

Outdoor Ethics Awareness award for DBC Cub Scouts and Cub Leaders

Our request

- Create a DBC Outdoor Ethics award for Cub Scouts and Leaders
- Outdoor Ethics is needed today more than ever before when millions of scouts regularly recreate in parks and public lands; the impact of this use cannot be ignored but can be minimized by teaching and practicing Outdoor Ethics as Cub Scouts and continuing as Boy Scouts and adults

Award

- The award will be self-funded and managed by the DBC Outdoor Ethics Committee
- Units will submit a standard form to the Outdoor Ethics Committee with the payment for the patches and the patches will be mailed to the unit or placed in their respective district boxes at the SAC.
- All expenses and income will be reflected in the Outdoor Ethics Committee DBC budget
- Criteria to earn award
 1. Learn the BSA Outdoor Code
 2. Watch the National Park Service Leave No Trace video
 3. Take the Leave No Trace (PEAK) online course
 4. Participate in an Outdoor Ethics activity with a person who has taken the Outdoor Ethics Orientation or Awareness, the Leave No Trace Level 1 or Leave No Trace Level 2 course.
- Patch/badge: The design will incorporate the BSA logo and have the words Dan Beard Council / Outdoor Ethics Awareness

Impact on Cub Scouts

- Outdoor Ethics directly contributes to two of the three missions of BSA and indirectly to one
 - Build character: being clean in the outdoors, careful with fire, conservation minded and considerate of people and wildlife are all character building activities
 - Learn citizenship: an integral part of citizenship and civic responsibility is being clean in outdoor manners and making the world a better (cleaner) place
 - Develop personal fitness: Outdoor Ethics can help develop and improve personal fitness when the activities to earn the Outdoor Ethics award involve hiking, canoeing, kayaking or other physical activity
- Outdoor Ethics contributes to the 10 purposes of Cub Scouting
 1. Character Development
 2. Spiritual Growth
 3. Good Citizenship: Outdoor Ethics focuses on being clean in outdoor manners
 4. Sportsmanship and Fitness: Cub Scouts can complete requirement 4 of the proposed award by practicing Leave No Trace while hiking or participating in other physical activity in the outdoors
 5. Family Understanding: Family members participate in Outdoor Ethics with their Scout
 6. Respectful Relationships: Outdoor Ethics teaches respect for wildlife, nature, and the outdoors
 7. Personal Achievement: Cub Scouts who complete the proposed four requirements will earn a patch, for which they can be proud. The patch can be worn as a temporary award on the right shirt pocket
 8. Friendly Service: Being considerate and serving are central principles of Outdoor Ethics

- 9. Fun and Adventure: Outdoor Ethics activities ideally take place outdoors where Cub Scouts have fun and experience adventures of a lifetime
- 10. Preparation for Boy Scouts: learning Outdoor Ethics as a Cub Scout helps them begin to learn and practice principles that are integral to Boy Scouting
- Outdoor Ethics also uses the seven methods of Cub Scouting
 - 1. Living the Ideals: practicing Outdoor Ethics is a way to live the Scout Oath, the Cub Scout Law the Cub Scout Motto
 - Oath: through duty to country (being a good citizen) and helping other people at all times (making our world a better place)
 - Law: by being helpful (help others without expecting a reward), kind (never harms or kills any living thing without good reason), thrifty (uses natural resources wisely/conservation minded), clean (keep his home and community clean)
 - Motto: by always striving to “do your best”
 - 2. Belonging to a Den: Outdoor Ethics activities are performed as a den when Cub Scouts can learn to get along with others, do their best, and have fun
 - 3. Using Advancement: This award will recognize Cub Scouts who practice outdoor ethics and will give them a sense of personal achievement
 - 4. Involving Family and Home: outdoor activities are family activities, so the Outdoor Ethics focus is also focused on the family
 - 5. Participating in Activities: the focus of Outdoor Ethics is on age appropriate activities
 - 6. Serving Home and Neighborhood: by learning and following Outdoor Ethics, Cub Scouts can develop character and citizenship and they can also serve their neighborhoods and communities
 - 7. Wearing the Uniform: When possible, we encourage Cub Scouts to wear their uniform or class B shirt when earning the Outdoor Ethics award. Not only does it help build pride, loyalty, sense of belonging and self-respect, but it can also provide an opportunity for the public to see Cub Scouts performing service to community
- Impact on the outdoors and nature
 - 1. Cub Scouts who plan and prepare, not only bringing essential items but also planning ‘trash free’ outings that minimize unnecessary waste and therefore minimize impact
 - 2. Cub Scouts who stay on trails and durable surfaces and who minimize erosion and impact on plants and other living organisms
 - 3. Cub Scouts who pack out their garbage and pick up garbage that others drop
 - 4. Cub Scouts who leave plants, rocks, and historical items for others to discover and enjoy
 - 5. Cub Scouts who are careful with fire
 - 6. Cub Scouts who keep wildlife wild by being respectful and observing from a distance
 - 7. Cub Scouts who are considerate of other people