

# CAMP LEWALLEN



GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA  
SCOUTING



2026

Scouts BSA  
Program Guide





# Merit Badges

## AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Some merit badges have physical or mental demands that are more suited to Scouts of a particular age, maturity, or skill level. In the class catalog, you can view which merit badges may have restrictions on ages and/or ranks. Unit leaders are responsible for ensuring that Scouts meet age, maturity, and skill levels needed for all sessions.

## PREREQUISITES AND PARTIAL COMPLETIONS

Some programs have requirements that cannot be completed at camp and should instead be completed before or after camp. Details are available in the class catalog.

Partial completion of a merit badge is not a failure, it is what the name indicates; partial success. Many Scouts will complete only sections of badges with prerequisites or that are very difficult. They then can complete them with another counselor at home or back at camp the following summer. Partials are valid until a Scout turns 18. Be sure to provide the required documentation for Scouts who have completed requirements for merit badges before they come to camp.

## MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Unit Leaders should guide Scouts to set achievable goals. Some subjects require a greater length of time for instruction than others, and this should be taken into account when scheduling them.

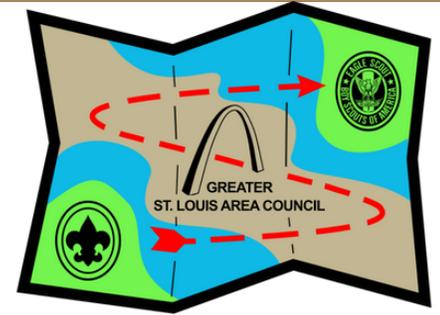
Please remember to review this guide and schedule around certain activities that Scouts wish to participate in such as open swimming. Scouts should be able to have some free time at camp to enjoy themselves. There is much more to summer camp than merit badges! **[Click here to view the class catalog.](#)**



# Camp Program

## WAYFINDER PROGRAM

The Wayfinder Program is our summer camp program for Scouts who have recently joined a troop or have just crossed over from Cub Scouts. This program replaced the Voyager program of previous years. In Wayfinder, new Scouts are immersed in the Scouting Program and Camp Lewallen. Scouts will learn the patrol method and basic Scouting skills, and experience some of the many programs available at summer camp. Leaders will receive a printout of what was completed at camp, but the staff do not “sign-off” on the requirements.



## WAYFINDER

Scouts may now register for individual rank sessions based on their needs. Sessions are divided into Scout and Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class.

Like merit badge registration, you can select the sessions that each scout needs.

Merit badges are not automatically included in the program. Depending on the number of rank sessions in which the scout is enrolled, he or she may register for 3-5 merit badges of their choice. The rank sessions have been scheduled to offer at least one Swimming merit badge session at a non-conflicting time.

Leaders with more than five Scouts in the Wayfinder program are asked to assist by providing adult supervision as they have time available.

## APEX OLDER SCOUT PROGRAM

The APEX Program features activities designed for Scouts who are at least 14 years old or in their fourth year of summer camp. Activities will include off-property outings and access to unique programming at camp, including Range & Target Activities.

Unit leaders may need to help provide transportation to off property activities.

APEX Program Schedule (subject to change)

Monday - River Float Trip (after lunch)

Tuesday - Axe & Knife Throwing (Afternoon) & Cowboy Action Shooting (6:45pm)

Thursday - Free Climb at Climbing Tower

Friday - Natural Rock Climbing & Rappelling at S-F Scout Ranch (all day)



## APEX

# Open Programs



## Free Swimming

Each Campsite is assigned a free swim period at the pool. These periods happen Monday - Thursday.

Campsite	Free Swim Period
Apache	4:00pm
Blackfoot	4:00pm
Buffalo Bill	4:00pm
Chippewa	2:00pm
Comanche	4:00pm
Crow	2:00pm
Daniel Boone	4:00pm
Davy Crockett	2:00pm
Kit Carson	4:00pm
Pawnee	2:00pm



## Open Boating

Canoes, rowboats, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards are available on Lake Potashnick from 4:00pm - 5:00pm Monday through Thursday. Note: Scouts must be BSA Swimmers to use kayaks and paddleboards.

# Open Programs



## **Night Swim**

The pool will be open on Monday night at 7:15pm for a night swim period for those who wish to attend!

## **Adult Free Swim**

All Adult Leaders are welcome to attend the Adult-Only Free Swim period on Thursday from 3:00pm - 4:00pm

## **Mile Swim**

The Mile swim is held from 2:00pm - 4:00pm on Friday at the pool.

Note: Any participant in the Mile Swim BSA must have a minimum of four hours of practice swimming in camp prior to the Mile Swim to qualify. Unit leadership is responsible for ensuring the practice swimming occurs during the week. Click [here](#) to see the full requirements for the Mile Swim.

