

MNSR 2025 Merit Badges




Mount Norris Scout Reservation Summer Camp 2025





Use this information to make your 2025 merit badge selections.

Go to <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/all/> for additional 2025 change information.





For 2025 we developed a color-coding system to describe three different merit badge categories at the Mt. Norris Scout Reservation. **A Green-type box depicts our core merit badge offerings, available every year. A Blue-type box depicts those merit badges which are offered during our four specialty weeks. Finally, a Red-type box depicts “by-chance” merit badge offerings that are offered because an expert MB Counselor is in camp that week and has agreed to teach the class.**

	Type	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Archery	17 of 138	Class size limited to	Changes: Requirement 1a-e; Requirement 5 (Option A) a-e, f (1) a-d; 2 Requirement 5 (Option B) a-e, f (1) a-d; 2	Target & Range Activities	Great “First Year” merit badge!






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	T y p e	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Art	22 of 138	None	No changes from 2024	Handicraft Mon/Tue Block 3 Wed/Thur Block 3	Great “First Year” merit badge!
		Astronomy	33 of 138	Will require one night of observation outside of merit badge session.	Changes: Requirement 4a-d; 6a-b, 8b, 8f and 9a or 9b Prerequisites: 5b and 9	E-Con Mon/Tues Block3	Great “First Year” merit badge!
		Basketry	39 of 138	None	No changes from 2024	Handicraft Mon/Tue Block 3	Back by popular demand!
		Camping	7 of 138	None	Prerequisites: 4(b), 5(e), 8(c), 8(d), 9	Scoutcraft Wed/Thur Block1	Eagle-required






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	Type	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
	Green	Canoeing	25 of 138	Must have Swimmer designation.	No changes from 2024	Aquatics Canoeing 1 Weeks 1-4 Mon/Tues Block 1 & 2 Canoeing 2 Weeks 1,2 and 4 Wed/Thur Block 1 & 2	Good 1 st Year merit badge choice. Class dependent on staffing levels.
	Red	Chemistry	52 of 138	Class Limited to 8 Scouts	Changes: Requirements 1a-d; 2a-c; 3a-b;4a-d; 5, 6 7 and 8a-c	E-Con Block 3 Wed/Thur	Every slot taken in 2024! Over 80% of the MB changed from last year.
	Blue	Citizenship in the Community	12 of 138	Week 1 only MB offering	Change: Requirement 2a (1-4) & 3a Prerequisites: Bring materials that describe your town or city.	Yon Porch Mon/Tue Block 1	Eagle-Required
	Blue	Citizenship in the Nation	5 of 138	Week 1 only MB offering	No Changes from 2024 Prerequisites: Requirement 5 and 7	Yon Porch Block 1 Mon/Tues	Eagle-Required Taught by Mr. George Hasselback






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		Citizenship in Society	4 of 138	Week 1 only MB offering	No Changes from 2024 Prerequisites: 2a, 6a-b	Mon-Thurs Block 3	Eagle-Required
		Citizenship in the World	2 of 138	Week 1 only MB offering	No changes from 2024: Prerequisites: Requirement 7	Yon Porch Block 1 Wed/Thur	Eagle-Required Taught by Mr. George Hasselback
		Climbing	28 of 138	Class size limited to 9 Scouts. Scout must be at least 12 years old.	Changes: Requirements 3, 4d, 7a-e, 8a-c, 9, 120a-e, 11a-b, 12a-c and 13	Keyser Lodge Block 1 Mon-Thur Block 2 Mon-Thur Block 3 Mon-Thur	Pretend you're Spiderman!
		Collections	77 of 138	Weeks 2-4 Only	Prerequisites: Requirement 5: Bring your collection to camp!	Dining Hall Mon/Tues Block 3	Returning from 2024!
		Communications	6 of 138	Week 1 only MB offering	No changes from 2024	Mon/Tues Block 2	Eagle-Required






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	Green	Cooking	10 of 138	None	Changes: Requirements 3 and 3d, 4a-f, 5d and 7a or 7b Prerequisites: 4, 5 and 6	Scoutcraft Mon-Thur Block 3	Eagle-Required
	Red	Dentistry	130 of 138	Week 3 Only.	Changes: Requirement 1a-d; 7 Prerequisites: Requirement 3 (Visit a Dentist)	Location TBD Block 1 Wed/Thur	Here is your chance to earn a hard-to-get MB!
	Blue	Disabilities Awareness	82 of 138	Week 2 only MB Offering	Prerequisites: Do part of Requirement 4 (Option A); “Your School” or “Your place of Worship.”)	See Program Director	Was New in 2024!
	Green	Emergency Preparedness	14 of 138	None	Changes: Requirements 2a1-5; 2b1- 21; 3a-c; 4a-b; 5a-d; 6a-c; 7; 8a-c; 9a1-4; 9b-d; 10 a-c Prerequisites: Have First Aid Badge	Location TBD Block 2 Mon-Thur	Eagle-Required Significant Changes in 2025
	Red	Entrepreneurship	86 of 138	None	None	See Program Director	Pitch your product to the MNSR Staff Shark Tank! May be added at camp.






