



What is Eagle Flight?

Eagle Flight is an elite camp program for the serious Scout determined to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. The program is modeled after the “Trail to Eagle” program offered by the Detroit Council located in BSA’s Southern region and incorporated Camp Babcock-Hovey’s Trail to Eagle program of the past.

Our program, developed and started in 2009, is designed for the very active Scout that is busy with school, sports, and other extracurricular activities, and the Scout that has not been actively participating but wants to earn the Eagle Scout rank. The Eagle Flight administration team felt the Council needed a program for the super achievers and the Scouts that have “lost their way” to EARN the required merit badges and renew their desire to achieve the Eagle Scout rank. We often hear our Eagle Flight graduates comment that attending this program was key to getting them back on track towards completing the Eagle Rank.

Unlike the routine summer camp environment, Eagle Flight utilizes only Council approved adult Merit Badge Counselors that are available for at least 1 month prior to the “camp” portion of the program. Some are available 3 months in advance which allows for the 90 day Eagle-required merit badges to be complete in compliance with BSA rules. Eagle Flight has monthly meetings that the counselors and the Scouts attend to discuss the progress and provides the Scout with a familiarity to the counselors prior to the camp portion of the program. These counselors are also available for months after the summer program to assist scouts to complete any work that may have been left undone.

The Eagle Flight program is far more intense than summer camp. This highly structured program offers more than 40 merit badges from qualified counselors along with at least 16 merit badge sessions scheduled Monday through Friday. Scouts sign up for 10 merit badges and complete most of them. In some years, a few Scouts have completed 16 merit badges. But Eagle Flight is not a merit badge factory. That level of success requires the Scouts to begin working on their badges in the February – March time frame.

Eagle Flight is more than merit badges. There are many opportunities for leadership development as well through the patrol method. Our eagle Flight troops are boy led, with our adult scoutmasters providing coaching and assistance as needed. Many exciting non-merit badge programs and activities specifically designed for the Eagle Candidates are also part of the Eagle Flight program. We conclude the week with a “Life to Eagle” presentation and a special guest to remind the Scouts of their heritage.

Merit Badge Counselors have no qualms about issuing a “partial” if that is what the Scout earned. Eagle Flight staff maintains these high standards so local Troop Scoutmasters have comfort in knowing that the Scout EARNED each of their badges. For newly formed female Troops, Troop Scoutmasters can rest assured this is a wonderful opportunity for their female Scouts who are on extensions trying to fast track to Eagle that the Eagle Flight staff is a diverse group with experienced female merit badge counselors and Scoutmasters.

Many of the Eagle Flight team members no longer have Scouts in the program but return because of the satisfaction and gratitude of our Eagle Flight Scouts. The Eagle Flight team welcomes new adults with the will and the skill to be one of our Scoutmasters or Merit Badge Counselors. Our team is dedicated to the Scouts BSA program and enjoys volunteering their time so feel free to come join us and be a part of our awesome team!