



# COLE CHRONICLE



VOLUME LXII NUMBER 3.1

MAY 2026

## Welcome to Cole

We will be eagerly waiting to welcome you to Cole upon your arrival. Please try and come check in on Saturday, that way you can get your site set up and wander the camp and not be rushed on Sunday. You can check in on Saturday from 2 till 4:30 pm. Please have all your health forms, central registry clearance forms and your roster ready to hand over at check in. When you pull into camp our Commissioner team will be there to collect forms and will lead you to your campsite. You are responsible for all your meals until Sunday dinner. Your staff host will be at your campsite site on Sunday around 1pm to take you on a camp tour and do swim checks if needed. If swim check is needed you will need to be in bathing suits during the tour. If you have any questions our Commissioner team will be happy to answer them.

## Staff Hosting

Each unit is assigned a staff member to check in and help the unit throughout their stay. Your staff host will take the unit on a tour of camp after your arrival on Sunday. During the tour, the unit will get their swim checks done, get bike and fishing licenses, and learn about camp. Your staff host will check in on you twice a day, once in the morning and another time during lunch. Every morning the staff host will bring your unit the Cole Chronicles that outline the day and announce results of events from the day prior. Your staff host is a great resource for any questions, needs, wants, or concerns about camp.

## Honor Troop

Have you checked out the Honor Unit in the leaders guide? It is based on the 12 points of the law. It is designed so any size unit can earn it. This is a way for the SPL to really show their leadership skills. Everyone in the unit including adults will participate. Most of the requirements you will already complete by taking part in merit badges etc. Upon completing this your unit will receive a certificate, ribbon for your flag. If you have any questions or concerns please see our Asst. Camp Director Sylvia Mead, she is in the business office.

Thank you for choosing Cole for your summer camp experience.

Sylvia Mead  
Asst. Camp Director.





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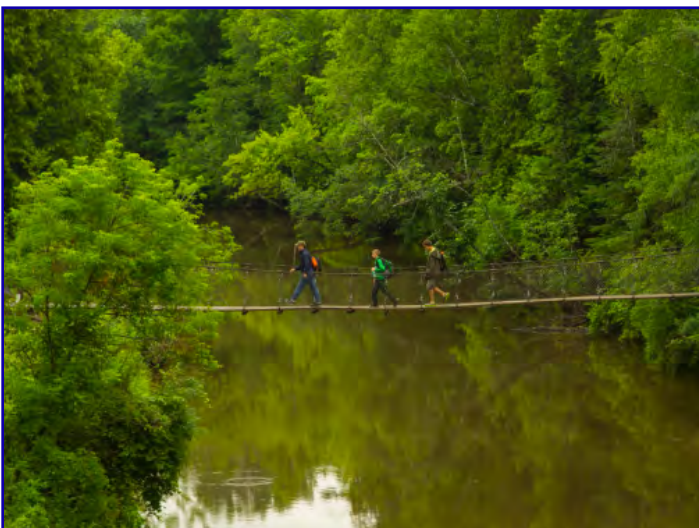
## Program Expo

On Sunday night immediately following our flags ceremony, we have our Program Expo. During this event, units and individual scouts can sign up for our special events. Events to sign up for at expo include Troop Climb and Night Zip, Snorkhike, 3D Archery, Sporting Clays, Conservation and Service projects, and Human Foosball. During expo, you can also sign up for independent study merit badges, change your merit badges, sign up for River and ATV programs, sign up to help with events and merit badges, talk to commissary about dietary restrictions, and much more!

Program Expo is a great time to get to know our program and ask any questions you have.

## Hiring Positions

Still thinking about your summer plans? How about joining our A-Rated Cole Canoe Base Family! There are a few staff positions we are still accepting applications from individuals aged 18 or older, including on our Aquatics, Quartermaster and High Adventure teams. If you know someone who would be a great addition to the CCB tradition of delivering an outstanding Scouting experience to our campers, please contact [cole.director@michiganscouting.org](mailto:cole.director@michiganscouting.org) or apply at [michiganscouting.org/campstaffapp/](http://michiganscouting.org/campstaffapp/)



## From the Desk of the Dean

Less than 40 days to the start of Summer Camp! It will be here before we know it! Are you and/or your Scouts ready? Are merit badges selected? Have the pre-requirements been looked at, or better yet started? Reminder: although merit badge workbooks are not a requirement, they can be a great tool for helping Scouts organize their thoughts for certain merit badges.

