

Leader's Guide



WINTER BLAST

at Camp Durant

January 16-18, 2026

Table of Contents

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Page</u>
Welcome and Contacts	3
Details, Dates, and Fees	4
What's new for 2026	5
General Information	6
Open Camp Areas	7
Meals	7
Menu	10
Camping Info	10
Arrival & Departure Information	11
Polar Splash Information	12
Hoodie Information	12
Schedule	13
Merit Badge Class List	14
Merit Badge Scheduling Matrix	15
Individual Planning Worksheet	16
FAQ	17

Welcome

On behalf of the entire staff, welcome to the
8th Annual Winter Blast at Camp Durant

We are sure you will have an awesome experience and the staff is ready to deliver the best program possible. The materials contained in this guide will assist you in preparing for your camping and merit badge class experience. Please note that this information is what we have planned at this time, but all details are subject to change. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility!

We look forward to a great weekend in January with all of you!

Contacts

Chairman: Scott Sublett 919-389-6635 14scott.sublett@gmail.com

Staff Advisor: Michael Morrell Michael.morrell@Scouting.org

Camp Office: 910-948-2382 (Call during event)

Raleigh Office: 919-872-4884

Ranger's Residence: 910-948-3258 (emergency only)

Location

Camp Durant ~ 4637 Old Carthage Road ~ Carthage, NC 28237

Details, Dates, & Fees

Registration:

- Both unit registration and class registration open at 6 PM on Nov 3, 2026.
- ***Please note – all registrations must have a Scout's name attached. Units may not register generic Scouts as placeholders. Council will be monitoring registrations and will remove placeholders.***
- Registrations are not final until paid in full.

Fees:

Scouts: \$100.00

Adults: \$50.00

Instructors: FREE
(requires prior approval to register as an instructor)

Leadership:

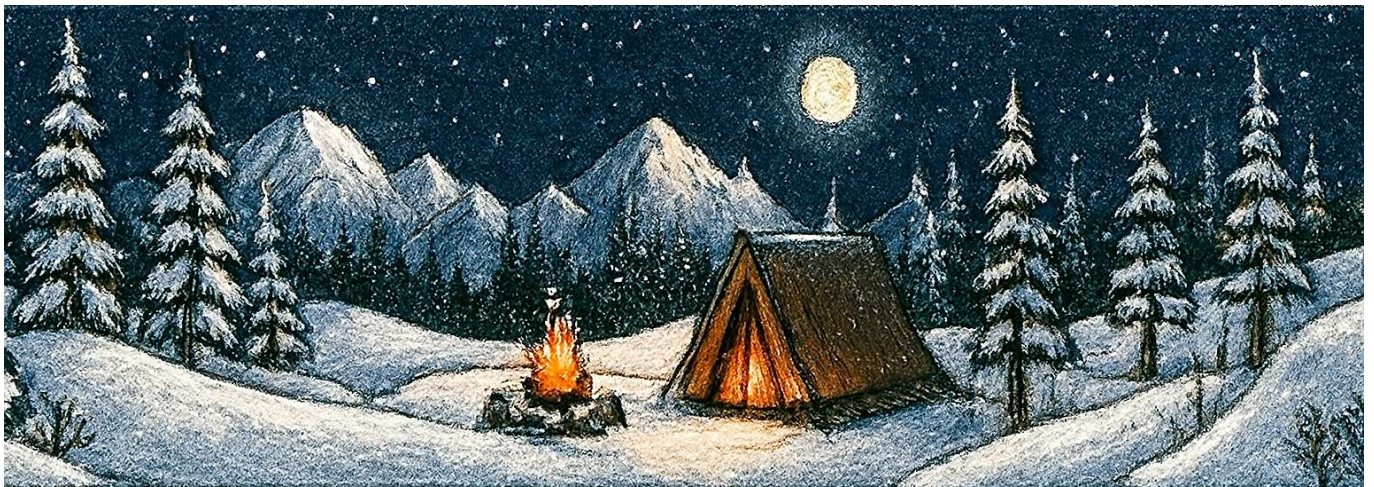
- Each Scout Unit is required to be accompanied by registered Unit Leaders. Units must have two-deep leadership in accordance with Youth Protection Guidelines [female units must have an attending registered female leader].
 - While we will do our best to assign linked B&G troops to the same site (A vs. B sides), this may not be possible. If it is not, you will be notified ahead of time so you can prepare accordingly.
- We are now also accepting provisional Scouts for those who want to attend even though their troop is not. Scouts will be attached to another troop who will provide supervision.

