



# Camp Buffalo



Camper and Leader Guide  
Edited: 12/5/22

Greetings Campers!

We are looking forward to another fun-filled summer at Camp Buffalo. We are offering the high-quality programming you have come to expect from Camp Buffalo with some new twists and a focus on Scout-Led customization of the summer camp experience.

Camp Buffalo has an outstanding Shooting Sports Complex, and we staff the ranges with at least two instructors and super-sized time blocks, where sensible, to ensure excellent instruction. For Aquatics, we take advantage of our pool, Liberty Lake, and the Tippecanoe River to offer many options.

You will find some new elements this year and we are continuing Troop Choice. Each day Troops (or Patrols) will get to choose from a list of Troop Choice Activities to make their summer camp experience the way they want it to be.

Health and Safety rules will be finalized closer to camp as the health department/CDC/the State of Indiana continues to update their guidance, but safety will be our focus. We anticipate robust safety measures and will require Scouts, Leaders, and Staff to follow them. In general, if you are looking for a camp with masks “recommended”, “preferred”, or “not at all”, Camp Buffalo is not the camp for you this year. Flexibility as we navigate this landscape is necessary if we are going to ensure that camp happens in a safe environment.

We look forward to seeing you at camp!

Yours in Scouting,

Howard Hansen  
Camp Director  
[hfhansen1071@gmail.com](mailto:hfhansen1071@gmail.com)  
574-870-9940

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## **Guiding Principles**

### **BSA MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

### **SCOUT OATH**

On my honor I will do my best  
to do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
to help other people at all times;  
to keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

### **SCOUT LAW**

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

### **CAMP BUFFALO MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Camp Buffalo Summer Camp is to provide a safe, quality, fun-filled program for both new and returning Scouts, while continuing the tradition that is the Spirit of Camp Buffalo and the Boy Scouts of America.

## **Administrative Information**

Sagamore Council, BSA  
P.O. Box 865  
Kokomo, IN 46903-0865  
(765) 452-8253  
[www.sagamorebsa.org](http://www.sagamorebsa.org)

Camp Buffalo  
9400 N. Boy Scout Road  
Monticello, IN 47960  
(574) 278-7114 (Emergency Only)  
<http://www.campbuffalo.com>

Summer Camp & Merit Badge Registration:

[https://www.scoutingevent.com/162-2023\\_SummerCamp](https://www.scoutingevent.com/162-2023_SummerCamp)

Camp Ranger:	TBD	Health Officer:	Warren Penrod
Camp Director:	Howard Hansen	Commissioner:	TBD
Program Director:	Nathanael Fivecoate		

## **2023 Summer Camp Dates**

All summer camp sessions begin on Sunday afternoon at 1:00 PM and end on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. The session dates are:

Week 1: June 11 – June 17

Week 2: June 18 – June 24

Week 3: June 25 – July 1

Week 4: July 2 – July 8

## **Campsite Reservation**

Make your Troop's reservation on Black Pug which will require a \$100.00 campsite deposit at that time. This deposit reduces your final payment by \$100.00. i.e., It's just a deposit, you get your money back.

## Campsites

Camp Buffalo currently has 14 campsites. These sites are situated throughout camp from the high banks of the Tippecanoe River to near our own Liberty Lake. Many returning troops have campsites that are like second homes to them. We are sure your Troop will find a place that it will love and be able to call home itself! Our campsites include:

- |                |                 |                        |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| ■ Acorn (S)    | ■ Pioneer (L)   | ■ Trailblazer (M)      |
| ■ Chipmunk (M) | ■ Rain Crow (L) | ■ Whispering Pines (L) |
| ■ Hickory (M)  | ■ Raven (M)     | ■ Miami (M)            |
| ■ Ivey (M)     | ■ Ridgeview (S) |                        |
| ■ Oaks (M)     | ■ Shadyside (S) |                        |
| ■ Pines (M)    |                 |                        |

The letter in parenthesis indicates the rough size of the campsite. Please select an appropriate size site for your Troop.

A considerable amount of time and money has been invested to better prepare your campsite. Please take full advantage of your site and remember to take care of the provided equipment. Each campsite will be provided with the following equipment:

- |                  |                     |  |
|------------------|---------------------|--|
| ■ Picnic tables  | ■ Fire buckets      | ■ All dead and down wood is available for campfires, gadgets, etc. |
| ■ Flagpole       | ■ Trash can         |  |
| ■ Bulletin board | ■ Toilet Paper      |  |
| ■ Shovel & rake  | ■ Toilet brush      |  |
| ■ Broom          | ■ Surface Sanitizer |  |
| ■ Hose           | ■ Soap Bars         |  |

## Damaged Equipment

Camp Buffalo puts a very high value on its program and campsite equipment. Our goal is to use it for several years. To do so, we need your help in maintaining it and practicing proper use with your Scouts. Any damage to camp-owned equipment through negligence and/or abuse will be the sole responsibility of the troop. Replacement costs will be assessed to the troop based on the retail costs of the damaged item. Troops will be responsible for paying for any damaged items before leaving camp.

