VENTURE ONWARD

2027 Youth Leadership Trek

Z BASE







CONTACT US

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ZBASE Youth Leadership Trek is designed for youth ready to lead.

This 4-day/3-night immersive experience combines half-day high adventure with focused leadership, trekking, and outdoor skills development.

Participants spend their mornings building confidence on ZBASE's signature adventure elements and afternoons sharpening the skills needed to lead their unit at troop meetings, weekend outings, and long-duration treks.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This program is for youth currently serving as:

- Senior Patrol Leaders
- Assistant SPLs
- Patrol Leaders or Troop-level youth leadership identified as rising leaders

Each unit may send up to three (3) youth.

PROGRAM GOALS

By the end of the course, participants will:

- Build confidence to lead a troop, patrol, or crew
- Strengthen decision-making and group communication
- Learn to plan and execute long-distance hikes & treks
- Expand wilderness navigation and orienteering skills
- Practice leading peers in real-time scenarios
- Return home ready to elevate their troop's program

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS

Camp participants must be prepared to:

- Lead their troop upon returning home
- Take responsibility for their own learning
- Participate fully in adventure and training blocks
- Model Scout Spirit, communication, and responsibility

DATES

Two - 4 day/ 3 night sessions are availble to choose from.

Session 1: June 27 - 30, 2027
Session 2: June 30 - July 3, 2027

COST

Program Fee: $350

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Reservation Deposit: $50 per person

1st Payment - Per Person: $150
Deadline - March 15, 2027

2nd Payment - Per Person: $150
Due May 1st

ADULT PARTICIPATION

Troops may send **one registered adult** for every three youth, but it is **not required.**

- Adult Cost: $200 per participant
- Adults may join in high adventure activities when capacity allows
- SPLs and youth leadership receive first priority for all program elements
- Adults serve in a supportive participant role, not as primary instructors or leaders

ZBASE provides all core instruction, supervision, and leadership mentoring.

GENERAL SCHEDULE

PLAN ON ARRIVING AT ZBASE BASE CAMP AT 1:00 PM ON DAY 1 OF YOUR TREK

- If it is not possible for your Scout to check-in during regular check-in times, please contact us two weeks prior to your session.
- If your Scout must check-in early, please contact us two weeks prior to your arrival at ZBASE. There will be a fee for early arrival of any Scout that requires housing before their trek start date. The fee is $50.00 per Scout.
- When you arrive at ZBASE you will be greeted by a staff member who will direct you to the appropriate place to park and direct your Scout through the check-in process.

Your 4 day schedule at ZBASE will operate as follows:

Day 1 Arrive at Base Camp
- Check in
- Medical Checks
- Trek planning, gear check and food distribution
- Swim Checks
- Dinner
- Evening Program Program

Day 2 High Adventure Activity Block and Leadership Block with Evening Program

Day 3 High Adventure Activity Block and Leadership Block with Evening Program

Day 4 High Adventure Activity Block & Graduation Celebration
- 1:00pm Departure

PROGRAM FEATURES

Morning Adventures — Rotate through High Adventure activity areas such as:

- ATV Action Center (14+)
- Aerial Tower & Zip
- Mountain Bikes or E-Bikes (14+)
- Cable Wake Park
- Sporting Clays
- Western Village
- Kayak Fishing

Afternoon Leadership Block Includes:

- Patrol leadership strategies
- Running effective PLCs
- Conflict and communication tools
- Trek planning & gear selection
- Orienteering & land navigation
- Model troop/patrol activities
- Fitness, foot care, personal readiness

Evening Program includes:

- Team challenge nights
- Troop games run BY participants
- Night navigation challenge
- Fireside leadership discussions

REQUIRED PAPERWORK

- 2 copies of the current BSA National Medical form with parts A, B, C filled out and signed. Once copy will remain in Base Camp and one copy carried with the Crew.
- Copy of personal insurance card attached to medical form.
- Swim Check Roster (with tester documentation) - Otherwise a swim test will be given at check-in
- Adults - proof of current Safeguarding Youth Training/BSA Registration from my.scouting
- If participating in ATV, bring proof of on line pre-course completion and parental waivers.
- Zink Ranch Waiver for each participant

YOUTH-LED TREK PLANNING

At ZBASE, leadership begins the moment participants arrive! During check-in on Day 1, participants will work together to develop their own trek itinerary, selecting their high-adventure activities and planning their schedule for the duration of the program. This process encourages teamwork, communication, decision-making, and collaboration while allowing Scouts to take ownership of their ZBASE experience.

Participants will also elect a Crew Leader who will help guide the group throughout the trek. The Crew Leader will be responsible for coordinating with fellow participants, communicating with ZBASE staff, and helping ensure the crew stays organized and on schedule.

While ZBASE staff will provide guidance, mentorship, and support, the goal is for participants to take the lead, make decisions as a team, and put their leadership skills into practice in a real high-adventure environment. This is a youth-led experience, designed to build confidence and prepare Scouts to become stronger leaders within their home units.

ZBASE PARTICIPANT PACKING LIST

Daily Items

- Daypack (comfortable, durable) – recommended for Cable Wake, Jet Ski, ATV, and Aerial Tower.
- 2–3L water capacity (Nalgene, hydration bladder, etc.)
- Personal first aid kit (each program area has its own first aid kit)
- Headlamp (with extra batteries)
- Pocketknife or multi-tool
- Whistle
- Sunscreen & lip balm
- Insect repellent
- Notebook & pen
- Watch
- Sunglasses
- Map/route materials (provided)

Clothing

NOTE: You will be on trail without access to showers for 3-5 days. We recommend you bring as many pants/shorts and shirts that will make you comfortable during that time. Additional underwear and socks are recommended!