Information Meetings:

- There will be virtual meetings offered on January 6th and January 8th at 7 PM. A Unit Representative (adult leader) only needs to attend one of the meetings.
 - A meeting link will be emailed to the unit contact that registered your unit in Black Pug.
 - The link will also be available on the council website and social media pages.
 - Details will also be emailed to unit leaders.
- A unit leader & SPL meeting will also be held in the Grand Lodge on January 16th at 9:30pm.
- **Merit badge instructors will have separate information meetings, January 6th and January 8th at 8 PM (after the Unit Leader meeting).** Instructors only need to attend one meeting.

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2026?

- We're growing!
 - We are adding new class locations to allow for more sScouts to participate!
- New registration style
 - Fully paid registrants can immediately select merit badge classes.
- New Schedule!
 - The event will end on Sunday, 8 pm, after dinner and a brief closing ceremony.
- New Merit Badges!
 - Cycling (mountain biking option)
 - Digital Technology
 - Geology
 - Welding
 - Mining in Society
 - Music
 - Extra Golf classes (disc golf option)!
 - Railroading
 - Truck Transportation



General Information

Medical Needs

- All youth and adult attendees must bring current, signed BSA Personal Health and Medical Record Parts A, B1, and B2 with a current copy of their health insurance card. These will remain with Unit Leaders during camp.
 - https://filestore.Scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf
- Unit Leaders are responsible for administering medications and keeping them secured.
- There will be a staff medic based in the Grand Lodge to assist with medical emergencies; however, the unit leaders are the first source of aid for an injured Scout. The camp utilizes 911 services for Moore County.

Emergencies

- If a camp-wide emergency is declared, the siren will be signaled, and everyone will be required to immediately report to the flag pole area at the Grand Lodge. Leaders will account for All members (youth and adults) and wait for further instruction from event staff.

Uniforms

- Activity Uniform (Class B) is acceptable for all Winter Blast activities and classes.
- Please note: It will be cold and merit badges will be held outside. Dress appropriately.
- May we suggest that the 2026 Winter Blast hoodie would be a great fashion statement?

Refunds

- The refund policy for this event can be found in Black Pug on the registration page.

Leaving Camp/Visitors

- For your protection, all campers (youth and adult) who leave camp must check out with Admin Staff at the Grand Lodge.
 - If a youth must leave camp and is picked up by a parent or guardian, they must be accompanied to the Grand Lodge check out by a unit leader to verify the adult's authority to pick up the youth.
- No visitors will be allowed on site during the event

Open Camp Areas

Trading Post

- The trading post will be in operation during the event.
- Hours will be limited. MasterCard and VISA will be accepted.

Adult Leader Lounge

Located below the Grand Lodge, the Grill area will be the place adult leaders can gather for coffee and hang out in an indoor space with access to restrooms and Wi-Fi.

Meals

Meals

- All meals will be served in the Grand Lodge Dining Hall. Please check the schedule for menus and times.
- Seating areas will be assigned based on campsite. Each unit is responsible for cleaning their tables and the floor in their dining area after each meal. Brooms, dust pans, cleaning towels, and cleaning spray will be provided.
- **Allergies / food restrictions**
 - We will only be able to provide vegetarian, nut-free, and dairy-free options. These must be requested in Black Pug during registration. On-site requests may not be able to be accommodated.
 - If a camper has any other restrictions, they will need to provide their own food. Cold storage will be available for these individuals. Microwave ovens are available for use as well.
- **Service Opportunity**
 - At each meal there is a need for servers in the kitchen. Unit leaders should register their adults and Scouts via Black Pug to volunteer to serve one meal at the event.

Menu

Please be advised that the food prepared in the Grand Lodge Kitchen contains, may contain, or come into contact with the common food allergens: Dairy, Eggs, Wheat, Soy, Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Sesame, Fish, Shellfish. For product ingredients list, refer to the bulletin board in the kitchen

The kitchen is unable to accommodate every food allergy and dietary need. A fridge and microwave will be available for anyone who needs to bring their own food.

