

# **BLAST OFF WITH SPACE EXPLORATION!**

## **Space Exploration Merit Badge Rocket Launch**

**Calling all Scouts!** Join Northern Illinois Rocketry Association for an exciting afternoon of rocketry and space exploration. Whether you're working on your Space Exploration Merit Badge or just want to experience the thrill of a launch, this event is for you! <https://www.nirarocketry.org/launches.html>.

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**DATE:** October 18  **TIME:** 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM  **LOCATION:** East Branch Forest Preserve, Glendale Heights  
(The entrance is a small gravel drive on the east side of Glen Ellyn Road between Fullerton and Army Trail Road. Look for the large LAUNCH flag flying near the entrance!)

## **WHAT TO EXPECT**

- **Launch Your Rocket:** Rocket kits will be provided and build on-site at event. Or, bring your own model rockets! Rockets must conform to standard safety limitations: total weight up to 1500g (3.3 lbs) and no more than 125g (4.4 oz) of propellant (most G motors).
- **Equipment Provided:** Don't have your own launch pad or controller? No problem! NIRA has a 10-pad launch system available, and club members are always happy to share their equipment and expertise.
- **Merit Badge Counselors on Site:** Get help fulfilling your Space Exploration Merit Badge requirements!

## **IMPORTANT RANGE RULES**

- **No Vehicles on the Grass:** The Forest Preserve strictly prohibits driving on the grass. Please be prepared to carry or cart your equipment from the parking area to the launch site.
- **Safety First:** National Association of Rocketry (NAR) safety codes are strictly enforced to ensure a safe event. All flights are at the discretion of the Range Safety Officer (RSO). NIRA members have the experience to help you out if you can't decide what engine, parachute, or streamer to use.
- **No Drones:** Forest Preserve rules prohibit flying drones or RC airplanes at the site.

*You don't need to be a member of NIRA to fly—all you need is an interest in rocketry and a desire to have fun! Blank flight cards will be available at the launch.*

**RSVP / Contact Your Merit Badge Counselor:** Tom Grooms, [tomgrooms@me.com](mailto:tomgrooms@me.com), 763-218-4141

Scan the QR code for  
Space Exploration  
merit badge pamphlet.

