



2026 SCOUTS BSA
SUMMER CAMP

SPL AND
ADULT
LEADERS
GUIDE

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS...
...WHERE THE ROAD ENDS!

WELCOME TO SUMMER CAMP!

Nestled in the heart of the Paul Bunyan State Forest in central Minnesota, this 2,400-acre camp is one of America's premier camps. The camp is nationally recognized and fully accredited by Scouting America. Our programs have been featured in both Scout Life and Scouting magazines. In operation since 1946, this beautiful camp has met the needs of Scouts and leaders for over 80 years. Camp Wilderness is a big-time camp with a small camp feel.

Opportunities are plentiful for the newest Scout to the oldest Scout. Quality advancement, nature study, swimming, climbing, fishing, shooting sports and SCUBA are just a few of the exciting programs offered at Camp Wilderness. This guide is designed to help you and your troop be prepared for a great summer camp experience. The fun and adventure of camping for a week with friends is a priceless experience for a Scout. We look forward to seeing you on the trail this summer at Camp Wilderness!

A message from your 2026 camp staff:

“On our honor, we promise to provide memories to last a lifetime while upholding a safe and positive outdoor experience. We strive to recognize every individual's uniqueness and potential to grow. Let's have a great summer!”

NEW IN 2026!

**MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITIES • TROOP ORIENTEERING
WHITE WATER RAFTING • ATV ABLAZE
TROOP SURVIVAL COOKING CHALLENGE • PAINTBALL
TROOP TIE DYING • TROOP ZIP LINING**

SAVE THE DATE!

**CAMP WILDERNESS
80TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2026**



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PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Camp Wilderness!

Get ready for the adventure of a lifetime! The summer of 2026 promises unforgettable experiences, personal growth, and plenty of Scouting spirit. Each day at Camp Wilderness is packed with advancement and activity opportunities for both youth and adults.

With our core schedule, Scouts can earn up to four merit badges, and through open programming available daily and on Wednesday, they can explore up to eight additional merit badges. This flexible format allows every Scout to build a schedule that fits their interests and goals. Evenings are full of classic Camp Wilderness traditions: Troop Time, Water Carnival, Iron Man, and the fan-favorite Cast Iron Chef Competition. Each night brings opportunities for fun and building memories with your unit.

New Program Alerts for 2026! We're thrilled to introduce a lineup of exciting new programs and merit badges, including Archeology, Boardsailing, Composite Materials, Plumbing, Salesmanship, Search and Rescue, Sustainability, Theater, and Whitewater.

Action & Adventure Programs:

- **Osprey Paintball Blitz** — Test your aim on dynamic courses inspired by our camp mascot.
- **White Water Rafting** — A thrilling day trip to Duluth, Minnesota, led by professional guides.
- **ATV ABLAZE** — A three-hour off-trail ATV adventure through lakes and rugged Northwoods terrain (must have completed ATV 1).
- **Castaway Kitchen** — Outdoor cooking challenge using mystery ingredients and limited supplies.
- **Camp Wilderness Navigator Challenge** — Hone your orienteering skills on a one-mile course through lesser-known trails.
- **Fantastic Fishing Friday** — All-day lakeside fun with contests, games, and free Big Bobbers.
- **Troop Tie Dying** — Get creative at the Nature Lodge! Shirts are purchased in the Trading Post (supplies provided).
- **Bad Axe Paddle Bash** — A self-guided canoe tour around scenic Bad Axe Lake.

Be sure to review these exciting programs with your troop! Scouts who engage in activities they choose and enjoy are more likely to stay in Scouting and return to camp year after year. Campsite reservations are open now on our website. We regularly update the site and our Facebook page with the latest summer camp news, so check back often.

If you have any questions about Camp Wilderness, our programs, or anything else, please contact us at the Jon L. Wanzek Center for Scouting at (701) 293-5011.

We can't wait to welcome you and your Scouts to the trails, lakes, and campfires of Camp Wilderness!

Yours in Scouting,



Missy Hendrickx

Missy Hendrickx

Program Director

Northern Lights Council | Scouting America

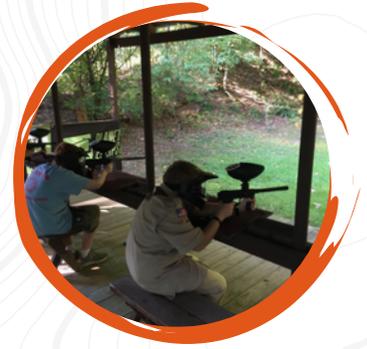


NEW FOR 2026!

OSPREY PAINTBALL BLITZ

Take Aim. Hit Hard. Fly True.

In this action-packed event at Camp Wilderness, Scouts channel the focus and precision of our camp mascot, the mighty Osprey, as they take on a dynamic course of paintball target challenges. From stationary bullseyes to surprise pop-up targets, Scouts will test their aim, accuracy, and control in a safe and exciting environment. It's all about focus, skill, and hitting the mark. Are you ready to blitz like an Osprey on the hunt? Price- \$25/Person



WHITE WATER RAFTING

Ride the Rapids. Feel the Rush.

Join us for an exciting day trip excursion to Duluth, MN for white water rafting! We'll depart Camp Wilderness at 6:00 AM and return the same day after a fun-filled rafting adventure. Our trips are led by professional in-raft guides and supported by experienced safety kayakers, ensuring a safe and exhilarating experience on the river. No prior experience is needed - just be physically able to paddle and classified as a swimmer.

ATV ABLAZE

Blaze the Trail, Own the Ride.

Buckle up for a blazing adventure through the Northwoods! This action-packed, 3-hour ATV excursion takes you beyond the trail and straight into the splash zone, riding deep into the wilderness to swim in Buck, Bad Axe, and Mantrap Lakes. You'll rip through rugged terrain, soak in the scenic views, and cool off in crystal-clear waters. This **Tier 2** experience is only for those who have completed ATV 1, because once you've tamed the basics, it's time to ride **ABLAZE**. Burn rubber, make waves, and leave the trail sizzling.

CASTAWAY KITCHEN

Stranded. Starving. Serving fire-forged flavor.

Stranded at a remote campsite with limited supplies and only the gear they carry, Scouts must work together to build a fire, prepare a meal, and survive the Castaway Kitchen. This outdoor cooking challenge tests creativity, teamwork, and basic survival skills in a rugged Northwoods setting. Each team will be provided a mystery bundle of ingredients, basic cooking tools, and must use their skills to prepare a delicious, fire-cooked dish without access to a traditional kitchen. Teams will be judged on taste, presentation, and teamwork.

CAMP WILDERNESS NAVIGATOR CHALLENGE

Chart the Course, Own the Wilderness.

Camp Wilderness Navigator Challenge invites Scouts to sharpen their orienteering and navigation skills under the guidance of experienced staff. Starting at the Trailblazer area, troops will learn essential map reading and compass techniques before setting out on a thrilling one-mile course through the beautiful, lesser-known parts of Camp Wilderness. This challenge combines adventure, teamwork, and skill as Scouts discover new trails and test their ability to find their way in the outdoors.

NEW FOR 2026!

TROOP PINES AND ZIP LINES

Rise Above. Ride the Pines.

Get ready to soar! Troop Pines & Zip Lines is your chance to take on our 475-foot zip line and experience the thrill of flying high above the towering pines of Camp Wilderness. Scouts will feel the rush of wind and the excitement of adventure as they glide through the forest canopy. Sign up for a 2-hour time slot on Wednesday to join the fun. Whether it's your first ride or your fiftieth, this is an unforgettable highlight of Adventure Day you won't want to miss.



TROOP TIE DYING

Knot your average shirt!

Add some color to your camp experience! Stop by the Nature Lodge on Wednesday during Adventure Day to create your very own tie-dyed masterpiece. Whether you're making a vibrant keepsake or just enjoying the creative chaos, this is a fun, hands-on activity for Scouts of all ages. You can purchase the shirts in the Trading Post. We provide the dyes, and all the supplies — just bring your imagination (and maybe wear something you don't mind getting colorful)!

ALL DAY FANTASTIC FISHING FRIDAY

Get Hooked on Fishing.

Reel in the fun all day long at the lake! Fantastic Fishing Friday kicks off at 6:00 AM and runs through the day with a lineup of exciting fishing-themed activities. Compete in the Biggest Fish Contest, test your reflexes in the Minnow Races, play classic games like Go Fish, and enjoy plenty of surprises along the shore. Whether you're casting your first line or aiming for a trophy catch, there's something for everyone. Free Big Bobbers handed out all day — while supplies last! Don't forget your rod, your hat, and your best fish stories!

