



# ANDREW JACKSON COUNCIL SUMMER CAMP 2026 LEADERS GUIDE

We are proud to have been recognized as one of the top eight summer camps in the nation in Scouting Magazine's Guide to Cool Camps.



C.O.P.E. & Climbing



Shooting Sports



WaterSports



<https://bsa-jackson.org/>

# Welcome to Hood Scout Reservation

## General Camp Overview

Welcome to Hood Scout Reservation, a premier Scouting America summer camp experience. We are proud to be one of the top Summer Camp destinations in the South with lots of adventure around every corner. We have even been voted one of the top 8 coolest camps in the nation by Scouting magazine. This distinction reflects our commitment to quality programming, exceptional facilities, and a memorable outdoor experience for every Scout and leader who attends.

A successful and enjoyable week at camp begins with careful planning. Many merit badges require preparation prior to arrival and, in some cases, additional work after the camp session concludes. Camp staff are responsible for instructing and evaluating only those requirements that can be completed during the week of camp. At the end of the session, Scoutmasters will receive documentation indicating whether each Scout has completed a merit badge or earned a partial. This information will be distributed on the final day of camp and made available online through the council website. Every effort is made to keep Scouts informed of their progress throughout the week, and unit leaders are encouraged to communicate directly with camp staff regarding advancement questions or concerns.

Certain program areas and merit badge sessions have limited capacity. Reservations for these sessions are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. While scheduling conflicts may occasionally occur, the camp staff will make every reasonable effort to assist Scouts in adjusting their schedules so they can work toward their individual goals.

Although most merit badges may be completed during a week at camp, some require additional time due to the nature of the subject matter, required projects, or skill development expectations. Several merit badges also have age restrictions, prerequisite requirements, or minimum skill levels. Leaders and Scouts should carefully review the merit badge descriptions and requirements prior to camp to ensure appropriate placement and preparedness.

Hood Scout Reservation offers a wide range of dynamic and engaging program opportunities designed to appeal to a variety of interests and experience levels. These include aquatic programs such as paddleboarding, sailing, waterskiing, and motor boating; shooting sports including rifle, shotgun, pistol, and cowboy action shooting; high-adventure experiences such as rock climbing, rappelling, COPE, zip lines, and mountain biking; and specialty areas including ATV riding, trade skills, ecology, and arts programming. Additional recreational features such as water slides, the blob, and choice-based activities provide opportunities for fun, relaxation, and troop bonding throughout the week.

The primary objectives of the Hood Scout Reservation summer camp program are to support Scout advancement, strengthen understanding of the Scouting America program through meaningful outdoor experiences, and enhance troop program planning before, during, and after camp. Above all, our goal is to provide a safe, well-organized, and enjoyable environment where Scouts, leaders, and staff can learn, grow, and have fun together.



## Registration and Fees

All summer camp registration is completed online through the council website at [www.bsa-jackson.org](http://www.bsa-jackson.org). To reserve space for your unit, a non-refundable deposit of \$50 per scout is required at the time of registration. Deposits may be submitted online or in person at the council service center. All remaining registration and program fees must be paid in full prior to your unit's arrival at Hood Scout Reservation.

**Camp fees are transferable to another Scout within the same unit through May 15. After May 15, all fees are nonrefundable under any circumstances. Units are strongly encouraged to confirm attendance and finalize participant rosters before this deadline.**

## Camp Fees

| Participant Type         | Early Bird (on or before April 15) | After April 15 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Scouts / Venturers       | \$300                              | \$350          |
| Additional Unit Leaders* | \$160                              | \$160          |

\*Each unit receives two adult leaders at no charge.

## Scout Leader Information

Each troop or crew is entitled to two adult leaders attending summer camp at no cost. Additional registered leaders may attend for the listed leader fee. Adult leader registrations are interchangeable within the unit. Leaders may participate in program activities at no additional charge, provided all BSA health and safety standards are met and their participation is appropriate for program needs.

Following camp, each troop will receive a digital troop photograph via email. Units also have the opportunity to preorder official summer camp T-shirts during online registration at a discounted rate.

## Program Activity Fees

To help keep overall camp fees affordable, selecting high-cost or specialty programs requires an additional activity fee. These fees are assessed per participant and must be paid prior to arrival or during camp registration check-in.

## Program Area Fee(s)

|                  |      |              |      |
|------------------|------|--------------|------|
| Pistol Shooting  | \$10 | Water Sports | \$25 |
| Rifle Shooting   | \$10 | COPE Course  | \$25 |
| Shotgun Shooting | \$20 | ATV Program  | \$25 |
| Motor Boating    | \$10 |              |      |

## **Camp Policies**

All Scouts, Scouters, and visitors are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Scout Oath and Law at all times while at Hood Scout Reservation. These principles guide our interactions, decision-making, and shared responsibility for maintaining a safe and respectful camp environment.

### **Adult Leadership**

Unit leaders are responsible for ensuring qualified adult supervision accompanies Scouts to camp. Each troop or crew must have a minimum of two registered adult leaders present who have completed current Safeguarding Youth Training and successfully passed a criminal background check. Proof of training must be available upon request. At least two registered adult leaders must be present in camp at all times in accordance with Scouting America policy.

### **Tobacco-Free Camp**

In keeping with the Scout Oath's emphasis on physical fitness and healthy living, Hood Scout Reservation is a tobacco-free property. The use of all tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, vaping devices, and electronic cigarettes, is strictly prohibited anywhere on camp property.

### **Alcohol and Drugs**

The possession or use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or the misuse of prescription medications is strictly prohibited. Any individual or group found in violation of this policy will be required to leave camp immediately and may be reported to local authorities, as appropriate.

