

Scouts BSA Summer Camp

2019

LEADERS GUIDE



“The Adventure Begins Where the Road Ends”

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 the Boy Scouts of America. Our programs have been featured in both *Boys Life* and *Scouting Magazines*.

In operation since 1946, this beautiful camp has met the needs of Scouts and Leaders for over 70 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 O.W.L.S and SCUBA are just a few of the exciting programs offered at 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!

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Greetings from Camp Wilderness!

I hope you and your Scouts are prepared for another great summer at Camp Wilderness. Our staff is excited to host you for a week of fun and adventure!

We always strive to provide you with the best experience possible at Camp Wilderness. We have some exciting updates for 2019 that should make your experience even better!

In September of 2018 we rolled out a brand-new website and reservation system. The new reservation system will have “parent portals” allowing you to grant parents access to pay for their child’s camp directly. It will also allow us to have electronic blue cards which will make paperwork Friday easier, provide you printed blue cards in place of hand written ones, and grant you access to a csv file you can upload directly to Scoutbook or Troopmaster.

With the rollout of Scouts BSA, we will be offering two weeks of summer camp reserved for male only troops. This will be Week Two (June 23-29) and Week Six (July 21-27). All remaining weeks will be open to both male and female troops.

While we hope we never need to use them, we are excited to announce our storm shelters will be ready for the 2019 summer season. These new shelters, one on the Scouts BSA side and one on the Cub Scout side, will replace the existing severe weather shelters. The FEMA rated shelters will each safely house hundreds of Scouts and adults in a ventilated concrete bunker.

We are continuing our popular merit badge rotation in 2019. There will be 11 new merit badges Scouts can choose from that were not offered in 2018. We have a three-year rotation schedule planned with more details being found on page 16.

You can sign up anytime for a campsite on our website at www.nlcbsa.org/2232. We continue to make frequent updates to our website, Instagram and Facebook page in preparation not only for summer camp, but all our year-round programs.

If you have any questions about Camp Wilderness, our summer programs, or year-round programs, please feel free to contact us at the Fargo Center For Scouting toll free at 1-877-293-5011. We look forward to seeing you and your Scouts on the trails of Camp Wilderness!

Yours in Scouting,



Thomas G Barry
Program Director
Northern Lights Council, BSA

General Information

Dates of Operation 2019

Week 1	June 16 – 22	Week 4	July 7 – 13
Week 2*	June 23 – 29	Week 5	July 14 – 20
Week 3	June 30 – July 6	Week 6*	July 21 – 27

*Week 2 and Week 6 are reserved for male only Scouts BSA Troops. All other weeks are open to male and female Troops.

Each weekly session begins Sunday at 1pm and ends Saturday by 9am.

Weeks 4, 5, and 6 will offer the SCUBA Merit Badge (*note 5-1-19 registration deadline*).

Location

Camp Wilderness is located in the heart of the Paul Bunyan State Forest north of Park Rapids, MN. The camp is easily accessed off of Hwy 34 from Park Rapids. Take Cty Rd 4 north for 10 miles to Emmaville, MN. Turn east on Cty Rd 24 for 3 miles. Turn north on Cty Rd 104 to the end of the road. The entrance to the camp is just 2 miles up the road!

Contact the Northern Lights Council

Wanzek Center For Scouting

4200 19th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103
(877) 293-5011

Reservation Director

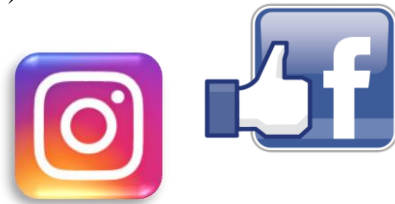
Tom Barry
tom.barry@scouting.org

Camp Wilderness Website

For the latest information regarding the year-round operation of Camp Wilderness, visit us at: www.nlcbsa.org (Click on the Camping Tab along the top bar).

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook: Camp Wilderness Scout Camp
Follow us on Instagram: campwildernessbsa



Phone

The number to Camp Wilderness is **218-732-4674**. The Fax # is **218-732-1535**.

All callers should be prepared with the name and Troop number of the individual they wish to speak to. We do our best to staff the camp phone 24 hours a day while Scouts are in camp.

Mail, Fedex, and UPS

Camp Wilderness does have daily delivery service. Please mail all letters or packages to Scouts by Wednesday or they will not get to camp in time.

The camp address is:

Scout or Leader Name
Troop ###
Camp Wilderness
29984 Journey Trail
Park Rapids, MN 56470

Camp Inspection and License

Camp Wilderness is inspected regularly by the county and state health departments, and yearly by the Boy Scouts of America. Camp Wilderness has earned a “Nationally Accredited” rating from the BSA’s own National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP). All areas of camp meet or exceed the standards for facilities, health and safety, and program. The camp is licensed to operate by the state of Minnesota.

Camp Staff

Camp Wilderness employs 55 seasonal staff. Over 70% of the staff returns each summer, providing continuity and experienced customer service to the program. Our staff take pride in the operation of camp. They strive to provide a quality and unique experience to the Scouts and adults that attend Camp Wilderness. The Scouts and staff look forward to seeing each other and rekindling their friendships at camp year after year. If you know of any Scouts or adults who are interested in working on camp staff, they can find more information by contacting Tom Barry at 1-877-293-5011 or online at <http://www.nlcbsa.org/2243>.



Local Attractions

There are many places to see and things to do in the area surrounding Camp Wilderness. Here are a few items that may interest your Troop as you make your plans to travel to camp. Some Troops even travel a day early, stay overnight at Camp Wilderness, and enjoy some of the surrounding tourist attractions.

Itasca State Park:

Half a million visitors a year visit Itasca State Park, the headwaters of the Mississippi River. The Mississippi River begins its 2,552-mile journey to the Gulf of Mexico here.

www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/itasca/

For more information call (218) 699-7251

Hubbard County Historical Museum:

They showcase historical pioneer and military displays. Free admission. Closed Sun. & Mon.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnhchs>

For more information call (218) 732-5237

Transportation to Camp Wilderness

Cars

Most Troops travel to Camp Wilderness in cars or vans. We have ample parking around Camp Wilderness for any size vehicle.