BAD AXE PADDLE BASH

Canoe the lake, Share the Journey.

Grab a buddy—or bring your whole troop—and paddle around the beautiful Bad Axe Lake on this self-guided canoe tour. The Bad Axe Paddle Bash lets Scouts explore a marked route at their own pace, enjoying peaceful waters, scenic views, and quality time outdoors. This activity is perfect for practicing canoeing skills, building teamwork, and soaking in the natural beauty of the lake.

9 NEW MERIT BADGES

Explore New Skills, Earn New Badges.

This season, Camp Wilderness is proud to introduce eight new merit badges: Archeology, Board Sailing, Composite Materials, Plumbing, Salesmanship, Search and Rescue, Sustainability, Theater, and White Water Rafting. These exciting additions offer Scouts fresh opportunities to explore diverse skills—from outdoor adventure and environmental care to practical trades and creative arts.

PLANNING YOUR ADVENTURE

PLANNING CHECKLIST

Now:

- **Register** your troop: Choose your campsite and pay the **\$75** deposit online.
- **Read** this Leaders Guide. Review information on troop leadership, health forms, and unit insurance.
- **Recruit** a minimum of two leaders for camp. Two leaders must be at least 21 years of age and both must be a registered member of Scouting America.

November 2025 - January 2026:

- Schedule your troop's camp promotion visit from one of our camp staff

February 2026:

- Begin reviewing program activities with your Patrol Leader's Council and the troop
- Have a personal growth agreement conference with each Scout who will be attending summer camp. Help Scouts select activities that are appropriate to their age, skills, and advancement
- Have a parents information night to inform parents about summer camp opportunities and troop goals including completed health forms, packing list, adults who will be at camp, camp address, phone numbers and drivers

March 2026:

- **March 11:** Online merit badge registration opens at 9:00 AM
 - \$100 non-refundable deposit per Scout is required, but can be transferred to a new Scout reservation
 - The deposit will be applied to the Scout's camp fee

April 2026:

- **April 1:** Online campership applications are due
- **April 4:** Northern Tier reservations due
- **April 10:** Early bird payment is due in full for each Scout and adult

May 2026:

- **May 15:** Online unit t-shirt store closes
- **May 15:** Sign-up for a campsite for the 2027 camping season available online



2 Weeks Before Camp

- Ensure that your troop has adequate leadership
- Ensure parents have information on departure & return time and a phone number for emergencies
- Make sure Scouts have necessary equipment
- Each Scout and leader has filled out a proper health history/physical exam form
- Notify camp of any dietary restrictions
- Fees collected, if not already paid
- Transportation arrangements completed
- All Scouts and adults are **officially registered** in your unit
- Double check each Scout's schedules
- Plan your transportation route to Camp Wilderness



The Day You Leave:

- Have adequate money to pay additional and unpaid fees at camp
- We recommend that you bring **at least two** blank unit checks
- Troop equipment packed, including cooking gear
- Bring copies of each Scout's merit badge class schedule
- Bring a copy of medical forms for each Scout and adult attending camp, even if attending for just one day
- Bring any partials or merit badge pre-requisites that have been completed



GETTING SCOUTS EXCITED FOR CAMP

Promotional information should be shared with Scouts, leaders, and parents in your troop. This can be accomplished in many ways. Some ideas for promotion include, but are not limited to:

- Review the camp goals of each Scout and show how they can meet these goals and still have fun at camp
- Handout information sheets to Scouts' parents
- Show photos or videos of previous summer camps at meetings
- Invite Scouts to share their favorite parts of camp to the younger Scouts
- Invite former and current staff members to visit your troop to talk about camp
- Request a camp presentation from camp leadership or the Order of the Arrow
- Talk about the different merit badges and adventures offered to Scouts

CUSTOM T-SHIRT ORDER

Your troop will have the opportunity to order customized camp shirts with your troop number. These shirts are only available in pre-camp order. Shirt orders will open on April 1 and due by **May 15** to allow time for printing and shipping. The shirts will be shipped directly to your troop before camp. Find the ordering link on our website!

Screen Printed Sleeve
TROOP 1234
CITY, STATE



HOW TO REGISTER

Pre-registration is the process of signing your Scouts for merit badge classes before arriving in camp. **This process opens on March 11.** We will open the registration process for each week at a different time on that day.

WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE	WEEK FOUR	WEEK FIVE
9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM

A **\$150** per Scout deposit is required before signing a Scout up for merit badges.

PRICING

SCOUTS BSA YOUTH		ADULTS *		SIBLINGS
EARLY BIRD	REGULAR	EARLY BIRD	REGULAR	REGULAR
\$455	\$505	\$195	\$220	\$300

* Each unit will receive **one** free adult!

**All merit badge supplies are included in this cost (Leatherwork, Metalwork, Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, Troop Shoots, etc.)

***Classes not included are: White Water Rafting, ATV 1, and ATV 2. Paintball price is TBD.



REFUND POLICY

Staffing levels, food, and program supplies are purchased in advance based upon the projected numbers registered for camp. Below is the refund policy:

- There is a **\$150** non-refundable fee for a Scout that cancels
- There is a **\$100** non-refundable fee for an adult that cancels
- For any cancellations at least **30 days prior** to arrival date, we will refund all payment minus the non-refundable fee
- For any cancellations less than **15 days prior** to the arrival date, there will be **no refund** at all.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

We believe every Scout should have the opportunity to attend summer camp! Camperships provide financial assistance to Scouts in the Northern Lights Council who may not be able to attend camp due to financial constraints. Camperships can cover up to **50%** of the total camp fee and may only be used for Northern Lights Council summer camps. Financial need must be demonstrated before a campership can be awarded. If you are a Scout from outside the Northern Lights Council, please contact your local council to learn about any assistance they may offer.

Online applications received by **April 1** receive priority. Please visit our council's site at scoutingnlc.org/assistance for more information and to find the application.



SCOUT PACKING LIST

WHAT TO BRING

We recommend that you check the forecast before packing to make sure you are prepared for the week and make changes to this list as necessary.

Each campsite has drinking water, picnic tables, flagpoles, bulletin board, pavilion shelter, and access to a latrine. Troops must bring their own tents, camping gear, and other personal supplies.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook | <input type="checkbox"/> Camping chair (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Form (Parts ABC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook, pencils or pens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field uniform shirt | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal hygiene items |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sneakers/hiking shoes (2 pairs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed medications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T-Shirts (5-7) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife & Totin' Chit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socks & underwear (for a week) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses & sunscreen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long pants or jeans (2-3 pairs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts (2-3 pairs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-aerosol insect repellent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight & batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweatshirt or jacket (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work gloves | <input type="checkbox"/> Spending money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit | <input type="checkbox"/> Tent (if not provided by troop) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing gear (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag & pad | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow | <input type="checkbox"/> Small backpack or daypack |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | |

TROOP PACKING LIST

WHAT TO BRING

We recommend that you check the forecast before packing to make sure you are prepared for the week and make changes to this list as necessary.

Each campsite has drinking water, picnic tables, flagpoles, bulletin board, pavilion shelter, and access to a latrine. Troops must bring their own tents, camping gear, and other personal supplies.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Troop Trailer | <input type="checkbox"/> Troop checkbook or card |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Forms (Parts ABC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra flashlights & batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tents | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tent stakes | <input type="checkbox"/> Printed off schedules for Scouts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ground tarps | <input type="checkbox"/> Troop t-shirts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Field uniforms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water containers | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic patrol gear | <input type="checkbox"/> S'mores essentials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cordage | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing equipment (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothesline/pins | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coolers | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking equipment | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wash bins | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mess kits | |



ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

FORMS TO BRING

It is important to remember to bring all the necessary forms for the members of your troop. It can be difficult to keep track of everything that is necessary. To help, please plan on the following:

- Health and Medical Records (Parts A, B, and C) for all participants, both youth and adult
- Printed troop roster of those **attending** camp
- Swim Classification Form (if completed before arriving at camp)

EARLY SATURDAY CHECK- IN

UPDATED! Early arrivals will be permitted this year for any troops interested, no matter their distance from camp. If your unit would like to check in on Saturday, please note a **\$50** early arrival fee applies. Program areas will remain closed and staff will not be available. Early check-in begins at **4:00 PM**. Please contact us in advance to schedule your early arrival.