### **Arrivals and Departures**

Safety is a top priority at Hood Scout Reservation. All parents, guardians, and visitors must check in at the Administration Building or Trading Post as directed upon arrival. Scouts who need to leave camp temporarily or depart early must be checked out by a parent or legal guardian in the presence of the unit leader. A camper release form must be completed at the Administration Building prior to departure. Unit leaders who leave camp for any reason must also check out and check back in upon return. Any concerns regarding a Scout's health, safety, or well-being should be reported immediately to the Camp Director.

### **Vehicles**

For the safety of all campers, personal vehicles are not permitted beyond the service road gate. Vehicles towing troop equipment trailers may enter camp to unload at the campsite but must return to the designated parking area immediately afterward. Units without trailers may arrange for gear transport by a troop leader or camp vehicle, as available.

## Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Scouts are discouraged from using cell phones or electronic devices during merit badge classes and program sessions. While Scouts are permitted to bring personal electronic devices to camp, their use should not interfere with program participation or the camp experience. Charging stations are available at the Trading Post. Per Scouting America's Safeguarding Youth Policy – NO CELL PHONES are allowed near or in the restrooms/bathhouses.

## Armbands

As part of camp identification and youth protection procedures, all Scouts and Scouters are required to wear the provided identification armband while in camp. Lost armbands may be replaced at the Trading Post or the Administration Building.

## Accessibility

Hood Scout Reservation strives to provide an inclusive camp experience. Many facilities, as well as a designated campsite, have been designed or modified to accommodate individuals with disabilities. Unit leaders should notify the Camp Director in advance if special accommodation or assistance may be needed to ensure full participation.

## Health, Insurance, and Emergency Procedures

Prior to arrival at Hood Scout Reservation, all youth and adult participants are required to have a current **Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record** on file. The health and medical record must be completed in full, signed by a parent or legal guardian (for youth), and signed by an authorized medical provider, as applicable. Health forms must be valid within one year of the first day of camp. Forms older than one year cannot be accepted. This requirement applies to all individuals staying on camp property, including those attending for only one night. All three parts of the health and medical record must be completed. Units may bring digital copies on a flash drive; however, leaders are strongly encouraged to maintain backup paper copies.

Unit leaders are responsible for ensuring all health forms are complete and accurate prior to arrival at camp. Leaders must bring hard copies of all health forms to camp and retrieve them prior to departure. Any health forms left at camp after the final day of the session will be securely disposed of. No individual will be permitted to remain in camp without a complete health and medical record on file with the camp Health Officer.

**Scouts or leaders with special dietary needs** must notify the Andrew Jackson Council Office and coordinate with the Camp Director no later than two weeks prior to arrival. Advance notice allows the camp to appropriately plan and accommodate dietary requirements to the greatest extent possible.

Participants who require special medical care or routine treatments, such as insulin administration or other prescribed medical procedures, must bring all necessary medications and supplies. Written

instructions and arrangements must be made in advance with the unit leader and the camp Health Officer to ensure proper storage, administration, and monitoring as required by Scouting America policies.

For non-emergency medical appointments requiring transportation to a local doctor or medical facility, unit leaders are responsible for providing transportation. In the event of a serious medical emergency, camp staff will coordinate emergency response and transportation as needed.

The Andrew Jackson Council provides accident and illness insurance coverage for Andrew Jackson Council registered Scouts and leaders attending camp. Coverage applies only to individuals registered with Scouting America. Claim forms are available through the Andrew Jackson Council office. Units attending from outside the council must provide proof of insurance coverage from their home council or sponsoring organization.

**In the event of an emergency**, including severe weather, fire, a lost camper, or a lost swimmer, the camp emergency signal will be activated by a continuous ringing of the camp bell. Upon hearing this signal, all Scouts and Scouters should proceed immediately and calmly to the parade field. Camp staff will provide additional instructions and information once everyone is assembled.

Medical services are available at camp through the Health Lodge, which is staffed and open 24 hours a day to address minor illnesses and injuries. Any condition that cannot be treated by the camp Health Officer will be referred to a local medical facility in Hazlehurst. If outside medical care is required, transportation will be provided by the unit leader or designee when appropriate. Copiah County Medical Center is the closest hospital to Hood Scout Reservation.

## **Living and Activities in Camp**

### **Cafeteria**

Nutritious, youth-focused meals are provided daily in the camp cafeteria. All meals are prepared by professional kitchen staff under the supervision of a registered dietitian. Menu and mealtimes are posted at the cafeteria and on the main camp bulletin board. Scouts and leaders with special dietary needs must notify the Andrew Jackson Council Office and the Camp Director at least two weeks prior to arrival to allow adequate planning.

Appropriate attire is always required in the cafeteria. Shirts, socks, and shoes must be worn for every meal. The full official “Class A” uniform is required for the evening meal. Wet swimwear, hats, and chewing gum are not permitted in the cafeteria. Meals are served in cafeteria-style, and all Scouts and leaders must wear their issued armbands to enter and dine. Guests and visitors are welcome to eat in the cafeteria for a fee of \$6.00 per meal.

Units must notify the camp office at least two days in advance if they will miss any scheduled meals due to late arrival, early departure, or special unit activities. A continental breakfast will be provided on Saturdays. Due to food allergy considerations, peanut butter products will be available only upon request.

## **Cafeteria Procedures**

Each troop is assigned a specific mealtime for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Units will generally be scheduled to eat either on the hour or the half hour. Assigned mealtimes will be posted in the cafeteria and communicated to troop leadership.

For each meal, troops are responsible for assigning servers to assist with food service. A server schedule should be posted on the troop's patrol board in the campsite. Because meals are served cafeteria-style, table setting is not required, and seating is not assigned. Troops are responsible for cleaning their tables after each meal. Units are encouraged to ensure that all Scouts have an opportunity to serve during the week.

Beginning on the second day of camp, troops are encouraged to invite a member of the camp staff to join them for a meal as an opportunity to build relationships and strengthen communication.

