

# Lone Star District



## TRAIL TO TROOP Participant Guide

October 25-27, 2024  
Camp James Ray

# Welcome!

Hello! We are so excited you have registered for Trail to Troop and we look forward to welcoming you to Camp James Ray!

Trail to Troop is a weekend full of fun outdoor activities with the intent to aid with the AOL-to-Scout transition. AOLs and their adult partner will get an interactive preview of the Scouts BSA program through a series of fun-filled Scouting activities while interacting with and meeting local troops.

This guide contains additional information about the logistics and expectations of the event. We hope you are as excited about this event as we are. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Yours in Scouting,

## Larry & Melissa

Larry Featherston and Melissa Willardson  
Trail to Troop Event Co-Chairs

### MAIN GATE ADDRESS

Camp James Ray Scout Reservation  
2026 Mill Creek Rd.  
Pottsboro, TX 75076

### DIRECTIONS

From Pottsboro take Hwy 120 West.  
Turn left (West) on Locust Rd.  
At 4-way stop turn right on Mill Creek Rd.  
Follow Mill Creek Rd. 2 miles to the large stone entryway.

“No one can pass through life, any more than he can pass through a bit of country, without leaving tracks behind, and those tracks may often be helpful to those coming after him in finding their way.”

- Lord Robert Baden-Powell

# Activities

We hope you will enjoy the following Scouting activities during your time at Trail to Troop:

## CAMPING | CAMPSITES

Our AOL families will designate the troop they wish to camp with Saturday night in their registration. To help with this process, we have provided a list of troops participating in Trail to Troop along with some additional troop facts that may be helpful when making your selection. Please see the "Meet the Troops" section of this guide.

*Please note:* A Friday night camping option is available with Troop 123 B/G. AOL families camping with Troop 123 on Friday can also choose to camp with another unit on Saturday (2-nights). Or camp Friday only with Troop 123 or camp Saturday night only with one of our other participating units.

## TROOP CAMPSITE MEALS | CAMPSITES

ALL meals will be prepared by troops at their campsite. AOLs and their adults will eat Saturday Lunch, Saturday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast with their chosen troop. Please reach out to your selected troop's Scoutmaster or Committee Chair. If they do not hear from you they will not plan to feed you. Let them know if you have any dietary restrictions or food allergies. Their contact information can be found in the "Meet the Troops" section at the end of this guide.

## FLAG CEREMONIES | FLAG AREA JUST EAST OF ACTIVITY CENTER

Troop 413 is presenting the colors at the Saturday morning flag ceremony and Troop 406B will be taking the flags down at the closing flag ceremony. These will be held at the flagpoles adjacent to the Activity Center. Please see the schedule for times and plan to wear your field uniform shirt.

## ACTIVITY STATIONS | CHECK YOUR SCHEDULE

AOLs and their adults will rotate through a series of Scout-led activity stations throughout the day. You will be provided a schedule with the order and location of your stations at check-in.

## CAMPFIRE PROGRAM | SPORTS FIELD

On Saturday evening we will host a campfire program. The emcee/planner will be Kalli Clausi, SPL Troop 123G. We encourage Troops and their visiting Arrow of Lights to work together to plan their campfire program entry. Please plan to submit your campfire song and/or skit(s) names to Kalli during your dinner break. We kindly ask that field uniform shirts be worn for the campfire program.

## INTER-FAITH CHAPEL SERVICE | CHAPEL

We need a host for this. A Scout-led interfaith service will be held on Sunday morning at 8:00 am at the outdoor chapel. We invite all Trail to Troop participants to attend. Please plan to wear your Class A uniform shirt.