## **Stand-Up Paddleboard Award**

Scouts can visit Lake Potashnick from 3:00pm - 4:00pm to work on earning the Scouting America Stand Up Paddleboard Award.

## **Free Climbing**

Come to the Climbing Tower at 8:00pm on Monday for a night climb under the lights!

## **Chess Tournament**

This tournament will take place on Friday at 2:00pm on the Trading Post Porch. This is for those who are in the Chess Merit badge and anyone else who wishes to play!

## **Cowboy Action Shoot**

For Scouts who are at least 14 years old, you can participate in Cowboy Action Shooting on Monday evening at 6:45pm at the Rifle Range. There is a small fee of \$5 to participate in this event which can be paid (exact change) at the range upon arrival for the event.

# Open Programs

## **Top Shot Competition**

Scouts who wish to take part in this competition must register at the Camp Office by Wednesday morning. The competition will take place on Wednesday afternoon beginning at 1:20pm at the ranges. Winners will be announced at the closing campfire.



## **Dutch Oven Cookoff**

The cookoff will take place on Wednesday afternoon from 2:00 - 4:30. This competition is open to everyone and will take place at the Braswell Pavilion. Winners are announced at the closing campfire.

## **Branding**

Join us at the Braswell Pavilion Wednesday afternoon from 2:00 - 4:30 and brand your stuff! We will have staff ready to help brand items all afternoon.

## **Turtle Derby**

The Turtle Derby is Camp Lewallen's premiere racing event. Scouts will find and take good care of a Camp Lewallen turtle. Feed them, train them, and get them ready to race. Entry forms can be found in the office and turned into the Nature Director. The Scouts will bring their turtles to the derby, behind the camp office, on Wednesday at 2:30pm. Once the race is complete, the Scouts will return their turtle to where they originally found it. Winners are announced at closing campfire.

## **Mt. Logan Trek**

Scouts and leaders who wish to go on the Mt. Logan Trek meet at the Trading Post steps, with their sleeping gear, at 7:00pm on Thursday night. Generally there will be a group that hikes up and comes back and one that spends the night. Additional adult leadership for both groups is arranged during the daily leader meetings. Those staying the night should bring a bedroll, ground cloth and water bottle. Scouts will have to carry their own gear. There are a few hammock spots on the peak but most will stay in the adirondack or in the open air.

# Open Programs

## **Water Carnival**

The Water Carnival is an afternoon of aquatic competitions at the pool. It takes place on Wednesday at 3pm. A list of competitions will be handed out at the leaders meeting so that units can arrange what Scouts will compete in each of the competitions. Winners are announced at the closing campfire.

## **Staff Preview**

Staff preview is an opportunity for scouts who would like to learn more about being on camp staff in the future. They are walked through the process of applying and given a QR code to sign up for alerts. They also have an opportunity to ask questions from some of our fantastic staff. It will happen on Thursday at 1:15 at the Spring Hollow Pavilion.



# Camp-wide Evening Programs

## OPENING & CLOSING CAMPFIRES

The Opening Campfire is presented by the Camp Staff on Sunday night. The Closing Campfire will take place on Friday and Troops will have a chance to perform skits, songs, and more!

## FAMILY NIGHT & OA CALL-OUT CEREMONY

Parents are invited to visit Camp on Wednesdays! They may arrive at camp beginning at 2:00 PM. Troops should plan to help guide visiting parents from the main parking lot to their campsite, where they are welcome to visit until after the Family Night Campfire & OA Call Out Ceremony at 8:15pm.