**Please Note: This includes picnic tables made of a plastic material that will melt if put in contact with high heat. Any repairs will be charged to the unit.**

## **Camp Fees**

### **SCOUTS:**

The In-Council Early Bird Fee is \$280.00 per session if **paid in full** by March 1. If the entire balance is not paid until after March 1, the Regular Price of \$295.00 will be in effect. A \$100.00 reservation deposit per Scout is due when the Scout is registered for classes. There is a \$10.00 Out-Of-Council surcharge taking the fees to \$290 Early Bird due by March 1, \$305 Regular Price after March 1. Webelos crossing over in 2023 will receive Early Bird rate even after March 1 if troop is paid in full.

### **LEADERS:**

The fee for all adults is \$100.00 due by March 1. There is no deposit required for leaders and no early-bird options. All adults accompanying a Scouting unit who are present at the activity for 72 total hours or more must be registered as leaders. The 72 hours need not be consecutive. This includes completing Youth Protection Training. Please bring a copy of your YPT completion certificate with you to camp. We will collect these at check-in.

A Camp Buffalo 2023 t-shirt and patch are included in both the Scouts' and the leaders' camp fees.

## **Sagamore Council Summer Camp Rules**

The principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law are the guiding principles of Sagamore Council Summer Camps. The following rules have been established for the health, safety, and protection of all persons attending camp:

1. Closed-toed shoes must be worn at all times. **NO** flip-flops or sandals!
2. Only Scouts and leaders who are registered as summer camp participants may stay at camp and participate in activities.
3. Adults may not share a tent with any Scout. See Guide to Safe Scouting.
4. Each tent should be clearly marked identifying the names of the campers inside. "*No Flames in Tents*" must be displayed on or in front of each tent.
5. Scouts are to be in their campsites by 10:00 PM, unless they are involved in a night class or night observation for a merit badge. Quiet time is from 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM.
6. No pets are allowed in camp. This rule applies to visitors as well. Please advise visiting parents of this rule.
7. Outside of check-in time and check-out time, vehicles are not to be in camp without prior permission of the Camp Director or Camp Ranger. Parking is available in the grass along Boy Scout Road and in the parking area behind Handicraft.
8. **Camouflage gear and clothing is not permitted.** This is in accordance with the Boy Scouts' congressional charter and Article X, Section 4, Clause 4(b) of the BSA Rules and Regulations.
9. All bulk liquid fuel will be stored in the camp's flammable materials storage area.
10. Fireworks are prohibited.
11. Firearms are not allowed in camp.
12. Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, tobacco, and vaping are not permitted on council property.

### **SCOUT CELL PHONE USAGE AT SUMMER CAMP**

Unit Leaders are responsible for establishing youth cell phone rules while in the campsite. Scouts are encouraged to take photos and videos while participating in activities and during free time as long as it is not disruptive or unsafe. Please use hashtag #SagamoreSnapshots when uploading to social media.



## Camping Equipment

### TROOP EQUIPMENT

Each Troop and patrol are urged to bring their own equipment to enable the Troop to have an independent operation in its campsite. Troops that attend Summer Camp should plan to bring the following items:

- |                                |   |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| ■ Tents                        | ■ Safety Tape (to mark tent and fly ropes - any bright yellow or orange ribbon) | ■ Cooking equipment for outpost meals |
| ■ "No Flames in Tent" signs    | ■ Water containers  | ■ Aluminum foil                       |
| ■ Name signs for each tent     | ■ Lanterns  | ■ Hand saws or axes                   |
| ■ USA, troop, and patrol flags | ■ Clothesline   | ■ Merit Badge books                   |
|                                | ■ Dining fly  | ■ Gateway signs, posts, and twine     |

### PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Through 100 years of camping experience, we have learned that a Scout's stay is much more enjoyable when they **put their name on everything** and bring:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ■ Complete Scout uniform: shirt, pants, belt, socks (must be worn at all evening meals)   | ■ Headlamp (Flashlight)/batteries                                       |
| ■ Clothing: pants, shorts, t-shirts, underwear, socks, light jacket, sweatshirt (all t-shirts should be "Class B" or of an acceptable design) | ■ Canteen/water bottle  |
| ■ Swimsuit/towel  | ■ Mess Kit (Including cup)  |
| ■ Hiking boots or tennis shoes – at <u>least</u> two pairs; open-toed shoes are NOT allowed at Camp Buffalo                                   | ■ Pocket knife (Scouts must carry their Totin' Chip card)               |
| ■ Rain gear   | ■ Notebook/pencils  |
| ■ Pillow/sleeping bag   | ■ Merit Badge books   |
| ■ Cot/sleeping pad  | ■ Watch   |
| ■ Toiletries  | ■ Change for soda machine/snacks  |
| ■ Scout Handbook (In a plastic bag)   | ■ Spending money (Trading Post will be open!)                           |
| ■ Sunscreen and bug repellent (non-aerosol)   | ■ Hand sanitizer  |
|   | ■ <b>All</b> electronics, fireworks, and valuables should stay at home. |

In the modern world of lunch accounts, debit cards, and Venmo, many Scouts are unaccustomed to carrying cash. Parents and Leaders should coach Scouts on handling cash at camp. Thankfully, a Scout is Trustworthy, so found valuables should be turned into Lost & Found.

