

Appendix NN

THE 12 ELEMENTS OF THE CUB SCOUT OUTDOOR PROGRAM

The Cub Scout outdoor program offers 12 elements for success. A successful Cub Scout outdoor event will include several of these elements, and the year-round program should include all of them. The elements support a successful outdoor program by helping event planners focus on the key parts of the Scouting program in general, and on the specifics of the Cub Scout outdoor program.

The 12 Elements of the Cub Scout outdoor program are:

- 1. Training.** Each type of camping opportunity in the Cub Scout outdoor program is supported by training: National Camping School for Day Camps, Resident Camps and Family Camps and council or district BALOO and Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders provide the skills and knowledge needed for a great event.
- 2. Conservation.** Conservation has always been a part of the Scouting program. The Leave No Trace Awareness Award and Cub Scout World Conservation Award are only the beginning of the opportunities available for service to the out-of-doors.
- 3. Aquatics.** Be sure to use the principles found in Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense and in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.
- 4. Camping.** Day camp, resident camp, pack overnights, Webelos den overnights, Webelos-ree events, and council or district family camps are the keys of the Cub Scout outdoor program.
- 5. Duty to God.** Be sure to include an interfaith worship service during the event, whether staying overnight or not.
- 6. Nature Crafts.** Add a touch of real nature to your craft activities and make it a learning experience and Fun!
- 7. Four-Season Activities.** Keep your program going year-round by using the resources available in your community.
- 8. Cooking, Hiking, and Games.** These are a natural part of any Scouting event; just be sure they are age-appropriate.
- 9. Ceremonies, Campfires, “Pizzazz.”** It’s better outside—don’t miss the chance to create a lasting memory.
- 10. Cub Scout Adventures.** Take advantage of opportunities to incorporate rank advancement when available. Make it a natural part of your Cub Scout outdoor program!
- 11. Themes.** Include a well-thought-out theme and make it Cub Scout special!
- 12. National Awards.** The Journey to Excellence, Summertime Pack Award, and Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award support a great year-round unit program.