For any questions regarding the menu, email Mitch Sandman or Tina Deagan at lodge104food@gmail.com

SATURDAY'S MENU

Saturday Breakfast

Mountain Man Casserole (potatoe, egg, cheese)*
Pork sausage link*, Biscuit, Country Sausage Gravy
Self serve: apples, yogurt, berries, cereal
Drinks: milk, juice, coffee, water

Saturday Lunch

Hot Dog*, Beef Chili
Chips, Cookies
Self Serve: Apples, Soup, & Salad Bar
Drinks: coffee, water

TO-GO MEALS: Home Repair, Climbing, and Aviation classes

Saturday Dinner

Roasted Chicken*, Green Beans, Dinner Roll
Apple Cobbler
Self Serve: Apples, Soup, & Salad Bar
Drinks: coffee, water

SUNDAY'S MENU

Sunday Breakfast

Country Fried Steak, Scrambled eggs
Biscuit, Country Sausage Gravy
Self serve: apples, yogurt, berries, cereal
Drinks: milk, juice, coffee, water

Sunday Lunch

Chicken Strips*
Mac & cheese, Mandarin oranges
Cookies
Self Serve: Apples, Soup, and Salad Bar
Drinks: coffee, water
TO-GO MEALS: Home Repair, Climbing, and Aviation classes

Sunday Dinner

Lasagna*
Bread Sticks, Broccoli
Cake
Self Serve: Apples, Soup, and Salad Bar
Drinks: coffee, water

*** Vegetarian, dairy friendly, and gluten free options will be available. If you have medical or religious dietary restrictions, you must fill out the dietary questionnaire during registration (use link or QR code). (<https://247scouting.com/forms/421-DietaryQuestionnaire>)**



Camping Information

How are campsites assigned?

- Campsites will be assigned by camp staff based on unit size.
- While we will do our best to assign linked B&G troops to the same site, this may not be possible. If it is not, you will be notified ahead of time so you can plan accordingly.

Will there be a working sink in the campsite?

- Camp has been winterized, so we are working with limited facilities. Toilets are available in the site. Sinks and showers may not be working. Handwashing stations will be provided if sinks are not functional.

What if we want to stay over Sunday night?

- The event is over on Sunday. If you want to stay Sunday night, you will indicate so in the troop's registration. Please note that there are no planned evening activities, no available indoor spaces, no medic, and no Monday breakfast.

Can we have campfires?

- We sure hope so! Camp must follow the mandates of Moore County Emergency Management and the Fire Marshal regarding fire safety.



Arrival Process

Check in at the Grand Lodge

- Each vehicle arriving in camp should proceed to the Grand Lodge for check-in.
 - Send in one adult (please have everyone else remain in the vehicle) to check in the vehicle.
 - If multiple vehicles from the same group arrive simultaneously, only one adult needs to come into the Grand Lodge.
- At this time, you will be given your campsite assignment and any pre-purchased hoodies.
- Vehicles may then proceed to the site to drop off gear and Scouts.

Parking

- After drop-off, all vehicles must be moved to the Admin parking lot near the camp entrance.
- Units are permitted to park one vehicle and/or trailer at their assigned campsites for their convenience. Once parked, the vehicle can not be moved until check-out Sunday evening.

Driving in Camp

- Only official camp vehicles and approved staff can drive in camp.

Departure Process

Check out at the Grand Lodge (Sunday night)

- Units will check out from the event after dinner and brief closing ceremony on Sunday night at the Grand Lodge. Exit packets will be handed out at that time.
- Prior to departure, showerhouses need to be swept out, trash taken to the dumpster, and fires put out and cold to the touch.
- All troops should plan to be out of camp by 8 PM on Sunday night.
 - If a troop needs to stay over Sunday night *and has indicated such in their registration*, they will still need to check out with the event staff on Sunday evening, then return to their campsite for the rest of the night and depart camp Monday morning by 10am.

Final Advancement Reports & “blue cards”

- Will be in Black Pug

Polar Splash

What would Winter Blast be without the Polar Splash???

Embrace your inner polar bear and take the plunge at the Camp Durant waterfront. Those that brave the frigid waters will receive bragging rights and a polar splash patch.



Winter Blast Hoodie

Get your very own Winter Blast Hoodie - the perfect home for your newly earned Polar Splash patch!

Place your order during registration (in Black Pug) no later than **Friday, December 21st, 2025.**



Same price as last year! Only \$40 (\$45 for 2XL and larger)

Hoodies will be distributed during check-in.