The official Boy Scout uniform supports the mission of Scouting. Does your troop wear it? Please do! Be proud of your uniform and encourage the same from your Scouts. Everyone being in full field ("Class A") uniform can have a huge impact on your troop's performance, morale, identity, and spirit. For those troops that accept variations on the official Boy Scout uniform (i.e.: khaki shorts instead of the Scout shorts, or a troop hat instead of a BSA hat), please coordinate all Scouts in your unit to have a similar look for evening meals, vespers, and campfires.

## **Arrival at Camp**

For the Scouts in your Troop, Summer Camp is an adventure, and we understand that they are anxious to arrive at Camp Buffalo and begin the fun! However, to allow our staff time to prepare for your arrival, we ask that you **do not arrive before 1:00 PM on Sunday.**

What to expect upon arrival:

- Depending on how many Troops arrive at the same time, there may be a line of vehicles backed up on to Boy Scout Road. Please stay to the right side of the road as this is a public road.
- You will be met at the checkpoint and your Troop Guide will greet you. This is a member of the staff who will be serving as your Troop Guide for the week. Your Troop guide will direct you to a parking space and get your Scouts started on their check-in process. Each Scout needs to have their health form in hand. Swim checks can be done after you setup your campsite. You do NOT have to go to the pool immediately upon arrival. To aid in the check-in process, at least one adult leader needs to be with the Scouts and the Troop Guide while another leader checks in. You may wish to have scouts wear swimwear under their uniforms while travelling to camp to help speed up swim check process.
- Scout check-in:  
Your Troop Guide will take Scouts to three stations for their check-in. ***The order of these check-in stops may vary depending on how many Troops arrive at once to avoid back-up at any one station.***
  - 1st Stop**—the Health Officer. At this station, Scouts' health forms will be reviewed for completion and accuracy. After their health assessment, the Scout will be given their aquatics buddy tag. *It is the Scout's responsibility to keep this tag until his swim check.*
  - 2nd Stop**—the Pool for swim checks. When all Scouts have completed their swim checks, the Troop will gather outside with the Troop Guide.

**3rd Stop**—the Troop Campsite. The Troop Guide will escort the Troop to their campsite. The Troop Guide will also incorporate a tour of Camp Buffalo as they move through the check-in stops.

**Adult Leader check-in:**

Adult Leader check-in procedures will be completed in the Eagle Quest area, located on the south edge of the main parking lot. The remainder of the unit will proceed to next check-in stop.

**1st Step**—Roster Review

The Scoutmaster will first verify the Troop’s roster and receive:

-T-shirts and wristbands for all participants

-Troop leader packet from the Commissioners

Please be sure we have accurate contact information for every person in your unit. This will help expedite matters in case of an emergency or insurance claim.

**2nd Step**—Program Review

The Program Director will verify that all Scouts are registered for Merit Badges and Activity Badges. Any schedule conflicts or restrictions will be addressed. **If corrections need to be made to the badge schedule, please inform the Program Director of those by the end of supper.** Schedules will be printed and available at the Leaders’ Meeting before the campfire Sunday evening.

**3rd Step**—Camp Fees Reconciliation

Any fees added in the process of Merit Badge scheduling, or any additional campers will be addressed, as well as any outstanding balances. If a refund is required, payment will not be made at Camp Buffalo; rather, the troop will receive refunds in their unit account at the Council office or by check if out-of-council.

**4th Step**—Health Check & Swim Test (*can be done after setting up camp*)

Sunday afternoon, Scoutmasters and adult leaders need to report to the medical officer for their health checks and to the pool for swim tests. At the health check station, leaders will be issued the Troop’s “medicine cooler” so that Troop members medicine can be secured in the campsite.

### Setting up Camp

After these stops, Scoutmasters are then free to take equipment to their campsite and begin the set-up process. **Only one vehicle at a time may be used to transport equipment to each campsite.** Vehicles may not park in fire lanes at any time. After unloading, the vehicle must be returned to the overflow parking area. All vehicles must be out of the campsites and parked by 5:30 PM.

A troop trailer may be left at the campsite for the camping week. No private vehicles are allowed in the camp for the duration of the week without the express permission of the Camp Director or Camp Ranger.

### **Provisional Camping**

If you have a Scout or Scouts who are unable to attend summer camp with your Troop, please don't let them miss the opportunity to experience camp! Contact the Scout Office so that the Scout can be connected with another Troop. These provisional campers will go through the same check-in process as described above but will be partnered with a host Troop for the week. The host Troop will have to get approval by the Chartered Organization of the provision camper's Troop.

### **Medical Forms**

Summer Camp requires Scouts and leaders to complete and turn in Parts A, B, and C of the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record. This is the ONLY acceptable form per BSA regulations. Parts A and B must be attested to by the Scout's parent or guardian by signature on the form (unless over 18 years of age). Tetanus shot must have a date within the last 10 years. Additionally, the Scout or leader must have received a medical evaluation (Part C), completed within the last 12 months (1 year) and signed by a person licensed to practice medicine. This is a National BSA Policy. Scouts and Scouters will not be permitted at camp without this form.

The official BSA Annual Health and Medical Record forms are available at [www.sagamorebsa.org](http://www.sagamorebsa.org) and [www.campbuffalo.com](http://www.campbuffalo.com).