We will be using the Scouting America 2026 Requirements for all merit badges this year. The Pre-Requirements list is available on the camp registration page, and at: [scoutingevent.com/Download/272176848/OR/CCB\\_Merit\\_Badge\\_Prerequisite\\_List.pdf](http://scoutingevent.com/Download/272176848/OR/CCB_Merit_Badge_Prerequisite_List.pdf)

Our Area Directors and their staff are busy preparing to provide the best program for our scouts. We are looking forward to a great Summer in the Great Outdoors of Cole Canoe Base!

If you have any questions about merit badges, please feel free to contact me at: [cole.program@michiganscouting.org](mailto:cole.program@michiganscouting.org)

We are looking forward to seeing you and Welcoming you Home!  
Michele Grimble  
Dean of Merit Badges



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## Health Forms

Please check out the Health Form policy below:

Effective January 1, 2010 the only health form that we are allowed to accept is the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record. Parts A, B (both sides), and C must be completed including ALL required signatures for anyone (youth or adult) staying in camp longer than 72 hours. Sports physicals and/or any other physical forms will not be accepted. Participants arriving without the proper health form will be expected to complete the proper form at their expense to be able to remain in camp. Adults without Part C will not be permitted access to the waterfront or be allowed at camp longer than 72 hours. Adult leaders will also be required to go through a health check with the unit at check-in.

Any camper arriving to camp, who does not possess a valid BSA Health Form, will not be admitted onto camp property. There will be no refunds for anyone who is not admitted to camp due to an invalid health form.

All health forms must be renewed annually for both youth and adults. The BSA Health Form is valid until the last day of the month one year after it was issued (i.e. if your health form is dated June 6, 2017 - it is valid until June 30, 2018).

Per State of Michigan policy, all Health Forms must be kept on file at Camp - HEALTH FORMS WILL NOT BE RETURNED - please bring a photocopy to camp - we are not able to provide a copy of your Health Form to you.

Get everyone to get their physical soon.

## Parking

Parking is limited to the number of adults registered for your troop. If you register 3 adults you will get 2 parking passes since one vehicle will remain in the campsite attached to your troop trailer. If more adults come that have not pre-registered they may have to park offsite unless we do have room but it is only guaranteed for those registered to park in the main parking lot.

## Adopt a Campsite

We have 7 campsites that would like a troop to adopt them. Bridgeview, Rifle River, Island Rapids, Rapid River, Tall Pine, White Cedar, and White Pine. Adopting a campsite give units year-round volunteer service opportunities, and first choice priority when reserving their campsite for summer camp. If interested please contact Andrew Wright at: [Andrew.Wright@scouting.org](mailto:Andrew.Wright@scouting.org)



## Camp Utilization Chairman

Hello, I am Brendan Milligan, Cole Canoe Base's Camp Utilization Chair. In this role it is my job to make sure the Cole Blue Standard doesn't stay just during summer camp, but in our year round programs too. Summer camp is coming upon us fast but we still have several weekend events going on before our first summer camp Troops arrive.

The CCB weekend team is looking forward to a great few weekends and I hope to see everyone come vsummer camp!



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## DHHS Central Registry Clearance

The Child Care Background Check Unit within the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP) has implemented a new process for obtaining a central registry clearance, which is required for staff members (18 years and older) and unsupervised volunteers, i.e., leaders and visitors, (21 years of age or older) at camp. The new process is simple, free, and can be done completely online.

1. To get started, go to [www.michigan.gov/ccbc-camps](http://www.michigan.gov/ccbc-camps) and create a new account.
2. Once you log in, submit a new central registry clearance.
3. Results will typically be received within 5 business days.
4. The camp is required to have a record of your central registry clearance on file, and there is an option to download and print your results letter within the system when viewing your clearance letter. A hard copy is required at check-in when arriving at camp. If you have any questions throughout the process, you can reach the CCBC team by submitting an online support case at <https://miltcpartnership.org/childcareportal/home/helpdesk> or by calling 844-765-2247.



