French, Twin Rivers District Commissioner

912-536-1956, trdcommissionerjim@gmail.com

Doug Hess, Twin Rivers District Executive

912-360-7036, doug.hess@scouting.org

2026 EVENTS GUIDELINES

GRANDMA'S BREAKFAST (YOUTH AND ADULT)

PREPARE A BREAKFAST THAT YOU WOULD EXPECT TO ENJOY AT YOUR GRANDMA'S HOUSE FOR A SATURDAY MORNING FAMILY GATHERING.

TROOP PROVIDES THE INGREDIENTS

MR. FRANK'S LUNCH CHALLENGE

ONE THREE SCOUT TEAM WITH AN ADULT ADVISOR FROM EACH UNIT WILL COOK A DISH ACCORDING TO MR. FRANK'S INSTRUCTIONS WITH THE INGREDIENTS HE PROVIDES. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW HIS INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY AS HE WILL ONLY GIVE THEM TO YOU ONE TIME! THIS MEAL WILL SERVE AS YOUR UNIT LUNCH.

INGREDIENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

TAILGATE APPETIZERS (YOUTH AND ADULT)

EACH UNIT WILL PREPARE THEIR FAVORITE GAME DAY TAILGATE APPETIZER FOR OUR JUDGES TO SAVOR BEFORE DINNER.

TROOP PROVIDES THE INGREDIENTS

SOUTHERN COMFORT DINNER (YOUTH AND ADULT)

PREPARE YOUR TROOP'S FAVORITE SPREAD OF COMFORT FOODS THAT WILL WARM YOUR SOUL AND STRETCH YOUR PANTS. DO YOUR BEST TO MAKE THE JUDGES LOOSEN THEIR BELTS AND BEG FOR MERCY!

TROOP PROVIDES INGREDIENTS

PIES FOR DESSERT (YOUTH AND ADULT)

EACH UNIT MUST PREPARE A PIE OF THEIR CHOICE TO WOW THE JUDGES

TROOP PROVIDES INGREDIENTS

CHOPPED GAMESHOW - GOURMET BURGERS & FRIES

A SCOUT AND SCOUTER TEAM FROM EACH UNIT WILL COMPETE FOR THE ULTIMATE BRAGGING RIGHTS IN THIS INTENSE CULINARY COMPETITION WHERE EACH TEAM WILL BE PROVIDED 1 POUND OF GROUND BEEF, 2 LARGE POTATOES (EITHER RUSSET OR SWEET POTATOES) AND CAN PICK ITEMS FROM OUR PANTRY AND/OR FROM THEIR OWN BAG OF TRICKS TO PREPARE THEIR TROOP'S VERSION OF A GOURMET BURGER & FRIES. EACH TEAM WILL SET UP THEIR OWN KITCHEN AROUND THE PROGRAM PAVILION USING A PATROL CHUCK BOX. EACH TEAM IS ALSO ASKED TO PROVIDE A "MYSTERY ITEM" THAT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY DRAWING AND MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE PREPARATION OF YOUR MEAL.

THE MEAT, POTATOES, AND AN ASSORTMENT OF INGREDIENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday, March 28th

5:00-8:00	Check-in and set up camp in assigned sights
8:30	SM/SPL meeting & cracker barrel @ the Program Pavillion
10:00	Quiet time in campsites
11:00	Light out

Saturday, March 29th

7:00	Reveille
8:00	Breakfast entries due @ the Judging Table
9:00	Opening ceremony
10:00	Mr. Frank's Challenge @ the Program Pavilion
4:00	Appetizer entries due @ the Judging Table
5:00	Dinner entries due @ the Judging Table
5:30	Set up Chopped Game Show Kitchens @ Program Pavillion
6:30	Dessert entries due @ the Judging Table
7:00	Chopped Game Show @ Program Pavilion
8:30	Campfire
10:00	Quiet time in campsites
11:00	Lights out