**School athletic physicals are NOT accepted.**

**The physical MUST be on an official  
BSA Annual Health and Medical Record form.**

Scoutmasters should verify that all Scouts have complete medical forms and verify that all medication is labeled and in its original containers, including aspirin, cough medicine, etc. Email the Camp Director [hfhansen1071@gmail.com](mailto:hfhansen1071@gmail.com) advising of any food allergies by 5/15/23.

### **Health and Safety Protocols (Subject to change)**

#### Advanced Self Screening – Self Isolation

For 5 days leading up to Camp, please have all participants monitor temperature daily and, if not fully vaccinated, minimize contact with non-family members. Don't come to camp if you aren't feeling well.

When your Troop departs for Camp, please avoid any stops in transit to minimize outside contact.

We will publish guidelines based on current health department recommendations by May 31, 2023.

Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting will be regularly scheduled. In general, when in doubt we will err on the side of caution.

## **Troop/Patrol Information**

**Come to camp prepared.** Have patrols already organized. Work on ideas as patrols and have the patrol leaders represent the group at camp.

**Your campsite is your home for the week.** Make it comfortable and pleasant by bringing banners and flags to dress it up.

**Top troops show Scout spirit.** Display patrol flags, sing your Troop song as you come to the flagpole or to campfires and other troop events, etc. Get your youth involved in the patrol and Troop activities throughout the week.

**Field (Class "A") uniforms are required for campfires, evening meals, and vespers.** Encourage Troop activity (Class "B") uniforms (T-shirts) for the remainder of the time at camp. Non-scout apparel is discouraged.

**Commissioners will begin inspecting your campsite for cleanliness and campsite improvements starting Monday morning.** Items of interest include clean campsites, structures, improvements. All campsite structures should be made with spars you bring or only from downed trees from camp. The winner of the weeklong inspection will receive an award at the closing Campfire on Friday.

**Please communicate with each other and with the staff.** If you have a special need or want to do something unique, tell us about it. We believe in good customer service. The best way to communicate special requests is to put them in writing and give them to the Camp Director or Program Director.

**Some Scoutmasters complain that there is "too much to do."** That's by design! As a staff, it is our job to provide a wide selection of program opportunities from which your troop leaders (Scouts!) choose. You don't have to participate in everything! Rest is important as well! We give Troops the chance to create their own experiences at summer camp.

**Schedule time to rest.** Too often Scouts and leaders don't take the time to sit and enjoy the beauty of the camp around them. Don't maintain such a busy schedule that you miss the trees, nature, and clean fresh air.

Sleep can make or break a week. It is essential that everyone gets the rest they need. Please help ensure "Quiet Time" is enforced between 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM. Noise travels very well at night, so please respect your neighbors.

**Be flexible!** Each week more than 150 Scouts and 35 adults may attend camp. While the camp staff tries to meet the needs of everyone and have everything go along perfectly, unexpected things sometimes happen. If you quickly pass concerns along to Commissioners, we can better ensure that Scouts have an enjoyable camp experience.



## **Dining Hall and Outpost Procedures**

2023 Food Service is still being developed as we continue to get guidance from the Health Department, various Council Committees, BSA National, and input from Registered Troops.

We plan to return to family style food service if we have health department approval. If your troop would rather cook one or more meals at your campsite, we can also facilitate outpost meals with 10 days notice before your arrival at camp. We anticipate the final guide to Dining Operations to be published around 6/1/23. If you have questions and concerns, please email the Camp Director, Howard Hansen at: [hfhansen1071@gmail.com](mailto:hfhansen1071@gmail.com)

### **DINING HALL PROCEDURES**

All Dining Hall tables will be assigned by Troop. Plan to have a staff member seated with you at each table.

Scouts are helpful and Troops will be required to assist with meals. This is Scout Camp, where the goal is to have fun, learn and grow. Sometimes that means some volunteer work and learning how to make working fun.

### **OUTPOST COOKING**

Wednesday night is family night, no dining hall service. We will have a suggested outpost meal available for pickup if you request it. Many troops rely on families to bring food, so the boys have a break from camp cooking. For your designated Outpost Meals, supplies will be picked up from the kitchen. Units are expected to supply their own cooking equipment. Troops may cook the suggested meal but are welcome to augment the meal with their own supplies. Pick-up times for outpost meals will be determined at the Sunday Leaders Meeting.

## **Parents and Visitors**

Parents and friends are always welcome at camp! We invite them to visit, see the camp, and see what the Scouts have been doing. While visitors are welcome at any time, the visit must be scheduled.

Certain visitation times tend to be better than others. Mornings and afternoons are much busier in camp, while late afternoons and evenings tend to offer a more relaxed atmosphere. Wednesday evening is preferred as there is no service in the dining hall, troops do outpost cooking and /or many families bring food for a break from Dining Hall cooking. and then enjoy a Troop Campfire. Families and visitors are also welcomed to attend meals at other times during the week. Tickets can be purchased for \$7.00 at the Trading Post.

All visitors should use the main parking lot or park along Boy Scout Road. All visitors must check in outside the Commissioner's office before entering camp. Each visitor will be issued a wrist band that must be worn in compliance with the youth protection standards.

Campers should plan on meeting their parents/visitors at the Trading Post porch to escort the visitors back to the Troop's campsite. Persons with disabilities should notify the Commissioners, preferably prior to their arrival, so transportation can be arranged to the campsite.