## High Adventure

Hello all, I'm Trapper Gillespie, the High Adventure Director for Cole Canoe Base this summer. I have been with Cole since 2019 and in that time I paddled canoes and rode atv's for hundreds of miles with the units that have camped here. Cole Canoe Base offers some incredible trek opportunities whether your unit would want a single day, weekend, or extended trek. Your camp fee includes a complimentary canoe river trip. Please speak with the river program team during the Sunday night expo or throughout the week to schedule your river trips. It is extremely difficult to accommodate last minute walk up trips. We also really encourage our units to browse the High Adventure section of our [leaders guide](#) (Pages 8-12) to see all of the different treks we have available on the Rifle River. Our river team is very accommodating and willing to help plan unique trips on the Rifle River. Scouts who are participating in the ATV program **MUST** have their [ATV E-Course](#) completed prior to arrival at camp and must have an [ATV Hold-Harmless](#) form signed by a parent. There is a much larger source of High Adventure information listed in the Cole Canoe Base Leaders Guide and I strongly recommend that every unit browse the High Adventure section. I can't wait to see you all out in the field.

From the river,  
Trapper Gillespie





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## 2026 Honor Unit Award

Required Quality Standards... All must be completed.

| Requirement   | Staff Member Signature   | Initials |
|---|--|----------|
| <b>TRUSTWORTHY:</b> Every camper has enrolled and participated in merit badge program or are in the First Year Camper Program or has participated in a high adventure event(rump bump,canoe trip etc.)                                | <b>SIGNED BY THE DEAN OF MERIT BADGES OR A PROGRAM DIRECTOR</b>                |          |
| <b>Loyal:</b> Conducted a <b>daily flag raising and lowering</b> ceremony at their campsite   | <b>SIGNED BY THE STAFF HOSTS OR COMMISSIONERS</b>                              |          |
| <b>HELPFUL:</b> The <b>troop</b> performed an approved camp Service Project from the Head Commissioner or New Unit Manager or an Eco/Con Conservation Project from the Conservation Director.   | <b>SIGNED BY ECO/CON DIRECTORS, NEW UNIT MANAGER, OR THE HEAD COMMISSIONER</b> |          |
| <b>FRIENDLY: Two or more</b> dishes were served at Beast Feast  | <b>SIGNED BY THE EVENT COORDINATOR</b>   |          |
| The unit <b>decorated</b> their table area at Beast Feast.  | <b>SIGNED BY THE EVENT COORDINATOR</b>   |          |
| The unit has participated in the <b>Gateway Contest</b>   | <b>SIGNED BY A COMMISSIONER</b>  |          |
| <b>COURTEOUS</b> (show respect): Perform a Flag Retirement Ceremony in your campsite.   | <b>SIGNED BY A COMMISSIONER</b>  |          |
| <b>KIND:</b> At least 1 <b>Adult Leader</b> from your unit has volunteered for 1 day or 4 hours at the First Year Camper program OR assisted the camp by teaching at least one merit badge OR adults have done a CCB service project. | <b>SIGNED BY 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR CAMPER DIRECTOR OR THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR</b>   |          |
| <b>OBEDIENT:</b> Members of your Unit served as Honor Guard with the camp staff at Morning Flags and followed all of the caller's signals.  | <b>CAPT. OF THE HONOR GUARD OR COMMISSIONERS</b>                               |          |
| <b>CHEERFUL:</b> Turn in 5 program evaluations or 3 volunteer availability forms or choose cheerful adult to scoop ice cream  | <b>SIGNED BY A COMMISSIONER</b>  |          |
| <b>THRIFTY:</b> Unit participation in a Leave No Trace Program Presentation.  | <b>SIGNED BY ECO/CON DIRECTORS</b>   |          |
| <b>BRAVE:</b> Participation in a Unit event such as Night Zip Line, Shooting Sports, Climbing, or Guided Nature Hike.   | <b>SIGNED BY PROGRAM AREA DIRECTORS</b>  |          |
| <b>CLEAN:</b> Commissioners have conducted a campsite inspection and the unit received a 48 or higher (inspection form on back).  | <b>SIGNED BY A COMMISSIONER</b>  |          |
| <b>REVERENT:</b> Conducted or attended a religious service or Vespers   | <b>SIGNED BY THE CHAPLAIN, SENIOR MANAGEMENT, OR THE COMMISSIONERS</b>         |          |

**This Honor Unit Form MUST be Turned in by 1pm Friday**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit#: \_\_\_\_\_ Campsite: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Cole Canoe Base First Class Emphasis Schedule

Please note; CCB Staff do not sign off requirements as 'complete' in a participant's Scout Book. Rather, at the end of the week, your Unit will receive a list of all the requirements your Scouts attended at the First Year Camper program. This allows your Unit leadership to review the materials with your Scout to ensure the requirement is complete. If you have any questions, feel free to speak to our FYC Staff. If your Unit's has adult leaders interested in assisting our program, it really helps the staff to have additional help!

