

Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge

Eagle Trail Merit Badge Seminar

When sending correspondence by email **all correspondence coming from youth** must be directed to the following **TWO** email addresses to comply with youth protection guidelines. All correspondence from your instructor will include a copy to either the youth's parent or guardian or another Adult Scout leader. This practice is designed for the Safety of all youth.

Instructor: Steve Sobelman

Email address: smsobelman@gmail.com

Course Leader: John Klos

Email address: klos41@msn.com

1. Read the Merit Badge Book and be ready to discuss the topics raised in the requirements.
2. Do TWO of the following A, B, C or D below:
 - A. Visit a place (on the internet with your parent's permission and supervision), that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Write a brief report telling your counselor what you learned about the landmark or site and what you found interesting about it.
 - B. On the internet (with your parent's permission and supervision), take a Virtual tour of your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Write a brief report telling your counselor what you learned about the capitol,

C. On the internet (with your parent's permission and supervision), take a Virtual tour of a federal facility. Write a brief report telling your counselor what you saw there and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves our nation.

d. Choose a national monument that interests you. Using books, brochures, the Internet (with your parent's permission and supervision) and other resources, find out more about the monument. Take a tour of the monument if available and write a brief report telling your counselor what you learned and explain why the monument is important to this country's citizens.

3. Watch the national evening news the night before each Merit Badge Workshop days and read the front page of a major daily newspaper. If you do not receive a newspaper, you may use www.stltoday.com/news/nation (with your parent's permission and supervision). Be able to discuss the national issues you learned about with your Counselor during the workshop. Choose one of the issues each Night and write a brief explanation of how it affects you and your Family.

6. Choose a speech of national historical importance and either Read the speech or watch it on line if it is available. Find out about the author, write a brief report telling your counselor about the person who gave the speech. Explain the importance of the speech at the time it was given, and tell how it applies to American citizens today. Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell your counselor why.

8A - Answer the following

1. Name of the State you live in.
2. Name of the two United States Senators that represent your state.
3. Number of the United States House Congressional District that you live in.
4. Name of the United States House Representative who represents your congressional district.

8B -

1. Write a FORMAL letter to be sent by USPS or send an email to either of your US Senators or your Congressional Representative about an issue that is of national relevance and is of interest to you or your family. Be sure to tell your representative your view on the issue. Ask the representative what their position is on the issue and tell him/her why it is of importance that they adopt your position. You may not use their on-line server based constituent response system for this correspondence.
2. If you can get an email address, you can send it by email, or you can mail your letter. Either way, your letter should be in formal formation. Your letter should be sent 7 days prior to the start of your class to allow for you to receive an answer from your representative. If time does not permit, please contact your instructor for guidance.
3. Your letter should be:
 1. Typed or printed.
 2. Name and address of the representative to whom you are sending your letter to should be at the top of your letter. If sending it by email, add the email address you sent your letter to.
 3. Identify yourself as one of their constituents (not as a Scout). Remember you are asking for them to adopt your position on the issue you have selected. You are their constituent.
 4. Print a copy of your letter and provide it to your instructor. Be sure to include the date and time it was sent or mailed.
 5. If you are mailing your letter, please remember to include your representative's House or Senate Office Building and Room Number.
 6. Remember to include your Name, Address, Phone Number and email address at the bottom of your letter after your signature.
4. Provide your instructor with a copy of your letter along with a copy of any response you receive. Be sure to indicate the date your letter was either mailed or sent.