No overnight camping by visitors is allowed without the permission of the Camp Director.

Pets are not allowed in camp for campers or visitors. Please leave them at home.

## **Contacting Scouts at Camp Buffalo**

To send mail to a Scout, please include the following in the mailing address:

Scout's name  
Troop # \_\_\_\_  
Camp Buffalo  
9400 N. Boy Scout Road  
Monticello, IN 47960

Letters to camp should be postmarked by Tuesday evening of the week that the Scout is in camp to facilitate arrival by the end of the week.

A frequently asked question is, "How can I reach my Scout in case of emergency?" Cell phone coverage at camp is spotty and, in most buildings, non-existent. Parents are encouraged to contact Troop leaders directly. If you have difficulty reaching a leader outside of mealtime (in the Dining Hall cell phone reception is unavailable), call the Camp (land line) at (574) 278-7114. Instruct your parents not to call unless it is a true emergency. The camp phone is reserved for camp business and emergencies only.

## **Advancement and Merit Badges**

Planning how to best take advantage of the advancement opportunities offered at Camp Buffalo can be some of the most exciting and difficult choices a Scout will make. The Class Catalog is available on Black Pug:

[https://www.scoutingevent.com/162-2023\\_SummerCamp](https://www.scoutingevent.com/162-2023_SummerCamp)

For newer Scouts we offer the following suggested schedules, any of which sends the Scout home with an Eagle required MB and customized fun:

**Rank Focus:** 3 Brownsea Island Sessions, Brownsea Island Swimming  
**Great Blend:** 1 Brownsea Island, Archery, Ecology MB, Brownsea Island Swimming (Ecology MB recommendations: Bird Study, Mammal Study, Nature, or Weather)

Many Merit Badges or activities require physical or mental maturity. We indicate these as recommended for older Scouts. Any Scout may sign up for these, but it is less likely they will have fun and be able to complete the requirements. Scoutmasters, we ask that you please advise your scouts accordingly.

Some Merit Badges have age requirements. Minimum Age of 14 for Small Boat Sailing, Search & Rescue, and Welding.

First Aid Merit Badge requires completion of all First Aid Rank Requirements prior to starting camp.

\*Note: MANY of the merit badges require significant prerequisite work to be prepared to participate in class. Please continually check the Class Catalog to ensure that your Scouts are prepared and ready for their merit badge classes.

## Aquatics

### **Ability Groups**

All youth and adult participants are designated as swimmers, beginners, or non-swimmers based on swimming ability confirmed by standardized BSA swim classification tests. Each group is assigned a specific swimming area with depths consistent with those abilities. The classification tests must be renewed annually, preferably at the beginning of the season even if the youth has earned the Swimming merit badge.

Anyone who has not completed either the beginner or swimmer tests is classified as a non-swimmer. The non-swimmer area should be no more than waist to chest deep and should be enclosed by physical boundaries such as the shore, a pier, or lines. The enclosed beginner area should contain water of standing depth and may extend to depths just over the head. The swimmer area may be up to 12 feet in depth in clear water and should be defined by floats or other markers.

**Beginners pass this test:** Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, and swim 25 feet on the surface. Stop, turn sharply, resume swimming, and return to the starting place.

**Swimmers pass this test:** Jump feet first into water over the head in depth. Level off and swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be completed in one swim without stops and must include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

**Our swimming programs are designed for 3 different level swimmers:**

1. Non-swimmers: a Scout who should take instructional swim (Brownsea Island is recommended for newer Scouts or Instructional Swim for experienced Scouts that don't have experience in the water).
2. Beginner swimmers: a Scout who can swim and has experience in the water.
3. Expert swimmers: a Scout who can swim in different conditions, by themselves and without help, can name different swim strokes, can swim long distances without a break, etc.

## **Special Activities**

### **ORDER OF THE ARROW**

The purpose of the Order of the Arrow is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Takachsin Lodge #173 of the OA is very important to Camp Buffalo and the Scouting Mission. At the beginning of the week an OA Staff representatives will contact each Scoutmaster to get a list of those who were selected by their units in the spring elections. These members will be recognized during a special call-out. The OA will host some special events for the Scouts attending summer camp.

### **OPENING CAMPFIRE**

Our opening campfire is a preview of the fun in store for the week ahead. Let us entertain, inform, and amaze you. OK, you'll probably be amazed at how bad our entertaining is, but we learned the lesson well in Cub Scouts, DO YOUR BEST. Actually, I think you will really enjoy the show.

### **DINING HALL CEREMONIES**

Your Troop, or patrols within your Troop, will have the opportunity to sign up for ceremonies at our Dining Hall. We will need flag raising and lowering teams for each day, as well as Scouts willing to say grace at each meal. Your ceremony need not be perfect, just respectful. You are honoring our country and all the good it stands for as well as our constant progress to become better.

## **CLOSING CAMPFIRE**

After such a fantastic week, it seems only fitting to have a closing campfire on Friday evening to recap the week, recognize some outstanding Scouts and leaders, and say goodbye. Our staff have planned the program, but if a Troop wants to be involved in the campfire, the SPL should advise the Program Director at the SPL Meeting.

