

2026 CUB SCOUT THAW OUT



STAMBAUGH DISTRICT

LEADERS GUIDE

SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026

Revision 2



TALES OF THE PAST

SCOUTING AMERICA GREAT TRAIL COUNCIL

Thaw Out 2026 (Postponed Freeze Out)

Summary & Overview

Thaw out is an annual, fun winter Camp with an overnight winter cabin-camping option. Cub units from across Great Trail Council and beyond come together to enjoy a planned event. *The program reinforces Cub Scout program values, procedures, methods and skills.*

Our goal is to ensure that all area Cubs, Unit Leaders and their adult partner can come out to enjoy a safe, fun theme-focused winter-based program. The event based at Camp Stambaugh offers the option of either day-only event or overnight cabin camping.

Cabins are RESERVED AS FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. If you have issues with reservations, please see contacts below.

As a Council Short Term Camp, we follow all BSA and Great Trail Council Guidelines and Regulations. Recognizing that the primary goal of the Thaw out Program team is to ensure that all participants have a safe and fun time, we ask for your support and participation to meet this goal!

The 2026 Thaw out at Camp Stambaugh will transform from the everyday Scout Camp to the ultimate virtual universe that lets you create, share experiences with Cub Scout friends.

Schedule

Friday 7:00 pm VIRTUAL Check in / Adult & Leader Meeting (invitation sent to registered participants)

Saturday Morning, Session 1 Schedule

8:00 am Station Leader Check-in

8:15 - 8:30 Roll-Call & Announcements at Chapel

12:20 Session 1 Dismissed and asked to leave camp promptly

Saturday Afternoon, Session 2 Schedule

12:50 - 1:00 pm Single Cabin Camper Representative Check-in with Campmaster;

1:10 pm Roll-call, & Announcements, etc - Chapel

5:00 pm Session 2 Dismissed

Who is Invited to Join In On the Fun at Thaw Out?

- All Registered Great Trail Council Cub Scouts and their adult partner and leaders are invited to participate, from Lions to Webelos.
 - Adult supervision of Cub Scouts is the responsibility of the Unit and must follow BSA regulation (Lions + Tigers require direct Adult Partners On-Site).
 - If Shooting Sports are offered, the event will be Lion-friendly.
 - Non-registered siblings aged 0-5 are invited to join as tag-alongs, with direct parent supervision,
 - Adult supervision of non-registered youth are the responsibility of the parent who must be in attendance at the Program, and must follow BSA regulation.
 - Registered Cubs and their adult partner from out of Council are invited pending space and program availability.
- In case of a sell-out event:
 - A time-stamped wait-list will be created
 - Non-registered Scout Attendees (Non-Registered Adults who are not Lion or Tiger Adult Partners and Siblings) may be refunded.
 - Registered Scouts from Out-of-Area Councils are welcome to be placed on our Event Wait-List until final registration closes.

One of the great features of Thaw out is that you will have time with your family and your Pack. Adults will have an opportunity to meet adults and leaders from other units, Scouts from area Troops and District Representatives who are at the program in spirit of cheerful Scout Service.

Activities will include Scout Knowledge, Nature/Conservation, Program Stations, Games and more.

Essential Information

Registration Summary Information

Registration Method:

- Online only
 - *Each Pack should register through one registration/log-in, and manage individual payments through the unit (much like annual charter) or the payment portal option.*
 - *Packs who ask their members to register as individuals will be treated as Lone Scouts, and will not be eligible for Cabin reservations or kept together for program assignments.*
- There is no on-site registration the day of the event.
- Registration changes (drop/adds) can be made up to the registration cut-off.

- Only paid registrations are confirmed.
- If the program is overbooked, refunds to non-scouts and non-registered adults will happen (see “Who is Invited to Join In On the Fun at Thaw out?” for priority and details).
- Waitlists will be resolved by timestamp and space availability.
- Units may choose to split attendance over sessions and/or registration type, at their preference.

Cabin for Units Camping

Cabins are RESERVED AS FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. Cabin reservations can be made on the Great Trail Council web site, by clicking on this link: <https://www.manatoc.org/camping>, or by call the council office.

Participant Eligibility

All currently registered Cub Scouts (Lions to AOL) with a Pack at the time of the event may attend.

As an NCAP-regulated Short Term Camp, all attending the event must be participating with a Cub Scout as either a registered Cub Scout or their Adult Partner or Sibling Tag-Alongs (those under 5) MAY attend:

- under direct, on-camp parent supervision
- with paid registration
- and proper Health and Safety form submission.

Scouts BSA Den Chiefs are encouraged to attend at the Den Leader’s option and must register and pay as Youth Attendees.

General Program Schedule

Thaw Out is a Cub Scout program offered in a split-schedule format with limited cabin-camping space for overnight winter cub camping. Units will have the option to join Saturday morning Session 1 or Saturday afternoon Session 2, as day-only or overnight attendees.