Winter Blast Schedule

Please note: Schedule is tentative & subject to change

FRIDAY:

5:00 – 9:00	Check-in at Grand Lodge
6:00 – 9:00	Instructors drop off materials to class locations
9:30-10:00	Unit leader / SPL meeting in the Grand Lodge

SATURDAY:

7:15	Troop Assembly- Grand Lodge flag poles
7:30-8:30	Breakfast in Grand Lodge
9:00-12:00	Merit Badge Session 1
12:15	Lunch Troop Assembly – Grand Lodge flag poles
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch in Grand Lodge & Polar Splash at the waterfront
2:00-5:00	Merit Badge Session 2
5:15	Evening Troop Assembly Grand Lodge flag poles
5:30-6:30	Dinner in Grand Lodge
7:00- 10:00	Merit Badge Session 3

SUNDAY:

7:15	Morning Troop Assembly - Grand Lodge flag poles
7:30-8:30	Breakfast in Grand Lodge
9:00-12:00	Merit Badge Session 4
12:15	Lunch Troop Assembly – Grand Lodge flag poles
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch in Grand Lodge
2:00-5:00	Merit Badge Session 5
5:15	Evening Troop Assembly Grand Lodge flag poles
5:30-6:30	Dinner in Grand Lodge & Closing Assembly
6:30-8:00	Troop check out and depart for home

Merit Badge Classes

- Classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis via Black Pug registration. Scouts are not guaranteed to get their first choice of classes. Classes will be limited in seating capacity. All Scouts should be registered for classes in both day and evening sessions.
- All merit badge selections are final once registration closes.
- Not all badges can be completed at camp. Pre and post requisites may apply. Winter Blast instructors are generally happy to work with Scouts to finalize any remaining requirements after Winter Blast.
- The merit badges listed below are those we plan to offer pending instructor availability

American Business
 American Heritage
 Archery^A
 Art
 Artificial Intelligence
 Astronomy
 Automotive Maintenance^C
 Aviation^C
 Backpacking
 Basketry
 Camping
 Chemistry
 Chess
 Citizenship in the Community
 Citizenship in the Nation
 Citizenship in the World
 Climbing^C
 Communication
 Cycling (mountain biking option)
 Digital Technology
 Emergency Preparedness^A
 Environmental Science^A
 Electricity
 Fingerprinting + Crime Prevention
 Fire Safety
 First Aid^A
 Fishing
 Geology

Golf (disc golf option)
 Home Repairs^C
 Indian Lore
 Leatherwork
 Mining in Society
 Music
 Nature
 Orienteering & Geocaching
 Personal Fitness^A
 Personal Management^B
 Photography
 Pioneering
 Pulp and Paper
 Radio
 Railroading
 Rifle Shooting^A
 Safety
 Scouting Heritage
 Search and Rescue
 Shotgun Shooting^B
 Soil and Water Conservation
 Sustainability
 Traffic Safety
 Truck Transportation
 Weather
 Welding^B
 Wood Carving

^A – Minimum age 13 by 1/16/2026

^B – Minimum age 14 and 1st class

^C – These classes are held outside of Durant or require longer sessions. Lunch will be provided at the MB location. If the class is on Saturday, registered Scouts will not be able to participate in the Polar Splash.