## **TROOP CLOSE OUT PACKETS**

After the closing campfire, leaders should stop by the Multi-Purpose Building and pick up their Troop's packet, which includes a merit badge report, swim tags, and camp patches. Please sort through all the items making sure that the packet is complete before you leave. Our area directors will be on-hand to answer any questions.

## **Troop Choice Activities**

Troop Choice Activities are those special things that make your Camp Buffalo a lifelong memory. While we encourage Troops/Patrols to choose an activity together, due to age requirements and personal preferences that is not a requirement. Large Troops may have multiple choices. i.e., a Troop of 20 can't all do the Escape Room at once.

Troop Choice Activities are scheduled by the SPLs with the Program Director at the daily SPL Meeting. The SPL should work with their Troop to determine what activities they would like to do and be prepared with a first choice and backup options since some activities may be full by the time they get to choose. The order in which Troops get to choose will rotate to ensure some level of fairness. Activity availability may vary. The options will include the following and more. The week's list will be available at check in on Sundays. Some activities may have an activity fee. The list of activities may include, but is not limited to:

- Troop Float
- Stand-up Paddleboards
- Canoeing
- 5 Mile Hike
- Escape Room- **Summer STEM Shenanigans**
- Chalk Ball
- Cowboy Action Shoot
- Troop Shoot
- Sponge Wars
- Blacksmithing
- Conservation Projects
- Geocaching
- Orienteering
- Service Project
- Mountain Biking
- Wetlands Nature Hike

### **TROOP FLOAT TRIPS**

Float trips on the Tippecanoe River are available for Troops as an afternoon or evening activity. A minimum of two adults must accompany the Scouts on these trips, in addition to having two adults in camp with the remainder of your troop. Camp Buffalo staff members will be available to help you with your adult staffing needs in camp while you are on the river. Scouts who are beginners must be in a canoe with an adult swimmer, and learners must be in a rowboat with a lifeguard. (Camp Buffalo **cannot** provide the lifeguard.) The Troop leadership is required to be certified in CPR, Safety Afloat, and Safe Swim Defense.

### **ESCAPE ROOM - "Summer STEM Shenanigans"**

It is almost time for summer camp, and you are tasked with hiring staff. The final piece to your staffing is to hire a STEM Director. Some very sketchy scientists have applied for the position, and they have been hanging out in the lab making trouble and trying to intimidate you. It is your job to make sure you hire the right one and get him to the lab. You must lock out the bad guys and stop all the nonsense that's happening! Can you separate the good from the bad by navigating through a series of STEM traps and puzzles and get your new STEM Leader into the lab?

You have 60 minutes to get the STEM Director in the lab and lock the bad scientists out. Can you save summer camp and stop the shenanigans? The success of summer camp depends on you!

### **CHALKBALL**

Shooting Sports activity. Walk through six stations, and fire-colored orbs to splatter at your chosen targets. You get 100 rounds to fire. We hope your trigger finger is in shape. Available in Troop Choice Time Mon. & Tues. only. We suggest selecting Monday if possible. Additional fees may apply.

### **COWBOY ACTION SHOOT**

Shooting Sports activity. Your opportunity to fire cowboy style revolvers, rifles, and shotguns in an action range setting. Must be 14 Years old. Schedule allows for about 5 shooters/30 minutes. Additional fees may apply.

### **TROOP ARCHERY CHALLENGE**

Shooting Sports activity. Your opportunity to compete against another Troop in a timed advancing target shoot. Offensive and defensive strategy come into play. Schedule allows for 2 teams of up to 8/hour.

### **SPONGE WARS**

A new twist on an old favorite. Troop v. Troop, Patrol v. Patrol, Every Scout for themselves, you decide. Come on everyone gets wet in the end.



## **BLACK SMITHING**

Learn to work a forge and craft hot metal. Hammer it, twist it, bend it. Make it functional and beautiful with practice and hard work. Minimum Age 14.

## **Hours of Facility Operation**

### **HEALTH LODGE**

In case of injury or sickness, the Health Lodge is open 24 hours a day. Please be sure to immediately report any injury or sickness, no matter how minor it may seem at the time. Remember that everyone who goes to the Health Lodge needs to have a buddy. Please note, the Health Officer will be out of the office during meals times and camp-wide activities. During these times, please locate a staff member with a radio to assist in contacting the Health Officer. If you are having trouble locating a staff member, be sure to check the Trading Post.

### **QUARTERMASTER**

Commissioners are available throughout the day to issue equipment, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, etc. Their office is located adjacent to the main parking lot, but they are normally not there, as they visit every campsite daily. A staff member with a radio can assist in contacting them.

### **TRADING POST**

The Trading Post will be open daily between meals and most evenings. It is supplied with BSA camping items, books, shirts, and other Scout merchandise. It also has merit badge books, items needed for specific merit badge classes, and coupons for shooting activities. On the sweet side, it is also stocked with slushies and other snack items. Check the schedule outside the door or in your Scoutmaster packet for specific hours of operation.

### **CHAPEL**

A chapel service will be held each week on Monday evening. All campers and staff are encouraged to attend, participate, and live up to the twelfth point of the Scout Law. The chapel area is reserved throughout the week as a place of reverence, contemplation, and meditation. Feel free to stop by to sit and think for a few minutes or just reflect.

