

Massawepie Scout Camps
2022 BarkEater
Leader's Guide



Introduced in 2005, BarkEater is a five-year recognition program for campers at Massawepie. Each year that campers come to camp, they will be able to complete the next level. This summer the BarkEater program culminates and allows campers who became Voyageur BarkEaters last year to earn their fifth year BarkEater teeth and be full fledged Ha-de-ron-dahs (BarkEaters). Those campers who are Pioneer, Mountaineer, or Forester BarkEaters, or are new to the BarkEater program, will also be able to complete the next level.

Campers complete a set of requirements during their stay at Massawepie and at the end of the week are rewarded with a special BarkEater token, presented at the respective BarkEater ceremony. The first through fourth year ceremonies are held on Friday night, while the new fifth year ceremony is uniquely held during dinner on Thursday. The requirements include sections for Massawepie experience, Massawepie and Adirondack lore, service in camp, scout spirit, and personal advancement.

Here are some highlights of the program:

- 1) Scouts and Scouters must camp at Massawepie at least 5 nights in a given year to be eligible to earn a new BarkEater level. (There is an alternative requirement available for Scouters participating in camp work weekends.)
- 2) Returning BarkEaters will be eligible to work on their next level in the program. All others can work on Pioneer.
- 3) All participants must take part in a unit service project while at camp.
- 4) All participants must live by the Scout Oath and Scout Law while at camp.
- 5) Scouters may participate in the program. For Scouters the "Massawepie Experience" and "Advancement", requirements are waived. They will participate in the other program components including the Service Project requirement and the Ceremony.
- 6) Scouts and Scouters on trek or involved in the Mountain Fox program may waive the "Massawepie Experience" and "Service in Camp" requirements and do not have to camp 5 nights in camp. They will participate in the other program components including the "Massawepie and Adirondack Lore" and the Ceremony (unless still on trek).
- 7) Unit camp leaders decide which Scouts have met the requirements. Unit leaders are requested to uphold the BarkEater Honor Program by ensuring that all requirements are met as written. The honor cannot be awarded for effort alone. Remember, disappointment is often a better teacher than success easily earned. The camp reserves the right to disqualify a scout based on poor Scout Spirit at the discretion of the Camp Director.
- 8) The Massawepie Experience requirement can be completed in a previous summer. In other words, if a camper has completed a hike around Massawepie Lake in a previous summer, that would satisfy the requirement. It does not have to be done again.
- 9) Information is provided in this brochure to assist unit leaders with the Massawepie Lore and Environmental Awareness requirements.
- 10) The Camp Director is empowered to adjust the honor program requirements for Scouts/Scouters unable to complete them for sound medical reasons, physical or mental. As support for such request, the person's medical limitations must be noted on his or her Personal Health and Medical Record. Substitutions must be made in writing by dinner on Monday, and then become the true objectives of the Scout/Scouter in question.

Participation in the camp honor program is optional for each Scout and unit. No coercion or peer pressure should be used to get a Scout to participate.

BarkEater Recognition

“BarkEater”

Where does the name “Adirondack” come from? The most common explanation is that Adirondack comes from the Iroquois word “ha-de-ron-dah” which is believed to mean “bark eater.” This was an insult the Iroquois used to refer to the Algonquin, who were said to be such poor food gatherers that they had to eat the bark of willow trees during the harsh Adirondack winters. BarkEater also refers to a beaver, since tree bark is one of the primary foods of a beaver.

First Year Token:

Fifth Year Token:



Massawepie and Adirondack Lore

Pontiac Point

The largest point on Massawepie Lake is named "Pontiac Point." When looking across the lake from the Pioneer beach Pontiac Point is to the left of the Mountaineer beach. The point is believed to be named for the famous Chief Pontiac. But why would a point at Massawepie be named for an Ottawa chief rather than for a Mohawk, when the Mohawks were believed to inhabit the Massawepie area as part of their summer hunting grounds?