MB Scheduling Matrix*

Class Nbr	Class Title	Fee	Saturday 9a - 12p Classes	Saturday 2p - 5p Classes	Saturday 7p - 10p	Sunday 9a - 12p Classes	Sunday 2p - 5p Classes	Addl Info
MB103	American Business		A				B	
MB104	American Heritage		A			B		
MB239	Archery (Winter Blast)		A	A		B	B	Min age: 13
MB110	Art		A			B		
MB262	Artificial Intelligence (AI) (2025 version)		A			B		
MB111	Astronomy				A			
MB113	Automotive Maintenance		A	A		B	B	Min age: 14
MB114	Aviation		A	A				
MB115	Backpacking			A	B		C	
MB116	Basketry				B		A	
MB101	Camping		A	D		B	C	
MB227	Chess		A				B	
MB122	Citizenship in the Community		A	C	D		B	
MB123	Citizenship in the Nation		A			B		
MB248	Citizenship in the Nation (Winter Blast)		A		C	B		
MB124	Citizenship in the World			A				
MB249	Citizenship in the World (Winter Blast)			B	C		A	
MB125	Climbing		A	A		B	B	
MB128	Communication		A	C		B		
MB259	Crime Prevention (2025 version), Fingerprinting (2025 version)				A			
MB133	Cycling		A	B		C	D	
MB236	Digital Technology			B	A		C	
MB240	Emergency Preparedness (Winter Blast)		B	B		A	A	Min age: 13
MB241	Environmental Science (Winter Blast)			B		A		Min age: 13
MB244	First Aid (Winter Blast)		A	A		B	B	Min age: 13
MB151	Fishing		A			B		Min rank: First Class
MB250	Geocaching (2019 version), Orienteering (2013 version)			A			B	
MB260	Geology (2023 version), Mining in Society (2022 version)			A			B	
MB157	Golf		A	C		B	D	
MB160	Home Repairs		A	A		B	B	
MB162	Indian Lore				B		A	
MB167	Leatherwork			A			B	
MB174	Music				A			
MB175	Nature			B	C	A		
MB242	Personal Fitness (Winter Blast)		A			B		Min age: 13
MB245	Personal Management (Winter Blast)				B	A		Min age: 14
MB184	Photography		A			B		Min rank: First Class
MB191	Pulp and Paper				A			
MB192	Radio		A			B		
MB193	Railroading		B		A			
MB243	Rifle Shooting (Winter Blast)		A	A		B	B	Min age: 13
MB198	Safety				A			
MB230	Scouting Heritage				B		A	
MB226	Search and Rescue		D	C		A	B	
MB246	Shotgun Shooting (Winter Blast)		A	A		B	B	Min age: 14
MB238	Signs, Signals, and Codes			B			A	Min rank: First Class
MB206	Soil and Water Conservation		A	A				
MB235	Sustainability			B			A	
MB214	Traffic Safety			A	B			
MB216	Truck Transportation			B	A		C	
MB219	Weather		A		C	B		
MB232	Welding		A	C		B	D	Min age: 14
MB222	Wood Carving		A			B		Min rank: First Class

*Latest update is on the Black Pug registration site under "Attachments."

Individual Scout Planning Worksheet

For Internal Unit Use Only

There are three Merit Badge Sessions on Saturday and two on Sunday, giving each Scout the opportunity to work on at least five different merit badges. The schedule is the same for both days. Some badges require more than one session. For each session, choose a first, second, and third choice writing them in the spaces below. Return this completed form to your unit leader. Online registration will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Scout Name: _____

Age on January 16, 2026: _____

Rank on January 16, 2026:

_____ Scout _____ Tenderfoot _____ Second Class
 _____ First Class _____ Star _____ Life _____ Eagle

Session	Times	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	3 rd Choice
SAT AM	9:00-12:00			
SAT PM	2:00-5:00			
SAT night	7:00-10:00			
SUN AM	9:00-12:00			
SUN PM	2:00-5:00			

FAQ

Is there any way we can help?

- Yes! We are still looking for merit badge counselors! Contact Scott Sublett to volunteer!
- Yes! We need help serving meals. There is a check box in Black Pug as you register your troop where you can indicate your willingness to volunteer.
- Yes! We need groups to do flag ceremonies. There is a check box in Black Pug as you register your troop where you can indicate your willingness to volunteer.
- Yes! Is your troop coming via bus, minibus, or large van? Would you be willing to help transport Scouts to off-site (but nearby) merit badge sessions? There is a check box in Black Pug as you register your troop where you can indicate your willingness to volunteer to drive.
- Yes! We'd love some help setting up and tearing down. If you (adults) are available to arrive Friday morning or stay after troops depart on Sunday, we would appreciate the help! Contact Scott Sublett to volunteer @ 14scott.sublett@gmail.com

Where are Scouts expected to be when they are not in class?

- All Scouts are expected to be taking merit badge classes during all daytime sessions.
- If a Scout does not have a class, troop leaders should be prepared to provide oversight which adheres to BSA Youth Protection policies.
 - The Grand Lodge will not be open to Scouts and all indoor spaces available will be used for merit badge sessions.

Where can I find a camp map?

- A printable map is available here: <https://campdurant.com/download/2743/>
- Classes will be held throughout camp; personal schedules will include locations.

Will there be any camp wide activities?

- Flag Ceremonies & gathering before each meal at the Grand Lodge.
- There will be no camp wide ceremonies, campfires, or vesper services.
- Polar Splash at the waterfront

How will Unit Leaders receive communication from staff during the weekend?

- Staff will be in the Grand Lodge and available via the camp radio network during the event.
 - For non-emergent issues, we will find unit leaders in their campsite, or elsewhere in camp.
 - For emergent issues, we will take immediate appropriate action and contact all event staff and/or unit leaders via radio and/or cell phone.

What if we have questions during the weekend?

- Winter Blast staff will be at the Grand Lodge to assist unit leaders when needed. Scouts should go to their unit leaders for assistance first.



See You Soon!