CHECK-IN DAY AND PROCEDURES

Standard check-in for troops begins at **1:00 PM** and ends at **3:00 PM** on Sunday. **Please check your email ahead of time for your designated arrival time.** Please arrive at your assigned time. If your group is not traveling together, please plan a meeting at a location before arriving at the camp. **Everyone must arrive at the same time.**

Our check-in team will meet you and your unit at the Health Lodge. This is where your medical checks will take place. Each participant will get a wristband to wear during their stay at camp. Once all medical checks are complete, you will proceed to your campsite. Once you get to your campsite you can start unpacking your items. A staff member will greet you at your campsite and walk you through the rest of the check-in process.

The staff member will take you to the Black Building to make sure you have your roster completed. After that, you will take a walk by the storm shelter and then have your troop picture taken. Once your picture is taken, you will go to the Waterfront for swim checks and a safety talk.

CHECKOUT AND FINAL PAYMENT PROCESS

Starting as early as Thursday, unit leaders will have the opportunity to schedule an appointment with the Business Manager to settle any outstanding registration fees or begin the refund process if the troop overpaid. This must be completed before the troop leaves Friday night or Saturday morning. Starting on Friday afternoon, unit leaders can settle their troop accounts at the Trading Post.

Before leaving Friday evening or Saturday morning, a unit leader must check-out with a member of the administration team in the Black Building. They will make sure you have patches, leader appreciation gift, health forms, and advancement paperwork.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

HEALTH FORMS AND CHECK-IN

Troops are welcome to submit their health forms 21+ days in advance by mailing them to us at the following address:

Camp Wilderness

Attn: Camp Health Officer
29984 Journey Trail
Park Rapids, MN 56470



Submitting the forms in advance will speed up your check-in process and allow our staff to identify any corrections that may be needed before you arrive.

When you arrive at the Health Lodge, you will go through medical checks. Please make sure each person has their own medical form. Please make sure you leave your original form at home, and give camp a **copy (not the original)**. If you have any medical conditions or dietary restrictions that we need to know about prior to your arrival, please add that information to your registration.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

Prescription drugs must be under the control of a responsible adult and stored in a secured manner (locked box, locked vehicle, etc). The only exception is for emergency medications such as epi-pens, rescue inhalers, and nitroglycerin. All medications must be in their original container with a clearly marked label.

Troop leaders are encouraged to store and manage the medications for their troop. Health Lodge staff can assist if necessary. Locked storage, including refrigeration, is available at the Health Lodge.



HEALTH LODGE

A qualified Health Officer is available to deal with minor injuries that may occur during your stay at Camp. In the event of a serious injury, arrangements have been made with the local hospital and clinic in Park Rapids to provide needed medical care.

The Camp Medical Officer is available 24 hours a day for emergency medical services. Please make arrangements with the Health Officer for any daily medical needs.

ADULT LEADERS



APPRECIATION MEAL

We will have a special meal during the week. This meal is an appreciation of the time and effort required for adult leaders to bring Scouts to camp. All adult leaders in the camp are invited.

ACTIVITY BADGE

We want leaders to have fun and participate! You can earn an activity badge while at camp. Requirements include making new friends, teaching a new Scout a skill, and many other fun activities around camp.

UNIT LEADERSHIP

The Northern Lights Council and Scouting America require that all Scouting activities, including meetings, have at least two registered adult leaders who are 21 years of age or older. For units serving female youth, a registered female adult leader age 21 or older must be present at all activities. Beyond these minimum requirements, supervision must always be age- and program-appropriate.

New as of September 1, 2023: Any adult staying overnight at a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the role(s) they are serving in; registration as a merit badge counselor alone does not meet this requirement.

If your troop anticipates being short on leaders, please reach out to us. We'll be glad to connect you with another troop in camp so that together you can meet the two-deep leadership requirements.



ADULT LEADER CLASSES

ADULT AQUATICS CLASSES					
TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Safe Swim Defense & Safety Afloat	BSA Swim & Water Rescue (Part 2 of 2)			
2:00 - 3:00 PM	BSA Swim & Water Rescue (Part 1 of 2)				
COMMISSIONER CLASSES					
TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10:00 - 12:00 PM	Scoutmaster Specific (Part 1 of 4)	Scoutmaster Specific (Part 2 of 4)		Scoutmaster Specific (Part 3 of 4)	Scoutmaster Specific (Part 3 of 4)
1:00 - 4:00 PM	Outdoor Leader Skills (Part 1 of 3)	Outdoor Leader Skills (Part 2 of 3)		Outdoor Leader Skills (Part 3 of 3)	Nap on Safely
				Trek on Safely & Outdoor Ethics	
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Commissioner Meeting	Commissioner Meeting	Commissioner Meeting	Commissioner Meeting	Commissioner Meeting
OTHER ADULT LEADER OPPORTUNITIES					
TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 AM	Adult Leader Meeting	Adult Leader Meeting		Adult Leader Meeting	
TBD	Wilderness First Aid (TBD)				

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Camp Wilderness offers volunteers numerous opportunities to work at camp for one or more weeks as a volunteer staff member.

Opportunities include campsite commissioner and chaplain. Those volunteering for a full week will receive a staff t-shirt and do not need to pay a participant fee. However, as a staff volunteer, they will not count towards their troop's two deep leadership. Additional online training will be required.



COMMISSIONERS

Your troop will be assisted by seasoned Scout leaders when you attend camp. Commissioners will visit your campsite and work with your SPL on the patrol method as well as assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. Volunteer Commissioners stay in camp for free during the week they serve as a Camp Commissioner and receive free meals and a staff t-shirt.



CHAPLAIN

The Camp Chaplain can provide a variety of valuable services to you and your Troop in addition to formal religious programs. The Chaplain is available to help you with Scouts missing home, conflicts, and other situations that warrant counseling.

Be sure to enlist the Chaplain's support if you are feeling frustrated or if you would like a second opinion on how to handle an issue with one of your Scouts.

HEALTH OFFICER

We are seeking a dedicated Health Officer for Camp Wilderness to help ensure the safety and well-being of all campers and staff. The Health Officer is responsible for administering basic medical care, maintaining health records, dispensing medications, and responding to emergencies as needed.

Requirements:

- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must hold a current medical license in the state of Minnesota (EMR, EMT, RN, LPN, PA, MD, etc.)
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Experience working with youth is a plus

CAMP SERVICES

TRADING POST

The Camp Wilderness Trading Post offers a wide selection of camp memorabilia, Scouting literature, and program supplies. You'll also find everyday essentials, as well as snacks and refreshments such as ice cream, candy, and soft drinks.

Troop leaders may charge purchases to their unit account for convenience.



QUARTERMASTER

The Quartermaster Shop provides camping gear, hand tools, and other equipment available for checkout during your stay. The Quartermaster also manages a workshop for repairing damaged gear, stores bulk fuel containers not in use at campsites, and can assist with transporting equipment to and from your campsite. Shop hours are posted at the building.

In addition, the Quartermaster oversees all camp conservation projects. Troops interested in service opportunities are encouraged to check in and arrange a project.



ORDER OF THE ARROW

Pa-Hin Lodge hosts a full summer camp program that includes member meetings, Ordeal callouts, Brotherhood conversions, unit elections, and a Friday evening social. Scouts and Scouters from all OA lodges are welcome to take part in these activities.

Please note that if you are a member of a different lodge, Brotherhood conversions require approval from your Lodge's Key 3 prior to camp.



ACTION TRACKCHAIR

Camp Wilderness has one Action Trackchair available for Scout or adult use. This battery-powered mobility chair allows access to nearly all areas of camp. It must be recharged during downtime.

Power outlets are available at all program areas except High Adventure, Trailblazers, and Shooting Sports. Campsites on the Scouts BSA side do not have power access. Please contact camp in advance to reserve the chair.



SHOWER AND TOILET FACILITIES



Separate shower facilities are provided in the main camp area for use by leaders, Scouts, and staff. Leaders and Scouts, as well as males and females, must have separate shower facilities in accordance with the Safeguarding Youth policies set by Scouting America. The shower facilities also have an indoor section with flush toilets and sinks.

We do ask that you arrange for your troop to shower at the same time whenever possible. When your Scouts are showering, leaders should be close by to provide a degree of supervision.