- (1) Shorts
- (2) T-Shirts
- (1) Light Weight Pants (zip off preferred) - **REQUIRED FOR ATV AND EBIKE**
- (1) Belt
- (5 – 8 pairs) Underwear
- (2 – 4 pairs) Lightweight Hiking Socks
- (1 set) Sleep Clothes
- (1) Pair of well broken-in boots - **OVER THE ANKLE BOOTS/SHOES REQUIRED FOR ATV AND EBIKE**
- (1) Light weight long sleeve shirt - **REQUIRED FOR ATV AND EBIKE**
- (1) Rain jacket or rain gear
- (1) Swimsuit
- (1) Pair water / closed toed shoes (for showers/aquatic programs)
- (1) Hat with brim
- Light weight "camp shoes" to wear when not hiking - closed toed. **REQUIRED FOR NINJA PROGRAM THAT TAKES PLACE DURING ATV PROGRAM.**

Eating Utensils

- (1) Plastic bowl or large cup
- (1) Drinking Cup
- (1) Spoon
- (2) - (3) Liter (32oz) water bottles - "NALGENE" style (Due to the temperature and terrain of Oklahoma, we recommend you bring more than (2) water bottles. Water drops will happen on longer hikes, but rationing water is still required with less water bottles.)

Personal Items

- (1) Sleeping bag in a waterproof sack or plastic or sleeping bag liner (Light weight recommended)
- (1) Sleeping Pad
- (1) Pack Cover
- (1) Small Towel
- (1) Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- (1) Personal First Aid Kit
- (1) Pocketknife
- (1) Small flashlight with extra batteries
- (1) Watch - waterproof or water resistant
- (1) Whistle
- (1) Bug Spray / Sunscreen
- (1) Dry bag for canoeing only (not all treks canoe)
- (1) Day Pack
- (1) Hiking Backpack w/ hip belt - 50-75L recommended. Please no "school" backpacks or packs without hip belts
- Pack Cover

Optional

- Trekking poles
- Pillow
- Contacts/Extra Solution
- Lip balm
- Cards or games

Provided by Crew

- Additional spices for cooking (if desired)
- Additional snacks for crew (if desired)
- Crew First Aid Kit
- Small roll of Duct Tape
- Compass

Provided by ZBASE

- Food
- Stoves & Fuel
- Pots / Serving Utensils
- Hot Pot Tongs
- Lighter
- Hand Sanitizer
- Toilet Paper
- Trowel/shovel
- Garbage Bags
- Pot Scrubber
- Biodegradable Dish Soap
- Opaque, resealable plastic bags (For feminine hygiene product disposal)

Pro Tips

- Pack for heat, dust, and sudden weather changes.
- Bring more socks and underwear than you think you need.
- Keep it simple—space is limited.

ACCOMODATIONS & HYGIENE

ZBASE uses several types of overnight accommodations across its program areas, including canvas platform tents at Base Camp, Adirondacks at some adventure areas, treehouses, and cabins or bunkhouses at selected locations.

Participants should prepare for basic camp conditions, including unpadded bunks or cots where applicable.

Shower access may be limited during the trek. Bring personal hygiene supplies and be prepared for a simple trail clean-up.

Restroom facilities vary by area: flush toilets at Base Camp and Sporting Clays, portable toilets at Cable Wake, and pit latrines at many other areas. Exact access depends on the itinerary.

HIKING & TRANSPORTATION

Trekking and hiking are a core component of the ZBASE Youth Leadership Trek experience.

Zink Ranch includes rolling hills, uneven ground, and exposed areas; Oklahoma summer conditions can be hot and humid.

Participants should arrive comfortable walking with their gear and spending extended periods outdoors.

Participants will practice endurance hiking, navigation, pacing, and leadership while on the trail.

To ensure Scouts are able to make the most of their limited time at ZBASE and fully participate in both leadership training and high-adventure programming, some activities may include transportation to the entrance of a program area or trailhead.

This approach allows participants to focus on skill development, leadership application, and adventure—while still experiencing meaningful trekking and outdoor challenges throughout the session.

FOOD, DIETARY NEEDS & HYDRATION

ZBASE provides core meals and group cooking equipment. For the broader trek program, breakfast and lunch are typically trail-style meals, while dinner is a hot meal. Participants should bring supplemental trail snacks appropriate for their activity level.

Report dietary restrictions and allergies by May 1, 2027. Significant dietary needs may require participants to bring supplemental foods in coordination with ZBASE staff.

- Bring two to three durable refillable water bottles (approximately 1 liter each).
- Drink water regularly and begin hydrating before arrival.
- Use SPF 50+ sunscreen, a hat, and lightweight sun-protective clothing.
- Potable water is available at program areas; staff may coordinate water drops when needed for longer hikes.

SPECIAL TREK REMINDERS

For aquatics programs, every individual participating in the program needs to have completed the BSA Swimmers Test, and be classified as a “Swimmer”.

Some Adventure Areas at ZBASE require pre-trek waivers or on line coursework. Participants will be required to have these complete before arriving at ZBASE. If participants are not able to show proof of completion, they will not be allowed to participate in that Adventure Area. The pre-course work is essential to understanding the associated risk and how to mitigate those risks.

ATV - Minimum Age 14

- Light weight long sleeve shirt, Lightweight long pants, Over-the-ankle boots (hiking boots are the best choice).
- Signed waivers with names and dates of birth listed.
- Proof of completion of the ATV Safety Institute (ASI) e-course.
  - Each ATV Participant must log onto: www.atvsafety.org/atv-ecourse/.
  - Choose the “e-course.”.
  - The course is specific to each rider (no group viewing).
  - Course takes 1 ½ - 2 hours to complete.
  - At the end each participant can print off the certificate of completion (recommended to save it as a PDF).
  - No additional cost.