According to the book Mohawk Peter, by Henry G. Dorr (an owner of the Hotel Childwold formerly in the Camp Pioneer parade field), Chief Pontiac visited this area many years ago to seek an alliance with the Mohawks to help attack the British Fort Detroit. While at Massawepie, he camped at what we now call Pontiac Point, since it was readily defensible if needed. At first many of the Mohawks agreed to help attack the British in hopes of driving the white settlers from North America, but after a dispute with the Ottawas most of the Mohawks abandoned this plan. It is believed that the Scouts named Pontiac Point in the 1950's after reading this story

Adirondack Forest Preserve

During the years after the Civil War, the state's business community began to fear that unchecked logging in the Adirondacks could, through erosion, silt up the Erie Canal and eliminate the state's major economic advantage. They were informed by George Perkins Marsh's seminal 1865 book, Man and Nature, which made the connection between deforestation and desertification.

Five years afterward, surveyor Verplanck Colvin beheld the Adirondacks from the summit of Seward Mountain during his mission to map the region. The idea of preserving the lands in some sort of park occurred to him then and there, and after he returned he wrote to his superiors in Albany that action needed to be taken to prevent that kind of despoliation. They appointed him to a committee to study the problem.

In 1882, the businessmen began lobbying the legislature in earnest, and were rewarded three years later with the passage of the Forest Preserve Act, which provided that no logging would be allowed on state-owned land.

The Adirondack Forest Preserve is defined as the 2.6 million acres of state land within the Adirondack Park. Afforded constitutional protections that prevent the removal of timber, lands within New York's Forest Preserve are rich in both recreational opportunity and ecological significance. These public lands, which range from remote backcountry to DEC-operated campgrounds, include more than 1,800 miles of marked trails available for people of all interests and abilities. Depending on park-wide land classifications and specific unit management plans, there are a variety of opportunities for public enjoyment of the Forest Preserve, including hiking, camping, canoeing, hunting, fishing, trapping, snowmobiling, skiing, mountain biking, and rock climbing. The Adirondack wilderness is the entire Adirondack area, while the Forest Preserves are parts within it.

The Sykes Logging Company, and the Grasse River Railroad

The Grasse River Railroad was incorporated in 1915 as an Adirondack logging and passenger rail line of William L. Sykes and his Emporium Lumber Company located in Conifer, New York. The Emporium Lumber Company had its beginnings in Pennsylvania but after 25 prosperous years Sykes began buying land in the Adirondack Mountains of New York owing to the scarcity of hardwood left in Pennsylvania. The first sawmill opened in 1911 and the corporation name for the New York operation was changed a year later to the Emporium Forestry Corporation. The slate of officers for the new corporation consisted primarily of Sykes's three sons: President and General Superintendent - George

W. Sykes, Vice President and General Counsel - E. J. Jones, Vice President and Sales Manager - Roy. O. Sykes, Treasurer - W. Clyde Sykes, and Secretary - Arthur L. Owen. The Emporium Forestry Company became the largest hardwood operation in the east with Adirondack land holdings peaking at 125,000 acres. The Massawepie Property was incorporated in the Sykes logging properties in the 1930's. Lumber was pulled off the property via horse-drawn carriage to a train-station in Conifer via the Carriage Road. In other areas of the Adirondacks, lumber was frequently trafficked from place to place by floating it downriver to areas it could be more easily be loaded on trains.

Childwold Park House

The Childwold Park House (later the Hotel Childwold) was opened in 1890 by Mr. Addison Child, formerly of Boston. In its heyday, the resort, whose registry revealed that American rich and famous as well as European royalty were amongst its guests, was famous among the great Adirondack resorts during the 1890's. The resort could accommodate approximately 250 guests with room for additional guests in 18 "cottages" located on the resort grounds. Also on the grounds could be found a bowling alley and casino. On the lake were large boat houses that housed the resort boats. A staircase running from the resort grounds to the boathouses provided access to the boathouses. Guests from New York, Boston and elsewhere traveled to the Adirondacks on Dr. Webb's famous Adirondack and St Lawrence Branch of the New York Central and Hudson Railroad Company. After arriving at the Childwold Station near Conifer, they were brought to the resort by horse-drawn coaches over the Carriage Road, which scouts can still use today to hike to Mt. Arab.

The resort was located in a large field at the top of a plateau overlooking Massawepie Lake. That plateau is now the site of the Camp Pioneer parade field, between the Pioneer Dining Hall and the Gannett Hall (former Voyageur Dining Hall). The bowling alley and casino were to the right of what is now the staff shower house. Cottages were found along a road through the woods that went along the shore towards what is now Gannett Hall. The stairs to the boathouses still exist (see if you can find them). Walk the path to Gannett and look at the trees. Some are very large and tall, while others are smaller in comparison. The larger trees are old growth and were here when the resort was active, while the smaller trees are located where cottages once stood.