## **Campsites**

Hood Scout Reservation offers nine established campsites for troop use during the summer camping season. Units should select a campsite that appropriately accommodates the size of their troop, including both Scouts and leaders. Campsite assignments are based on availability, and early registration with the required \$200 troop deposit increases the likelihood of receiving a preferred site. This deposit is applied toward total camp fees. A camp map is included in this guide to assist units in selecting a campsite that best meets their needs.

## **Wi-Fi Access**

Wi-Fi access is available for adult leaders during the camp week at a fee of \$25 per week. This is for troop leader access only and should not be given to scouts. Sharing access with scouts will result in the revocation of access privileges. Access points are located at the Administration Building and the Trading Post. We are excited to be providing Starlink for our leaders.

## **Bicycles in Camp**

Hood Scout Reservation offers both the Cycling Merit Badge and a mountain biking program. Scouts are permitted to bring personal bicycles to camp. All riders must follow established camp safety guidelines. Helmets are always required while riding. Bicycles must not block trails, walkways, or building entrances and should be parked only at designated bike racks. Pedestrians always have the right-of-way, and riders must slow down when others are present. Riding is not permitted after dusk. Knee and elbow pads are strongly recommended but not required. Electric Bikes must not surpass any speed limits on camp.

Scouts who do not follow bicycle safety rules may be required to store their bikes for the remainder of camp.



| Campsites      |              | <p>Patrol Board Information:</p> <p>(This information will be helpful during the week)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire Guard Chart*</li> <li>• Daily class schedules</li> <li>• Cafeteria Server Duty</li> <li>• Latrine Duty</li> <li>• Flag Ceremony</li> <li>• Information important for your Troop or adult leaders</li> <li>• HSR will provide a Fire Guard Chart</li> </ul> <p>*Special needs campsite</p> |
|----------------|--------------|--|
| 1- Red Cloud   | Capacity 68  |  |
| 2- Two Moons   | Capacity 40  |  |
| 3- Olethewa    | Capacity 24* |  |
| 4- Red Wing    | Capacity 36  |  |
| 5- Many Arrows | Capacity 52  |  |
| 6- Yellow Wolf | Capacity 62  |  |
| 7- Dull Knife  | Capacity 24  |  |
| 8- Lone Elk    | Capacity 24  |  |
| 9- Iron Bear   | Capacity 60  |  |

Hood Scout Reservation reserves the right to move any unit to a different campsite if needed.





## **Trading Post**

The Trading Post at Hood Scout Reservation is a fully stocked camp store offering a wide variety of items to support both program participation and personal comfort during the week. Available items include snacks, beverages, ice cream, camp T-shirts, hats, logo merchandise, craft supplies, and select merit badge materials. The Trading Post accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express credit cards. Hours of operation are posted outside the Trading Post and on the main camp bulletin board.

**To make things easier on scouts and leaders, please send your scouts to camp with smaller bills rather than \$20s, \$50s, and \$100s.**

Units are encouraged to take advantage of online pre-ordering for camp T-shirts. Pre-ordered items will be available for pickup at the Trading Post on Monday morning.

## **Order of the Arrow – Sebooney Okasukca Lodge**

The Order of the Arrow plays an important role in the Hood Scout Reservation summer camp experience. OA members provide service to the camp and promote the principles of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service throughout the week. Scouts and leaders can expect to see OA members participating in camp activities, fellowships, and service projects. An official OA call-out ceremony and fellowship will be conducted during the camp session.

## **Duty to God Program**

In support of Scouting America's commitment to the principle of "Duty to God," Hood Scout Reservation offers a structured, interfaith devotional program for all troops attending summer camp. This program requires the involvement of a youth Chaplain Aide from each troop. If the Scout normally serving in this role is not present at camp, the troop should appoint a Chaplain Aide upon arrival.

A brief meeting for all troop Chaplain Aides will be held on the front porch of the dining hall immediately following Sunday evening dinner. Each troop must have a youth representative attend this meeting.

An adult Chaplain Coordinator will be on site during the camp session and will provide each Chaplain Aide with a devotional booklet, the same resource used at Philmont Scout Ranch. The Chaplain Aide's responsibility is to lead one daily devotion for their troop at a time that best fits the unit's schedule. The devotional materials are designed for interfaith use and are non-denominational.

Troops that complete daily devotions and attend at least one vesper service during the week will earn the Hood Scout Reservation Duty to God patch for all participating Scouts. Chaplain Aides who serve their troops throughout the week will receive special recognition for their leadership.

## **Adult Leader Activities and Information**

### **Administration Building**

The Administration Building serves as a central resource for adult leaders during camp. Facilities include restrooms, washers and dryers, air-conditioned seating, Wi-Fi access, and complimentary coffee available throughout the day.

### **Scoutmaster Communication with Camp Management**

Hood Scout Reservation recognizes the dedication and commitment of unit leaders and strives to provide responsive support throughout the camp session. Camp management and staff make every effort to address concerns, answer questions, and receive suggestions in a timely and professional manner. Multiple communication opportunities are provided to ensure open dialogue between Scoutmasters and camp leadership.

### **Scoutmaster Meetings**

A formal Scoutmaster meeting is held on the first evening of camp to review camp operations, safety expectations, and program policies. Beginning the following day, informal Scoutmaster meetings will be held after the evening assembly to review the day's activities and address any emerging needs or concerns.

### **Scoutmaster Dinner**

On Wednesday evening, Scoutmasters and other adult leaders are invited to attend a special gathering focused on updates and initiatives within the Andrew Jackson Council and Hood Scout Reservation. At the conclusion of the meeting, adult leaders will be treated to a special dinner in appreciation of their service and leadership.

### **Camp Surveys**

Midway through the week, Scoutmasters will receive a camp survey during the Scoutmaster meeting. Feedback collected through this survey is used to evaluate program quality and guide future improvements. An additional online survey will be emailed to Scoutmasters and Scouts, typically within two weeks following the conclusion of camp.