Bus

Some Troops may choose to charter a bus and save the hassle of being behind the wheel! Contact your local charter bus company to make arrangements for this mode of transportation. This is ideal for larger Troops traveling long distances.

Fly

The nearest commercial airport is about 40 miles away in Bemidji, MN and Delta is the major carrier. Fargo International Airport is 100 miles away and has Delta, United, American, Frontier, and Allegiant as the major carriers. The Minneapolis airport is about 200 miles from the camp, with most major airlines offering service.

Train

Amtrak makes a daily stop in Detroit Lakes, MN both east and west bound on the Empire Builder. Amtrak's schedule and rates are on their website at www.amtrack.com or by calling 800-872-7245. Detroit Lakes, MN is 55 miles west of Camp Wilderness.

Fee and Payment Schedule

2019 Camp Wilderness Fees

	<u>Scouts</u>	<u>Leaders</u>
Camp Fee	\$310	\$175 (First 2 are free)
Early Bird Discount	\$290	\$150 (First 2 are free)
Second Week of Camp	\$165	\$ 90
Siblings for the week*	\$150	N/A
Part Time Leaders	N/A	\$ 40 per day

*Includes food and the opportunity to participate in open programs, but not merit badges classes

Boundary Waters Canoe Trip to Northern Tier High Adventure Base Fees

A minimum of 4 Scouts and 1 adult must be registered by April 1, 2019 for the crew to go.

\$100 non-refundable deposit is due with your reservation (refunded if minimum numbers not met)
Balance of the total \$450 is due by May 1, 2019. Non-refundable.

The link to register can be found on the summer camp page of our website under Attachments:
<https://scoutingevent.com/429-22656#>.

However, Scouts and adults who register for this Camp Wilderness Northern Tier trip **do not register** for summer camp on the www.nlcbsa.org website.

SCUBA Merit Badge and PADI certification

The SCUBA course must have 6 Scouts or adults signed up by May 1, 2019 to hold this class each week. This class will only be offered Weeks 4, 5, and 6 for 2019 (July 7-13, July 14–20 and July 21-27).

\$100 is due with your reservation form. Non-refundable

\$200 is due by March 1, 2019. Non-refundable

\$200 is due by April 1, 2019. Non-refundable

Balance of the total \$700 is due by May 1, 2019. Non-refundable

Important Dates

March 16th – Online Merit Badge Registration Opens

- \$100 non-refundable deposit per Scout is required, but can be transferred to a *new* Scout reservation
- This will be applied to the Scout's camp fee

April 1st – Northern Tier reservations due

April 15th – Camperships are due to the Council Service Center

May 1st – SCUBA registrations due

May 1st – Early Bird Payments ***must be paid in full*** for all Scouts and Adults – paid online

May 1st – Make your Reservation online at www.nlcbsa.org for 2019



Campsite Fee

\$50 is due at the time of your reservation and is non-refundable, but is transferable during the summer of 2019 to another week. This Fee will not be applied to your registration fees.

Refund Policy

Food and program supplies are purchased in advance based upon the projected numbers registered for camp. Below is the refund policy for Camp Wilderness:

- There is a \$100 non-refundable fee for a Scout cancellation and \$25 non-refundable fee for a paid adult cancellation—fees paid over these amounts will be refunded to the unit.
- Scouts sent home because of misbehavior, Scouts who choose not to attend camp of their own free will, or Scouts leaving camp for non-emergency reasons will have no fees refunded.
- **Camperships are due to the Center for Scouting by April 15.** Funds will be granted based on need and as available.
- All refund requests are processed after the camping season is done. Refunds will be issued no later than September 30th.
- Refunds must be submitted in writing before the camp session begins.

85% or More Club

If you bring 85% of the registered Scouts in your unit, we will provide a special appreciation treat during an evening packout. If you qualify for this club, please make sure to bring an official unit roster with you (this includes Northern Lights Council and non-Northern Lights Council units).

Preparing for Camp

Troop T-Shirt Pre-Orders

Your Troop will have the opportunity to order customized camp shirts with your Troop number. These shirts are only available in the pre-camp order. This is a great way for your Troop to show off its camp spirit! The shirt orders will be due by May 15th to allow time for printing. The shirts will be mailed directly to your troop before camp. We will place the order form on the website once the design is complete and ready to go.



Camperships

Camperships are assistance for Northern Lights Council Scouts who would otherwise be financially unable to attend summer camp. Camperships are available for up to one half of the total camp fee. The campership may only be used to attend Northern Lights Council Summer Camps. Financial need must be demonstrated before a campership is awarded. Scouts are encouraged to work with their individual units on fundraising projects which may earn them money to be applied toward their summer camp fee. These camperships are available for Scouts in the Northern Lights Council. If you are out of council, check with your council to see what assistance might be available. **Applications received by April 15 will receive first priority.** Funds will be granted based on need and availability.

Arrival & Departure Information

Normal check-in for Troops begins at 1:00 PM and ends at 3:00 PM Sunday. If you will not be able to check-in during this time period, please notify us in advance. If your Troop needs to arrive Saturday or Monday (e.g. for religious reasons) please notify us. If you arrive on Saturday, there will be a \$50 charge for your unit to stay overnight.

For those Scouts that are attending the Boundary Waters Canoe Trip this summer, they need to be in camp by 9am to check-in, as they will be leaving for Northern Tier promptly at 10am on Sunday.

Check-in Process

A staff member will greet you at the Welcome Center on the main road leading into camp and direct you to the main parking lot (near the Black Building and Health Lodge), the overflow lot (near the Ranger House and Maintenance Yard), or your campsite based on how full the parking lots are at that time. A staff member will greet you shortly after you park and assist you through the check-in process.

The first stop during check-in will be the Health Lodge. Please have your Scouts line up in alphabetical order, by last name, with health forms in hand. Adults should line up behind the Scouts. Be prepared to hand a copy of your Troop roster to your staff member.

