



2025 Ramapo Valley District Mini Merit Badge Fair Guidebook

Saturday, November 1, 2025

The New Weis Center
150 Snake Den Rd. Ringwood, NJ 07456

EVENT CONTACTS:

Volunteer Chair
Bob Kluck
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Council Professional
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CHECK IN

Check-in will begin at 8:30am on Saturday morning and continue until 9am.

DISMISSAL

ALL Merit Badge classes will end at 3pm. All scouts must be picked up no later than 3:30pm.

MERIT BADGE BLUE CARDS

Each Scout is responsible to discuss which merit badges they want to begin with their unit leader. Upon approval from their leader, they will be issued a blue card from that leader. The Scout will bring the blue card to the merit badge fair. When a Scout arrives at the merit badge session, they will turn in the blue card to the merit badge counselor. **Scouts must come to the event with blue cards already approved and signed by a unit leader; no blue cards will be issued at the event.**

Requirements will be deemed satisfied, and badges recognized as completed at the discretion of the merit badge counselor and in accordance with Scouting America merit badge guidelines.

MERIT BADGE CLASSES

Merit Badge Counselors will be responsible for their own prerequisites. All questions should be directed at them. Counselors will reach out to scouts once they have signed up for their class.

FOOD

Food is included in the cost of the Fair. We will have pizza available starting at 12pm. Lunch will end at 12:45pm and classes will resume at 1pm. All Scouts need to bring their own water.

MERIT BADGE OFFERINGS

AM Offerings	PM Offerings
American Cultures	Coin Collecting
Coin Collecting	Family Life
Family Life	Salesmanship
Fire Safety	Scouting Heritage
Path to Eagle	Space Exploration
Scouting Heritage	Weather
Sustainability	

PREREQUISITES

Merit badges were created to be earned; to show that a Scout has achieved proficiency in a specific life skill or explored a specific trade or hobby. In keeping with the purpose of merit badges, all Scouts are required to complete any prerequisites as outlined in this guide prior to their arrival. If a Scout has not completed the prerequisite requirements, that Scout will either be awarded a partial or not be allowed to take the merit badge class for which the prerequisites were not completed. Requirements will be deemed satisfied, and badges recognized as completed at the discretion of the merit badge counselor and in accordance with BSA merit badge guidelines. Please bring the merit badge workbook to all of your classes.

American Cultures	<p>For requirement 1 -1. Do TWO of the following, choosing a different group for each:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Go to a festival, celebration, or other event identified with one of the groups. Report on what you see and learn.Go to a place of worship, school, or other institution identified with one of the groups. Report on what you see and learn.Talk with a person from one of the groups about the heritage and traditions of the group. Report on what you learn.Learn a song, dance, poem, or story that is traditional to one group, and teach it to a group of your friends.Go to a library or museum to see a program or exhibit featuring one group's traditions. Report on what you see and learn. <p>For requirement 5 - Give a talk to your Scout Unit or class at school on how people from different groups have gotten along together. Lead a discussion on what can be done to help various groups understand one another better.</p> <p>Requirement 1: * For these activities, attendance will be accepted if attended anytime within this last year. If you did not attend any celebrations, festivals, places of worship etc. in the past year you can do options C, D or E within this week before the fair. Please have this portion already done in your workbook before the fair.</p> <p>Requirement 5: Being that you may not be meeting with your Scout Unit before the fair, be ready to share and present requirement 5 to your fellow Scouts in our class at the fair. Please have this portion already done in your workbook before the fair.</p>
Coin Collecting	Counselor email: jsadur@keyflux.com
Family Life	<p>3. Sample chore chart is on last page. You need to track for 90 days, so you will need to email this one to me once complete. We will discuss typical chores and your current status at the meeting.</p> <p>4. Decide and carry out a project. Write report. If you need input on your idea, feel free to email or text.</p>

	<p>5. Plan and carry out project that involves participation of your family. Complete a, b, and c. Again, if you need input on your idea, please send me a note.</p> <p>6. Carry out Family Meeting. I will send you some notes that may be helpful for this/these meetings. Complete a and b.</p> <p>If you do not complete 4, 5, or 6 as a pre-requisite (which you should if you can) we will discuss some helpful issues, and you can then work with you family and send me the completed work as a follow-up.</p>
<p>Fire Safety</p>	<p>See attached separate document for pre-reqs.</p> <p>Counselor email: ifryer1@ianfryer.net</p>
<p>Salesmanship</p>	<p>Requirement 5 – Complete ONE of the following and keep a cost sheet -Any of these types of events within the past year may count Use the sales techniques you’ve learned and be prepared to share your experience during class.</p> <p>a. Help your unit raise funds through the sale of merchandise or tickets to a Scout event. b. Sell your services — such as lawn raking, mowing, pet watching, dog walking, snow shoveling, or car washing — to your neighbors. Follow up after completing the service and find out how satisfied the customer was. c. Earn money through retail selling.</p> <p>Requirement 6 – Complete ONE of the following this week if you haven't done so already.</p> <p>A. Interview a salesperson and learn:</p> <p>What made them choose sales as a profession?</p> <p>What are the most important things to remember when talking to customers?</p> <p>How is the product or service sold?</p> <p>Include at least one or two of your own questions.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>B. Interview a retail store owner and learn:</p> <p>How often they are approached by a sales representative.</p>