Saturday morning Session 1 attendees wishing to go to cabin camp, will check in on Friday evening, and join the Session 1 schedule.

- *Session 1 attendees must check out of their campsite by 11 am on Saturday. Many units assign cabin checkouts to an adult not attending the program itself.*
- *Session 1 Day-only attendees should plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to program start.*

Saturday afternoon Session 2 attendees wishing to go to cabin camp, will check in on Saturday afternoon, and join the Session 2 schedule.

- ***All Session 2 attendees should plan to arrive at camp no earlier than 12:45 pm.***

- *This will provide our morning session participants with time to clear out of the parking area, making room for you!*
- *Session 2 attendees camping overnight should plan to make use of camp carts to get gear into cabins.*
- ***Please assign one or two adults to manage Cabin check-in/setup while Cubs and other adults proceed to program.***
- ***Cars will not be permitted in camp on Saturday due to the volume of people in camp.***

Units who are cabin camping plan their own meals, entertainment and provide their agreement to support and follow all BSA, Great Trail Council, Youth Protection and Guide to Safe Scouting guidelines and regulations.

Arrival & Departure

General Instructions:

- One Leader per unit should check-in during camping check-in at Eagle Cabin.
- Each unit must arrange for Scouts to be checked in with their Unit Leaders before parents leave Camp Stambaugh. No Cub Scout should be dropped off at camp without direct unit supervision.
- Late arrivals from your unit should be instructed to check in with their Unit Leader and must have an adult-to-adult hand off of the Cub Scout if the adult partner is not staying with the youth.
- Individual parents should check in with their Unit Leader; the Unit Leader is expected to know who is on camp in the program with their Unit at all times.
- Please pack accordingly, make use of camp wagons or bring your own.
- Encourage Scouts to carry their own gear, if appropriate. Each Cub should have their six essentials in a day pack with them. Water is especially important, especially in the cold weather.

Transportation & Parking

With the exception of Emergency vehicles and those requiring special needs, parking is naturally limited on Camp. Please work to self-manage and limit the number of vehicles attending.

It is likely that we could run out of parking if you do not coordinate rides with your unit. So, please make every attempt to carpool. Drop-off and pick-ups from the event are also highly encouraged and should be coordinated by the unit.

In no case should a Scout be dropped off unless the responsible driver connects directly, in-person with the Scout's unit leader prior to leaving the Scout at camp.

No moving vehicles are allowed in camp on Saturday. Carts are available at Brown Pavillion for portaging gear from the parking area to your assigned parking area. Please plan accordingly.

Unit (Pack/Den) Leader & Parent Responsibilities

The Thaw out program staff, under the direction of the Program Chair, will be providing a scheduled, prepared, safe, age-appropriate fun-filled event. We are focused on leading activities, maintaining compliance with BSA Guide to Safe Scouting (GSS) and other BSA

Regulations.

We can only provide this amazingly fun-filled program with the support and unit-level support of parents and leaders who attend the event to provide guidance and support for our Cub Scouts. We have amazing parents and leaders in the Stambaugh District and are amazingly fortunate to have volunteers who help make these Cub Scout programs a reality.

Unit Station Leadership Requirement

Each unit bringing 10 or more Cub Scouts will be asked to provide at least one trained adult as a program leader or station helper. It's fun! Stations last about 30 minutes, so the time goes by quickly. If volunteers would prefer to be with their unit for their assigned session, program volunteers will be welcome at the alternate Session (ie., attend Morning Session 1, staff Afternoon Session 2).

Adults are Akela

Akela means leader. All Leaders and Parents in attendance are paramount in ensuring the program continues to turn out memories of wonder and fun for our Cub Scouts by modeling the experience we want Cubs to have. You can ensure this happens in many ways, including:

- Helping your pack by registering for the program as soon as possible. We are allowing refunds to registrations online, prior to the Registration deadline, please review the policy.
- Ensuring Cub Scouts come appropriately dressed and fed. Cold, hungry Scouts don't have much fun!
- Ensuring Cub Scouts follow standard safety rules like the Buddy System and active listening for instructions. The safety of your Scout is our #1 thought in planning and while delivering the program.
- Your active practice of safe Scouting by following guidelines and regulations of YPT and GTSS.
- Your active engagement in program fun at stations, as appropriate and when space/resources allow. Why shouldn't adults have fun, too?
- Supporting the decisions and requests made of the Program Staff (Youth or Adult), as necessary.
- Supporting the direction of the Program and Camp Staff when asked.
- Dealing with any individual-Scout constructive discipline issues either as needed or when asked.
- Following good Scouting practices, like LNT and the Scout Law, and seeking help from the Program Chair if there is a problem or concern that you feel needs resolved.
- Consider volunteering to be on the Program Staff for next year, especially if your Scout crosses over to Scouts!

