



# Welcome Voyageur Participant!

Our course is fast approaching, and we would like to provide information that will ensure you have a positive experience over the two weekends of the course.

## Where and When

- ✗ Crossroads of America Council Camp Belzer
  - 6102 Boy Scout Road, Indianapolis, IN 46226
  - Park in the parking lot closest to the Ross Voyageur Hut.
- ✗ The course begins on Saturday morning September 7, 2024.
  - **Please plan to arrive between 6:30 am - 7:30 am for registration.**
  - **Camping will be available at Belzer both weekends. Please let us know if you need to stay on either Friday evening.**
- ✗ Weekend 1 – September 7-8, 2024, and Weekend 2 – September 21-22, 2024

## What to Bring

- ✗ Clothing
  - Sturdy enclosed shoes that **will** get wet.
    - Running shoes or boots that drain water are recommended.
    - Sandals, crocs, flip-flops, or slides are not appropriate for this course.
  - At least 1 set of clothes for on-water activities that can get wet.
    - Wicking, long sleeve shirt to protect from sun, insects, and scratchy tree limbs.
    - Quick-dry, long pants to protect your legs from bad things like sunburn, nettles, and poison ivy.
      - No jeans or shorts – you will thank us later.
  - Complete change of dry clothes and shoes
    - Comfortable and scout appropriate clothes for in-camp activities.
    - Weekend 2 you will get wet when we practice rescues. All other times we don't intend for you to get soaked, but "Be Prepared."
    - Watch the weather forecast and "Bring the Right Stuff."
- ✗ Camping Gear – if camping at Belzer
  - Bring the same things you would have on a typical campout.
    - Tent and ground cloth
    - Sleeping bag
    - Personal hygiene items
    - Sleeping clothes
- ✗ Canoeing Gear
  - Wide brimmed hat.
  - Sunscreen and lip balm.
  - Insect repellent.
  - Rain pants and jacket recommended – ponchos not so much.
    - Even if no rain is forecast, rain gear can be used to retain body heat and block wind.
  - Sunglasses with glasses strap.
  - Two Nalgene style plastic water bottles 24-32 ounces.
  - 8' section of small diameter rope or paracord for lashing.
  - One 15' piece of 1/4" or 3/8" poly rope that will get wet.
  - A 10L – 20L dry bag for use in the canoe to keep your gear **mostly** dry and secure.
- ✗ Optional Gear
  - Canoeing gloves.
  - Kneeling pad or Knee pads.
  - Notebook and pen for taking notes.
- ✗ Documentation (You must bring all of these to Registration, or you cannot participate)
  - ISC Waiver (available on the Registration page).
  - Scout Health Form-Minimum Sections A, B1, and B2. Must be current/within the last 12 months.
  - **Documentation of BSA "swimmer" classification** - from camp or your unit. Must be current/within the last 12 months. Please contact us if you are not current.
  - **Adults:** Proof of **current** Youth Protection, Safe Swim Defense, and Safety Afloat certifications.

## What we Provide

- ✕ Canoes, Paddles, and Life Jackets (PFD).
  - Students **must** wear course provided PFDs for quick identification and safety reasons.
- ✕ Sponge (we will explain what this is used for during the course).
- ✕ All meals
  - Breakfast and Lunch on Saturday and Sunday.
  - Dinner Saturday night.
  - Snacks throughout the weekend.
  - **Please advise us of any food allergies or dietary restrictions as soon as possible**
    - This can be done during the online registration, or you can email us with this information.
- ✕ Some of the finest trainers within the Crossroads of America Council.
- ✕ Plenty of paddling knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm.
- ✕ Lots of “teachable moments” - both wet and dry.

## Additional Notes

- ✕ If we have enough interest, we will have a Kayak one-day course the Saturday after the second weekend.
- ✕ Participants must participate in the entire course to earn Paddle Craft Safety and their Voyageur patch.
- ✕ Estimated Dismissal Time: Approximately 4:00 PM each Sunday afternoon.
- ✕ Shirts and other Voyageur swag will be available for a reasonable cost during course.

Questions: Contact Mark Janson at 317-847-1231 or [mjanson4@comcast.net](mailto:mjanson4@comcast.net)

## Bird's eye view of Camp Belzer