### **Scoutmaster Training Opportunities**

A variety of adult leader training sessions and certification opportunities are offered during summer camp. Leaders should consult the Camp Commissioner during check-in for current offerings, schedules, and locations. Some training opportunities may also be available online.

## Scouter's Merit Badge

Hood Scout Reservation proudly offers the Scouter's Merit Badge as a fun and engaging way for adult leaders to participate fully in the camp experience. Any registered adult leader may earn this recognition by completing one of two participation options during the week. Applications must be submitted to the Camp Commissioner by 3:00 p.m. on the final full day of camp.

## Troop Campsite Award

All units attending camp are eligible to earn the Troop Campsite Award. Campsites are evaluated daily by the Camp Commissioners based on established standards. If a unit has questions regarding campsite scores or improvement opportunities, the Senior Patrol Leader should consult directly with the Camp Commissioner or their staff.

## Merit Badges, High Adventure, and Other Programs

Hood Scout Reservation offers a diverse selection of merit badges, high-adventure activities, and specialty programs. While many merit badges can be completed during the camp week, some require additional work due to time constraints, prerequisite requirements, or special projects. Certain merit badges also have age requirements or minimum skill levels. Units should review all program descriptions and prerequisites carefully prior to registration.

Class sizes for some merit badges and programs are limited. To improve the likelihood of Scouts being enrolled in preferred programs, units should ensure all selections are accurately entered during online registration. Merit badge pamphlets may be downloaded from [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org) at no charge.

When building schedules, leaders should consider age-appropriate program guidelines, walking distances between program areas, and class transition times. Scheduling back-to-back classes at distant locations may not be feasible within the standard transition period, and careful planning will help ensure a positive and successful program experience for all Scouts.





## Waterfront at Hood Scout Reservation

The waterfront at Hood Scout Reservation offers an exceptional aquatics experience for Scouts interested in swimming, boating, and water-based advancement opportunities. Our 110-acre lake provides ample space to safely accommodate all campers while supporting a wide range of instructional and recreational aquatic activities. Programs are designed to balance fun, skill development, and safety, allowing Scouts to progress at their own ability level.

All Scouts and adult leaders who plan to participate in waterfront activities are required to complete a swim classification test. Swim tests are conducted on Sunday upon arrival at camp. Units may complete swim tests prior to camp; however, tests must be administered by a currently certified American Red Cross Lifeguard. Units completing swim tests in advance must submit the completed swim test form, located in the back of this guide, along with a copy of the lifeguard's certification. The aquatics staff reserves the right to retest any individual if questions arise regarding swimming ability or safety.

### Scouting America Aquatics Classification Levels

Non-swimmers are individuals who do not demonstrate basic swimming skills and are identified with a white buddy tag.

Beginners demonstrate limited swimming ability and must be able to jump feet first into water over their head, surface, level off, swim 25 yards, turn, and return to the



starting point. Beginners are identified by a buddy tag with a red top half.

Swimmers demonstrate advanced swimming ability and must swim 100 yards using the following sequence: 75 yards in a strong, continuous forward stroke, followed by 25 yards using the elementary backstroke. Swimmers must then rest by floating or treading water. Swimmers are identified by a buddy tag with a red top half and blue bottom half.

Swimming classifications may be upgraded at any time during the camp session by successfully completing a retest with aquatics staff. A Scout's swim classification directly impacts eligibility for aquatics merit badges and water-based programs. All Scouts participating in any boating-related class or activity must be classified as a swimmer in accordance with Scouting America aquatics guidelines.

Scouts who wish to enroll in the Lifesaving Merit Badge must meet all national prerequisites. The Swimming Merit Badge is a prerequisite for Lifesaving and must be completed prior to beginning the Lifesaving Merit Badge at camp.

## Swimwear Policy

Hood Scout Reservation follows the Scouting America National Aquatics Swimwear Statement. Swimwear should be comfortable, functional, and appropriate for the specific aquatic activity. In accordance with Scouting America's Barriers to Abuse, appropriate attire is required for all activities. Camp policies reflect the organization's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. These standards apply equally to all youth and adults, regardless of gender.

Final determination of appropriate swimwear rests with the Waterfront Director and Camp Leadership to ensure safety, appropriateness, and compliance with national policy.





## Target and Range Activities

Target and range activities at Hood Scout Reservation provide Scouts with safe, structured opportunities to learn and practice a variety of shooting sports, including rifle, shotgun, archery, pistol, and cowboy action shooting. These programs emphasize safety, responsibility, and skill development while offering Scouts a challenging and rewarding experience.

Hood Scout Reservation is proud to offer a modern, state-of-the-art shooting sports complex made possible through the support of a generous National Rifle Association grant. This funding allows the camp to maintain high-quality equipment and facilities, while ongoing NRA support helps ensure firearms and range equipment remain well maintained, properly updated, and in excellent working condition.

All target and range activities are conducted under the supervision of certified and trained instructors who adhere strictly to Scouting America safety policies and shooting sports guidelines. Instruction focuses on proper firearm handling, range safety procedures, marksmanship fundamentals, and respect for equipment and fellow participants. Programs are designed to be age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate, ensuring that each Scout participates in activities aligned with national standards.

Through a combination of structured instruction and hands-on practice, Scouts develop confidence, discipline, focus, and self-control while gaining an appreciation for safety and responsibility in shooting sports.



**THANK YOU!**

FRIENDS OF  
**NRA** & **THE NRA FOUNDATION**  
TEACH FREEDOM



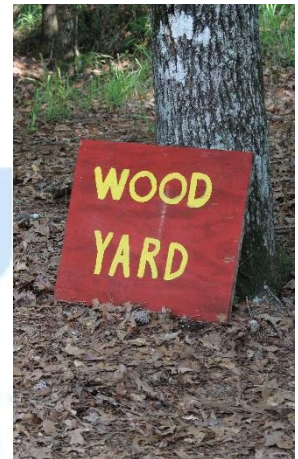


## Davy Crockett (First-Year Camper) Program

The Davy Crockett Program is designed specifically for Scouts who are new to Scouting or who have not yet earned the First-Class rank. This program focuses on building a strong foundation in essential outdoor and Scouting skills while helping Scouts gain confidence and familiarity with the Scouting experience.