The final stop during check-in will be at the waterfront. *Make sure you pack your swim gear so it's readily accessible without unpacking your entire trailer or vehicle.* If your Troop completed the swim test before camp, you will still need to visit the waterfront for the safety speech. If you need to complete or retake the swim test, you can do so at this time. Once you have completed this portion of check-in, you are done and can head to your campsite!

Leaving Camp: *Scouts and adult leaders need to check-out and check-in whenever leaving camp. Adult leaders need to check-out and check-in when leaving or arriving at camp during the middle of the week.* A staff member will be available in the Black Building to help you with this process throughout the day.

Camp Policies

Northern Lights Council Leadership Policy

It is the policy of the Northern Lights Council that each troop must be under the leadership of at least two registered leaders. Both leaders must be at least 21 years old. Both male and female adults can provide this leadership. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present if female youth are attending. Troops who will be short on leaders should contact the Camp Administration at 218-732-4674 one week before arriving at camp. We can provide you with the contact information for another troop in camp to help share the two deep leadership requirement. Notifying us before you arrive will help speed up your check-in process at camp.

Camp Wilderness requires that all adult leaders spending one or more nights at a weeklong summer camp program be a currently registered adult leader with their unit, district, or council, and complete Youth Protection Training before arriving at camp. This policy will help us keep all Scouts in camp safe, and will ensure that all adults in camp are covered under the BSA Accident and Sickness insurance program.

Visitors

Visitors are always welcome at Camp Wilderness. If you know 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 wrist band, and check-out upon their departure. Your cooperation in this matter will help us track our camp usage. In addition, we encourage you to have a representative of your Troop meet your visitors at the Black Building upon their arrival.

If visitors plan to stay in camp overnight, they must be registered with the BSA and have a medical form with parts A, B & C on file with the camp health office.

Bikes in Camp

It is the policy of the Northern Lights Council that bikes are not allowed in camp unless it is an organized staffed program.

Tent Space

All tentage should meet or exceed fire-retardant specifications and be marked with NO FLAME stickers or stencils. Decals are available for sale in the Trading Post to assist in properly marking each tent.

Health Forms

In accordance with National BSA Policy, National Camp Standards, and Minnesota State Rules governing youth resident camps, all persons remaining in camp overnight or who will be participating in camp activities must have a Health History Form on file with the Camp Health Officer. Parts A, B and C must be completed. Part C must be signed and dated by a recognized health care provider within twelve calendar months of your arrival at camp. No school or sports physical forms will be accepted. For further information on the Annual Health History Form please visit:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/Resources/MedicalFormFAQs.aspx>

Insurance

It is required that all Troops participating in the programs of the Northern Lights Council Summer Camps carry unit accident insurance. If you are a Northern Lights Council Troop, you received this insurance when you re-chartered this year and we will have a copy of it at camp for you.

If you are an out of council Troop and need insurance, you can contact your local Council Service Center to find out how to obtain insurance.

Be sure to bring your policy number and information on how to file a claim with you to camp.

Vehicle Policies

When operating one of your private vehicles in Camp, please 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 may 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 in the campsite.**

A vehicle permit may be obtained from the Health Officer for the physically challenged.

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.

Sandals

It is the policy of the Northern Lights Council that closed-toe shoes are to be worn at all times at camp, except while at the waterfront area and shower house. Closed-toe shoes will provide more support over the course of your stay and provide your feet with more protection.

Camp Facilities and Support Operations

RV Camping

Family camping is available at Camp Wilderness. The fee is \$25.00 per night for an RV hookup. This includes electrical hookups and water for RVs. There are no dumping stations at camp. This campsite is located in the heart of the Butler Wilderness Outpost, the Cub Scout Camp of Camp Wilderness. Leader, Part Time Leader, and Sibling fees would also apply, see page 7 for details.

Family Camping

There are a limited number of tent sites, cabins, and RV hook-ups for families to use. The Camp Wilderness Family Camp connects to many of the camp's great hiking trails. A popular attraction to visit is Itasca State Park. In addition, there are many craft stores, resorts, and public lake accesses near the Camp. The fees to stay in the Family camp are same as the Leader, Part Time Leader, and Sibling fees at the Boy Scout Camp. If you prefer cabin camping over tenting, there is an additional \$25 / night rental fee for cabins. The camp does not have a dumping station. Drinking water and an outdoor latrine are centrally located in the Family Camp.

Trading Post

The Camp Trading Post stocks a wide variety of Camp memorabilia, Scouting literature and supplies, sundries, program supplies, and refreshments such as ice cream, candy, and pop. Troop leaders may charge items to a Troop account.

Quartermaster

Camp Wilderness has a supply of camping gear which you may check-out during your stay. This equipment is located in the Quartermaster Shop. The Quartermaster also maintains a workshop for repair work on equipment and tools that are damaged during Camp use, stores all bulk fuel containers that are not in use in your campsite, and can help transport equipment to and from your campsite. Hours of operation will be posted at the Quartermaster Shop. Also, the Quartermaster is in charge of all conservation projects at Camp, so talk to them about setting up a Troop project.

Health Lodge

A qualified Health Officer is available to manage 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.

Medications at Camp

National Camp Standards require that all medication prescriptions or other medication must be under the control of a responsible adult and be stored in a secured manner (locked box, locked vehicle). The only exception is for emergency medications such as epi-pens, rescue inhalers, and nitroglycerin. Any medications brought to camp shall be listed on the Annual Health History, and must be in its original dispensing container, clearly marked with the patient's name, name of the medication, dosage, route of administration, and prescribing providers name.

Troop leaders are encouraged to store and manage medications for the members of their unit. Leaders must keep a log of when medications are administered. The Health Lodge staff can provide logs to help with this. The Camp Health Lodge staff can also assist in this task if necessary. Locked storage for medication, including those requiring refrigeration, is available at the Health Lodge. Please discuss any needs with the Camp Health Officer.