LAUNDRY SERVICES

Camp Wilderness has coin-operated washing machines and dryers. Please bring your own quarters to use the machines. The laundry room is in the same building as the adult showers and health lodge, with the entrance immediately to the left of the shower house entrance.



CPAP AND SLEEPING DEVICES

Camp Wilderness does not have electricity in campsites. If you bring a CPAP machine, you will need to bring your own power source to operate that machine. There are charging stations available. Please contact camp administration before your stay if you need assistance.

ADULT LEADER STUDY

Located next to the Trading Post is the Adult Leader Study. This is a room for adults only. It is equipped with many outlets, tables, chairs, and wireless internet. Use this space to get some work done or take a few quiet minutes to yourself.

BIRTHDAYS

Is someone in your unit celebrating their birthday during camp? Contact us before your arrival and our kitchen staff will prepare a cake or dessert for your unit at no extra cost!

MEAL SERVICES

DINING HALL SERVICE

Meals are served cafeteria-style in a single shift. The Dining Hall will remain open for one hour at each mealtime, and you may arrive at any time during that window. On Sunday and Friday evenings, supper will be held outdoors as a picnic — a long-standing camp tradition. Scouts and leaders should proceed to the Dining Hall together as a unit. Second helpings will be available once all units have been served.

During your week at camp, two meals will be prepared in your campsite. Both will take place on Wednesday: a hotdog-and-beans lunch and a “taco in a bag” dinner. Troops are responsible for bringing the cooking equipment needed to prepare these meals.

Camp Wilderness accommodates dietary restrictions to the best of our ability. Please note any special needs in your registration so we can prepare accordingly.

PATROL-STYLE MEAL SERVICE

Troops choosing patrol-style cooking will prepare all meals in their campsite, with the following exceptions:

- Sunday and Friday suppers will be provided as outdoor picnics
- Saturday breakfast will be served in the Dining Hall

All other meals will be cooked at the campsite. Raw ingredients will be pre-packaged by staff and available for pickup before each meal at the designated location. The weekly menu is posted online at scoutingnlc.org/summercamp. All food items listed on the menu will be supplied; if your troop wishes to modify the menu, you must provide those additional items.

Food safety is essential. Leftover food must not remain in campsites overnight unless properly stored and secured against animals. All trash and food waste must be disposed of in camp dumpsters before nightfall.

Troops will need to bring their own cooking equipment and utensils. We will provide the following supplies for each troop participating in patrol-style cooking:

- **All food on the menu**
- **Menu with cooking instructions**
- **Food thermometers**
- **3 wash basins & cleaning detergents**
- **5-gallon bucket & filter for dirty water**
- **Instructions on safe handling of food**

DAILY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	START	END	EVENT	LOCATION
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Assigned Check-In Time Begins	<i>Welcome Center</i>
	4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Commissioner Meeting	<i>Pumphouse</i>
	4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Tour of Camp for New Campers	<i>Flag Field</i>
	5:10 PM	5:20 PM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	5:20 PM	6:10 PM	Dinner	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	6:15 PM	7:00 PM	Adult Leader Meeting	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	6:15 PM	7:00 PM	SPL Meeting	<i>Flag Field</i>
	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	MB & Activity Sign-Up	<i>The Pines</i>
	8:15 PM	8:20 PM	All Troops Gather for Campfire	<i>Flag Field</i>
	8:30 PM	9:30 PM	Opening Campfire	<i>Campfire Area</i>

MONDAY	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	8:10 AM	8:20 AM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	9:00 AM	9:45 AM	Adult Leader Meeting	<i>Black Building</i>
	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Merit Badge Session A (Part 1 of 2)	
	11:15 AM	11:30 AM	Fire Drill	<i>Flag Field</i>
	11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Lunch	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	12:30 PM	12:45 PM	Senior Patrol Leader Meeting	<i>Black Building</i>
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Merit Badge Session B (Part 1 of 2)	
	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Open Time	
	4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Commissioner Meeting	<i>Pumphouse</i>
	5:10 PM	5:20 PM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	5:20 PM	6:20 PM	Dinner	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	6:30 PM	9:30 PM	Trailblazer Trek (mandatory for Trailblazers)	<i>Trailblazer Area</i>
	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Open Time & Troop Activities	
	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Adult Leader COPE	<i>COPE</i>
	TBD	TBD	Chaplains Aid Meeting	<i>Chaplain Gazebo</i>

T U E S D A Y	START	END	EVENT	LOCATION
	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	Polar Bear Swim	<i>Waterfront</i>
	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	8:10 AM	8:15 AM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	9:00 AM	9:45 AM	Adult Leader Meeting	<i>Black Building</i>
	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Merit Badge Session A (Part 2 of 2)	
	11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Lunch	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	12:30 PM	12:45 PM	SPL Meeting	<i>Black Building</i>
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Merit Badge Session B (Part 2 of 2)	
	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Open Time	
	4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Commissioner Meeting	<i>Pumphouse</i>
	5:10 PM	5:20 PM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	5:20 PM	6:20 PM	Dinner	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	7:00PM	9:00 PM	Open Time & Troop Activities	
	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	Cast Iron Chef Competition	<i>Log Pavilion</i>
8:30 PM	10:00 PM	Constellation Climb	<i>Climbing Tower</i>	
TBD	TBD	Chaplains Aid Meeting	<i>Chaplain Gazebo</i>	

W E D N E S D A Y	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	8:10 AM	8:20 AM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	Wake Up Wednesday	<i>Blackfoot Campsite</i>
	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Adventure Day Activities Begin	
	11:15 AM	12:00 PM	Lunch Pick-Up (eat in Campsite)	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	11:00 PM	12:00 PM	Staff Lunch	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Adult Leader Appreciation Lunch	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Adventure Day Activities Continue	
	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Dinner Pick-Up (eat in Campsite)	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	5:10 PM	5:20 PM	Flag Ceremony (Optional)	<i>Flag Field</i>
	6:30 PM	7:15 PM	Worship Service	<i>Chapel in the Pines</i>
	7:30 PM	8:15 PM	Commissioner Campfire	<i>Campfire Areas</i>
	TBD	TBD	Chaplains Aid Meeting	<i>Chaplain Gazebo</i>

T H U R S D A Y	START	END	EVENT	LOCATION
	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	8:10 AM	8:20 AM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	9:00 AM	9:45 AM	Adult Leader Meeting	<i>Black Building</i>
	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Merit Badge Session C (Part 1 of 2)	
	11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Lunch	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	12:30 PM	12:45 PM	SPL Meeting	<i>Black Building</i>
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Merit Badge Session D (Part 1 of 2)	
	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Open Time	
	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Terrific Tomahawk Thursday	<i>Scoutcrafts</i>
	4:00PM	4:30 PM	Commissioner Meeting	<i>Pumphouse</i>
	5:10 PM	5:20 PM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	5:20 PM	6:20 PM	Dinner	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Water Carnival & Iron Man Competition	<i>Waterfront</i>
7:00PM	9:00 PM	Open Time & Troop Activities		

F R I D A Y	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	Fantastic Fishing Friday	<i>Fishing</i>
	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	8:10 AM	8:20 AM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Merit Badge Session C (Part 2 of 2)	
	11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Lunch	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Merit Badge Session D (Part 2 of 2)	
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Nap on Safely	<i>Pumphouse</i>
	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Open Time	
	4:00PM	4:30 PM	Commissioner Meeting	<i>Pumphouse</i>
	5:10 PM	5:20 PM	Flag Ceremony	<i>Flag Field</i>
	5:20 PM	6:00 PM	Dinner	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	6:45 PM	6:50 PM	All Troops Gather for Campfire	<i>Flag Field</i>
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	Closing Campfire	<i>Campfire Area</i>

S A T	7:00 AM	7:10 AM	Flag Raising (optional)	<i>Flag Field</i>
	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Dining Hall</i>
	7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Troop Check-Out	<i>Black Building</i>

MERIT BADGES

We're excited to offer these core merit badges and activities every year. Plus, don't miss the new merit badges featured in our 2026 rotation!