The resort closed at the end of the 1909 summer season. The hotel was dismantled in 1947 to help solve the post World War II building material shortage. Timbers and fixtures were used to build less romantic structures.

Otetiana Council purchases Massawepie

In 1909 the Childwold Park House closed, after serving many well-to-do guests from all over the world. In 1912, the Massawepie property was sold to Emporium Lumber Company of Conifer, NY, whose owners (the Sykes family) primarily used Massawepie as a private family resort. During the 1920's, the area around what later became Camp Pioneer was leased to a private military school for use as a private summer camp, Camp Massawepie. In 1948, an Otetiana Council camp search committee, which was considering over 200 sites, first visited the Massawepie Lake area. (The Otetiana Council of the Boy Scouts of America serves Rochester and Monroe County, NY). In September of 1951, Otetiana Council purchased almost 2850 acres of land, the key Massawepie parcel, for \$105,000. The Council Executive at the time was Frederic Wellington (now remembered by "Wellington Lodge" at Massawepie), and the Director of Camping was Bob Parkinson. By January 1, 1952 over \$542,000 had been raised for the Otetiana Council Camp Expansion Campaign, to pay for Massawepie and improvements to the original Camp Cutler (now part of Webster Park). Harley Burgdorf, former administrator of Selkirk Shores State Park, was hired as the first Superintendent of Massawepie.

The Four Camps of Massawepie

Camp Pioneer opened for camping with 1375 boys in attendance. Camp Mountaineer, across the lake opened in 1953, with Camp Voyageur following in 1956. In 1969, the Camp Forester commissary

building was built and the camp opened with 6 troop sites as Massawepie's first patrol cooking camp. By 1970, Camp Forester neared full-scale operation. During the 1970's, first Pioneer and then Voyageur closed as the "baby Boom" came to and end. In 1990 the Adirondack Scout Reservation (ASR) was formed. ASR was a partnership between the Otetiana and Hiawatha (Syracuse) Councils to jointly operate Camps Massawepie and Sabattis. Camp Forester closed at the end of the 1994 summer season, with Sabattis becoming the only ASR patrol cooking camp and Mountaineer remaining the dining hall camp. The ASR partnership dissolved in 1998. In 2000, Camp Pioneer was rebuilt and reopened, replacing Mountaineer.

Teddy Roosevelt in the Adirondacks

On September 6, 1901, President William McKinley was shot during a meet and greet in Buffalo, NY. During this time, Vice President Theodore Roosevelt was meeting with some members of the Vermont Fish & Game League near Lake Champlain. When he heard the news, Teddy immediately left to visit the injured President. Since it was fairly unsafe to have both the President and Vice President in Buffalo while there was a threat of assassination. Teddy left once he was told the President was looking to make a full recovery. The Roosevelt family was vacationing in what is now Newcomb, so he took the train up to North Creek and settled in for some time away from the chaos.

On September 12, Teddy set off to climb all 5,344 feet of highest peak in New York: Mount Marcy. In the middle of Teddy's climb, a man named Harrison Hall tracked down Teddy and his team to deliver an important telegram at Lake Tear of the Clouds. This telegram informed the Vice President that McKinley had taken a turn for the worse. The team trekked down the mountain and returned to the Tahawus Club. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't cooperating and Teddy was urged to wait out the storm. Not wanting to wait for the weather, he ordered a horse and buggy and rode 35 miles to North Creek's train station, which took all night and called for several wagon changes. Once there, Teddy learned that McKinley had passed away. Devastated, Teddy immediately took the train straight to Buffalo to pay his respects to McKinley and his widow, Ida. When he finished, he went to the Wilcox Mansion for his tiny inauguration in their library. Because it was so quick, there weren't even photos taken of the 26th President as he was sworn in. It's a funny comparison because today, you can't do anything without it being documented all over social media, whether it's political or even just a hike in the woods.

President Theodore Roosevelt was one of the most powerful voices in the history of American conservation. Enthralled by nature from a young age, Roosevelt cherished and promoted our nation's landscapes and wildlife. After becoming president in 1901, Roosevelt used his authority to establish 150 national forests, 51 federal bird reserves, four national game preserves, five national parks and 18 national monuments on over 230 million acres of public land.