The programs is subject to change due to weather or updates from the National or Council Advancement Committees.

### Monday Morning

- Repeat from memory the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan. In your own words, explain their meaning. (Scout 1a)
- Explain what Scout spirit is. (Scout 1b)
- Demonstrate the Scout sign, salute, and handshake. Explain when they should be used. (Scout 1c)
- Describe the First Class Scout badge and tell what each part stands for. Explain the significance of the First Class Scout badge. (Scout 1d)
- Repeat from memory the Outdoor Code. List the seven principles of Leave No Trace. Explain the difference between the two. (Scout 1e)
- Describe how the Scouts in the troop provide its leadership. (Scout 2a)
- Describe the four steps of Scout advancement. (Scout 2b)
- Describe what the Scouts BSA ranks are and how they are earned. (Scout 2c)
- Describe what merit badges are and how they are earned. (Scout 2d)
- Explain the patrol method. Describe the types of patrols that are used in your troop. (Scout 3a)

### Monday Afternoon

- Teach how to tie and explain the practical uses of the square knot, two half-hitches, taut-line hitch, sheet bend, and bowline. (Scout 4a, Tenderfoot 3a, 3b, and 3c, and Second Class 2f and 2g)
- Describe the steps in Scouting's Teaching EDGE method. Use the Teaching EDGE method to teach another person how to tie the square knot. (Tenderfoot 8)
- Discuss when you should and should not use lashings. (First Class 3a)
- Demonstrate tying the timber hitch and clove hitch. (First Class 3b)
- Demonstrate tying the square, shear, and diagonal lashings by joining two or more poles or staves together. (First Class 3c)
- Identify two ways to obtain a weather forecast for an upcoming activity. Explain why weather forecasts are important when planning for an event. (First Class 5b)
- Describe at least three natural indicators of impending hazardous weather, the potential dangerous events that might result from such weather conditions, and the appropriate actions to take. (First Class 5c)
- Describe extreme weather conditions you might encounter in the outdoors in your local geographic area. Discuss how you would determine ahead of time the potential risk of these types of weather dangers, alternative planning considerations to avoid such risks, and how you would prepare for and respond to those weather conditions. (First Class 5d)

### Monday 8:00 PM

Totin' Chip  
This certification grants a Scout the right to carry and use woods tools. The Scout must show their Scout leader, or someone designated by their leader, that the Scout understands their responsibility to do the following:

1. Read and understand woods tools use and safety rules from the Scouts BSA handbooks.
2. Demonstrate proper handling, care, and use of the pocketknife, ax, and saw.
3. Use knife, ax, and saw as tools, not playthings.
4. Respect all safety rules to protect others.
5. Respect property. Cut living and dead trees only with permission and good reason.
6. Subscribe to the Outdoor Code.

The Scout's "Totin' Rights" can be taken away if they fail in their responsibility.

### Tuesday Morning and Afternoon

- Using a compass and map together, take a 5-mile hike (Second Class 3b)
  - o This hike will take place over both morning and afternoon periods, including lunch
  - o Please inform the First Class Emphasis Staff of any dietary restrictions on Monday so that accommodations can be prepared.
  - o Scouts must have a water bottle before leaving for the hike.
  - o Please arrive by 10:10 AM to be included on the hike. We will return before the end of the afternoon session.
- Identify or show evidence of at least 10 kinds of wild animals (such as birds, mammals, reptiles, fish, or mollusks) found in your local area or camping location. (Second Class 4)
- Identify or show evidence of at least 10 kinds of native plants found in your local area or campsite location. (First Class 5a)
- Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and where you live. Use the buddy system while on a troop or patrol outing. (Tenderfoot 5a)
- Describe what to do if you become lost on a hike or campout. (Tenderfoot 5b)
- Explain the rules of safe and responsible hiking, both on the highway and cross-country, during the day and at night. (Tenderfoot 5c)
- Explain why it is important to hike on trails or other durable surfaces, and give examples of durable surfaces you saw on your outing. (Tenderfoot 5d)