Through hands-on instruction, Scouts will work on rank advancement requirements related to outdoor skills, citizenship, and personal responsibility. Troop Guides play an important role in this program by reinforcing the Patrol Method and helping Scouts understand how it functions within their troop. Instruction is delivered by trained Davy Crockett staff using the EDGE teaching method to ensure concepts are clearly explained, demonstrated, and practiced.

Each Scout who participates in the Davy Crockett Program will receive a special program patch. Unit leaders are encouraged to work individually with each Scout prior to registration to determine which rank advancement classes best align with the Scout's current progress and advancement goals.







## Adventure Programs

### Challenge Course and Climbing Tower

The Challenge Course and Climbing Tower provide Scouts with exciting opportunities to test their abilities while developing teamwork, leadership, and personal confidence. These programs are designed to promote problem-solving, communication, and trust through structured, supervised challenges in a safe and supportive environment.



The C.O.P.E. (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) program extends Scouting's long-standing connection to outdoor adventure by introducing Scouts and leaders to both low- and high-ropes challenges. The course is designed to accommodate up to 24 participants per session and emphasizes experiential learning through active participation.

Participants must be at least 13 years of age to enroll in the C.O.P.E. program. A program fee of \$25 per participant applies. Through guided challenges and team-based problem-solving activities, participants develop leadership skills, teamwork, communication, self-esteem, decision-making abilities, goal setting, confidence, and trust. The program is structured to accommodate a wide range of physical abilities, ensuring a positive and rewarding experience for all participants.



## **ATV Off-Road Trail Riding Experience**

The ATV Off-Road Trail Riding Experience is available for youth ages 13 and older, as well as adult leaders. This program teaches participants safe riding techniques, proper operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), and provides a guided trail-riding experience around camp.

All participants must complete the ATV Safety Institute Course and submit a signed ATV Release Form, located in the back of this guide, as well as both Hold-Harmless Agreements. Proper attire is required: long-sleeve shirts, long pants, and boots or shoes that cover the ankle. A \$25 program fee applies for participation. Scouts who successfully complete the course are eligible to earn the Hood Scout Reservation ATV Experience Patch.

## **Mountain Boarding**

Mountain Boarding is offered during the day and after dinner, providing Scouts with a unique opportunity to develop balance, coordination, and confidence on a mountain board. Hood Scout Reservation features three dedicated mountain boarding areas. Scouts should consult the Adventure Programs Staff for scheduled times and locations. Every Scout who completes three runs will receive a special Mountain Boarding Patch.

## **Checker, Chess, Ping Pong, Basketball, and Pool Tournaments**

Throughout the week, Scouts and adult leaders can participate in recreational tournaments hosted at the Trading Post. Activities include checker, chess, ping pong, basketball, and pool. Senior Patrol Leaders from each troop will help plan and coordinate tournament participation. These events provide a fun, competitive environment to build camaraderie and leadership skills.

## **Gaga Pit**

The Gaga Pit offers an exciting variation on traditional dodgeball, challenging Scouts and Scouters to test their agility, reflexes, and strategy in a fast-paced, enclosed arena. The Gaga Pit is open throughout the day and is located next to the Snack Shack. This activity encourages friendly competition while promoting teamwork, coordination, and physical fitness.

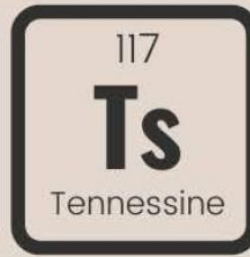
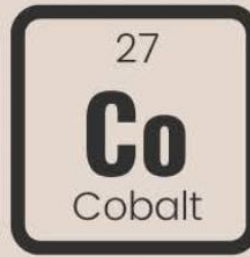
## **Program – Summer Camp**

Merit badge classes at Hood Scout Reservation are offered in a variety of formats and durations, depending on the specific requirements of each badge. Class sessions may range from one to three hours, and not all classes meet every day. A full-day schedule, including both day and evening activities, allows Scouts to participate in up to six merit badges. Evening and late-day opportunities are available for additional program activities, allowing Scouts to explore new skills, enjoy recreational offerings, or participate in camp traditions. Leaders are encouraged to build some free time into their Scout's schedule to ensure a balanced experience that combines advancement, skill-building, and personal exploration.

Careful review of the schedule in advance is recommended to help Scouts make informed decisions about merit badge selection and activity participation.



# ELEMENTS OF SCOUTS





## Daily Schedule-Summer Camp

| <b>Sunday</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| Check-in begins at 2:00 p.m. at the Snack Shack.     |  |
| Health Check at Snack Shack.                         |  |
| Camp Tour.   |  |
| Take Troop Picture (Class A Uniform).                |  |
| Campsite (Unload gear and get ready for swim check). |  |
| Waterfront (Swim Test).                              |  |
| SPL and Unit Leader's Meeting after Dinner.          |  |

| <b>Monday - Thursday</b> |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6:30 a.m.                | Reveille                     |
| 7:00 a.m.                | Breakfast                    |
| 8:30 a.m.                | Assembly                     |
| 9:00 a.m.                | 1 <sup>st</sup> Period       |
| 10:00 a.m.               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Period       |
| 11:00 a.m.               | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Period       |
| 12:00 p.m.               | Lunch                        |
| 1:15 p.m.                | SPL Meeting                  |
| 12:45 – 2:00 p.m.        | Personal Time / (Leader Nap) |
| 2:00 p.m.                | 4 <sup>th</sup> Period       |
| 3:00 p.m.                | 5 <sup>th</sup> Period       |
| 4:00 p.m.                | 6 <sup>th</sup> Period       |
| 6:00 p.m.                | Assembly                     |
| 6:15 – 7:00 p.m.         | Supper                       |
| 8:00 p.m.                | Evening Activities           |
| 9:00 p.m.                | Call to quarters             |
| 10:30 p.m.               | Taps (lights outs)           |