Teddy had worked with Verplanck Colvin as Governor of NYS after the Establishment of the Adirondack forest Preserve, and spent a wealth of time in the Adirondacks before his presidency. The early preservation efforts in the Adirondacks by men like Colvin undoubtedly served as a model for his Nationwide Conservation Efforts as president.

Today, the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt is found across the country. There are six national park sites dedicated, in part or whole, to our conservationist president. Along with others like John Muir and Bob Marshall, and Verplanck Colvin, Roosevelt's words and actions continue to affect how we approach and appreciate the natural world.

Adirondack Characters

Adirondack French Louie

French Louie Seymour came to the United States from Canada to work in circuses and drive mules on the Erie Canal. The lure of the woods drew him to the Indian Lakes region of the Adirondacks where he was a hunter, fisherman, trapper, and lumberjack. He became famous as the "Hermit of the West Canada Lakes Region". French Louie lived in cabins and lean-tos along his trap lines and he carried

his furs to the markets in Newtons Corners (Speculator) by wooden sled. In the springs he made Maple Syrup and grew his gardens. He guided hunters and fisherman from the Mohawk Valley through his beloved West Canada lakes region. French Louie died in 1915 in the town of Speculator.

Mitchell Sabbattis

Mitchell Sabbattis was an Abenaki Indian. He was a lifelong resident of Long Lake and one of the most famous Adirondack Guides. He was instrumental in the development of the famed Adirondack Guidebook. He is one of the few people to have a railroad station named after him – The Sabbattis Railroad Station in Long Lake West. The town burned in what was the most destructive forest fire in NYS history. Mitchell was a mainstay in the Methodist Church in Long Lake where he sometimes preached. He and his wife Betsey had many children. He died when he was somewhere between 101 and 106 years old.

Alvah Dunning

Alvah Dunning was known as the Hermit Guide of Raquette Lake. He was born in Lake Pleasant 1816. He searched for seclusion and privacy his whole life. His reputation as an expert woodsman and skilled hunter made him one of the more popular guides of his time. Hunters and fishermen traveled from everywhere to meet and be guided by this legendary figure. He learned hunting and fishing from his father and was guiding sportsmen in Raquette by the time he was 12. He was instrumental in killing the wolves in the Adirondacks and claimed to have killed the last Moose in the Adirondacks. Although he guided the sportsmen into the woods, he would rather they stay home and out of his woods. He figured that as long as they were coming, and spending money, they ought to spend it on him. Alvah died in Utica on 1902. He died of asphyxiation after blowing out the flame of the gas lamp in his room

“Old Mountain” Phelps

Orson Schofield Phelps (1817-1905) a.k.a. Old Mountain Phelps was the legendary 19th Century guide, philosopher, and local celebrity. “His Tawny hair was long and mangled, matted now many years past the possibility of being entered by a comb,” wrote Charles Dudley Warner in the Atlantic Monthly in 1878. “His clothes seem to have been put on him once and for all, like the bark of a tree, a long time ago.” Phelps Mountain in the Adirondacks is one of the few mountains in the world that are actually named after a mountaineer, even though he probably never climbed the peak himself.

Phelps was the one who cut the first trail up to Mt Marcy. He guided the first women to the top and over a very long career he guided many parties to its summit. He is most remembered for his close association with Verplanck Colvin. Phelps coined the names for many of the Adirondack high peaks and quickly became a legend in the area.

Paul Smith

Paul Smith, a Vermonter, was a boater on Lake Champlain before he became an Adirondack Guide. He was also a shrewd businessman who parlayed an investment in land into a fortune. He started with a small hotel on Loon Lake and later bought 50 acres on Lower Saint Regis Lake and built a primitive hotel. It soon grew to contain boathouses, quarters for 60 guides, stable, casino, and bowling alley. It even contained a wire connected to the New York Stock Exchange. Smith was an excellent host, a charming storyteller and treated everyone the same. American Presidents Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, and Calvin Coolidge frequented Smith’s hotel. PT Barnum, of circus fame, was also guest at the hotel. The hotel, later run by Smith’s son, Phelps, burned down in 1930. Paul Smith’s famous college is located on the site of the hotel. Paul Smith died in 1912 at the age of 87.