# Schedule

## FRIDAY - Troops Only

6:30 pm - 9 pm	Troop Arrival/Check-In and Set-Up Camp *AOL participants camping with T123	Parking Lot
9:30 pm	SPL/Leader Meeting with Cracker Barrel	Activity Center

## SATURDAY - AOLs Arrive

7 to 8 AM	AOL: check-in Leave gear in cars. Setup will be at lunch time. Proceed to flag poles.	parking lot / Fry Center
7:00 AM	Troops: breakfast	campsites
8:30 AM	flag ceremony-T413	flag poles
8:45 AM	rotations	sports field
	See rotation schedule below	See pack groupings
5:15 PM	flag ceremony-T406B	flag poles
5:30 PM	chaplain aide meeting	flag poles then chapel
5:30 PM	dinner	campsites
7:00 PM	campfire program-T123G	amphitheater

## SUNDAY - Check -Out

8:00 am - 8:30 am	Worship Service-T909	Chapel
8:30 am - 11:00 am	Breakfast/Break Down Camp	Campsite
11:00 am	Departure	

Rotation Schedule to be Added  
Groups to be Added

# Activity Stations

Webelos, you will be provided a schedule at check-in with your STARTING station number and times.

Rotation	TROOP	ACTIVITY
1	123-B/G	Halloween Carnival Themed Games
	229-B	
	293-B	
	294-B	
2	303-B	Kickball or Capture the Flag
	310-B	
3	406-B	Chariot Races
4	406-G	Halloween Craft
5	413-B	Healing Zombies
6	496-B	Flaming Pumpkins
7	531-B	Fun Games
8	909-B	Backpack Races
	1167-B	
9	2150-B	Pumpkin Branding

# Camp James Ray Trail to Troop #2 (info from registration)

## Camp James Ray

October 25 - 27, 2024

Spooktacular - Hosted by Lone Star

Trail to Troop is an awesome opportunity for AOLs (and their parents) to experience some of the fun that they can look forward to once they cross over into a troop. Troops will host AOL Scouts from various packs and will form patrols which will include those AOL Scouts for the weekend. Packs will be assigned to camp with a host Troop by the event staff.

All registrations must be done through Black Pug and no walk-in registration is permitted.

### **Who Should Attend?**

- Arrow of Light Dens plus their parents/guardians
- Scouts BSA Troops

### **Event Details:**

- Location: Camp James Ray, 2026 Mill Creek Rd., Pottsboro, TX 75076
- Friday night Check-in: begins 6:00 PM. Please be at camp no later than 8:30 PM
- Saturday Check-in: 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
- Registration closes: Sunday, October 20nd, 2024, at 11:00 p.m.

### **Campsite Assignments:**

- AOLs/Packs will select a Troop to camp with during registration and will be the guest of that troop. Campsite assignments will be provided prior to the event.

### **Cost for the event:**

- Arrow of Light: \$15.00
- Scouts BSA youth: \$10.00
- Adult: \$10.00

### **Information required during registration:**

- First and last name
- Unit type and number
- Cell phone number
- Email
- Allergies and medical issues/mobility concerns
- Dietary restrictions
- Parent/Guardian name, cell phone number, email, and relationship to Scout
- Emergency contact name, cell phone number, and relationship to attendee

### **Information required at check-in:**

- Unit/Attendee roster
- Annual Medical Health Record A&B

### **For more information contact:**

- Larry Featherston - [larryfeatherston@gmail.com](mailto:larryfeatherston@gmail.com)
- Melissa Willardson - [rickormissy@att.net](mailto:rickormissy@att.net)
- Frank Griffin Program Executive - [frank.griffin@scouting.org](mailto:frank.griffin@scouting.org)

Check back for more information! We will be posting more information soon.

# General Information

## Vehicles in Camp

One vehicle and one trailer are allowed per unit in the camping area. All other vehicles will need to park in the parking lot near the camp entrance. Driving in camp is not permitted during event times.

## REQUIRED MEDICAL forms

Prior to leaving for the event, each participant/family should make sure that they have followed these 3 steps for ALL people attending the camp /event (regardless of age). Temp checks will be conducted as you pull up in your vehicle to the event and you will be asked if you have completed/and agree to the documents listed below. **Copies of these documents and the BSA Medical Health Form can be found at the back of this Participant Guide**, as well as under the "Attachments" section on the Trail to Troop event registration page.

