



# CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH

## Leader's Guide

October 2nd – 4th, 2026

Camp Tuscarora

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/424-fallcamporee>

Tuscarora Council:  
Open Monday -Friday  
8:30am -5:00pm  
919-734-1714  
<https://tuscarorabsa.org/>



## Welcome & Introduction

Join Troops from the Tuscarora and Torhunta Councils for a weekend of camping, competition, and celebration as we mark the 250th anniversary of the United States! This year's Camporee will feature patriotic, USA-themed activities and inter-troop competitions throughout the weekend, including everyone's favorite: the shooting range. Scouts will camp, compete, and connect with fellow Scouts from across both Councils in a celebration of Scouting spirit and American history.

## Key Contacts

| Role                          | Name             | Email                                                                            | Phone          |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Camporee Chief                | Laura Hoffman    | <a href="mailto:laurahoffman723@gmail.com">laurahoffman723@gmail.com</a>         | 919-434-9740   |
| Competitive Activity Chair    |                  |                                                                                  |                |
| Non-Competitive Act Chair     |                  |                                                                                  |                |
| Range & Target Sports Chair   | Chuck Green      | <a href="mailto:cgreen2525@yahoo.com">cgreen2525@yahoo.com</a>                   | (919) 920-0346 |
| Neusiok District Chair        | Daniel Broadwell | <a href="mailto:danielbroadwell@gmail.com">danielbroadwell@gmail.com</a>         | 919-809-0332   |
| Neusiok District Commissioner | Chuck Robison    | <a href="mailto:chuckrob958@gmail.com">chuckrob958@gmail.com</a>                 | (919) 418-0232 |
| Neusiok District Executive    | Matthew Ghirarda | <a href="mailto:Matthew.Ghirarda@Scouting.org">Matthew.Ghirarda@Scouting.org</a> | (919) 734-1714 |
| Torhunta District Executive   | Ethan Nichols    | <a href="mailto:ethan.nichols@scouting.org">ethan.nichols@scouting.org</a>       | (919) 734-1714 |
| Program Director              | Trey Eskrisge    | <a href="mailto:james.eskridge2@scouting.org">james.eskridge2@scouting.org</a>   | (919) 734-1714 |
| Camp Ranger                   | Tim Wuertzer     |                                                                                  | (919) 921-1750 |
| Scout Executive               | Kirk Mayes       | <a href="mailto:Kirk.Mayes@Scouting.org">Kirk.Mayes@Scouting.org</a>             | (919) 734-1714 |

## Schedule at a Glance

*Trading Post will be open throughout the weekend at select times.*

| FRIDAY        |                                                                                 |                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Time          | Activity                                                                        | Location        |
| 5:00 PM       | Check-in & Registration begins                                                  | Headquarters    |
| 7:00 PM       | Check-in & Registration closes                                                  |                 |
| 8:00 PM       | Leader's Meeting                                                                | Amphitheater    |
| 10:00 PM      | Taps & lights out                                                               | Campsites       |
|               | Gates to all camping areas will be locked until after worship service on Sunday |                 |
| SATURDAY      |                                                                                 |                 |
| 6:30 AM       | Reveille & Breakfast                                                            | Campsites       |
| 8:45 AM       | Opening flag ceremony and Unit Call Outs                                        | Flag poles      |
| 9:00 AM       | Events & Activities begin                                                       | Campwide        |
| 12:00 PM      | Lunch                                                                           | Unit Campsite   |
| 2:00- 4:00 PM | Scout Events & Activities end                                                   | Campwide        |
| 5:00 PM       | Flag lowering ceremony                                                          | Flag poles      |
| 5:15 PM       | Troop Dinner                                                                    | Unit Campsite   |
| 6:30 PM       | "America's 250th Birthday Cake" Competition, Desserts, and games                | Peacock Shelter |
| 8:00 PM       | Closing campfire                                                                | Amphitheater    |
| 10:00 PM      | Taps & lights out                                                               | Campsites       |
| SUNDAY        |                                                                                 |                 |
| 7:00 AM       | Reveille, Breakfast, & Clean-up                                                 | Campsites       |
| 8:00 AM       | Worship service                                                                 | Amphitheater    |
| 9:00 AM       | Camp Check Out- Please see specific cleaning and check out procedures below.    |                 |
| 10:30 AM      | Camp closes — all units must be checked out                                     |                 |

## Registration & Fees

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Registration with T-shirts closes September 18th, 2026, at 5:00 PM!