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## Wednesday Morning

- Show first aid for the following: (Tenderfoot 4a)
  - o Simple cuts and scrapes, Blisters on the hand and foot, Minor (thermal/heat) burns or scalds (superficial, or first-degree), Bites or stings of insects and ticks, Venomous snakebite, Nosebleed, Frostbite and sunburn, and Choking
- Describe common poisonous or hazardous plants; identify any that grow in your local area or campsite location. Tell how to treat for exposure to them. (Tenderfoot 4b)
- Tell what you can do while on a campout or other outdoor activity to prevent or reduce the occurrence of injuries or exposure listed in Tenderfoot requirements 4a and 4b. (Tenderfoot 4c)
- Demonstrate first aid for the following: (Second Class 6a)
  - o Object in the eye, Bite of a warm-blooded animal, Puncture wounds from a splinter, nail, and fishhook, Serious burns (partial thickness, or second-degree), Heat exhaustion, Shock, and Heatstroke, dehydration, hypothermia, and hyperventilation
- Show what to do for "hurry" cases of stopped breathing, stroke, severe bleeding, and ingested poisoning. (Second Class 6b)
- Tell what you can do while on a campout or hike to prevent or reduce the occurrence of the injuries listed in Second Class requirements 6a and 6b. (Second Class 6c)
- Tell the five most common signals of a heart attack. Explain the steps (procedures) in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). (First Class 7c)
- Explain the potential impacts of camping, both on the environment and on other outdoor users. Explain why the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace principles are important for protecting the outdoors. (First Class 1b)

## Wednesday Afternoon

- Demonstrate how a compass works and how to orient a map. Use a map to point out and tell the meaning of five map symbols. (Second Class 3a)
- Demonstrate how to find directions during the day and at night without using a compass or an electronic device. (Second Class 3d)
- Using a map and compass, complete an orienteering course that covers at least one mile and requires measuring the height and/or width of designated items (tree, tower, canyon, ditch, etc.). (First Class 4a)
- Demonstrate how to use a handheld GPS unit, GPS app on a smartphone, or other electronic navigation system. Use GPS to find your current location, a destination of your choice, and the route you will take to get there. Follow that route to arrive at your destination. (First Class 4b)

## Wednesday 7:00 PM

### Firem'n Chit

This certification grants a Scout the right to carry fire-lighting devices (matches, lighters, etc.) to build campfires. The Scout must show their Scout leader, or someone designated by their leader, an understanding of the responsibility to do the following:

1. I have read and understand use and safety rules from the Scouts BSA Handbook.
  2. I will build a campfire only when necessary and when I have the necessary permits (regulations vary by locality).
  3. I will minimize campfire impacts or use existing fire lays consistent with the principles of Leave No Trace. I will check to see that all flammable material is cleared at least 5 feet in all directions from fire (total 10 feet).
  4. I will safely use and store fire-starting materials.
  5. I will see that fire is attended to at all times.
  6. I will make sure that water and/or a shovel is readily available. I will promptly report any wildfire to the proper authorities.
  7. I will use the cold-out test to make sure the fire is cold out and will make sure the fire lay is cleaned before I leave it.
  8. I follow the Outdoor Code, the Guide to Safe Scouting, and the principles of Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly!
- The Scout's "Firem'n Rights" can be taken away if they fail in their responsibility.

## Thursday Morning

- Participate in a flag ceremony for your school, religious institution, chartered organization, community, or Scouting activity. (Second Class 8a)
- Explain what respect is due the flag of the United States. (Second Class 8b)
- Participate in two hours of service through one or more service projects approved by your Scoutmaster. Tell how your service to others relates to the Scout Oath. (Second Class 8e)

## Thursday Afternoon

### Meet at Aquatics

- Tell what precautions must be taken for a safe swim. (Second Class 5a)
- Demonstrate water rescue methods by reaching with your arm or leg, by reaching with a suitable object, and by throwing lines and objects. (Second Class 5c)
- Explain why swimming rescues should not be attempted when a reaching or throwing rescue is possible. Explain why and how a rescue swimmer should avoid contact with the victim. (Second Class 5d)
- Tell what precautions must be taken for a safe trip afloat. (First Class 6b)
- Identify the basic parts of a canoe, kayak, or other boat. Identify the parts of a paddle or an oar. (First Class 6c)
- Describe proper body positioning in a watercraft, depending on the type and size of the vessel. Explain the importance of proper body position in the boat. (First Class 6d)

## Friday Morning

### 9:00-12:00 Make up Day

- Scouts will be able to make up any of the requirements they missed, except for the 5-mile hike from Tuesday.
- Weather permitting, we should be able to make up any requirements missed at Aquatics, but the Scouts are encouraged to attend the Thursday