1. COMPLETE & BRING the BSA Medical Health Form, parts A, B1, and B2 (a doctor's visit is not required for weekend camping).
2. READ the provided "Commitment to Transport."

If any participant/family does not meet the standards of the Pre-Event Medical Screening, then that person /family should not attend the event.

## SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted at any Scouting event except designated areas. The closest designated area will be located behind the Dining Hall at the Loading Dock. We ask adults to set a good example and not smoke in any other locations.

## Camp Health Officer

In the event of a medical emergency, a Camp Health Officer will be on property to assist with any situations until additional medical support can arrive. Please report any medical issues to the nearest Scoutmaster.



# Packing List

The following is a suggested packing list.

## overnight camping gear

1. Tent\* (*if you do not have a tent, please reach out to your selected troop to help provide you with one*)
2. Tarp or Ground Cloth
3. Sleeping Bag
4. Sleeping Pad or Mat
5. Camping Pillow
6. Filled Water Bottle
7. Flashlight (*a headlamp is recommended*)
8. Mess Kit (*plate, bowl, knife, fork and spoon*)
9. Personal First Aid Kit
10. Webelos Uniform (*Class A uniform shirts are to be worn during flag ceremonies, campfire and worship services*)
11. Seasonal and Scout Appropriate Clothing (*Class B pack t-shirt*)
12. Change of clothing (*including change of socks*)
13. Sleepwear
14. Rain Gear
15. Toiletries (*toothpaste, toothbrush, washcloth, small towel, comb, personal medications, etc.*)
16. Sunscreen and Insect Repellent (*travel size bottles are recommended*)
17. Hat or Cap
18. Durable and comfortable shoes/boots

## optional gear

- Day Pack (*for carrying your water bottle, rotation schedule, Class A shirt for flags, hat, sunscreen/bug spray, etc.* )
- Small Notebook & Pen
- Sunglasses
- Extra Batteries for Flashlights
- Small Camping Chair or Stool
- Whistle
- Compass
- Rope
- Pocket Knife (*if you have earned your Whittling Chip*)
- Webelos Handbook
- Camera

# Participant Campsite Assignments

Campsite assignments will be made closer to the event.



# Meet the Troops

Type	Unit #	Name_	Email	Phone
Troop	123 B	Larry Wayne Featherston	larryfeatherston@gmail.com	(214) 336 - 3071
Troop	123 G	Constance Jean Woods	4ptamom@gmail.com	(214) 497 - 3334
Troop	229	Scott Corriveau	scouterpath@gmail.com	(972) 804 - 3016
Troop	293	Shane Crosby Ballard	ballard.shane@gmail.com	(903) 285 - 5487
Troop	303	Stephen John Pyka	scoutmaster@pykafamily.com	(972) 480 - 2109
Troop	310	Matthew Thomas Baird	baird.matt@gmail.com	(214) 773 - 0742
Troop	406 B	Brian Jeffrey Sattler	brian.sattler@gmail.com	(972) 872 - 5549
Troop	406 G	Aaron Michael Self	self.aaron@gmail.com	(214) 578 - 0133
Troop	413	Christopher Robert Carroll	urktur@gmail.com	(972) 510 - 8060
Troop	496	Brett Aaron Patterson	brettpatterson1@gmail.com	(254) 722 - 2772
Troop	531	Sean Patrick McEnroe	smcenroe42@yahoo.com	(214) 686 - 2711
Troop	909	Peter Rand Getchell	peter@getchellfamily.org	(617) 834 - 8063
Troop	1167	Kristopher Bruce Boys	boys.bruce@gmail.com	(903) 225 - 9007
Troop	2150	Jason Warren Solis	warrensolis@msn.com	(469) 952 - 3400

# Troop Evaluation Guide

To help remember your experience with each troop, feel free to make copies and take notes during your rotations:

TROOP NUMBER:

Was the rotation activity well organized?	Yes	No
Was the activity run by the Scouts?	Yes	No
Did the troop show strong Scout leadership?	Yes	No
Do they have Scouts of all ages?	Yes	No
Did I feel welcome?	Yes	No
Did it look like they were having fun?	Yes	No
Do I already know any Scouts in the troop?	Yes	No
Were there many adult leaders present?	Yes	No
Were the scouts helpful?	Yes	No
Did they answer my questions?	Yes	No
If you saw their campsite, did it look organized/tidy?	Yes	No

THINGS I LIKED ABOUT THIS TROOP ARE:

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THINGS I DID NOT LIKE ABOUT THIS TROOP ARE:

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# Choosing A Troop

Choosing a troop is a big decision. Here are 10 things to consider as you begin to narrow down your choices.

- 1. FUN.** It's got to be fun! Most of the activities within the troop have to be understood by the Scout as a fun, friendly, pleasurable, and rewarding experience.
- 2. PROGRAM.** This is key to a well-run troop. The program has to be planned out by the troop committee with input from the Scouts. This should be done annually and tied to a budget. The program needs to include all the elements of Scouting, weekly troop meetings, monthly outings/events, weekend campouts, and yearly summer camps. The activities have to be new, exciting, and fresh to keep the Scouts interested.
- 3. ADULT LEADERSHIP.** All troops should have Trained adult leadership. Trained leaders are crucial to any well-run troop. The training provides the leader with the knowledge to understand the aims and methods of the Scouting program. The training presents a wealth of advice and resources to run a successful program. When you visit a troop, look for the trained patch on the leader's uniform.
- 4. YOUTH LEADERSHIP.** The Scouting program is designed to have the youth elected and appointed into leadership roles. A troop should have periodic elections to fill those positions. In addition, the troop should provide leadership training for those roles. Look for the trained patch on the youth leader's uniform.
- 5. SCOUT LED TROOP.** The whole philosophy of Scouting is for the Scouts to run the troop. The adult leaders are there to provide guidance, counsel, and support. The weekly meetings, troop campouts, and troop activities should be planned and executed by the Scouts and the junior leaders. The troop should encourage and strive to have its junior leaders run the troop. When observing a troop in action, see if the Scouts are running the program or the adults.
- 6. PATROL METHOD.** A troop should divide its Scouts into patrols of not more than 8. These patrols act like a team within the troop. They will elect a patrol leader and have periodic meetings either at the troop meetings or at a separate time and place. The troop should provide activities at meetings and outings for the patrols to work as a team. This allows them to demonstrate their Scouting skills and plan for camping events. The troop should also have a functioning monthly Patrol Leaders Council, which plans the troop activities.
- 7. MEETINGS.** Weekly troop meetings are pretty much the norm in Scouting. The troop should have a calendar for the year with the dates established for regular meetings.
- 8. UNIFORM.** The field uniform is an important part of Scouting and should be required in troop functions like: ceremonies, religious activities, troop dinners, and district & council events. An activity uniform, which usually consists of a Scouting T-shirt and Scout shorts or pants, is commonly used for troop/patrol meetings, day activities, and week-long camps. Troops may define or require uniforms in different variations, but should have some defined requirements and periodic inspections.
- 9. DISTRICT and COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT.** A troop should have representatives attending monthly district roundtable meetings. The district and council provide a wealth of experience and knowledge to help the troop run a great program. They are a wonderful resource for information on training, activities, advancement, planning, and ideas.
- 10. RECRUITING.** A troop needs to bring in new Scouts. New Scouts provide the older Scouts with opportunities to mentor and teach them what Scouting is all about. It helps them build leadership and character. The best source for new Scouts is from the Cub Scouts Webelos program. A troop should have established a working relationship with local Cub Scout pack(s) to help bridge graduating Webelos to Scouts, BSA.

# Trail to Troop Feedback

Please turn this in at checkout to get your camp patches. Just let us know when you are leaving.

How was camp?

What would you have camp stop doing?

What would you have camp start doing?

What would you have camp continue doing?

Would you care to help staff a future Trail to Troop?

Would you care to help volunteer at the district level?