### Registration Fee

- All Scouts & Adults – \$30 (includes patch and T-shirt; must register by Sept. 18th to receive a shirt)
- Deadline to register is September 18 by close of business (5:00pm)
- registration made on Sept 19 - October 1 will not be eligible for a T-shirt.
- There will be no late fee

## Camp Guidelines & Important Information

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### Campsites

Campsites will be assigned to units based on their size. Packs and Troops may camp together. Please advise the staff of any special accommodations the unit may need, and consideration will be given when assigning campsites.

- Units may be asked to share campsites with other units based on the number of campers and the size of their unit.

### Parking

We highly encourage condensing vehicles and units bringing as few vehicles as possible. Parking may be limited, so please be patient and understanding upon arrival. Just because you “normally” park there does not necessarily mean you can park there during this event.

- Please adhere to all signage and staff guidance regarding where to park. Remember that our camp must be maintained, and following our parking procedures will allow us to minimize our impact on the camp.

### General Do's & Don'ts

#### Do:

- Follow the Guide to Safe Scouting
- Wear closed-toe shoes
- Follow Leave No Trace (LNT)
- Follow Camp Tuscarora's Rules

#### Don't:

- Dig for any reason! You'll have to answer to Ranger Tim.
- Ride in the back of trucks
- Speed on camp property
- Burn fires directly on the ground
- Leave vehicles in campsites
- Leave trash in campsites

## Fires at Camp

Units are allowed to have campfires in their campsites, in the fire rings, as long as there is no local burn ban in effect. Most sites, but not all, will have a permanent fire ring for units to use. If your campsite does not have a permanent fire ring, units are responsible for bringing their own fire pit, fire ring, or fire barrel to use for campfires.

**All fires must be built off of the ground and contained within the fire ring or a pan raised off of the ground.**

- Please DO NOT dig holes for fires.
- Campfires must be attended at all times, including when the Scouts are participating in activities. If the fire is going to be unattended, it needs to be extinguished immediately.
- You may bring firewood or use wood that is dead and down. DO NOT cut standing trees!
- Make sure all fires are completely extinguished and COLD before leaving camp!

## Camp Clean Up and Sign Out

As Scouts, we value our camp and leave it better than we found it. Clean is part of the Scout Law, and we ask all adults to model that value by taking responsibility for making sure our campsites and assigned areas are clean before departure.

- Each unit will be assigned a specific area to clean on Sunday morning before the unit is dismissed.
- Cleaning assignments will be distributed Friday evening so units have time to plan accordingly.
- Each unit should designate an adult as the Sunday Morning Sign-Out Person. This adult will be responsible for retrieving the unit's medical forms and making sure the campsite and assigned cleaning area have been checked and approved before the unit leaves.
- Adults, please make sure your scouts complete their cleaning responsibilities. Our Scouts learn by watching us, and caring for our camp is an important part of living the Scout Law.

## Other Reminders

- Remember to bring Medical Forms (Parts A & B) for all registered campers.
- Leaders must be up to date on all required trainings.

## Special Opportunities

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Troops will have several opportunities to show scout spirit and celebrate the 250th Birthday of America.

### Morning Call Out

During morning flags troops will have an opportunity to perform a call out. These can be creative and represent the troop, council, theme, etc. Get creative and bring your troop flag!

### America's 250th Theme Birthday Cake Competition and Games

Help us celebrate America's birthday with delicious desserts to share! Each participating troop may enter one "America's 250th Birthday" themed cake in the competition. One adult from each participating troop will serve as a judge.

- Please deliver your competition dessert to the Peacock Shelter by 6:15 PM.
- Your entry can be a large dessert that would be enough to feed your troop or a smaller dessert created specifically for the competition.
- Please bring enough dessert for everyone in your troop. If your competition entry is not large enough to share, bring an additional dessert for everyone to enjoy.
- Get creative for the desserts to share! Think homemade ice cream, donut holes, fruit crisp, skillet treats, "SURPRISE" foil wraps, dessert skewers and more! Have fun, get creative, and let's celebrate America's birthday in delicious style!
- After the judging and desserts, enjoy an evening of games and activities, including gaga ball, basketball, and more, until it's time for the campfire.