| <b>Friday</b>      |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 6:30 a.m.          | Reveille           |
| 7:00 a.m.          | Breakfast          |
| 8:30 a.m.          | Assembly           |
| 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  | Morning Sessions   |
| 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. | Afternoon Sessions |
| 12:00 p.m.         | Lunch              |
| 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.   | Open Programs      |
| 6:00 p.m.          | Supper             |
| 8:30 p.m.          | Closing Campfire   |
| 9:00 p.m.          | Call to quarters   |

| <b>Saturday Check Out</b>   |
|---|
| Please Schedule a time with the commissioner's staff for checkout.                |
| Make sure that all personnel and troop gear are out of the campsite.              |
| Make sure that the cots are turned on their sides in the middle of the tents.     |
| Make sure that you leave the tents as you found them and flaps are closed.        |
| Make sure that the latrine and campsite are cleaned and ready for the next troop. |
| Make sure you pick up all the units' medications and paper health forms.          |

## 2026 Merit Badge and Program Schedule-Summer Camp

| Outdoor Adventure  |                          | Challenge Course  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Cycling (Mountain Biking)  | 9:00-11:50               | C.O.P.E.  | 9:00-11:50               |
| ATV  | 9:00-11:50 or 2:00-4:50  | Climbing  | 2:00-3:50                |
| Mountain Board times will be posted.   |                          | Free Climb is open from 4:30-5:45 & After assembly on Tuesday – Thursday 6:45-8:50  |                          |
| Ecology Conservation   |                          | Outdoor Thrills   |                          |
| Insect Study   | 9:00-9:50                | Pioneering  | 9:00-11:50               |
| Plant Science  | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   | Camping   | 9:00-9:50 or 3:00-3:50   |
| Nature   | 10:00-10:50              | Cooking   | 10:00-11:50 or 2:00-3:50 |
| Fishing  | 10:00-10:50 or 3:00-3:50 | Geocaching  | 11:00-11:50 or 4:00-4:50 |
| Geology  | 11:00-11:50 or 4:00-4:50 | Orienteering  | 2:00-2:50                |
| Mammal Study   | 2:00-2:50                | HandiCrafts   |                          |
| Davy Crockett (First Year Campers)   |                          | Wood Carving  | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   |
| Tenderfoot   | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   | Indian Lore   | 10:00-10:50 or 3:00-3:50 |
| Second Class   | 10:00-10:50 or 3:00-3:50 | Music   | 11:00-11:50 or 4:00-4:50 |
| First Class  | 11:00-11:50 or 4:00-4:50 | Basketry  | 8:00-9:00PM Tues & Thurs |
| TradeSkills  |                          | First Aid   |                          |
| Farm Mechanics   | 10:00-10:50 or 2:00-2:50 | First Aid   | 9:00-9:50 or 3:00-3:50   |
| Electricity  | 11:00-11:50 or 3:00-3:50 | Emergency Preparedness  | 11:00-11:50 or 2:00-2:50 |
| Shows  |                          | STEM  |                          |
| Photography  | 9:00-9:50                | Animation   | 9:00-9:50                |
| Moviemaking  | 10:00-10:50              | Artificial Intelligence   | 10:00-10:50              |
| Theater  | 11:00-11:50              | Game Design   | 11:00-11:50              |
| Eagle Flight   |                          | Cybersecurity   | 2:00-2:50                |
| Scouting Heritage  | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   | Digital Technology  | 3:00-3:50                |
| Personal Fitness   | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   | Programming   | 4:00-4:50                |
| Entrepreneurship   | 9:00-9:50 or 4:00-4:50   | Astronomy   | 8:00-9:00PM Tues-Thurs   |
| Citizenship in the Nation  | 10:00-10:50 or 3:00-3:50 | Fingerprinting  | 8:00-9:00PM Sunday       |
| Citizenship in the World   | 11:00-11:50 or 4:00-4:50 | Chess   | 8:00-9:00PM Tues & Thurs |
| Eagle Scout workshop is on Tuesday evenings.   |                          | Waterfront  |                          |
| Shooting Sports  |                          | Water Sports  | 9:00-9:50 or 10:00-10:50 |
| Archery  | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   | Swimming and Instructional Swim   | 9:00-9:50 or 2:00-2:50   |
| Pistol*  | 8:30-9:50                | Lifesaving  | 9:00-10:50 or 2:00-3:50  |
| Shotgun  | 10:00-11:50              | Rowing  | 10:00-10:50 or 3:00-3:50 |
| Rifle  | 2:00-3:50                | Small-Boat Sailing  | 10:00-10:50 or 3:00-3:50 |
| <b>Free Shoot is from 4:00-5:45.</b><br><b>The night shoot will be on Tuesday 6:45-9:00</b><br><b>*Scouts must have a signed permission form and take the NRA First Steps class on Sunday Night to participate in Pistol. Scout must also have a Hold-Harmless agreements signed for both Pistol and Cowboy Shooting Programs.</b> |                          | <b>Free swim, Water Slide, &amp; Blob are open from 11:00-11:50 or 4:00-5:15. Mile swim practice at 1:30PM each day and 6:00AM on Friday.</b> |                          |



# New to Hood Scout Reservation this year . . .



Night  
Glow Run



Hood's Got  
Talent Show



Camp Chef  
Cook-Off



Town Hall



Movie Night

## Parents' Information

### Visiting and Writing Your Scouts

Parents and family members are welcome to visit Hood Scout Reservation on the first and last day of camp for drop-off and pick-up. The last full day of camp is designated as Visitors' Day, with activities generally beginning at 2:00 p.m. Visitors should plan to eat lunch prior to arriving at camp.