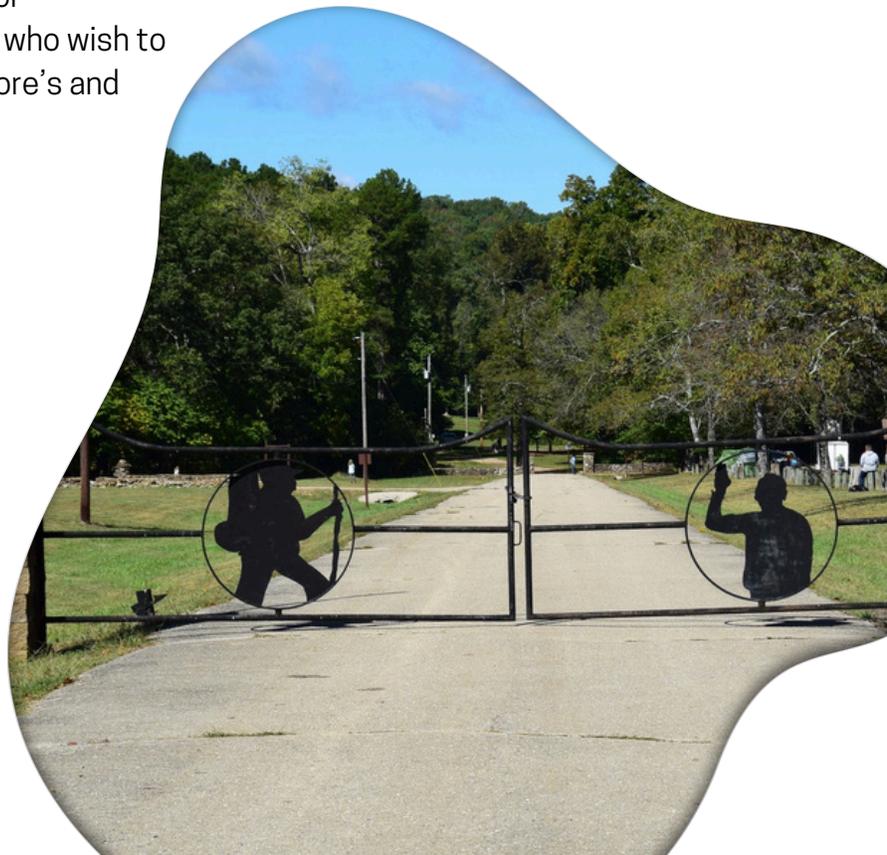
Many units host potluck dinners on Wednesday in their campsites.

## SPLASH FROM THE PAST AT POTASHNICK

This annual aquatic competition takes place at Lake Potashnick on Tuesday evening at 7:15pm. Different events will be held for all swimming ability groups. Events change each year and are announced during camp!

## WAYFINDER CAMPFIRE

This smaller, more intimate campfire program is for Scouts in the Wayfinder program and any leaders who wish to attend. There will be campfire songs, stories, smore's and more! Join us on Thursday at 8pm.





# Leader Training

## **Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training (IOLS)**

This hands-on course provides adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. Upon completion, leaders should feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First Class rank. Along with Scoutmaster Specifics this course is required of all direct contact leaders registered in Scouts BSA Troops in order to be considered “trained”.

This course will take place Monday - Thursday, from 9am - Noon at the Wayfinder Area.

## **Climbing Tower Training**

Adult leaders from Cub Scout Packs, Scout BSA Troops and Venture Crews who take this 1 day training and same-day-certification at the Camp Lewallen Tower will be able to lead climbers on any of our 3 towers; Beaumont Scout Reservation, Camp Lewallen and Camp Warren Levis. These Tower Only Instructors can not lead rappelling on this tower. If you want to lead climbers and rappellers on natural rock sites at S bar F and rappellers on this tower you must take the full weekend long Climbing Instructor Training.

Leaders are invited to attend this training Monday after lunch at the Climbing Tower.

## **Safe Swim Defense & Safety Afloat**

Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat govern Scouting America swimming and boating activities. Both specify that the activities are supervised by a mature and conscientious adult age 21 years of age.

Leaders can take part in this training on Tuesdays following lunch at the Pool.

## **Leader Position Specific Training**

Leaders are invited to attend Position Specific Training on Wednesday at 9am in the Dining Hall. This course will cover the Position Specific Training for Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Troop Committee Members.

# Specialty Camps

Greater St. Louis Area Scouting offers multiple “Specialty” Camps that Scouts can attend individually each summer. Troops do not have to provide leadership for these programs.

## S-F RANGER PROGRAM

Scouts who are at least 14 years old and adults can participate in this week-long backpacking and hiking adventure that traverses the 5,200 acre S-F Scout Ranch. The group will meet on Sunday at Wenzel Lodge and then depart for a week of activities and hiking. Sessions must have at least 6 participants to run. Sessions held in June and July! 4 to choose from!



## STEM & SKILLED TRADES CAMP

July 19 - 25

Camp May - Beaumont Scout Reservation

This camp is an *extraordinary experience* for Scouts full of many STEM based merit badges, **new** Skilled Trades merit badge track, and over-the-top activities. Scouts will attend one merit badge (*over to 60 to choose from!*) or one NOVA activity class *each day* and may have the opportunity to work on other badges in the evening.

## HORSE CAMP

July 26 - August 1

Nagel Equestrian Center, Beaumont Scout Reservation

Spend a week at an intermediate riding camp cantering around the property and learning more about horses. There are many trails to be ridden, competitions/games to be played on horseback in the riding ring, and other activities to further your horsemanship along with a chance to show off your advanced skills in a Cavalcade at the end of the week. Other activities while at Horse Camp include swimming, rifle/shotgun shooting, climbing tower, ropes course, campfires, and much more.



# Resources

Camp Lewallen  
1588 Wayne Route K  
Silva, MO 63964