CORE MERIT BADGES & ACTIVITIES (OFFERED EVERY YEAR)			R.O.A.R. MERIT BADGES
Archery	First Aid *	Paddle Boarding	Art
ATV	Fishing	Rifle	Fingerprinting
Camping *	Fish & Wildlife Management	Shotgun	Sculpture
Canoeing	Fly Fishing	Snorkeling	Textiles
Climbing	Kayaking	Swimming *	Chess
Cooking 1 (camp portion) *	Leatherwork	Trailblazers	
Cooking 2 (trail portion) *	Lifesaving *	Wilderness Survival	OUTPOSTS
COPE	Metalwork	Woodcarving	White Water Rafting
Emergency Preparedness *	Motorboating		Northern Tier Trip
Environmental Science *	Nature		

2026 MERIT BADGE & ACTIVITY ROTATION	2027 MERIT BADGE & ACTIVITY ROTATION	2028 MERIT BADGE & ACTIVITY ROTATION	2029 MERIT BADGE & ACTIVITY ROTATION	2030 MERIT BADGE & ACTIVITY ROTATION
Archaeology	Astronomy	Game Design	Basketry	Chess
Boardsailing	Chess	Pioneering	Bird Study	Geology
Composite Materials	Forestry	Nuclear Science	Boardsailing	Mammal Study
Plumbing	Gardening	Oceanography	Exploration	Orienteering
Salesmanship	Geocaching	Small Boat Sailing	Indian Lore	Plant Science
Search and Rescue	Insect Study	SCUBA	Reptile and Amphibian Study	Radio
Sustainability *	Music	Signs, Signals, and Codes	Rowing	Energy
Theater	Soil and Water Conservation	Space Exploration	Weather	Mining in Society
White Water Rafting	Natural Rock Climbing	White Water Kayaking		Soudan Mine Tour

* denotes Eagle Scout required

CLASSES BY SESSION

SESSION A MON/TUE 9:00 - 11:00 AM	SESSION B MON/TUE 1:00 - 3:00 PM	SESSION C THU/FRI 9:00 - 11:00 AM	SESSION D THU/FRI 1:00 - 3:00 PM
SCOUTCRAFTS			
Camping	Wilderness Survival	Wilderness Survival	Metalwork
Leatherwork	Woodcarving	Camping	Woodcarving
Metalwork	Metalwork	Metalwork	Leatherwork
NATURE			
Environmental Science	Sustainability	Archeology	Environmental Science
Nature	Archeology	Nature	Sustainability
FISHING			
Fish & Wildlife Management	Fly Fishing	Fishing	Fish & Wildlife Management
Fly Fishing	Motorboating	Motorboating	Fishing
WATERFRONT			
Kayaking	Swimming	Canoeing	Swimming
Canoeing	Snorkeling	Kayaking	Snorkeling
Lifesaving (8:00 - 12:00 PM)	Boardsailing (1:00 - 3:00 PM: must also attend session D)	Paddle Boarding	Boardsailing (1:00 - 3:00 PM: must also attend session D)
SHOOTING SPORTS			
Archery	Archery	Archery	Archery
Rifle	Rifle	Rifle	Rifle
Shotgun	Shotgun	Shotgun	Shotgun
HEALTH LODGE			
Search and Rescue	First Aid	First Aid	Emergency Preparedness
TRAILBLAZERS			
Trailblazers <i>(must also attend Session C)</i>	Trailblazers <i>(must also attend Session D)</i>	Trailblazers <i>(must also attend Session A)</i>	Trailblazers <i>(must also attend Session B)</i>
HIGH ADVENTURE			
COPE (8:00 - 12:00 PM on Mo/Tu/Th/Fr)	Climbing (1:00 - 5:00 PM on Mo/Tu/Th/Fr)	COPE (8:00 - 12:00 PM on Mo/Tu/Th/Fr)	Climbing (1:00 - 5:00 PM on Mo/Tu/Th/Fr)
ATV 1 (8:00 AM - 12:00 PM)	ATV 2 (1:00 PM - 5:00 PM)	ATV 1 (8:00 AM - 12:00 PM)	ATV 1 (1:00 PM - 5:00 PM)
Osprey Paintball Blitz	Osprey Paintball Blitz	Osprey Paintball Blitz	Osprey Paintball Blitz
COOKING			
Cooking 1 (9:00 AM - 1:00 PM on Mo/Tu/Th/Fr)		Cooking 1 (9:00 AM - 1:00 PM on Mo/Tu/Th/Fr)	
Cooking 2 (6:00 - 9:00 PM on Mon/Tue)	Cooking 2 (6:00 - 9:00 PM on Mon/Tue)		
PUMPHOUSE			
Composite Materials	Plumbing	Salesmanship	Theater

BLOCK SCHEDULING

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:00 - 8:00 AM	Breakfast				
8:00 AM	Start time for COPE, ATV, and Lifesaving MB				
8:45 - 11:15 AM	Trailblazers 1				
9:00 - 11:00 AM	Session A Merit Badges & Activities		Activity Day		Session C Merit Badges & Activities
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Lunch				
12:45 - 3:15 PM	Trailblazers 2				
1:00 - 3:00 PM	Session B Merit Badges & Activities		Activity Day		Session D Merit Badges & Activities
3:00 - 5:00 PM	Open Program and Activities				
5:00 - 6:30 PM	Dinner				
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Open Program & Activities		Chapel & Commissioner Campfire		Open Program & Activities

Classes will be Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday. Some classes require more time, so please check out the Merit Badge Schedule on page 21.

COPE runs Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Climbing merit badge class runs Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

ATV 1 will be offered 3 times:

- Monday & Tuesday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Thursday & Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Thursday & Friday from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

ATV 2 will be offered 3 times

- Monday & Tuesday from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
- Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Wednesday from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Lifesaving merit badge class runs on Monday & Tuesday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Cooking 1 runs on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Cooking 2 runs on Monday & Tuesday from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Trailblazers runs on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:45 AM to 11:15 AM **or** 12:45 PM to 3:15 PM. Scouts must go to the same session on those days.

OTHER ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

CONSTELLATION CLIMB

Location: Climbing Tower | **Time:** Tuesday at 8:30 PM

Climb under the stars for an adventurous evening! Glow sticks, necklaces, and bracelets will be available for purchase at the Trading Post.

POLAR BEAR SWIM

Location: Waterfront | **Time:** Tuesday at 6:00 AM

Start your morning with an invigorating hour of open swim.

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

Location: Cooking Area | **Time:** Wednesday at 8:30 AM

Sip fresh-brewed local coffee while enjoying the scenic view of Bad Axe Lake.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Location: Virgil Reed Chapel in the Pines | **Time:** Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Join our chaplain for a meaningful gathering. Each unit should provide one Chaplain's Aid.

TERRIFIC TOMAHAWK THURSDAY

Location: Scoutcraft Area | **Time:** Thursday at 3:00 PM

Spend up to two exciting hours learning and practicing tomahawk throwing skills.

WATER CARNIVAL

Location: Waterfront | **Time:** Thursday at 7:00 PM

A camp tradition featuring Northern Canoe Tug-of-War, SPL Greased Watermelon, Adult Leader Greased Watermelon, Belly Flop Contest, and more! Additional activities are available for those who prefer to stay dry.

IRON MAN COMPETITION

Location: Waterfront | **Time:** Thursday at 8:00 PM

Challenge yourself in this epic team event!

- Junior Iron Man: Scouts under 13
- Senior Iron Man: Scouts 14+
- Each team must include: 1 swimmer, 2 canoers, 1 short-distance runner, 1 long-distance runner, and 1 adult leader (who will eat an orange).

FANTASTIC FISHING FRIDAY

Location: Fishing Area | **Time:** Friday at 6:00 AM

Cast your line early and try to reel in the big one!



OPEN PROGRAM

Scouts will have the opportunity to go to program areas during their free time to work on merit badges!

Scouts do not pre-register for this. The Scout will show up the day of and start work on the merit badge. They can return each Open Program time to go over completed work with their counselor.

This unique approach allows the Scout to build their own adventure, gives them the opportunity to mix fun activities with merit badge programs, and introduces many Scouts to time management.

Open program takes place Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, in addition to all day Wednesday.

Below is a list of the available courses during **Open Program!**

Fishing Area

- Fishing
- Fly Fishing

Scoutcrafts (ROAR)

- Art
- Fingerprinting
- Sculpture
- Textiles
- Chess

Nature Lodge

- Astronomy
- Reptile and Amphibian Study

Health Lodge

- First Aid
- Emergency Preparedness



HERMAN STERN AWARD

The **Honor Troop Program** recognizes troops that demonstrate outstanding camping skills and true Scouting spirit. Any troop can earn this distinction by completing a set of required and optional achievements throughout the week. A Camp Commissioner will guide you through the process. Troops may sign up in the Black Building, and should check with the Quartermaster to receive a Service Project.