	<p>What good traits a sales representative should have and what habits to avoid.</p> <p>What factors they consider when deciding whether to establish an account with a sales representative.</p> <p>Include at least two of your own questions.</p> <p>Requirement 7- Investigate and report on career opportunities in sales, then do the following: A. Prepare a written statement of your qualifications and experience. Include relevant classes you have taken in school and merit badges you have earned. B. Discuss with your counselor what education, experience, or training you should obtain so you are prepared to serve in a sales position.</p> <p>Not a Prerequisite but Be Prepared to Work On the Following in Class</p> <p>Requirement 3 – Write and present a sales plan for a product or service and a sales territory assigned by your counselor. Requirement 4 – Make a sales presentation of a product or service assigned by your counselor.</p>
Scouting Heritage	<p>#4, #5 to discuss, #6 Bring their collection, #7, #8 (the national Museum should have a certificate for the online viewing.)</p>
Space Exploration	<p>There is a kit that needs to be purchased separately.</p> <p>Rocket Kit: Each Scout should bring one of the following Estes rocket kits to assemble.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Generic E2X - AMAZON, Zeppelin Hobbies Wayne ● Cosmic Cargo - AMAZON, Zeppelin Hobbies Wayne ● FireHawk - AMAZON, Zeppelin Hobbies Wayne ● Athena Rocket AMAZON 3 Bandits – (3 rockets in one pack) AMAZON, Zeppelin Hobbies Wayne ● Trailblazer Trio – (3 rockets in one pack) AMAZON, Zeppelin Hobbies Wayne <p>See attached separate document for pre-reqs.</p> <p>Counselor email: ifryer1@ianfryer.net</p>
Sustainability	<p>2. Water. Do ONE of the following and discuss with your counselor: (a) Evaluate your household water usage. If available, review water bills from the past year and evaluate the seasonal changes in water use. (b) Create a diagram to show how your household gets its clean water from a natural source and what happens with the</p>

water after you use it.

(c) Different areas of the world are affected by either too much (flooding) or too little (drought) water. Explore whether either or both affect where you live. Identify three water conservation or flood mitigation practices (successful or unsuccessful) that have been tried where you live or in an area of the world that interests you.

3. Food. Do ONE of the following and discuss with your counselor:

(a) Explore the sustainability of different types of plant-based, animal-based and aquaculture food. Identify where four different foods (such as milk, eggs, tuna fish, avocados, or ketchup) come from and how they are processed and transported from the source to you.

(b) Identify four factors that limit the availability of food in different regions of the world

(c) Develop a plan to reduce your household food waste in a sustainable manner.

Establish a baseline and then track and record your results for two weeks.

4. Community. Do ONE of the following and discuss with your counselor:

(a) Create a sketch depicting how you would design a sustainable community and be prepared to explain how the housing, work locations, shops, schools, and transportation systems affect energy, pollution, natural resources, and the economy of the community.

(b) Identify one unsustainable practice in your community and develop a written plan to fix it.

(c) Identify five sustainability factors in housing and rate your own home's sustainability against these factors.

5. Energy. Do ONE of the following and discuss with your counselor:

(a) Learn about the sustainability of different energy sources, including coal, gas, geothermal, hydro power, nuclear, petroleum, solar, and wind,

identify three common energy sources in the United States and describe how the production and consumption of each of these energy sources affects sustainability.

(b) List eight ways your family consumes energy, such as gas appliances, electricity, heating systems or cooling systems, and transportation.

6. Stuff. Do ONE of the following and discuss with your counselor:

(a) Create a list of 15 items of your personal "stuff." Classify each item as an essential need (such as soap) or a desirable want (such as a video game). Identify any excess "stuff you no longer need, working with your family, if possible. Donate, re purpose, or recycle those items you can.

	<p>Identify the average lifespan of one electronic device in your household, and whether it can be recycled in whole or part</p> <p>7. Do TWO of the following and discuss with your counselor: (a) The United Nations lists 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These include Zero Hunger, Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Sustainable Cities and Community, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, and Life on Land. Pick one of these eight and summarize the goal and its current and future impact on you, your family, community, and the world.</p> <p>8. Do the following: (a) On a camp out or other outdoor Scouting activity that you attend, make notes on the sustainability practices you and your fellow Scouts practice. Observe transportation, forestry, soil conservation, water resources, habitat, buildings, campsites, and sanitation. Share what you observed and learned with your counselor.</p> <p>9. Learn about career opportunities in the sustainability field. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required.</p>
<p>Weather</p>	<p>1. Choose a location somewhere in the country.</p> <p>2. Go to National Weather Service (that's the National Weather Service's site.) This site has an incredible amount of data.</p> <p>3. In the box where you can specify a location (by name or zip code), enter the location you have chosen.</p> <p>4. You'll immediately see the airport closest to your chosen location, along with current weather conditions and several days' forecast.</p> <p>5. Over on the right side, under "More Information", you'll see 3 Day History. Click on it. You'll see three days of data.</p> <p>6. Use this data to fill in the boxes for requirement 9a. Take the same time on successive days. If you miss a day, you can still catch up--you have three days of data. Where data is listed as "Sky Cond", use that data to fill in Cloud Types.</p>