Noah John Rondeau

Noah John Rondeau is perhaps the most well known of the Adirondack Hermits. Born in 1883 and raised near Ausable Forks, Rondeau ran away from his abusive father when he was a teenager. He became Mayor of Cold River City (population 1) after spending many years as a hermit in the area. Rondeau kept vast journals of his life in Cold River. Unfortunately, his writings were in indecipherable code and the writings are lost. He had a keen interest in Astronomy, which he was able to practice on the many cold, clear nights in the Adirondacks. He played the violin and performed for whoever may have passed through the Cold River Valley. In later years, he added to his fame by appearing in numerous sportsman's across the Northeast during the 40's and 50's. The "Big Blow" of 1950 leveled out his hermitage in the Cold River Valley and he never returned. He lived out his life in the Lake Placid/ Saranac Lake area and died there in 1967.

Bob Marshall

Robert Marshall (January 2, 1901 – November 11, 1939) was an American forester and writer, as well as a wilderness activist and explorer. As a boy, he quickly developed a love for the outdoors, visiting the Adirondack Mountains numerous times to hike and climb, becoming one of the first Adirondack Forty-Sixers. He also traveled to the Alaskan wilderness and authored numerous articles and publications, including the 1933 bestselling book Arctic Village.

A scientist with a Doctor of Philosophy in plant physiology, Marshall became independently wealthy after the death of his father. He was also a supporter of socialism and civil liberties[1] and held two significant public posts during his life: chief of forestry in the Bureau of Indian Affairs, from 1933 to 1937, and head of recreation management in the Forest Service, from 1937 to 1939. Defining wilderness as a social as well as an environmental ideal, Marshall was the first to suggest a formal, national organization of individuals dedicated to the preservation of primeval land.[2] In 1935 he became one of the principal founders of The Wilderness Society and personally provided a majority of the Society's funding in its first years.

Marshall died of heart failure at the age of 38, but 25 years later, partly as a result of his efforts, The Wilderness Society became responsible for passing the Wilderness Act, which legally defined the wilderness of the United States and protected some nine million acres (36,000 km²) of federal land. Today, Marshall is considered largely responsible for the wilderness preservation movement. Several landmarks and areas, including The Bob Marshall Wilderness in Montana and Mount Marshall in the Adirondacks, were named in his honor.

Verplanck Colvin

Verplanck Colvin (1847–1920) was a lawyer, author, illustrator and topographical engineer whose understanding and appreciation for the environment of the Adirondack Mountains led to the creation of New York's Forest Preserve and the Adirondack Park. During the summer of 1869 he climbed Mount Marcy, and in 1870 made the first recorded ascent of Seward Mountain. During the ascent of Seward, Colvin saw the extensive damage being done by lumbermen in the Adirondacks. His report of the climb tied clear-cutting of Adirondack forests to reduced water flow in the state's canals and rivers. The continuation of his topographical survey spanned almost three decades and took him to every mountain, river and lake in the Adirondack Park.

In 1872 he applied to New York State for a stipend to cover the costs of a survey; he was subsequently named to the newly created post of Superintendent of the Adirondack Survey and given a \$1000 budget by the state legislature to institute a survey of the Adirondacks. He proved to be an able administrator, managing crews of up to 100 men separated by difficult terrain with only primitive communication methods. He also designed and built many of the tools needed for the job, including a

folding canvas boat, and a wind powered spinning reflector to enable precise sighting of a mountain top from many miles away.

In 1873 he wrote a report arguing that if the Adirondack watershed was allowed to deteriorate, it would threaten the viability of the Erie Canal, which was then vital to New York's economy, and that the entire Adirondack region should therefore be protected by the creation of a state forest preserve. He was subsequently appointed superintendent of the New York state land survey, which led to the creation of the Adirondack Forest Preserve in 1885. His work ended in 1900 when then Governor Theodore Roosevelt transferred his duties to the state engineer

John Muir

John Muir was born in Dunbar, Scotland and died in Los Angeles, California. His family immigrated to Wisconsin to work a series of hard scrabble farms. He studied the natural sciences at the university of Wisconsin but never graduated. After recovering from blindness caused by an industrial accident, he began 40 years of wandering the wilderness of North America. Muir's great contribution to wilderness preservation was to successfully promote the idea that wilderness had spiritual as well as economic value through his extensive nature writings. His writings and experiences influenced President Theodore Roosevelt to create the National Park Service two years after Muir's death.