Food

Your unit will be responsible for all your meals before and after the program, please bring Scouts fed to the program. A hungry Scout won't have fun.

Roster

A final Den/Patrol/Scout Troop roster must be completed and turned in at registration upon arrival to the Program Director. The Roster should note who is attending day-only or day plus overnight and must be in compliance with all BSA and Great Trail Council regulations and guidelines.

Campfires

Campfires are ONLY allowed in the Camp Stambaugh fire rings located in campsites. If you don't have a fire ring in your Campsite talk with the Camp Masters. Or ask your neighbor about sharing... it is a great way to make new friendships for both Youth and Adults. Please limit the size of the campfire. It may be lit and burning only with Adult supervision at all times. Campfire regulations may change with weather conditions and will be under the direction of our Camp Masters and Ranger.

Adult Supervision & Participation

Units are expected to provide all appropriate Adult Leadership and require supervision for Cub Scouts and youth guests attending.

Guide to Safe Scouting and Youth Protection Policies require:

- Two registered, fully trained adult leaders 21 years of age or over.
- A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any unit attending with female youth.
- Assigned adult partners for Lion and Tiger scouts.
- Finally, a balance of adults that ensures a minimum of 1 adult for every six youth attending.

If you have any questions regarding your adult supervision, training requirements or adult to youth ratios, please contact the Program Director prior to the event.

We encourage all adults to attend, if at all possible, since parents will find that they have just as much fun as

the Scouts and Siblings. Parents must register as Adults to attend. Non-registered siblings may only attend under direct supervision of their parent/guardian.

Both women and men are **welcome and encouraged** to attend. Cub Scouting is a Family-Based program.

Youth Protection, Health Considerations

Scouting's Youth Protection Guidelines are established for the safety of our scouts and the protection of your leaders. Two key points we are striving to support are:

- Adults may not tent with any youth in Cub Scouts other than with their own children.
- Cabin camping is permitted by single gender only.

Lodging/Cabin Accommodations

Whenever possible, separate cabins or lodging should be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. Where separate accommodation cannot be provided due to group size or limited availability, modifications may be made. Where completely separate accommodations are not available, additional supervision is required. ([Youth Protection and Barriers to Abuse FAQs](#))

- If adults and youth of the same gender occupy single-room accommodations, there must be a minimum of two adults and four youth, with all adults being Youth Protection trained.
- Physical separation by other means, including temporary barriers or space, should be used only when no other arrangements are possible.
- These modifications are limited to single-gender accommodations.

Source: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/>

No Cub Scout Unit Winter Tent Camping At Thaw out

No Cub Scout tent camping will be permitted at Thaw out.

Great Trail Council Cub Scout Winter Camping permits cabin camping and prohibit tent camping at 32 degrees or below. The historic temperatures for the third week of January is a low of 19 degrees. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect that nighttime temperatures will be below the GTC Cub Scout tent camping temperature threshold.

Den Chiefs camping with their Cub Scout unit will not be permitted to sleep in tents. Scouts BSA Troops camping at Thaw out are asked to use their good judgement, and leaders are expected to ensure their members are adequately prepared for the event.

Health Considerations

The Scouting adventure and having fun are important to everyone in Scouting—and so is your safety and well-being. Completing the Annual Health and Medical Record is the first step in making sure you have a great Scouting experience. So, what do you need? **Each scout, leader and attendee must have an AMHR on hand and with the Unit Leader at the event.**

Your Scouts (and adults) come to these outings with a wide variety of pre-existing medical conditions and situations that Unit Leaders need to know about. Medical conditions such as asthma, heart conditions, allergies, prescription medications, or limits on activities or diet should be disclosed. Each unit leader will be responsible for collecting and sharing the unit member and guest AMHR's with camp staff at check in. Please let the camp staff know of

situations/concerns about insect or environmental allergies, physical limitations, or anything we should know to ensure a great experience for the youth and adults.

Annual Medical and Health Record Part A/B

Each person attending Thaw out must have a BSA Health & Medical Forms Parts A&B filled out by a parent or guardian.

Find the most recent AMHR form here: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf

Required Forms (for unit): Permission Slips

Scouts on outings away from your regular meeting place should have written permission slip, the BSA Activity Consent Form, from their parent or guardian. Even if that adult is with you on the outing is an essential part of your safety and planning process.