### Campfire Skits and Jokes

Show off your showmanship and celebrate America's advancement throughout the last 250 years. Think about the major events in America's history.

## Troop/Crew/Post/Ship Competition Events — All Day Saturday

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The following is a list of possible events that will occur throughout the day on Saturday. Units will earn points based on their respective performance at each event. Awards will be given to Patrols based on their total score at the end of Saturday.

### "Walking the Plank", With a Buddy

While facing a buddy and standing palm to palm, move down the V-shaped planks, which get farther and farther apart. Use your balance with your partner to stay on the beams. This is a distance competition.

### Supply Run

We need to go get supplies at night, and all we have is a compass. While wearing a paper grocery bag over your head so you can only see the compass, you'll be given a direction (in degrees). Use the compass to take 50 steps in that direction, turn 180 degrees, and take 50 steps back. A flag will mark where you stopped to show how close you were to the original starting point. Closest to the pin wins!

### The Liberty Bell

Transport the Liberty Bell without it making a sound. Build a tripod and a triangle using proper lashings, attach the triangle to the bottom of the tripod for support, and attach the "bell" to the top so it hangs in the middle. Transport it around the cone and back without it making a sound — each ring adds 30 seconds to your time.

## Constitutional Concentration

Test your knowledge of the US Constitution in this timed game.

## Non-Competitive Activities -All Day Saturday

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### Handicraft Activities:

- **Build a Custom Camp-wide Flag** – Upon check-in, each troop will be given materials and instructions to help create a camp flag. Troops will return these finished items to headquarters by lunch time on Saturday. They will then be assembled into a custom Tuscarora Council 2026 Camporee flag.
- **Red, White, and Blue Paracord Craft Station** – Attendees will have the opportunity to make paracord bracelets, keychains, or woggles to take home. Feel free to bring a different color and join the fun!

### Merit Badge on Offer:

- Travis Alford from Troop 421 has offered to teach the Bugling Merit Badge as part of this event. He will offer one morning session and one afternoon session to those Scouts interested in beginning this merit badge. Scouts will need to serve as the Bugler for their Troop for a period in order to complete the merit badge.

### Team Building Activities:

- **Battle at Pearl Harbor** – Scouts will play a version of human battleship. On a game board made with a tarp wall and gridded tarps, two troops will attempt to eliminate all the players from the opposite team by lobbing reusable water balloons over the tarp wall at the opposite teams' grid. If a Scout from the opposite team is hit with the balloon, they are eliminated. Safety goggles will be provided and no balloons will be thrown directly at another person.
- **Crossing the Delaware** – Four scouts will use balance, teamwork, and strength to get a "barrel boat" from point A to point B. Two scouts will push the boat forward while two scouts move barrels from the back to the front, staying on the boat. Make a plan before you start!

## Range & Target Sports

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**Overview:** It is anticipated that Range and Target Sports activities for the event will include archery, throwing hawks, and rifles.

- Rifle (morning session): The morning session will be handled as an 'open shoot / practice' session. Each member of the patrol will be allowed to practice their marksmanship.
- Rifle (afternoon session): The afternoon session will be scored and handled as a 'competitive' session. Each Unit should send three (3) Scouts to shoot for score. Units participating in the afternoon session will be competing for the 'Shots Heard Round the Council' marksmanship award.