Wilderness Knowledge

Common Loons

Loons are seen by many as symbols of the Adirondacks. These large birds are at home on water, but are too bulky to walk on land. They typically nest at the edge of islands, where the eggs are protected from predators. Loons feed on fish. They can dive underwater for up to a minute and go as deep as 250 feet down.

Loons are perhaps best known for their haunting wails or "laughs" that carry far across the water. Loons can live to be 25 years old. Adirondack loons winter along the Atlantic Ocean shore and typically return to the same lake each summer.

Loons face several threats in the Adirondacks and elsewhere. They prefer quiet, undisturbed lakes, which are becoming fewer due to development. Also, loons need to feed on fish, and acid rain has killed the fish in many lakes (including Long Pond where loons have previously nested at Massawepie). Loons are easily poisoned by lead fishing sinkers, which for that reason can no longer be sold in New York. They can be trapped in fishing line as well. To help save the loons, please use non-lead sinkers when fishing, don't leave fishing line behind and never disturb a Loon or its nest.

If you listen carefully to the call of the loon, you will soon begin to be able to distinguish between the various calls. Four of the most common calls of the Loon are the:

Wail - sounds like a ghostly wolf howl, tailing off at the end - used by one loon to call to another at a distance
Tremolo - sounds like a weird laugh - used when a loon is frightened or disturbed; tremolo is the only sounds loons make when flying

Yodel - has call pitch slowly going up and down - an aggressive call given only by males, for example during territorial disputes; sounds different for each male

Hoot - short, simple call - used to maintain contact within family groups.

Ospreys

Members of the Eagle family, Ospreys are very large birds. They build nests of large sticks high in trees near water and have been doing so along Massawepie Lake for many years. They feed entirely on fish that they grasp from the water with their talons

Osprey populations declined severely starting in the 1940s due to pesticide sprays, which poisoned the birds and weakened the eggshells. After some of the sprays like DDT were banned, more ospreys are seen now.

Beavers

He walked slowly through the forest, scanning the trees around him. He was looking for the perfect tree for his purposes. Suddenly, before him stood the tree! He soon began the task of felling the tree. In short order, the tree began to fall, and he ran out of its path. Once on the ground, the tree needed to be cut into usable pieces. Soon, he had removed the trees branches, and with deft strokes, cut the trunk into manageable pieces. Using skills he learned many years before, he moved the pieces to a nearby stream and began moving them downstream. Once at the destination, he began to assemble the various pieces of the tree into a dam and a warm and dry home.

Who was he?

Paul Bunyan? Not at all! An Indian brave? Not yet! An Adirondack logger? Not even close!

He was here before the Mohawks, the Algonquins, and the Adirondack logger. He was the Beaver! The original Adirondack Lumberjack. Since its inception in 1952, Massawepie Scout Camps have honored the Beaver by using it as the official Mascot. The Beaver is also the New York State mammal.

The beaver has been around the Adirondacks for thousands of years, felling trees, damming streams, building lodges, storing food and reproducing.

American Indians called the beaver the "sacred center" of the land because this species creates rich habitats for other mammals, fish, turtles, frogs, birds and ducks. Since beavers prefer to dam streams in shallow valleys, much of the flooded area becomes wetlands. Almost half of endangered and threatened species in North America rely upon wetlands.

Besides being a keystone species, beavers reliably and economically maintain wetlands that can sponge up floodwaters (the several dams built by each colony also slows the flow of floodwaters), prevent erosion, raise the water table and act as the "earth's kidneys" to purify water. The latter occurs because several feet of silt collect upstream of older beaver dams, and toxics, such as pesticides, are broken down in the wetlands that beavers create. Thus, water downstream of dams is cleaner and requires less treatment.

Beavers' ability to change the landscape is second only to humans. But that is just one reason why we find the flat-tailed species fascinating.

Adults may weigh over 40 pounds, and beavers mate for life during their third year. Both parents care for the kits (usually one to four) that are born in the spring. The young normally stay with their parents for two years, and yearlings act as babysitters for the new litter. Wildlife rehabilitators find beavers to be gentle, reasoning beings who enjoy playing practical jokes. Once weaned, their favorite foods include water lily tubers, clover, apples and the leaves and green bark (cambium) from aspen and other fast-growing trees. Tree cutting is part of nature's cycle, and beaver pruning stimulates willows, cottonwood and aspen to regrow bushier than ever next spring. After eating, beavers use the peeled sticks to build a teepee-like lodge (house) on the shore and/or a dam.