Troop Campsites

Your campsite will be one of the most important facilities you use while in Camp. Each site has drinking water, picnic tables, two flagpoles, and a bulletin board. All campsites have access to a latrine. As you plan for summer camp, give some consideration to how you want to organize your Troop site and what projects your Scouts would like to complete in the site. Even small projects will make your site a more enjoyable place to spend your week. Campsites at Camp Wilderness are impacted by heavy use during the summer camp season. Each year, we estimate that over 2,000 Scouts and leaders will use the thirty campsites at Camp Wilderness over the course of six weeks.



Shower & Toilet Facilities

Separate shower facilities are provided in the main camp area for use by leaders and Scouts. Leaders share shower facilities with the adult Camp Staff. Leaders and Scouts as well as males and females must have separate shower facilities in accordance with BSA Youth Protection policies.

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

The Youth Shower facilities also have an indoor section with flush toilets and sinks.

Laundry Facilities

There are coin operated washers and dryers available for your use in Camp. Laundry soap is available to purchase at Camp.

Food Service

Most meals will be served split-shift, buffet style. Sunday and Friday night suppers will be served outside as a picnic — as is our Camp's tradition. During your week at camp, two meals will be prepared in the campsite.

Your unit has the option of cooking any other meals you desire in your campsite. Our Food Service Staff can provide additional food items you may need for special meals.

You will need to have a table waiter assigned to remain after meals to clean the table, sweep, etc. Dining Hall procedures will be reviewed during the Sunday night leader meeting.

A few other points of Dining Hall etiquette deserve mentioning. First, you will be asked to take your hat off when entering the Dining Hall. Scouts and adults should proceed to the Dining Hall as a Unit. The opportunity for Scouts and Scouters to acquire second helpings of food will be available after all units have been served in each meal session.

The camp has limited amounts of cooking utensils for campsite cooking, so please make sure you bring the proper cooking kits with you when you come to Camp.



Extra Meals & Dietary Needs

Guests are welcome to eat meals in the Dining Hall with the Scouts for \$6.00 a meal. They can pay for this in the Trading Post. If you or your Scout have special dietary needs, such as gluten intolerance, allergies, or due to a medical condition, we need to know at least 2 weeks prior to your visit.

Meals Cooked in the Campsites

We will be cooking two meals in campsites throughout your stay at Camp Wilderness. The meals will be simple for your Scouts to be able to prepare and get back to activities around Camp. Tuesday supper will consist of hotdogs, baked beans, and chips. Wednesday lunch will be hobo dinners. Your Troop will not need to bring extensive cooking equipment to prepare these meals. If your Troop would like to cook a more elaborate meal, please plan ahead or talk to the Camp Director before summer camp.

Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow will be holding training for members of the Pa-Hin Lodge who want to help with ceremonies. Throughout the week, the Order of the Arrow will provide opportunities for an OA member meeting, Ordeal Callout, progression towards Brotherhood, and an evening social.

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 homesick Scouts, 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.

Volunteer Commissioner

Your Troop will be assisted by seasoned Scout leaders when you attend camp. 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.

Commissioners who return for a second year will receive a free jacket in addition to the other perks. If you are interested in joining our commissioner staff, please contact the Council Program Director Tom Barry at (877) 293-5011 to receive an application.



Program

Merit Badges offered at Camp Wilderness

Core Merit Badges (offered every year)	
Archery	Nature
Rifle	Environmental Science*
Shotgun	Swimming*
Climbing	Canoeing
Fishing	Kayaking
Fly Fishing	Lifesaving*
Motorboating	Emergency Prep*
Metalwork	First Aid*
Camping*	Cit in Nation*
Woodcarving	Cit in the World*
Wilderness Survival	Journalism
Pioneering	SCUBA – weeks 4-6
Leatherwork	

2019 Merit Badge Rotation	2020 Merit Badge Rotation	2021 Merit Badge Rotation
Forestry	Orienteering	Indian Lore
Soil and Water Conservation	Signs Signals and Codes	Rowing
Astronomy	Digital Technology	Rifle – Black Powder
Insect Study	Radio	Bird Study
Electronics	Forestry	Fish and Wildlife Management
Photography	Geology	Reptile Study
Geocaching	Mammal Study	Weather
Search and Rescue	Plant Science	Exploration
Mining in Society	Game Design	Communications*
Music	Nuclear Science	Electricity
Oceanography	Space Exploration	Basketry

* Eagle Required Merit Badge

Pre-registration for Merit Badges and Activity Badges

Pre-registration is the process of signing up your Scouts for merit badge classes before arriving in camp and starts on March 16th. More information will be e-mailed to all Troops signed up for summer camp in late January about the online process. Camp Wilderness offers COPE, Mile Swim, Snorkeling, and Paddle boarding Activity Badges.

Provisional Troop

Do you have Scouts that want to attend Camp during the summer but can't the week the Troop is going? We are pleased to offer an opportunity for Scouts to attend Camp without their Troop. We have leadership in place for a provisional Troop for each week of the summer. This group will come together as a Troop for a week and participate in all the activities that a normal Troop would

do. If you would like more information about this program, please contact the Council Program Director Tom Barry at (877) 293-5011.

Troop Activity Registration

Each Troop will have the opportunity to sign up for Troop activities on Sunday night after the first adult leader meeting. After the initial signup, provided there are still openings, you can sign up for additional activities. The Troop activity list is provided as part of the class schedule available in late January.

Swim Tests

Troops have the option to do swim tests prior to arriving in Camp. A certified aquatics person can do the testing in a local pool. These swim tests are good for one year. The forms needed for the test are located on the council web page under Attachments on the summer camping page: <https://scoutingevent.com/429-22656#>.

Program Fees

Some programs require additional fees to cover the costs of specific program supplies.

.22 cal. Rifles	50¢ for 5 rounds of ammunition
Shotgun	50¢ for 1 round of ammunition
Scoutcraft Kits	\$7-\$15 various kits available
Rifle or Shotgun MB	\$20 separate fee for each of these classes

Program Areas

Trailblazers

Do you have a Scout that is brand new to the Scouting program? Perhaps you have a Scout that needs help in advancement. These Scouts can benefit from the Trailblazer Program at Camp Wilderness. This program is an opportunity for younger campers to work on advancement through their First Class Rank and basic Scouting skills.