All visitors must check in at the Administration Building or Trading Post before attending any activities or visiting their Scout's campsite. Supper will be available in the cafeteria on Visitors' Day for all guests. The cost for meals is \$6.00 per person for adults and children age five and older; children under five eat free. Units should be informed of visitor meal plans no later than Wednesday of the camp week. The final night campfire will begin at 8:30 p.m. and is a highlight of the week's activities.

### Mailing Your Scout



Mail should be addressed as follows:

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Scout's Troop: \_\_\_\_\_

Hood Scout Reservation  
8065 Old Port Gibson Road  
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

To ensure delivery, mail should be sent prior to Wednesday of the camp week. The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is responsible for checking the mail daily and distributing it to Scouts.



**Emergency Contact Phone Number**  
**For emergencies only: (601) 896-2859**





# SUMMER CAMP CHECKLIST

Getting ready for summer camp? Start with this checklist and be sure you'll have everything you need. Now go have fun!

## Summer Camp Essentials

- ☐ Foot Locker or Duffel Bag
- ☐ Backpack
- ☐ Daypack
- ☐ Sleeping Bag
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Water Bottle or Hydration Bladder
- ☐ Headlamp or Flashlight with Extra Batteries
- ☐ Pocket Knife
- ☐ Raingear
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Insect Repellent

## Camping Extras

- ☐ Sleeping Pad
- ☐ Camp Pillow
- ☐ Lantern
- ☐ Hydration Pack
- ☐ Mosquito Net

## Optional

- ☐ Hammock/Straps
- ☐ Camping Chair
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Card Games

## Personal Gear

- ☐ Clothing (as recommended by your Troop)
- ☐ Thorlos® Socks
- ☐ Toiletries/Cleanup Kit (with hand sanitizer)
- ☐ Personal Items
  - ☐ Watch
  - ☐ Camera
  - ☐ Swimsuit
  - ☐ Hat/Bandana
  - ☐ Sunglasses
  - ☐ Pens and Notebook
- ☐ Extra Pair of Shoes/Hiking Boots
- ☐ Money for Trading Post
- ☐ Scout Field Uniform (shirt, shorts, socks)
- ☐ OA Sash if you are in the Order of the Arrow
- ☐ Warm Jacket (fleece or sweater)
- ☐ Pair of Sandals (for shower only)
- ☐ 1 Towel for the water front
  - + 1 Towel for the shower
- ☐ Scout Handbook

**Scout Shop Associates are here to help; please ask us for assistance.**



**SCOUT SHOP**  
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## Items You Should NOT Bring to Camp

To ensure the safety and well-being of all campers, Scouts should **not bring the following items**:



- Sheathed knives
- Firearms or fireworks
- Pets

Scouts participating in First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, Camping, and Wilderness Survival merit badges should review badge requirements carefully and assemble any necessary kits or backpacks at home prior to camp.

All personal items, including clothing, gear, and equipment, **must be clearly marked** with the Scout's name and troop number. Personal valuables such as watches, wallets, money, and electronic chargers should not be left unattended or in plain view.

**Scouts must wear completely enclosed shoes at all times, except when inside tents, at the pool, or in the shower.**

## Merit Badge Class Considerations

Scouts who are in their first or second year are strongly encouraged to participate in the Davy Crockett Program. This program provides foundational skills needed to advance through the initial ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class.

Unit leaders and Scouts should review merit badge requirements in advance and ensure that all pre-requisites that can be completed prior to camp are finished. Completing these items ahead of time maximizes the chances of earning the merit badge during the camp week.





### **Pistol Pilot Program Participation and Hold Harmless Agreement**

Hood Scout Reservation (Andrew Jackson Council) will be conducting a pilot program for Pistol safety and marksmanship. This program is conducted under the approval of the Boy Scouts of America. Scouts will be instructed how to handle, maintain, and shoot a pistol safely and be provided instruction to increase their marksmanship skills. Scouts will have both classroom instruction and range instruction in which they will fire a pistol under the supervision of a trained Range Safety Officer and pistol instructor at Hood Scout Reservation property. Scouts will be required to wear eye protection and ear protection at all times while on the range. Scouts are expected to abide by all safety rules and the instructions of the Range Safety Officer(s) and Pistol Instructor(s).

I, the undersigned, give, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to participate in this program. I understand that participation in the activity involves a certain degree of risk. I have carefully considered the risk involved and have given consent for my child to participate. I understand that participation in the activity is entirely voluntary and requires participants to abide by the rules and standards of conduct. I release the Boy Scouts of America, the local council, the activity coordinators and all employees, volunteers, related parties or other organizations associated with the activity from any and all claims or liability arising out of this participation.

**For safety, my child and I agree that he/she will do the following or he/she will be removed from the program.** Because this is a pilot program and space is limited, any additional cost associated with participation in this program will not be refunded.

1. Complete the First Steps Class taught at Hood Scout Reservation.
2. Always wear all safety gear while on the range.
3. Follow all the safety rules provided in the training class.
4. Follow the instructions of the Range Safety Officer(s) and Pistol Instructor(s).
5. Do not handle the pistols until instructed to do so by the Pistol Instructor(s).
6. Always follow the instructions of the Range Safety Officer(s).
7. Is 14 years of age, or 13 and has completed the 8th grade, as of the start of the class and will be in full compliance with all local state and federal guidelines, including age restrictions and original equipment manufacturer standards.
8. Will respond to the camp satisfaction survey from Scouting America to help in the evaluation of the pilot program.

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email for survey purposes only \_\_\_\_\_

### ATV Participation and Hold –Harmless Agreement

**Hood Scout Reservation of the Andrew Jackson Council** will be conducting an ATV program at camp, Scouts will be instructed how to ride on and drive an ATV. Scouts must be 14 years old or completed the eighth grade. Scouts will be taught ATV safety and will drive on a training course, then on approved trails only. Scouts will be on the unit individually and in control of the power of the power and brakes. Scouts will be required to wear a helmet, goggles, gloves, over-the-ankle boots, long-sleeved shirts, and long pants. Scouts are expected to abide by all safety rules and the instructions of the camp instructor(s).