By damming streams, beavers often raise the water level to surround their lodge with a protective moat, and create the deep water needed for winter food storage in northern climes. While other wildlife endure wintertime cold and hunger, beavers stay warm in their lodges with an underwater food cache of branches nearby. A beaver colony can consist of six or more, including parents, yearlings and kits, yet they peacefully coexist in a lodge with underwater access to the iced-up pond for four months or more in the North.

Because they breed only once a year, require streamside habitats, and two-year-olds leave home each spring to find their own territories, beavers rarely overpopulate. They are limited to a small fraction of the landscape that is close to waterways. Kits have many predators including hawks, owls and otters. Bears, wolves, dogs and coyotes can also take adults that are especially vulnerable each spring when two-year-olds seek new territories. Accidents are another frequent cause of mortality, including falls into abandoned wells, and traffic accidents. Trapping is the most common source of mortality.

By the early 1900s, beavers were almost extirpated from North America due to trapping and draining of lands for agriculture. Estimates of the current population are as low as five percent of those present prior to European settlement. Nonetheless, as beaver reclaim some former territory, conflicts with humans arise.

When conflicts arise, working with the beaver is most often the best solution. If beavers are removed from good habitat, others will normally move into the empty habitat. Survivors respond with compensatory reproduction and beavers can migrate over tens of miles. Allowing the beavers to remain while addressing the specific problem (for example, flooded roads or tree cutting), also preserves the many beaver benefits. Wetlands are decreasing worldwide, and certain programs, such as the U.S. Wetland Reserve Program, recognize the great environmental value of these vital areas by reimbursing landowners who protect wetlands. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has the Partners for Wildlife program that can provide funding, or materials, for flow. By installing flow devices, often most of the beaver wetlands can be saved, while ending the unwanted flooding

Proven, cost-effective devices, such as beaver pipes in dams, are installed to control objectionable flooding. Road flooding is a common beaver/human conflict that be solved with methods such as "exclosures," Beaver Bafflers" or Beaver Deceivers.

Year 2 BarkEater Historical Walking Tour Instructions

Hotel Childwold, erected in 1889 by the owners of the Child estate, stood in a grove of majestic forest trees. Also known as the Childwold Park Hotel, the property enjoyed 20 active years of guests from 1889 through 1909. The establishment accommodated over 300 guests and was visited by a few prominent figures, including a number of United States Presidents. Presidents McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, and Taft all stayed at the hotel. The guest register is currently housed by the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake. Addison Child named the Hotel "Childwold". The term "wold" means an open, hilly tract, which was formerly wooded.

As you take a walking tour through the woods on the property that once housed this grand hotel, you will have the opportunity to experience historical locations and find interesting relics from a time gone by.

The Walking Tour:

1. Begin outside the Central Office. Inside the Central Office, in a display case, there are a number of artifacts from the old hotel and surrounding property.
2. Leave the office, turn left on the main road (Massawepie Rd.) and continue towards Sports.
3. Just before the Sports building, turn right and follow a short path marked by a rock leading toward the Lower Showerhouse. The clearing here was at one time the Pioneer Trailblazers Site (until 2003)
4. Return back to the main road and continue walking. Turn left on the road in front of the Trek Center and walk behind the canoe rack.
5. Follow the path leading to the archery range. Here, before the archery range, is the location of The Guide House.
6. Continue by the archery range back to the main road. Across the road is a trail heading toward the lake. Head down this trail.
7. On the trail, keep left at the split, and then take a left at the cairn into the woods. To your right will be the ruins of the hotel building's basement and some iron work. Three anchor rods in a triangle are from the hotel tower and stones from the foundation of the hotel are visible at this site.
8. Continue on the short path to The Relic Pit which contains the remains of a deli slicer and a carriage, among other Hotel Childwold relics. If you continue slightly farther in, there are more pits with assorted century-old ruins.
9. Return back to the trail and take a left at the cairn. Continue on the trail to Gannett Lodge.
10. Until 1977, Gannett Lodge was the dining hall for Camp Voyageur. Since then, it has served as a winter cabin for the 1980 Olympics held in Lake Placid, a ceremony site, and a leader training location.
11. Head toward the lake and take a right onto the White Trail. Begin walking down the trail towards the Dining Hall.
12. At the Horseshoe site you will see a placard for *The Cottages* on the right side of the trail. At one time, this road was lined with cottages.
13. Continue on the trail. A little further up, by the Cranberry B site, you will find a placard for *The Big Cottage*.
14. Further up the White Trail on your left, you will find a placard indicating the site where the old Hotel Childwold *Boat House* stood on the shore over 100 years ago. A pump house currently stands on the site. At one time, this pump house was the source of Massawepie Scout Camps' water.
15. Continue on the road just a short ways to the Parade Field Road. Turn right at the fork and then continue right, across the field, to the bell. The B&O Railroad Bell was given to the camp in 1955, when it was used as a fire alarm. Today, it is rung each morning and evening at flags.
16. Back in the tree line you will see the location of the *Hotel Childwold*, marked by a placard which describes the history and grandeur of the old building.
17. Return to the White Trail and continue down the road towards the Dining Hall. Just before the Loren R. Hakes Campfire Circle, you will find a placard indicating the location of another lakeside cottage, known as the *George Sykes Cottage*.
18. Looking at the right, stands the Fay Lodge (Pioneer Dining Hall). The dining hall was built in 1952 and houses wooden plaques put there by troops and program areas for over 60 years.

**Congratulations, you have now finished the Year 2 BarkEater Historical Trail and are one step closer in your journey.

Year 2 BarkEater Historical Trail Questionnaire

Use this Questionnaire to quiz scouts during or after the Historical Trail has been completed in order to help Scout remember more about the camp. The answer sheet follows on the next page.

The Cottages

1. How many cottages were on the property? _____
2. What famous city would guests come from? _____
3. Name one of the cottages mentioned on the walk. _____

The Boat House

1. Based on the original Childwold brochure, how many miles long is Lake Massawepie? _____
2. Name 3 types of fish mentioned that were in the lakes and ponds. _____,
_____, _____
3. What old building can you see from this post that still exists today? _____

The George V. Sykes & Family Cottage

1. The Childwold Park Hotel was open from the year _____ until _____.
2. Why did the hotel close in 1909? _____
3. In September of 1951, _____ acres of land was purchase for \$ _____.

The BIG Cottage

1. What is another name for the BIG cottage? _____
2. In what year was the BIG cottage torn down? _____
3. If travelling from New York City, what was most likely the method of transportation a guest would use? _____ and _____.

Hotel Childwold on Lake Massawepie

1. Childwold Park was approximately how many acres? _____
2. Give at least 3 examples of recreation at the Hotel. _____, _____, _____

3. The Hotel was _____ stories plus a tower, and at full capacity could hold _____ people.

Questionnaire Answers

The Cottages

1. How many cottages were on the property? 18
2. What famous city would guests come from? New York City
3. Name one of the cottages mentioned on the walk. Tamarach Cottage

The Boat House

1. Based on the original Childwold brochure, how many miles long is Lake Massawepie? Three (3)
2. Name 3 types of fish mentioned that were in the lakes and ponds. Lake trout, brook trout, bass
3. What old building can you see from this post that still exists today? pumphouse

The George V. Sykes & Family Cottage

1. The Childwold Park Hotel was open from the year 1889 until 1909.
2. Why did the hotel close in 1909? The business collapsed or economic influences
3. In September of 1951, 2850 acres of land was purchase for \$105,000.

The BIG Cottage

1. What is another name for the BIG cottage? Wahigun Cottage
2. In what year was the BIG cottage torn down? 1952
3. If travelling from New York City, what was most likely the method of transportation a guest would use? train and stage coach.

Hotel Childwold on Lake Massawepie

1. Childwold Park was approximately how many acres? 6,000
2. Give at least 3 examples of recreation at the Hotel. Library, Sun Parlor, Bowling Alleys, Basket Ball, Billiard Room, Tennis Courts, Ball Field, Golf, donkey ride for children.
3. The Hotel was 4 stories plus a tower, and at full capacity could hold 200 to 250 people.

More Information about the BarkEater Program

If you have any questions about the BarkEater program, please ask the BarkEater Director or your commissioner. Stop by the Central Office if you require assistance finding these people.