## **PROGRAM AREAS**

Generally, all program areas are open during the four scheduled sessions, 9:00-11:50am, and 2:00-2:50pm. Troop Choice time runs from 3:30pm-5:30pm. Only selected Program Areas will be open during Troop Choice time.

### **Shower Facilities**

#### **YOUTH (UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)**

- Ivey showers are available from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.
- The pool house showers are available from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.
- The Multi-Purpose Building exterior showers are available from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.

#### **ADULTS (18 AND OVER)**

- Ivey showers are available from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.
- The pool house showers are available from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.
- The Multi-Purpose Building exterior showers are available from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.
- Shideler Hall showers are available 24 hours a day.

Adult leaders are not allowed to enter while youth are showering unless it is an emergency!

Only use appropriate age group and gender assigned facilities.

Latrines, Restrooms and Shower facilities will be clean before you arrive on Sunday. Please follow the posted cleaning schedules as Units will take turns cleaning the shared facilities twice daily. Cleaning the latrines in each campsite is the responsibility of the troop that occupies that campsite.

**We are excited to announce our new Restroom/Shower House where the campsite Bison was previously located. These facilities will be open before Summer Camp 2023.**

## **Departure from Camp**

Beginning at 6:00 AM, **one vehicle at a time may return to your campsite** on Saturday for loading and departure. Please note that the speed limit in camp is 10 MPH. **At no time are Scouts or leaders allowed to ride in trailers or in the back of trucks. Do not park in fire lanes!**

Early Saturday morning: a light breakfast/continental breakfast will be brought around to all campsites. Do not send Scouts to dining hall to pick-up your Saturday morning meals. Troops are free to eat in the campsite and then begin packing up their gear to go home. The Troop Guide, who checked in the Scouts on Sunday, will be at the campsite to help with check-out at a time the Troop selected at Friday's Leaders' Meeting. The Troop Guide will have a departure checklist to be completed.

Please be sure to return your medicine coolers to the Health Officer. **If your unit returns a damaged cooler, or if your unit takes the cooler with them from Camp Buffalo, your unit will be billed \$30.00 to replace the equipment. If lock or key is lost or damaged, a \$10 replacement fee will be charged.**

Please be sure to return all equipment that your unit checked out to the Commissioners.

Once your campsite has been cleared, the troop is ready to leave. Please arrange to have Scouts picked up by 9:00 AM on Saturday. Those Scouts who are staying for an additional week of camp must be picked up on Saturday and brought back on Sunday.

## **Leader Information**

### **THE REAL WORLD**

While enjoying nature and camp, we understand that leaders still like to connect with the “real world.” Every morning, well before the Scouts desire to stir, leaders are invited to come to the Dining Hall. There will be hot coffee and Wi-Fi available from 6 AM to 9 PM.

### **ADULT LEADER EVENTS**

- Leaders’ Meetings are held Sun. 7pm, and Mon. 10am in the Dining Hall. On Wednesday there is a Leaders’ Lunch where we will be joined by the Scout Executive. Location will be communicated at the Sun/Mon leader meeting. We will distribute advancement reports at these meetings. The Escape room will be available for Scout Leader challenge after this meeting
- Each week, Scoutmasters and leaders face off in a cooking competition. Entries are to be turned in to the Outdoor Skills Director from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM on Wednesday.
- The Scoutmaster Shoot is open to all leaders at camp. The shoot will take place Tuesday evening at 7:30 PM. One leader from each Troop receives a complimentary entry. Additional tickets are \$????? in the Trading Post.

### **ADULT LEADER TRAINING**

We intend to offer Adult Training Courses such as CPR/AED, 1<sup>st</sup> Aid, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Youth Protection Training and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, but this will be dependent on staff availability. More details will be available as we get closer to camp.

Computers will be available for adults to take online training.

### **YOU CAN HELP! AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We know that many of you have wonderful skills and knowledge in various aspects of camp. Your help is always welcome to make camp better. Feel free to assist the staff in any program area.

Scout leaders who are interested in leading a merit badge need to let us know which merit badge they want to lead prior to coming to camp, **preferably 2 weeks in advance** so that we can prepare and gather supplies.

Contact the Camp Director or Program Director to volunteer!

## Black Pug Event Reservation Website

We are pleased to provide Unit Leaders the opportunity to register for Scout camps via our Black Pug website. To access Summer Camp on the Black Pug website, go to

[www.scoutingevent.com/162-2023\\_SummerCamp](http://www.scoutingevent.com/162-2023_SummerCamp).

To register, begin as a guest or create an account if you do not already have one. Choose how many youth and adults are coming.

Next you should add the names of the Scouts and leaders by using the Update Participant button. You can add classes to each Scout's schedule in the same area. A deposit of \$100 per Scout must be made before classes can be added.