## Appendix A: Campsite Inspection Scoresheet

Tuscarora Council — Celebrating America's 250th — October 2nd–4th, 2026

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Unit Number: _____  | Patrol Name(s): _____  |
| Date: _____         | Campsite Number: _____ |
| Inspector(s): _____ |                        |

### Scoring System

| Score | Description       |
|-------|-------------------|
| 5     | Excellent         |
| 4     | Very Good         |
| 3     | Satisfactory      |
| 2     | Needs Improvement |
| 1     | Poor / Not Done   |
| 0     | Unsafe / Missing  |

### Campsite Layout & Safety (Max: 25 pts)

| Criteria                                                     | Score (0-5) | Comments |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Tents pitched safely and uniformly                           |             |          |
| Clear walkways (no trip hazards)                             |             |          |
| Fire protection tools present (bucket, extinguisher, shovel) |             |          |
| First Aid kit visible and accessible                         |             |          |
| Ax yard properly set up and marked                           |             |          |

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_\_ / 25

### Cleanliness & Organization (Max: 25 pts)

| Criteria                                           | Score (0-5) | Comments |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Camp is clean and free of trash                    |             |          |
| Gear properly stored and organized                 |             |          |
| Waste disposal system in place (trash & recycling) |             |          |
| Dishwashing/sanitation station present             |             |          |
| Personal gear properly stowed                      |             |          |

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_\_ / 25

**Scoutcraft & Functionality (Max: 25 pts)**

| Criteria                                         | Score (0-5) | Comments |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Patrol flag and/or gateway present               |             |          |
| Pioneering gadgets or camp improvements          |             |          |
| Dining area functional and clean                 |             |          |
| Cooking area safe and well-managed               |             |          |
| Evidence of Scout skills (knots, lashings, etc.) |             |          |

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_ / 25**Scout Spirit & Teamwork (Max: 15 pts)**

| Criteria                                  | Score (0-5) | Comments |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Scouts in proper uniform                  |             |          |
| Respectful behavior and teamwork observed |             |          |
| Demonstrates Scout Oath & Law             |             |          |

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_ / 15**Bonus Points (Optional) (Max: 10 pts)**

| Criteria                                       | Score (0-5) | Comments |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Creativity, theme, innovation, or extra effort |             |          |

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_ / 10

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|--------------------------------|
| <b>Final Score:</b> ____ / 100 |
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**Inspector Notes:**

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## Appendix B: Tuscarora Scout Reservation Camp Policies

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1. The Scout Oath and Law, Cub Scout Promise, Venture Oath, Outdoor Code and Sea Promise should be followed in Camp at all times.
2. The unit leader that makes the reservation is to ensure that everyone coming to camp is familiar with all the camp rules. The unit leader is responsible for compliance with all rules.
3. No person or group can use the council facilities without prior approval. Coordination must be made with the Camp Ranger or Scout Office in advance.
4. Non-Scout groups are permitted to use the council facilities depending upon availability. The use of facilities must be coordinated with the Camp Ranger and the Council Office. Out-of-council Scout groups will be charged a fee of \$7.00 per person per weekend. Non-Scouting organizations or groups will be charged a fee of \$10.00 per person per weekend.
5. All accidents, injuries, fires, or other unusual circumstances must be reported to the Camp Ranger, Assistant Ranger, or Camp Master immediately. Timely and complete incident reporting provides the council and BSA with an opportunity for analysis of incidents that occur and promotes continuous improvement of our programs.
6. Leaders must comply with the Guide to Safe Scouting. A copy is available upon request or can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>
7. All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity (minimum of two) must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in and be at least 21 years of age or older, and are required to always remain on site. Coed groups must have coed adult leadership present during the entire stay at camp. Unit leaders accept full responsibility for their members, and Youth Protection training is required for all BSA registered volunteers.
8. A unit leader must check in and out with the Camp Ranger or Camp Master upon arrival and prior to departure. The Camp Ranger or Camp Master will inspect all facilities and equipment used to ensure it is clean and returned in proper condition before the unit leaves camp.
9. Scouts and Leaders must always wear closed-toed shoes while on camp, except while showering or inside the fenced area at the waterfront.
10. Cutting of trees or changing the terrain at camp will not be permitted by any group unless prior permission is secured from the Camp Ranger. Chainsaws can only be operated by Council Trained and Approved operators.
11. Do not leave campfires unattended at any time. No flames or heaters in tents or cabins. Fires may only be built in the provided fire pits/rings; do not move fire pits/rings.
12. Recycling is important to our environment, and the Tuscarora Council encourages all units to develop a recycling program. Units are expected to deliver recycled cans and plastics to their local recycling center. Any remaining trash should be placed in garbage bags and either packed out with the recycling or placed at the designated trash area.
13. No alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, firearms, or fireworks are allowed on camp property.
14. No washing of pots and pans in the latrines or bath houses. Do not put any food or other foreign objects into any latrine or toilet.
15. Quiet time is from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. No loud noises during those times. All non-camping guests are asked to leave camp property prior to 11:00 p.m.
16. If anyone notices any unauthorized or unusual people in the camp, please notify the Ranger or Camp Master immediately.
17. The Camp Ranger, Assistant Ranger, or Camp Master has the right to expel any groups for any reason, including violations of or refusal to follow any listed rules of behavior.
18. Camp Tuscarora closes at 12:00 Noon on Sundays; all units must be out by that time.