I, the undersigned, give my child \_\_\_\_\_, permission to participate in this program. I understand that participation in the activity involves a certain degree of risk. I have carefully considered the risk involved and have given participants to abide by the rules and standards of conduct. I release the Boy Scouts of America, the ATV Safety Institute, the local council, the activity coordinators, and all employees, volunteers, related parties, or other organizations associated with activity from any and all claims or liability arising out of this participation.

**For safety, my child and I agree that he/she will do the following or he/she will be removed from the program.** Because space is limited, any additional cost associated with participation in this program will not be refunded.

1. Complete the ATV safety class taught at Hood Scout Reservation.
2. Always wear all required safety gear on or around the equipment.
3. Follow all safety rules provided in the training class.
4. Follow the instructions of the camp staff instructor(s).
5. Always maintain control of the ATV and remain within the speed determined to be safe by the camp instructor(s).
6. Be in full compliance with all local, state, and federal guidelines, including age restrictions and original equipment manufacturer standards.
7. Respond to the camp satisfaction survey from the Boy Scouts of America as it evaluates the ATV Program.

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email for survey purposes only \_\_\_\_\_



### **Cowboy Shooting Participation and Hold Harmless Agreement**

Hood Scout Reservation (Andrew Jackson Council) will be conducting a Cowboy Shooting Program. This program is conducted under the approval of the Boy Scouts of America. Scouts will be instructed in how to handle, maintain, and shoot a pistol, rifle, and shotgun safely and be provided instruction to increase their marksmanship skills. Scouts will have both classroom instruction and range instruction in which they will fire a pistol, rifle, and shotgun under the supervision of a trained Range Safety Officer and pistol instructor at Hood Scout Reservation property. Scouts will be required to always wear eye protection and ear protection while on the range. Scouts are expected to abide by all safety rules and the instructions of the Range Safety Officer(s) and Pistol Instructor(s). **Must be 14 or older to participate.**

I, the undersigned, give, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to participate in this program. I understand that participation in the activity involves a certain degree of risk. I have carefully considered the risk involved and have given consent for my child to participate. I understand that participation in the activity is entirely voluntary and requires participants to abide by the rules and standards of conduct. I release the Boy Scouts of America, the local council, the activity coordinators and all employees, volunteers, related parties or other organizations associated with the activity from any and all claims or liability arising out of this participation.

**For safety, my child and I agree that he/she will do the following or he/she will be removed from the program.** Because this is a pilot program and space is limited, any additional cost associated with participation in this program will not be refunded.

1. Complete the First Steps Class taught at Hood Scout Reservation.
2. Always wear all safety gear while on the range.
3. Follow all the safety rules provided in the training class.
4. Follow the instructions of the Range Safety Officer(s) and Pistol Instructor(s).
5. Do not handle the firearms until instructed to do so by the Pistol Instructor(s).
6. Always follow the instructions of the Range Safety Officer(s).
7. Is 14 years of age, or 13 and has completed the 8th grade, as of the start of the class and will be in full compliance with all local state and federal guidelines, including age restrictions and original equipment manufacturer standards.

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

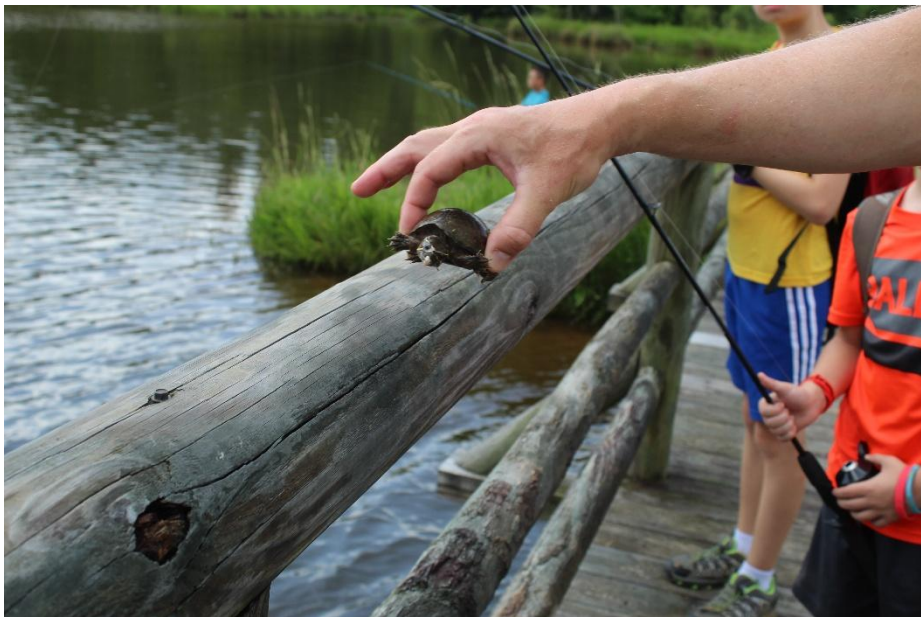
Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email for survey purposes only \_\_\_\_\_







# Scout Nutrition Facts

Serving Size - 1 Scout  
Servings Per Container 1

---

Amount Per Serving

**Calories From Dutch Ovens - 90%**

|                    | % Daily Values* |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Trustworthy</b> | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Loyal</b>       | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Helpful</b>     | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Friendly</b>    | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Courteous</b>   | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Kind</b>        | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Obedient</b>    | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Cheerful</b>    | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Thrifty</b>     | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Brave</b>       | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Clean</b>       | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Reverent</b>    | <b>100%</b>     |
| <b>Prepared</b>    | <b>300%</b>     |

\*Percent Daily Values are based on a Tenderfoot Scout. Daily Values may be higher for advanced ranks.