BSA Activity Consent Form: <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/19-673.pdf>

Required Paperwork (by Camp): Incident, Near Miss, Youth Protection

ANY incident requiring any first aid attention (ice, band aid, etc), a 'near miss' (close call, almost hurt) of potential bodily harm, youth-on-youth issue (verbal or physical bullying, verbal or physical hazing, physical mistreatment, anything of a sexual nature) or potential Youth Protection violation MUST BE REPORTED TO THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Prohibited Items At Camp

These items are off limits for all campers, Adults and Youth alike. Do Not Bring Any of the Items Below:

- Weapons
- Firearms (even if Concealed Carry Permitted)
- BB Guns (except under the direction of a Range Master at the Range)
- Arrows (except under the direction of a Range Master at the Range)
- Fireworks
- Martial Arts Articles
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Tobacco use is prohibited in camp or on BSA Property.

Pets

Dogs are not permitted per BSA Policy. Service animals permitted, but must be registered with the Campmaster.

Preparedness & Safety Considerations

Rain & Winter Gear

We will run the program rain, snow or shine, wet campers may not have quite as much fun. Make sure they have waterproof headgear and/or coats, as well as waterproof shoes or boots. Big garbage bags make great ponchos with cutouts for the head and arms. Winter-appropriate clothing (boots, mittens/gloves, coat) are required.

Lost & Found

Every year we have a few clothing items left in camp with no names attached. Please ask the parents in your unit to put their son's name in/on all of his possessions that are going to camp with him. Lost and Found items can be brought to or requested from the Camp Master's office.

Pocket Knives

Cubs love pocket knives. Knives will be allowed for Cub Scouts who also bring their valid Whittlin' Chit cards along with being directly supervised by an adult from your unit. Accordingly, Cub Scouts must follow all the rules on the Whittlin' Chit Card, including the Pocket Knife Pledge:

1. I understand the reason for safety rules.
2. I will treat my pocketknife with respect due a useful tool.
3. I will always close my pocketknife and put it away when not in use.
4. I will not use my pocketknife when it might injure someone near me.
5. I promise never to throw my pocketknife for any reason.
6. I will use my pocketknife in a safe manner at all times.

Confine the use of knives to safe areas and for use as a tool, in a designated area or program, if expressly permitted under direct adult supervision.

Remember the use of "Safety Circles". Cub Scouts inappropriately using knives will be directed to turn their knives over to their Unit Leader/Supervising Adult for the remainder of the program. Pocket knives for Cub Scouts should be sized to the Cub Scout.

Use of knives during program time will only be allowed with specific direction, if at all.

2026 Thaw out Program

Program Stations

Winter Rescue	First Aid – Save your Scout stranded on the Ice
Johnny Appleseed	Outdoor Cooking Skill – Help Johnny Appleseed with an outdoor Trail treat
Big Foot Challenge	Games that keep Cubs Moving – Have Hot Chocolate while marshmallow shoot at Targets
Angry Birds	A take-home craft station. Make Pinecone Bird Feeder for your Angry Bird
Indian Lore	Museum Kim's Game (Warm Up Inside)
TBD	TBA Event

Waterfront Notes

The waterfront area is closed for the season.
Please observe all posted signs, and do not enter the water.

Range Notes

Unfortunately, All Ranges and Shooting Sports Activities at Great Trail Council are prohibited in the winter per the direction of the Great Trail Council Shooting Sports Committee.

Alternate Weather Hazard or Health Emergency Program

Our program runs rain, ice, snow, cold and shine. Extreme cases of extreme weather may lead to program rescheduling, but in most cases, we shall Scout on! Please dress in layers appropriate to the forecast of the day. Boots, hand covering and winter jackets are always required.

FREEZEOUT 2026 - STAFF SCHEDULE

MORNING		AFTERNOON
8:00 AM	STATION LEADER CHECKIN	1:00 pm
	Station leaders get donut coffee and station materials.	
8 - 8:15:00 AM	UNIT CHECKIN	1:00- 1:15 pm
	Check in Unit numbers recorded and give leader station schedule	
8:30 AM	ANNOUNCEMENTS - FLAG RAISING	1:30 pm
	Attention	
	Color Guard Present	
	Color Guard Post Colors	
	Pledge of Allegiance	
	Scout Oath	
	Scout Law	
	Announcement- Restrooms, Warming Stations, Questions on Station Locations	
8:45 -9:05	STATION 1	1:45 -2:05
9:15- 10:05	STATION 2	2:15- 2:05
10:15-10:35	STATION 3	2:15-2:35
10:40-11:00	STATION 4	2:40-3:00
11:10-11:30	STATION 5	3:10-3:30
11:40-12:00	STATION 6	3:40-4:00
EACH STATION IS 20 MINUTES WITH 10 MINUTES IS ALLOTED BETWEEN STATIONS		
STATION MASTERS MAY BEGIN AS UNITS ARRIVE		
12-12:15	CLOSING	4-4:15 pm
	COLOR GUARD RETIRE COLORS	
	LOST AND FOUND	
	CLOSING COMMENTS IF ANY	
	CLOSING BENEDICTION	
	UNITS DISMISSED	