19. Camp Tuscarora will be closed to everyone on the following days and adjoining weekends: New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Please refer to the council calendar at [www.tuscarorabsa.org](http://www.tuscarorabsa.org) for additional information or closures.

## Vehicles

20. Riding in the bed of a truck or on a trailer is strictly prohibited except for activities at an approved council or district event, such as a hayride.
21. No vehicles are allowed in campsites, around shelters, in front of gates, or along the side of any roads. Parking is only allowed in designated areas next to the Headquarters Building. When access gates are open, vehicles may be driven to campsites or program areas to unload only, then must be returned to the designated parking areas. Vehicles should never be driven off-road to cabins, buildings, or for any other purpose.
22. Troop trailers may be parked near the entrance to campsites. No camping trailers, RVs, or travel trailers are allowed in camp.
23. Generators are not allowed anywhere on Camp property. For safety reasons, units should only plug one device or extension cord into a receptacle — do not use power strips or other multipliers, and do not “daisy chain” cords to extend overall length.
24. Vehicles are not allowed to be used as sources of power in campsites.
25. Carts are provided for transporting equipment to and from campsites and are stored behind the Headquarters Building. Youth are not to ride on these carts and must be supervised when operating them. Once all gear is at the campsite, please return the cart to the storage location.

## Program Areas

26. Campers are not to go into program areas or buildings for which they have no reservations. Do not enter any areas marked as closed. Camp equipment should not be removed from one area and transported to another unless prior permission is received from the Camp Ranger. Any broken or damaged equipment should be reported to the Ranger or Camp Master ASAP so repairs can begin.
27. The Range and Target Sports areas are special use areas, and leadership must be approved in advance with the Ranger or Council Office. Privately owned rifles, handguns, shotguns, BB guns, archery equipment, and any other firearms must be pre-approved and presented to the Camp Ranger. If approved, all firearms must be stored at the Range and Target Sports facility upon arrival at camp.
28. Pets are not allowed at Camp Tuscarora. Exceptions to this rule are certified service animals with proper documentation and pets belonging to permanent camp residents.
29. The swimming/waterfront area inside the fence is off limits to fishing at all times. All fishing is catch and release; hunting and trapping are always prohibited.
30. When boating, canoeing, or kayaking, the leader accepts full responsibility. Properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard approved type I, II, or III PFDs must be worn at all times. Leaders must be certified by the BSA Safety Afloat Program. One certified leader is required for every 10 participants, with a minimum of two adults for any one group. At least one leader must be 21 or older, and all other leaders must be 18 or older. All boating activities for Cub Scouts are limited to council or district events.
31. Persons with special needs should preplan their visit to camp. Camp Tuscarora has sandy terrain and is primitive, without sidewalks or hard trails.
32. Only foot traffic is permitted beyond closed gates. Do not attempt to bypass gates or any traffic control barriers or signs.
33. Helmets are always required while bicycling; no riding bikes after dark.
34. With the exception of camp-owned vehicles, motorized two-wheel vehicles, ATVs, and golf carts are not allowed on camp property.

35. The speed limit on the main road is 15 mph, and 5 mph inside all campsite traffic control gates.
36. The Camp Ranger is an employee of the Tuscarora Council, charged with maintaining the camp and facilities. As conditions warrant, the Ranger has the right and authority to impose additional camp rules as needed. All users must follow the Council's camp rules along with any Camp Ranger-imposed rules, or they will be asked to leave.
37. Any individual may make suggestions or request changes to these policies by submitting them in writing to the council office.