This program is designed to give the first-year camper an introduction to Camp Wilderness. The Trailblazer staff has a fun, creative and exciting program designed to give your younger scouts practice in basic Scouting skills while helping them on the trail of rank advancement. A list of requirements that can be earned is available under Resources on the summer camp website.

Fishing Area

Our Fishing Program at Camp Wilderness has gained recognition throughout the area. This program takes pride in the art of catching “The Big One”. This area includes a huge dock, motor boats, rods, reels, tackle, and bait — everything needed for a beginning angler! Experienced anglers will provide instruction and coaching.

A large fishing dock and motorboats are available at no additional charge! Scouts and leaders can use 14' Lund boats on Bad Axe Lake. National Camp standards require that an adult who has passed the BSA swim test must accompany youth operating a motorboat.



If you are under 16, you can fish at camp without a license. If you are over 16, you will need to purchase a license. You can purchase them in Emmaville, MN, which is 5 miles from camp.

Waterfront

On those hot and humid days, nothing beats a trip to the waterfront. Here, Scouts can learn to be skilled, safe swimmers and boaters. Staff can provide knowledgeable instruction in *Swimming and Canoeing* Merit Badges. For those older, more experienced Scouts, *Kayaking*, and *Lifesaving*, are great Merit Badges to earn during their stay. BSA activity patches offered during the week are *Mile Swim*, *Snorkeling*, and *Stand Up Paddleboarding*. Of course, we can't forget the ever-popular open boating and swimming periods, offered every day. Adult leaders even have a chance to initiate their own Scout-run aquatics program by attending the *Safety Afloat* and *Safe Swim Defense* programs.



-All waterfront merit badges require a swimmer classification. Those Scouts not classified as swimmer by Sunday's swim tests should register for a different merit badge on Sunday evening.

-Swim tests may be taken as many times as is needed to reach the swimmer classification.

Nature Program

As members of Scouting, you and your Troop are ecology-conscious individuals. Scouts involved in the Nature Program have a wide variety of merit badges from which to choose. While earning these badges, they'll learn many intriguing things about Mother Nature, but learning is a two-way venture. Scouts can give back to the environment what they have learned. You and your Troop can work with the Nature Area Staff in planning and carrying out important conservation projects. You can go for a hike along the Nature Trail and see nature in both its unaltered form and in ways people have influenced it. Our Camp abounds



in nature, and we encourage you to take it to the limits and explore it. The Nature Staff can help you arrange nature hikes, environmental awareness games, and activities. They also offer instruction in over a dozen merit badges.

Scoutcraft Area

What week of summer camp is complete without a visit to the Scoutcraft Area? At the Scoutcraft Area, Scouts will get the opportunity to have hands-on experiences in Pioneering, Woodcarving, Wilderness Survival, Metalworking, Leatherwork, and Camping.

Our Camping Merit Badge instructors will teach your Scouts the basics of living in the great outdoors. Our Wilderness Survival counselors will teach you the priorities of survival and how to signal for help. Forge your own implements and decorations from scrap metal in the Metalwork Merit Badge program. The Pioneering Merit Badge program is known for engineering camp gadgets beyond your wildest imagination. Your Scouts may find an adventure on our cross-country orienteering course. Nothing can beat a hand-crafted souvenir that your Scouts can make with Leatherwork, and Woodcarving instructions.



If you have some extra time in the afternoon, stop by the Scoutcrafts Area and see what they offer.

Shooting Sports Areas

Camp Wilderness offers three different Shooting Sports Merit Badges: Archery, Shotgun, and Rifle. Please keep in mind the following items:

1. No personal firearms or ammunition.
2. Personal archery equipment is discouraged unless the Scout is enrolled in the merit badge. You may bring your own equipment as long as you leave it with the Archery Director while you are at Camp.
3. It is recommended that 1st year Scouts not take archery since it takes a fair amount of upper arm strength to complete all of the shooting required for the Archery Merit Badge.
4. There is a \$20.00 fee for rifle and shotgun (separate for each class) which covers all the shooting for that Scout for the week (including Troop Shoots and open times).
5. Troop shoots are available by appointment.



Older Scout Programs

Camp Wilderness has a High Adventure Program that will give your older Scouts a challenge they will never forget: Boundary Waters Canoe Trips in conjunction with Northern Tier High Adventure Base, Climbing Merit Badge, Project C.O.P.E., OWLS Program, and SCUBA Merit

Badge. These programs will provide the adventure of a lifetime!

Boundary Waters Canoe Trip

Camp Wilderness has partnered with Northern Tier High Adventure Base to offer a week-long canoe trip to the Boundary Waters each week of summer camp. Scouts and adults must be at least 14 years old *OR* completed the 8th grade and be 13 years old by the time of arrival at Northern Tier. All participants must be classified as a “swimmer”. We need a minimum of 4 Scouts and 1 adult registered by April 1st for the trip to proceed. The registration for this is directly through Northern Tier. You can find the link to the registration on our website <https://scoutingevent.com/429-22656#>, under Attachments.



SCUBA Diving Merit Badge

The SCUBA merit badge program is offered Weeks 4, 5, and 6 of summer camp (*please note the May 1, 2019 registration deadline*). Scouts must be 14 by the start of class. ***Adults may also sign up for this class and earn their PADI dive certification.*** The cost for this class is \$700 and will include the online portion of PADI, diving equipment for the week, oxygen tanks, diving instructors, and your camp experience. The sign-up form for this is under Attachments on the summer camp page of the website at www.nlcbsa.org. The on-line class portion must be completed before arriving at Camp.

Project C.O.P.E.

This High Adventure program is the perfect opportunity for Scouts 13 years of age or older to experience all-out thrills and excitement. Scouts will learn the importance of trust, teamwork, communication, and teambuilding.

Improve your leadership and problem-solving skills during this challenging week at Boy Scout Camp.

C.O.P.E. crews consist of 12 members. Space is limited, so sign up prior to your arrival at Camp.

The flight down the 425' Zip line will be an experience you will never forget.

Adult leaders interested in participating in Project C.O.P.E. will have the opportunity to on designated evenings. Look for more information at camp from the C.O.P.E. staff!