Sunday, March 30th

7:00	Reveille
9:00-	Scout's Own Service & Awards Presentation

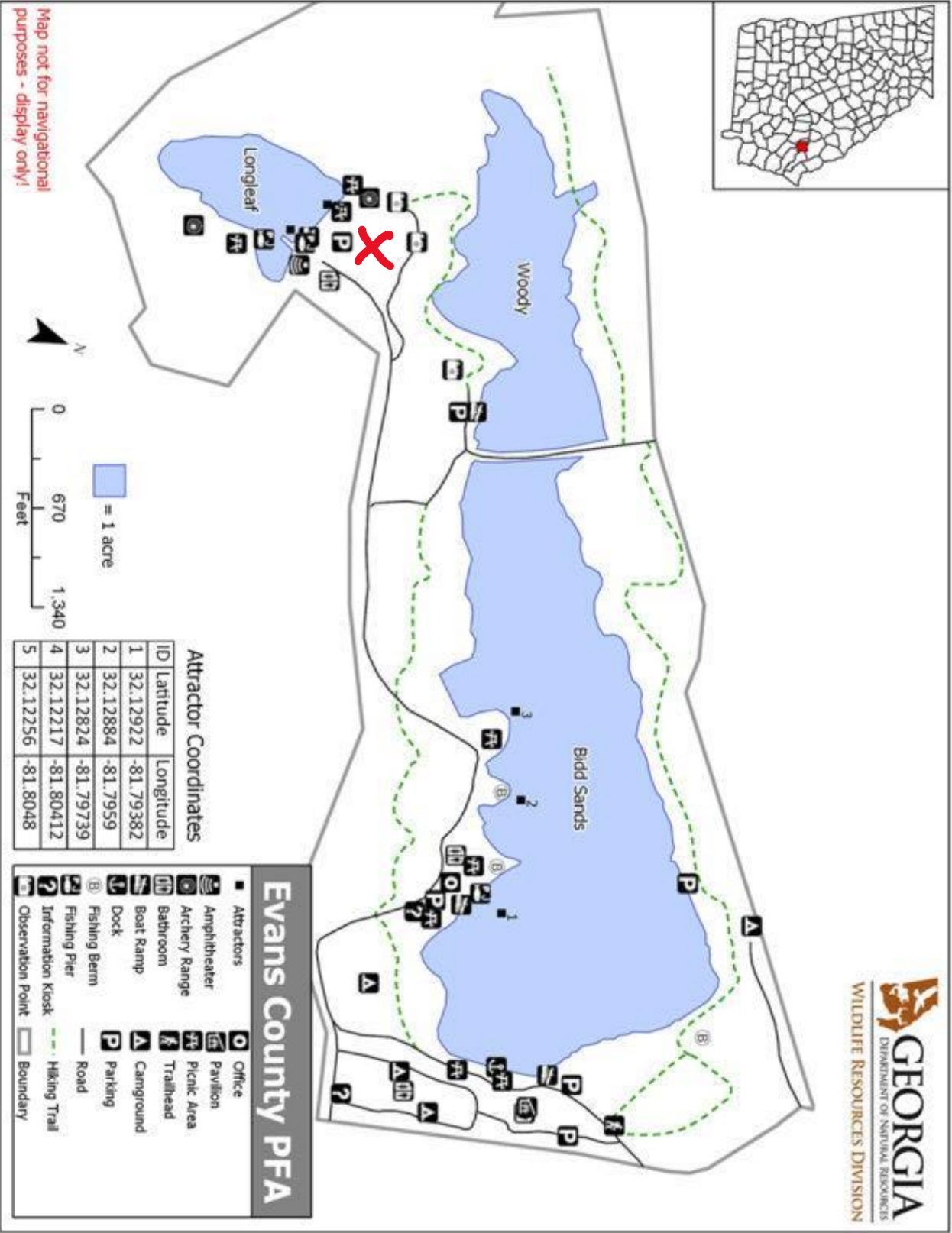
*****PLEASE POLICE YOUR CAMPSITE AREAS BEFORE DEPARTING*****

UNIT ROSTER

TROOP, CREW, PACK _____ UNIT LEADER _____ SPL _____

[illegible]

***TURN IN ROSTER AT SCOUTMASTER/SPL MEETING**



OUR CAMP WILL BE WHERE THE RED X IS NEAR LONGLEAF POND ON THE MAP.