WEDNESDAY ADVENTURE DAY

Each troop will have the opportunity to sign up for Adventure Day activities on Sunday night during merit badge sign-ups. Adventure Day is on Wednesday and these activities will include troop activities, open program, offsite adventures, and more merit badges!



OPEN AREAS

Some areas will be open all day! These areas include:

- Fishing (merit badge opportunities)
- Waterfront
- Nature Lodge
 - Morning: tie dye
 - Afternoon: merit badges
- Scoutcrafts
 - Morning: Open Forge, Open Tomahawk and ROAR
 - Afternoon: Troop Forge, Troop Tomahawk, ROAR
- Carpetball
- Gaga Ball
- Basketball courts
- Frisbee golf course
- Fire tower
- Pickleball

SCHEDULED TROOP ACTIVITIES

Troops can sign up for the following activities if they would like! Sign-ups will be Sunday during merit badge sign-up in The Pines!

FORGE	TOMAHAWK	PONTOON	PAINTBALL	CLIMBING	ZIP LINING	ORIENTEERING	SURVIVAL COOKING
OPEN	OPEN	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 - 10:30 AM	1:00 - 3:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 - 11:00 AM
		10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	3:00 - 5:00 PM	10:00 AM	1:00 - 3:00 PM
1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM			1:00 PM	3:00 - 5:00 PM
2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM			2:00 PM	
3:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:00 PM			3:00 PM	
4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM			4:00 PM	

R.O.A.R.

Head on over to R.O.A.R. (Relaxing Outdoor Artistic Respite) during the Adventure Activity Day! This program was developed in 2010 by a group of 4 camp staff. They wanted to create a program where Scouts could go learn and relax while earning advancement. Who is ready for a **ROARING** good time?

PAINTING	FINGERPRINTING	SCULPTURE	TEXTILES	CHESS
9:00 - 10:00 AM	10:00 - 10:30 AM	1:00 - 2:30 PM	2:30 - 3:30 PM	3:30 - 5:00 PM
4:00 - 5:00 PM	10:30 - 11:00 AM	2:00 - 3:30 PM	1:00 - 2:00 PM	9:00 - 10:30 AM

WEEKLY TROOP ACTIVITIES

SCHEDULED TROOP ACTIVITIES

Troops can sign up for the following activities if they would like! Sign-ups will take place on Sunday during Merit Badge Sign Up in the Pines!

MONDAY						
FORGE	TOMAHAWK	PONTOON	PAINTBALL	RIFLE	SHOTGUN	CANOEING
7:00 - 8:00 PM						
8:00 - 9:00 PM						

TUESDAY						
FORGE	TOMAHAWK	PONTOON	PAINTBALL	RIFLE	SHOTGUN	CANOEING
7:00 - 8:00 PM						
8:00 - 9:00 PM						

WEDNESDAY							
FORGE	TOMAHAWK	PONTOON	PAINTBALL	CLIMBING	ZIP LINING	ORIENTEERING	SURVIVAL COOKING
OPEN FORGE	OPEN TOMAHAWK	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 - 10:30 AM		9:00 AM	9:00 - 11:00 AM
		10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:30 - 12:00 PM		10:00 AM	1:00 - 3:00 PM
1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM		1:00 - 3:00 PM	1:00 PM	3:00 - 5:00 PM
2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM		3:00 - 5:00 PM	2:00 PM	
3:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:00 PM			3:00 PM	
4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM			4:00 PM	

THURSDAY			
PONTOON	PAINTBALL	RIFLE	SHOTGUN
7:00 - 8:00 PM			
8:00 - 9:00 PM			

OFFSITE ADVENTURES



ADVENTURE OFF TO PARK RAPIDS & SURROUNDING LAKES AREA!

Below is a list of outfitters that your unit can schedule on their own.

If you would like Camp Wilderness to provide sack lunches/dinners, please fill out the form in the Black Building by 12:00 PM on Tuesday.

SERVICE	ADVENTURE OPTIONS
ITASCA STATE PARK	Established in 1891, Itasca is Minnesota's oldest state park. The park totals more than 32,000 acres and includes more than 100 lakes. Walk across the mighty Mississippi as it starts its winding journey 2,552 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. Stand under towering pines and visit landmarks of centuries gone by throughout the park.
PAUL BUNYAN STATE TRAIL	The Paul Bunyan State Trail is 115 miles long. Extending all the way from Crow Wing State Park to Lake Bemidji State Park, it is the longest of Minnesota's state trails and the longest continuously paved rail-trail in the country. It connects with the 8 mile Heartland State Trail, and at Lake Bemidji State Park it connects to the Blue Ox Trail.
SUMMERHILL ADVENTURES	With nearly 40 years of tradition, Summerhill provides a memorable experience for all groups, large or small. Find locally made, handcrafted art & decor. Don't forget the Back 40 which offers a petting zoo, family activities, and athletic challenges!
EVERGREEN FUN PARK	Go-karts, Bumper Boats, Miniature Golf, Evergreen Mountain. Extreme Air Jump, Laser Tag, Laser Maze, Super Bounce, Batting Cages, Water Wars, Escape Rooms and more!
BIRDIES MINI GOLF	Birdie's Mini Golf is bringing the Wild West to Park Rapids, MN for some family fun at our 36 Hole Adventure Mini Golf Course!!
PEDEGO ELECTRIC BIKE	Pedego is America's #1 Electric Bike retailer. They offer a variety of electric bikes from cruisers to the city to mountains and fat tires. They have an extensive offering of battery sizes, colors, and accessories.
GO FISH! GUIDE SERVICE	Go Fish! Guide Service offers full-service fishing guide trips on your choice of over 75 lakes located in and around Park Rapids.
HEADWATERS GOLF CLUB	Come enjoy a round at Minnesota's #4 ranked Public Golf Course.
BLUEBERRY PINES	Blueberry Pines has towering trees, rolling hills, and a spring-fed stream area. All are present during this wonderful golfing experience.
RAPID RIVER LOGGING CAMP	The Rapid River Logging Camp was established in 1955. As a logger you can eat from metal plates, drink from tin cups and eat as many pancakes as your stomach can hold! After you have finished walk the trails, feed the fish, chickens and ducks.
HEARTLAND STATE TRAIL	49-mile multiple-use paved trail between Park Rapids and Cass Lake. Along the 27 miles between Park Rapids and Walker, there is a second grassy Treadway for mountain biking. Trailside parks are located at Park Rapids, Dorset, Nevis, Akeley, and Walker.

PROGRAM AREAS

TRAILBLAZERS

An Introduction to Camp and the Path to First Class

Trailblazers is a dynamic program designed specifically for **first-year campers**, offering a fun and engaging introduction to both **Camp Wilderness** and the **Scouts BSA** program. Scouts will build confidence as they learn and practice essential Scouting skills on their journey toward First Class rank.

The program focuses on hands-on learning, teamwork, and outdoor adventure — perfect for younger Scouts experiencing camp for the first time. A list of rank requirements that can be completed in the Trailblazers program is available under the Resources section on our summer camp website.

There are 2 classes of Trailblazers offered! Scouts will go Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday during the first or second session. The **Trailblazer Hike will be Monday at 6:30 PM!**



FISHING

Where Every Cast Could Catch “The Big One”

Our **Fishing program** is one of Camp Wilderness’s most recognized and celebrated offerings — known throughout the region for combining fun, skill-building, and the thrill of reeling in a trophy catch.

Whether you're a first-time angler or a seasoned pro, this area has everything you need to succeed: **a spacious dock, 14' Lund motorboats, rods, reels, tackle, and bait** are all provided. Our experienced fishing staff will guide Scouts and leaders through techniques, safety, and the joy of angling.

Important Guidelines:

- Motorboat use requires youth to be accompanied by an adult who has passed the BSA swim test.
- Motorboat use requires a MN or State Boating License
- No fishing license is required for youth under 16.
- Anyone 16 or older must purchase a valid Minnesota fishing license, available in town before arrival.

Whether casting from the dock or setting out on the lake, the Fishing program is a can't-miss experience for all outdoor enthusiasts!



COOKING

Hands-On Experience for Aspiring Outdoor Chefs

Our Cooking merit badge is split into two focused sessions to give Scouts hands-on experience in both camp and trail cooking.