OWLS (Scouting for Life, Wilderness Outpost) Program

O.W.L.S. is a program designed by Scouts for Scouts. Its geared for older Scouts looking for something different than the normal merit badge track. Scouts who sign up for this program will spend the week trekking through the “backcountry” of Camp Wilderness. Throughout the week the Scouts will get to pick and choose their routes, skills challenges, and schedule. They will be able to hone their Scout skills, leadership abilities, and critical thinking abilities. The program is designed for Scouts who are 14+ OR are 13 and have completed the 8th grade.

Climbing Tower

The Climbing Merit Badge is an exciting class that meets three hours a day, five days a week to challenge a Scout’s mind, body, and teamwork skills. Throughout the class, Scouts will learn how to safely enjoy many aspects of climbing, such as climbing, belaying and rappelling, as well as learning a wide variety of all-purpose knots. Scouts taking this merit badge need to be 13+ years old.

With the new tower, Scouts and Scouters have a multitude of climbing routes to choose from with varying levels of difficulty. Whether this is your first time climbing or you are a very experienced climber, we have a challenge for you.

The merit badge class is not the end of the fun available at the Climbing Tower! During the open climbs and Troop climbs, Scouts and adults alike can challenge their personal limitations and demonstrate their climbing skills to their friends, family, and Troop leaders. During open climbs and Troop climbs, all Scouts will have the opportunity to climb as there is no age or rank restriction. You can also compete with others in the Milk Crate challenge!



Amateur Radio Program

Camp Wilderness provides the opportunity for Scouts and Scouters to learn about amateur radio. The Camp Wilderness Amateur Radio Club installed an amateur radio repeater system in the Pumphouse. The K0NLC repeater operates at a frequency of 147.390+ and is available for use by Scouts and Scouters while at camp. If you or your Scout are a licensed amateur radio operator, bring your 2M handheld radio to camp and help others learn about the world of amateur radio. If you or a Scout would like to try your hand at being a net controller, this would be an excellent opportunity to give it a try.

Additionally, the club has a Yaesu FT-897 all-mode, all-band radio available for those licensed operators who would like to explore the world of HF communications. If you have any questions about the amateur radio program at Camp Wilderness, you can contact Wayne Stephens at kd0aaa@gctel.net.

Troop Activities

Herman Stern Honor Troop

The Honor Troop program is our way to recognize Troops who show excellent camping methods and Scouting Spirit. In this program any Troop can be recognized for exceptional achievement. There is a list of mandatory and optional requirements that Troops may work on throughout the week. A Camp Commissioner will be working with you during your stay to help you achieve this award.

Evening Troop Activities

In the evenings at Camp Wilderness you can make arrangements for a Troop shoot, Troop swim, Troop climb, canoe outing or fishing outing on an area lake. Perhaps you would like to take in some of the great outdoors on a nature hike. The staff will do all they can to accommodate you and your Scouts. Of course we can't forget about our scheduled evening activities such as the Water Carnival, open program areas, and Campfires.

Evening Activities

MONDAY: Open program in all areas and Trailblazer hikes

TUESDAY: Open Program and Cast Iron Chef Competition for Scouts and adults

WEDNESDAY: Chapel, Commissioner Campfires, and OA Call-out

THURSDAY: Water Carnival

FRIDAY: Open Waterfront, Fishing, and Climbing Tower; Closing Campfire to follow

Adult Leader Information

The Role of the Troop Leader at Camp

Summer camp is a true adventure for a Scout. A Scout at Camp has the chance to put into practice everything he has learned about Scouting: camping skills, leadership, clean living, and the principles of good citizenship. For an entire week, they are surrounded by people who think and live the Scout Oath and Law; because of this, they have the chance to grow and learn. For leaders, Camp is a golden opportunity to foster the growth of all the Scouts in their Troop.

The leaders who will be at Camp with your Troop can have a powerful influence on the Scouts. As a leader at Camp Wilderness, your role is to:

- Assist each Scout in setting their personal goals for the week (Use this Guide to familiarize yourself with the programs available to him)
- Give each Scout guidance in choosing their merit badges
- Encourage your Scouts as they try new things
- Motivate your Scouts to keep on schedule
- Give your Scouts understanding and counsel them if things are not going well
- Provide structure and discipline for your Scouts

Troop leaders can (and should) accomplish as many of these goals as possible through the use of the Patrol Method. In the Patrol Method, leaders work with the Troop's Senior Patrol Leader and the Patrol Leader's Council. Together, they help to choose the Troop's summer camp program.

When they work as a team, all the Scouts in the Troop receive the help and guidance that they deserve and need. The Patrol Method is the proven Scouting method — don't shortcut it. If you do, you only rob your Scouts of valuable experience, learning and development.

The development of your Scouts can happen two ways: as individuals and as members of a group. Do not forget that each Scout is a member of a patrol and of a Troop. Your patrols and Troop need the same guidance as each Scout does — be sure that you consider the points listed above in relation to the growth of your Troop and patrols.

With proper planning and careful thought, you will be amazed at how much your Troop, patrols, and Scouts will grow and mature at camp!

Camp Staff Role

At Camp, you will have the use of a valuable resource — the staff. The camp staff is made up of an exceptional group of young men and women. The staff can help your Troop in many ways.

They provide a wide variety of quality program opportunities for your Scouts. The staff's goal is to provide careful guidance to your Scouts so that they will learn new skills, make new friends, and feel good about themselves because of it. Staff members care about the Scouts they work with and will go the extra mile to help them excel.

You will find that the staff has a wealth of Scouting experience. They can help you work with your youth leaders, expand your Troop program and offer advice. Together, you and the camp staff will continue to learn about what makes Scouting work best. The staff will never try to take over the operation of your Troop. They realize that their job is to support you and your Troop in any way that they can. Their goal is to help your Troop meet its goals.

Leader Appreciation Meal

We will be having a special camp leader meal during the week you are in camp. This meal is in appreciation of the time and effort required for adult leaders to bring Scouts to summer camp. All adult leaders in camp are invited to this meal.

