Woods Tools

A Scout is courteous, a Scout receiving a woods tool always says “Thank you”. This tells the giver that the receiver has a firm grip and is in control of the woods tool.

Treat knives with respect:

Do keep the blades closed or sheathed except during use

Do transfer a knife to someone else properly and safely

Do keep your knife sharp and clean and wear gloves when sharpening your knife

Do not throw a knife

Do not use a dull or dirty blade

Do not use a knife when someone is in your safety circle (Exception kitchen duty)

Do not carve into something that does not belong to you without permission

Do not cut toward yourself or anyone else (Exception fine detail woodcarving)

Do notstrike a knife with another tool or pry with the point of a cutting blade

Do rope off an ax yard large enough to work in, and enter this area only to use the axe or saw

Treat saws with respect:

Do sheathe a saw whenever it’s not in use

Do carry or transfer a saw properly

Do replace dull blades. Sharp saws are easier to use and to control

Do wear gloves and protective eyewear when using a saw

Do not cut any trees—alive or dead—without permission

Do not allow the saw’s blade to cut into the ground because soil and rocks will quickly dull and rust the blade

Do not leave a saw lying around camp. Store it properly, out of harm’s way

Treat axes with respect:

Do use leather gloves for protection when using or sharpening an axe, and to protect from splinters or to help prevent blisters

Do wear safety goggles to keep flying debris from injuring your eyes.

Do make sure your ax has a secure head and keep your ax sharp

Do sheath and control the axe head when carrying

Do wear proper footwear while using the ax.

Check for clearance, and select an area free of brush and branches. Be certain others stay outside of the axe yard unless being instructed

Do clear the area of chips, bark, and debris when you are done

Do follow the proper techniques for limbing

Do split wood on a chopping block and when appropriate, use the contact method

Do sheath the blade with a sheath when not in use.

Do transfer an axe properly

Do not cut any trees—alive or dead—without permission

Do not allow the axe’s blade to cut into the ground because soil and rocks will quickly chip, dull and rust the blade

Do not leave an axe lying around camp. Store it properly, out of harm’s way