Cooking 1 focuses on the camp cooking portion of the merit badge. This class is on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This will be a partial merit badge. **Cooking 2** will focus on the trail portion of the merit badge, offered Monday and Tuesday night from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. This will be a partial merit badge.





AQUATICS

Cool Off, Dive In, and Build Skills on the Water

When the summer heat kicks in, there's no better place to be than the Camp Wilderness Waterfront. Here, Scouts can sharpen their swimming and boating skills in a safe, structured, and fun environment — guided by our experienced and enthusiastic aquatics staff.

Merit badges offered at the waterfront include:

- Swimming and Canoeing (great for beginners and younger Scouts)
- Kayaking and Lifesaving (ideal for older or more experienced Scouts)

Activity patches offered during the week include Snorkeling, Stand-Up Paddleboarding, and Boardsailing

Daily open swim and open boating is available every afternoon from **3:00 PM to 5:00 PM**, as well as during Adventure Days, giving Scouts time to enjoy the water on their own terms. Adult leaders can support their unit's aquatic adventures by completing Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense trainings. **Important Reminder:** All waterfront merit badges require a Swimmer classification.



NATURE

Discover, Learn, and Give Back to the Outdoors

The **Nature Area** at Camp Wilderness offers Scouts a hands-on experience with the natural world — perfect for curious minds and budding conservationists. With a strong lineup of **Eagle Scout rank-required** and environmental merit badges, Scouts will explore ecosystems, wildlife, and the impact humans have on our environment. Merit badges offered include:

- Environmental Science
- Sustainability
- Nature
- Archeology

While earning these badges, Scouts will gain a deeper appreciation for the outdoors and learn how to be responsible stewards of the environment. But learning is just the beginning! Scouts are also encouraged to **give back** through meaningful **conservation projects** and service opportunities. Camp Wilderness is rich in natural beauty, so take full advantage of it. Whether you're working on merit badges or just exploring for fun, the **Nature staff** is ready to help you plan your next outdoor adventure.



SCOUTCRAFTS

Hands-On Skills & Outdoor Know-How

The Scoutcraft area offers Scouts a chance to build outdoor skills and create unique camp souvenirs through hands-on learning. Merit badges offered:

- Camping
- Wilderness Survival
- Leatherwork
- Metalwork
- Woodcarving

From shelter-building to metalwork and wilderness survival, Scoutcraft offers hands-on adventure and timeless Scout skills for everyone.

SHOOTING SPORTS

Aim High and Sharpen Your Skills

Camp Wilderness offers three exciting Shooting Sports merit badges:

- Archery
- Rifle Shooting
- Shotgun Shooting

Important Guidelines:

- No personal firearms or ammunition are allowed at camp.
- Personal archery equipment is discouraged unless the Scout is enrolled in the Archery merit badge. If brought, it must be checked in and stored with the Archery Director upon arrival.
- Troop shoots are available! Sign up at the Black Building.

Whether you're a first-time shooter or looking to improve your aim, the Shooting Sports area provides a safe, fun environment to learn and grow.



CLIMBING

Challenge Yourself: Mind, Body, and Rope!

The Climbing merit badge is an exciting, hands-on class that pushes Scouts to develop physical strength, focus, and teamwork. Scouts will learn key skills such as climbing, belaying, rappelling, and mastering a variety of essential knots.

Note: Participants must be 13 years old or older to be in the merit badge class.

With multiple climbing routes of varying difficulty, there's a challenge for everyone, whether you're brand new to climbing or highly experienced.

The fun doesn't stop with the merit badge!

- **Open climbs** and **troop climbs** are available for all Scouts (no age or rank restrictions).
- Don't miss the **Constellation Climb** on **Tuesday nights**, a unique evening adventure under the stars!



PUMPHOUSE

Hands-On Learning in a Unique Camp Setting

Join us at the Pumphouse, a classic Camp Wilderness building now home to several hands-on and creative merit badge classes. This dedicated space brings a fresh energy to some of our most engaging programs.

Merit badges offered at the Pumphouse:

- Composite Materials
- Plumbing
- Salesmanship
- Theater

Whether you're interested in building, performing, or pitching ideas, the Pumphouse is the place to explore new skills in a fun and supportive environment.





COPE (CHALLENGING OUTDOOR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE)

Thrills, Teamwork, and Personal Growth

COPE is a high-adventure program designed for Scouts **13 years and older** who are ready to push their limits and build lasting skills. Through a series of challenging activities, Scouts will develop **trust, teamwork, communication, and teambuilding** abilities in a supportive outdoor setting.

The highlight? An unforgettable **425-foot zipline ride** that delivers an adrenaline rush and a sense of accomplishment. Get ready for excitement, growth, and memories that will last a lifetime!



ATV

Ride. Learn. Explore.

Get ready for an unforgettable ride! In the ATV program, Scouts will first complete the ATV Safety Institute's Safety Rider Course, earning their official certification. From basic handling to advanced maneuvers, each session includes hands-on training and real trail time.

Once certified, Scouts will enjoy miles of trails across Camp Wilderness property, exploring remote areas of camp that few ever get to see. It's a unique opportunity to experience the wild side of camp like never before.

Details:

- Cost: \$45 per Scout
- Age Requirement: Must be at least 14 years old

This is one of Camp Wilderness's top high-adventure experiences, perfect for those ready to ride and explore!



HEALTH LODGE

Preparedness Starts Here

The Health Lodge at Camp Wilderness isn't just where campers go for care, it's also a hub for learning critical life-saving skills. This well-equipped facility offers a quiet, focused environment perfect for Scouts interested in emergency response and personal readiness.

Merit badges offered at the Health Lodge include:

- First Aid (not recommended for first year Scouts)
- Emergency Preparedness
- Search and Rescue

Scouts in these classes gain hands-on experience, practical knowledge, and the confidence to take action in critical situations, both in the backcountry and at home.

ADVENTURE PROGRAMS

NORTHERN TIER ADVENTURE

Explore the Boundary Waters with Northern Tier High Adventure

Camp Wilderness has partnered with Northern Tier High Adventure Base to offer an incredible week-long canoe trip into the Boundary Waters, available each week of summer camp.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Scouts and adults must be **at least 14 years old** or have **completed 8th grade and be 13 years old by arrival.**
- All participants must have a **Swimmer classification.**

Important Leadership & Medical Requirements:

- Camp Wilderness does NOT provide leadership for this trip.
- Units must provide their own qualified leadership, including at least one adult trained in Wilderness First Aid or equivalent.

Registration Details:

- A minimum of 4 Scouts and 2 adults must register by April 4 for the trip to proceed.
- Registration is through Northern Tier. Find the registration link at scoutingnlc.org/summercamp.
- Cost: **\$550** per participant (no Camp Wilderness registration fee required if attending Northern Tier).

Trip Logistics:

- Participants must check in at Camp Wilderness by 9:00 AM on Sunday.
- Departure for Northern Tier is promptly at 10:00 AM on Sunday.



Get ready for an unforgettable wilderness adventure!



WHITE WATER RAFTING

Thrilling, Safe, and Fully Guided Day Trip (Wednesday Adventure Day)

Join us for an exciting **day trip excursion to Duluth, MN** for white water rafting! We'll depart Camp Wilderness at **6:00 AM** and return the same day after a fun-filled rafting adventure.

Our trips are led by **professional in-raft guides** and supported by experienced safety kayakers, ensuring a safe and exhilarating experience on the river. No prior experience is needed! You just be physically able to paddle and classified as a swimmer.



Included with your trip:

- Expert guides steering the rafts and safety kayakers monitoring the river
- A professional photographer capturing your best moments on the water
- Lunch

Get ready for a full day of thrills and memories in the beautiful rivers of Duluth! Price is **\$80** per person.

ATV ABLAZE

ATV Excursion & Lake Hopping

Buckle up for a blazing adventure through the Northwoods! This action-packed, 3-hour ATV excursion takes you beyond the trail and straight into the splash zone, riding deep into the wilderness to swim in Buck, Bad Axe, and Mantrap Lakes. You'll rip through rugged terrain, soak in the scenic views, and cool off. This **Tier 2** experience is only for those who have completed ATV 1, because once you've tamed the basics, it's time to ride **ABLAZE**. Burn rubber, make waves, and leave the trail sizzling.