Scout Leader Activity Badge

We want leaders to have fun and participate. You will be given the opportunity to 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.

Adult Leader Training

We offer the following adult training sessions during the week you are at Camp: Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Climb on Safely, Youth Protection, New Leader Essentials, Scout Leader Specifics, Outdoor Leader Skills, Leave No Trace, Swimming and Water Rescue, Paddle Craft Safety, Wilderness First Aid, and Nap On Safely! Adults may also sign up for the SCUBA course Weeks 4-6 to earn their PADI dive certification.

Wireless Internet and Phone Service

Camp Wilderness is proud to offer high speed wireless internet in the Black Building, Dining Hall, and the Leaders Lounge. Bring your laptop to keep up with what is going on at the office and be able to spend the whole week at camp with your unit! Both AT&T and Verizon have fantastic coverage in most any area of camp!

Frequently Asked Questions

- Can our Troop cook our own meals?
You can! If you plan on doing this, we need to know at least 2 weeks before your arrival at camp.
- Can we arrive on Saturday?
Yes, you can. There is a \$50 fee for your whole unit to arrive early. There will be a staff person on call to keep an eye on the weather, and assist with possible emergencies.
- When should I wear my uniform?
We encourage Scouts and adults to wear their uniforms at flag ceremonies and campfires. Tuesday is uniform day in camp and we encourage Scouts and adults to wear them all day long!
- Can I bring my son/daughter to camp?
Camp Wilderness is a Scout camp, but we realize that sometimes the only way a Scout can attend camp is with their sibling. It is up to the Troop to decide if they can stay in the same site along with their parent or guardian. They do need to have parts A, B and C of the medical form if they plan to stay in camp for 1 night or longer and must be registered with the BSA if 18 years of age or older. The sibling fee is \$150 for the week and includes food and the ability to participate in open programs, but not merit badge classes.
- Can I bring a bike to camp? Can I bring my dog/pet to camp?
No, bikes and dogs/pets are not allowed in camp. Service Animals are welcome at Camp.
- Can I mail my medical forms in early?
Yes, they can be mailed to camp early. The medical staff will be on site after June 1st, so any time after that day you can mail them in. No faxes will be accepted. Before mailing the forms in, be sure to make a backup copy for your records. More information on this process can be found under “Resources” on the summer camp web page.
- Can I bring a camper/RV?
Yes, you can and the cost is \$25 per night to plug it in at camp. The space for this is in the Family Camping Area in the Cub Scout Camp. Reservations are required to guarantee we have a spot for you when you arrive.
- Why should my Troop attend Camp Wilderness?
Our camp offers a quality camping experience in a pristine setting. Camp Wilderness prides itself on the staff and the high retention that we have, so your Scouts see their favorite staff person year after year. Scouts and Scouters that come to Camp Wilderness call it their second home and we open our doors to your Troop as well. Welcome home!



Do You Have Any Questions?

General Camp Questions

Tom Barry, Reservation Director
4200 19th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103. (877) 293-5011

Camp Reservations and Fee Payments

Northern Lights Council
Shelby Elrashidy, Camping and Program Assistant
Shelby.elrashidy@scouting.org
Payments and reservations done at www.nlcbsa.org
4200 19th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103. (877) 293-5011

Camp Promotions and Troop Visitations

Paul Anderson, Pa-Hin Lodge #27 Lodge Advisor
4200 19th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103. (877) 293-5011

Tom Barry, Pa-Hin Lodge #27 Staff Advisor
4200 19th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103. (877) 293-5011

Camp Wilderness

Andy Kietzman, Camp Ranger
29984 Journey Trail, Park Rapids, MN 56470. (218) 732-4674

How Can We Improve This Guide?

This Leader's Guide is the result of the input of many Troop leaders, staff members, and other concerned volunteers. We hope that you have found it to be a useful and informative resource in making your summer camp plans. We are always interested in ideas of how we can improve the quality and usefulness of this Guide. If you have suggestions, please write them down and bring them to Camp with you this summer. The Camp Director will be happy to review your suggestions and pass them on. If you like, you may also mail suggestions about the Leader's Guide or anything else to: Northern Lights Council Camping Committee, 4200 19th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103.



Follow Us:



www.nlcbsa.org

Planning Checklist

Register Troop - Choose campsite and pay \$50 deposit online at www.nlcbsa.org

Read the Leader's Guide! - Review information on Troop leadership, health forms & Troop insurance

Recruit – A minimum of two leaders for camp. Two leaders must be 21 years of age and both must be registered with the BSA.

March

- 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 parent's 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 and phone & drivers

March 16

- Registration will open up on the website for this process at 8:00 AM. *Scouts that do not pre-register must attempt schedule changes on Sunday after they arrive at camp.*

May 1

- Early Bird Payment is due *in full* for each Scout and adult
- Sign-up for a campsite for the 2019 camping season online at www.nlcbsa.org

May

- Confirm the following with your Troop: Secure adequate leadership, plan transportation, have a Patrol Leader's Council to make decisions, plan Troop activities, work on pre-camp merit badge requirements, make sure the Troop has unit accident insurance.

Two Weeks Before Camp

- Does Troop have adequate leadership?
- Make sure parents have information on departure time, return time, and telephone number for emergencies
- Make sure Scouts have necessary equipment
- Each Scout and Leader should have 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 before you leave for camp***
- Scouts have adequate rain gear to take along
- Double check each Scout's merit badge schedule and print off what each Scout is doing before arrival
- Call camp or the Center for Scouting at least a week in advance if you expect any problems

The Day You Leave

- Bring receipts for fees already paid with you
- Have adequate money to pay additional and unpaid fees at Camp secured
- We recommend that you bring at least two blank Unit checks. You may need to pay for additional program fees, merit badge and other trading post supplies. Be prepared!
- Troop equipment packed including cooking gear
- Bring along copies of each Scout's merit badge class schedule
- Bring along a *copy* of medical forms for each Scout and adult attending camp, even if attending for just 1 day
- Bring along any partials or merit badge pre-requisites that have been completed
- Have Troop accident insurance certificate and claim packed with you if you are not a Northern Lights Council unit
- Plan your transportation route to Camp Wilderness