The screenshot shows the registration interface for a 2021 Scouts BSA Summer Camp. At the top, it displays "Week 3 - 2021 - Scouts BSA Summer Camp" and the ID "1621923798". Navigation buttons for "Participants", "Check Out", and "Reports" are visible. The main content is organized into sections for different participant types:

- Registration Contact:** Includes a "Registration Contact" section with a "Checkout Required" status, an "Update Information" button, and a "Preview Information" button. Below this is an "Additional Actions" dropdown menu.
- 2 Scouts BSA Youth:** Features a text box stating, "In order to sign up for classes, a deposit of \$100 per youth must be made at the time of sign-up." Below this are two columns of pricing for "Scouts BSA Youth" (Checkout Required):
  - Regular Price: \$300.00
  - Early Discount: \$-25.00
  - Balance Due: \$275.00Each column has an "Update Information" button.
- 1 Adult Participant:** Shows pricing for an "Adult Participant" (Checkout Required):
  - Regular Price: \$125.00
  - Early Discount: \$-25.00
  - Balance Due: \$100.00With an "Update Information" button.

On the right side of the interface, there are several informational boxes:

- Check Out Required:** A red warning box stating, "Registration closes in 94 days: You have 3 participants that require Check Out. These spots and classes are not held until check out is completed."
- Summary Table:** A table showing financial details:

Regular Price:	\$725.00
Balance Due:	\$725.00
Pending Early Discount*:	\$-75.00
Balance*:	\$650.00

A note below the table states: "\*Requires payment in full by May 15 11:59 PM".
- Missing Information:** A red warning icon followed by the text "Missing Information".
- Attachments:** A yellow dropdown menu.
- Event Contacts:** A yellow dropdown menu.

First Name       Last Name  
 Birth Date       Scouting Rank  
 Gender

**Health Information**

Dietary Restrictions ?       Medical Concerns ?  
 Admin Comment       Health Officer Comment

Schedule  
 **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Period	Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Period 1	09:00-09:30					
Period 3	10:00-10:30			Welding		
Period 4	10:30-11:00			Welding		
Period 5	11:00-11:30					
Period 11	02:00-02:30			Astronomy & Space Exploration		

Sagamore Council Trading Post

Fees can be paid on Black Pug. You may pay online by credit card or e-check. If you would prefer to write a paper check, you should mail it to the Sagamore Council at P.O. Box 865 Kokomo, IN 46903-0865, before the indicated due date.

If you prefer to give your parents access to pay for their own Scout or to add classes, you can finish checking out, then go back into your reservation and can click the drop-down Additional Actions, then Parent Portal.

Participants | Check Out | Reports

Registration Contact

Registration Contact  
Checkout Required

Preview Information

Additional Actions

- + Add Participants
- Delete Participants
- X Delete Registration
- | Manage Participant Classes
- et Parent Portal
- Payment Schedule

A Check Out Required

Registration closes in 94 days: You have 3 participants that require Check Out These spots and classes are not held until check out is completed.

Regular Price:	5725.00 Q
Balance Due	5725.00
Pending Early Discount:	5-75.00 Cl
Balance*	5650.00
*Requires payment in full by May 15 11:59 PM	

Missing Information

Attachments

Event Contacts

2 Scouts BSA Youth

In order to sign up for classes, a deposit of \$100 per youth must be made at the time of sign-up.

Smith, John  
Checkout Required

Regular Price 5300.00  
Early Discount 5-25.00  
Balance Due 5275.00

Scouts BSA Youth  
Checkout Required

Regular Price 5300.00  
Early Discount 5-25.00  
Balance Due 5275.00

Update Information

Parent Portal

Parent Portal is an optional feature that allows you (the registration contact) to provide your parents with access to view their Scout's part of the registration, to make payments and complete data entry. [Here is how it works](#)

- Start by clicking the Use Parent Portal checkbox.
- Print **parent login credentials** using one of the following two buttons.
- Give parents one login credential for each of their participants (including themselves if they're one of the participants)
- Parents use these cards to make payments and update data entry fields such as name, rank, dietary requirements, etc
- Parents with **multiple cards** are able to link their participants together once they log in
- **Prevent parents from making payments or seeing event fees** blocks parents from making payments. This option is good for units where parents pay the unit and then the unit pays the council
- **Allow Parent Portal class selection** lets parents choose or change class and merit badge selections. When unchecked, parents will only be able to view class and merit badge selections.
- If the previous box is checked, optionally check **Email me** when classes are changed **through Parent Portal** to receive an email when parents make or change their selections
- **Optionally** check one or more days to receive a unit summary email showing payment and data entry status for each participant

[Parent Portal FAQ](#)

Parent portal is not active until registration has been booked.

**Use Parent Portal.** Use the following reports to distribute parent login credentials. Participants that are not booked are excluded from Parent Portal credentials.

Parent Portal Credentials

Prevent parents from making payments or seeing event fees.

Allow Parent Portal class selection.

If unchecked, parents will be able to view class and merit badge selections out will not be able to change them.

Want an email showing payment and data-entry status? Use the checkboxes below to pick your day(s):  
 Sun  Mon  Tue  Wed  Thu  Fri  Sat

Smith, John  
Checkout Required

Regular Price 5300.00  
Early Discount 5-25.00  
Balance Due 5275.00

Scouts BSA Youth  
Checkout Required

Regular Price 5300.00  
Early Discount 5-25.00  
Balance Due 5275.00

**Camp Buffalo**

9400 N. Boy Scout Road  
Monticello, IN 47960

<http://www.campbuffalo.com>

**Sagamore Council, BSA**

P.O. Box 865  
Kokomo, IN 46903

<http://www.sagamorebsa.org>

**Phone:** (800) 844-0537