Details:

- Must have completed the ATV program earlier in the week or in a previous year
- **3 hour ride:** Bring day gear, swimwear, water bottle, and a sense of adventure

This program combines high adventure with refreshing swim stops. Price is **\$25** per Scout.



CAMP POLICIES

BIKES

It is the policy of the Northern Lights Council that bikes are not allowed in camp unless you get approval from the administration.

SANDALS

It is the policy of the Northern Lights Council that closed-toe shoes must be always worn at camp, except while at the waterfront area and shower house.

WEAPONS, FIREARMS & KNIVES

It is the policy of the Northern Lights Council that personal knives at camp are to have no longer than a 3-inch blade. No sheath knives are allowed at Camp Wilderness. No personal firearms are allowed at Camp Wilderness. Personal archery equipment may be brought, but must be checked in with the Archery Director and stored at the Archery Range.

VEHICLES

When operating one of your private vehicles in camp, remember the following:

- The camp speed limit is 15 mph.
- No passengers will be permitted in the beds of trucks or in trailers. All passengers must be seated inside the vehicle. Seatbelt use is required in camp in accordance with national policies.
- You can drive your personal vehicles to your campsite to unload when you arrive and to load when you leave. We request that you keep your vehicle in the designated parking areas at all other times. Limiting the amount of driving that goes on in camp makes the trails safer for all of us.
- Vehicles may not be kept in campsites and must be out of your campsite before opening campfire.
- Your troop trailer may remain at the campsite. A vehicle permit may be obtained from the Health Officer for the physically challenged.
- Vehicles must be backed into all parking spaces.

SMOKING/VAPING

A designated smoking area is provided behind the dining hall on the Scouts BSA side. All smoking and vaping must take place in this designated area.

ALCOHOL & DRUGS

Alcohol and federally declared illegal drugs and substances are not allowed at Camp Wilderness. Marijuana is not allowed on camp property.

STAFF HOUSING

Cabins are reserved for staff only. Scouts and adult leaders cannot enter cabins.

DRONES

Camp Wilderness requires all use of drones to be in compliance with FAA regulations, including keeping them within line of sight, flying no higher than 400 feet, and not to be flown directly over large gatherings of people.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

Pictures and videos can be taken while at camp. If you see someone at camp with a red wristband, they cannot have their photo taken. We do have a camp photographer and videographer. You may see them around camp with various camera equipment. This person will be easily identifiable with a staff nametag.

You can find all the promotional videos on our website!

SOCIAL MEDIA

We have Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube. Throughout the week, we will post videos and pictures of Scouts at camp. During each opening and closing campfire, you can watch the start of it Live on our Facebook page. If you have any photos or videos that you would like us to share, please email them to the Camp Director.

VISITORS IN CAMP

Visitors are always welcome at Camp Wilderness. If you know the parents of your Scouts will be visiting you at camp, please remind them that all visitors must check-in at the Black Building upon their arrival where they will receive their wristband and check-out upon their departure. In addition, we encourage you to have a representative of your troop meet your visitors at the Black Building upon their arrival.

If visitors would like to join in at a meal. They may purchase meal tickets at the Black Building for \$8.50/meal. If visitors plan to stay in the camp overnight, they must be registered with Scouting America and have a medical form with parts A, B, and C on file with the camp health office.

Visitors are also welcome at our opening and closing campfires. Each Sunday and Friday we will have a campfire program at the Meechgalanne Sparrowhawk Campfire Area..

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

CAMP STAFF

Camp Wilderness is hiring for the 2026 camping season. There are a variety of positions available for youth and adults. Youth must be at least 15 to work at camp in aide-level positions. If anyone is interested in an Area Director position, they must be at least 18 for most, and 21+ for aquatics, high adventure, or administration.

Working on camp staff includes housing, three meals a day, bi-weekly salary, and two t-shirts. **Scholarship opportunities are available** for those that work on camp staff 3 consecutive summers. Applications can be found at scoutingnlc.org/campstaff.



COUNSELOR IN TRAINING (CIT) PROGRAM

The Counselor in Training (CIT) program is a 2-week volunteer-based program for youth ages 14 or older. Being a CIT is designed to prepare youth to be on camp staff. During the 2-week stay, they will work directly with the Camp Wilderness Program Director, who will assign them to work in different program areas. They will have the opportunity to work in four different program areas. Being a CIT includes tent housing, three meals a day, and one t-shirt. Applications can be found at scoutingnlc.org/campstaff.

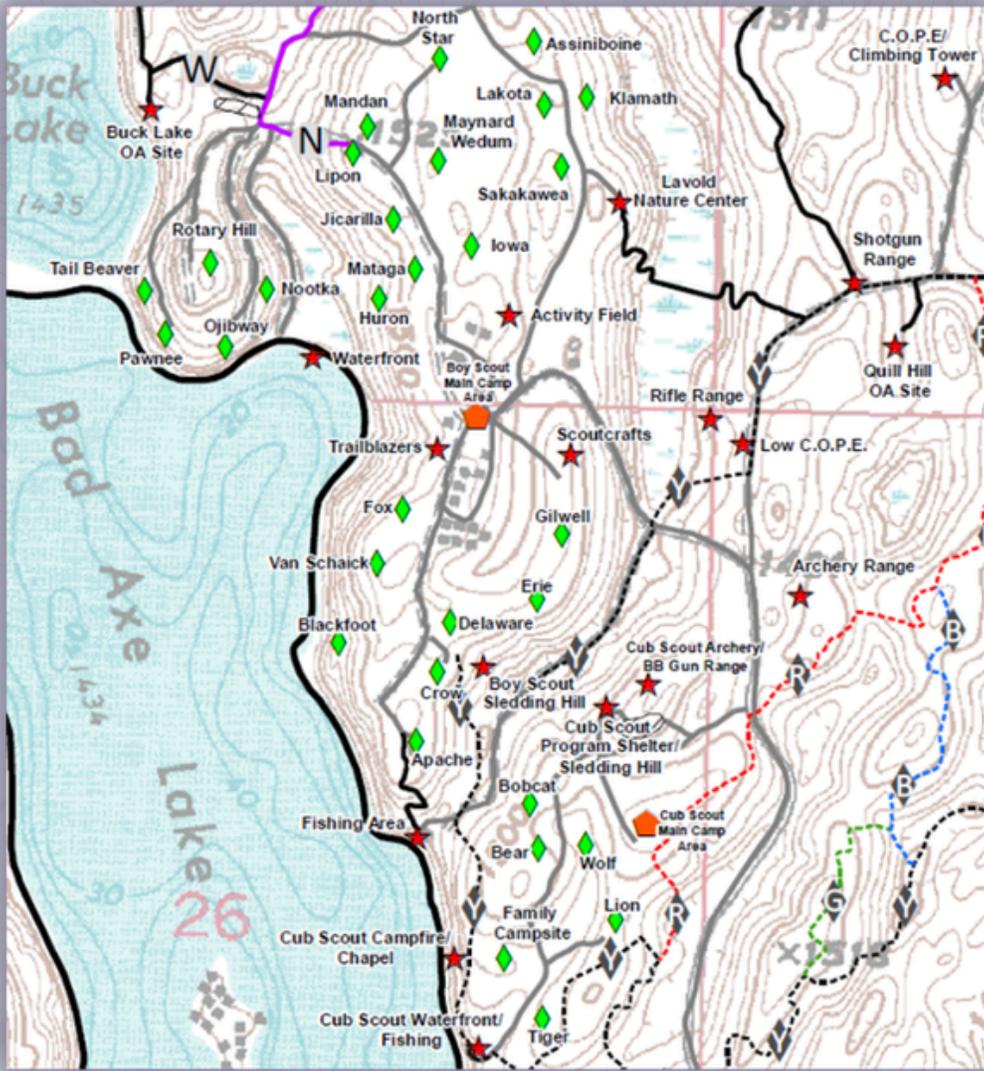
NORTHERN LIGHTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The goal is to maintain the spirit, traditions, and memories of the Northern Lights Council camps both past and present; to provide a means for alumni of the Northern Lights Council Camps to maintain affiliation with each other and with the camps; and to contribute to the continued maintenance and development of the camp's physical and human resources.

Membership in the association is open to all past and current camp staff members, campers, or anyone who has interest in the Northern Lights Council.

Our main focus is on Camp Wilderness, Heart Butte, and Big 4. Please find more information at scoutingnlc.org/alumni.





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Northern Lights Council, Scouting America

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