Upon Arrival at Camp

- Check-in between 1pm and 3pm
- Have a copy of your payment receipts and money for fees not paid ready for the business manager, and a copy of completed health forms for the medical officer.
- ***Be prepared to take the swim check as soon as you arrive – pack your swim gear so you can grab it as soon as you arrive at camp without unloading all of your trailer or vehicle.***

Packing List

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. Camp Wilderness is located near Park Rapids, MN, 56470.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scout Handbook • BSA Health form, with parts A, B & C fully completed and signed by a physician • Class A Uniform Shirt • Sneakers or Hiking Shoes (2 pairs total) • T-Shirts (5-7) • Socks & Underwear (Enough for a week!) • Long Pants or Jeans (2-3 Pairs) • Short Pants (2-3 pairs) • Lightweight Long-Sleeve Shirt (1) • Sweatshirt or Jacket (1) • Work Gloves • Swimsuit • Towel • Sleeping Bag & Pad • Pillow • Hat • Watch • Camping chair (optional) • Notebook, pencils or pens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Hygiene items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Toothbrush ○ Toothpaste ○ Soap ○ Shampoo ○ Deodorant ○ Comb ○ Prescribed Medications • Pocketknife & Totin' Chit • Matches in a waterproof container & Fireman Chit • Sunglasses • Sunscreen • Rain Gear • Non-Aerosol Insect Repellent • Flashlight and batteries • Canteen or Water Bottle • Spending Money (at least \$25-\$30) • Fishing Gear (optional) • Camera (optional) • Tent (if not provided by Troop) • Mess Kit • Small backpack or daypack • Personal 1st Aid Kit
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Cell Phones, MP3 Players, Tablets, Laptops and other personal electronics:

While Camp Wilderness does not ban any personal electronics, many Troops have adopted a "No Electronics" policy when they go camping. Camping is a time to unplug from the modern world. This enables us to enjoy the beauty of nature and the sounds of the wilderness without distraction. Scouts should check with their Troop leadership before bringing any personal electronics.

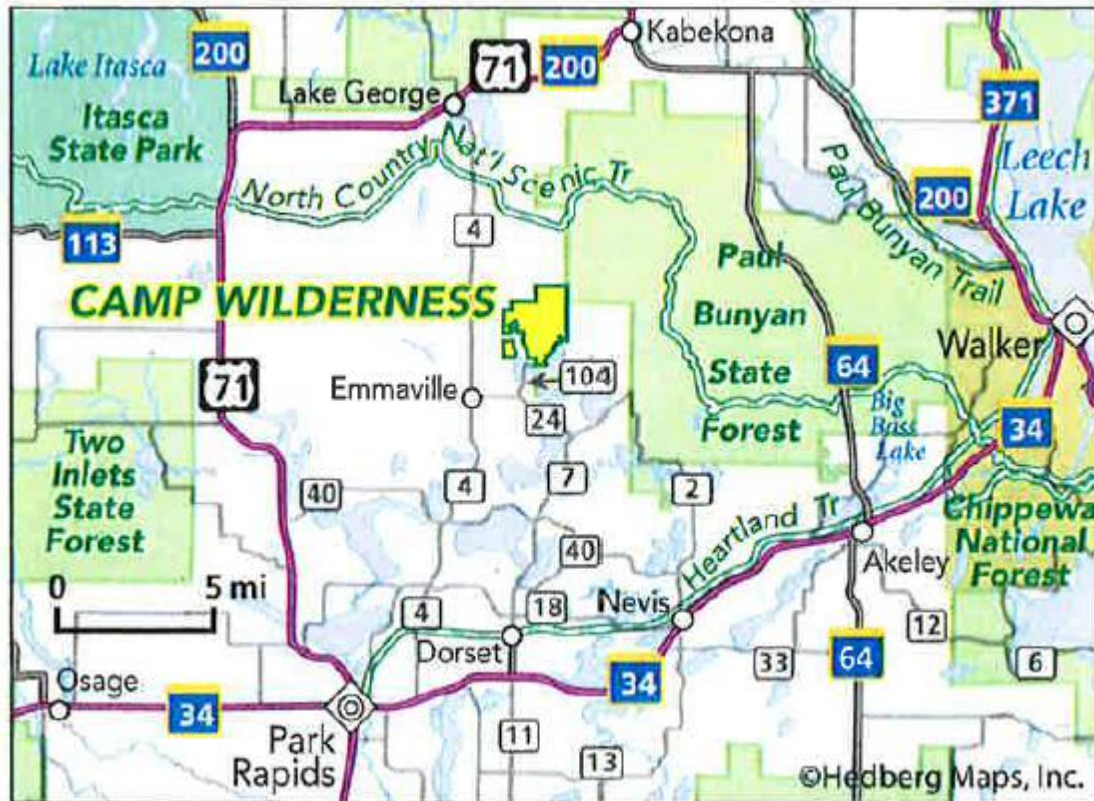
Please Note: Camp Wilderness is not responsible for any lost or stolen items, so plan accordingly with what you bring to camp.

CAMP WILDERNESS

29984 Journey Trail
Park Rapids, MN 56470

Phone: 218-732-4674
Fax: 218-732-1535

www.nlcbsa.org



From the South:

On MN 34, approximately 1.3 miles East of Park Rapids, MN, turn North on Hubbard County Road 4. Take this 10 miles to Emmaville. Turn right on County Road 24. Take this 3 miles. Turn left on County Road 104 (Also known as Jewel Dr.). Take this for 1.5 miles. The pavement ends at the beginning of the camp road. Follow the camp road to the parking lot.

From the North:

From Lake George, MN, take Hubbard County Road 4 South. Take this 9.5 miles to Emmaville. Turn left on County Road 24. Take this 3 miles. Turn left on County Road 104 (Also known as Jewel Dr.). Take this for 1.5 miles. The pavement ends at the beginning of the camp road. Follow the camp road to the parking lot.

Tom Barry | Program Director
tom.barry@scouting.org

Shelby Elrashidy | Camp and Program Assistant
shelby.elrashidy@scouting.org

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