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		Environmental Science	8 of 138	None	Changes: Requirements 1; 2a-b; 3a-c; 4a-c; 5a-c; 6a-c; 7a-c; 8a-c; 9; 10 & 11	E-Con Mon-Thur Block 1	Eagle-Required
		Fingerprinting	13 of 138	None	Changes: Requirements 2a-c & 6	Dining Hall Block 1 Wed/Thur	Be the Sleuth you always wanted to be!
		Fire Safety	50 of 138	Week 2 Only	Changes: Requirements 1a-c; 2a-c; 3a-d; 4a-b; 5a-I; 6a-c; 7a-b; 8a-h; 9a-b; 10a-b. Requirements 11-13 deleted	Block 2 Wed/Thur	Taught by State Fire Marshall Staff during their visit to MNSR!
		First Aid	1 of 138	Class size limited to ten Scouts	Changes: Requirements 1a-g; 2a, 2b1&2; 3a-q; 4a-d; 5a-e; 6a-g; 7a-g; 8a-c; 8d1-3; 8e1-4; 9a-d; 10a-e; 11a-f; 12a-d; 14; 15a-d; Requirement 16 deleted.	Yon Porch Block 1 (Mon-Thu) Each week Block 3 (Mon-Thu Week 2)	Eagle-Required
		Fish & Wildlife Management	53 of 138	None	Changes: Requirements 6a; 7b; 7c; 7d and 8 Prerequisites: 6c	E-Con Mon/Tues Block 2	One of three merit badges required for The Complete Angler Award.






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	T y p e	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Fishing	23 of 138		Changes: Requirement 1a-d	See Program Director	May be added at camp.
		Fly Fishing	100 of 138	No license required for under Age 15; One-day license for Age 15-17 for \$8.00. Go to: https://anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/FW/LicenseInformation.aspx for more info.	No changes from 2024	Scoutcraft Wed/Thur Blocks 1 & 2	One of three merit badges required for The Complete Angler Award Taught by Mr. Michael Block
		Forestry	57 of 138	None	No changes from 2024	E-Con Wed/Thur Block 3	
		Geocaching	46 of 138		No changes from 2024 Prerequisite: Requirement 8	Scoutcraft Mon/Tue Block 3	
		Golf	81 of 138	Week 2 Only Dave McAllister is teaching	No changes from 2024	Location TBD Mon-Thur Block 3	First time at MNSR!





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	T y p e	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Kayaking	21 of 138	Must have Swimmer designation. None	No changes from 2024	Aquatics Weeks 1-4 Mon-Thur Block 3	Class dependent on staffing levels.
		Leatherwork	18 of 138	None	No changes from 2024 Prerequisite: 5a	Handicraft Mon-Thur Block 2	Good 1 st year Merit Badge choice.
		Lifesaving	29 of 138	Must have Swimmer designation.	No changes from 2024. Prerequisite: Requirement 2a (Must have Swimming Merit Badge)	Aquatics Weeks 1-4 Mon-Thur Blocks 1 & 2	Eagle-Required alternate to the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Class dependent on staffing levels.
		Mammal Study	32 of 138	None	No changes from 2024.	E-Con Wed/Thur Block 2	Be the first to sight a moose in 2024!
		Mile Swim		Scoutmaster should weigh in on individual ability.	None	Aquatics Mon-Thur Block 1	This is a great individual athletic opportunity! Attain bragging rights for your Patrol and Troop! Class dependent on staffing levels.





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	Type	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Motorboating	62 of 138	Week 3 Only Class limited to 6 Should have watercraft License	Changes: Requirements 1b, 5a-h Prerequisites: Must have Swimmer Designation	Aquatics Week 3 Wed/Thur Block 1 & 2	Not offered very often. This is your chance! Class dependent on staffing levels.
		Nature	40 of 138	None	Changes: Requirements 4d1; 5 and (New) 71 or 2	E-Con Wed/Thur Block 2	Excellent first year MB choice.
		Oceanography	64 of 138		No changes from 2024	E-Con Wed/Thur Block 1	Back after a 2-year absence!
		Orienteering	56 of 189	None	No changes to 2024 requirements. Prerequisites: Requirements 7(a) and 7(b), 9	Scoutcraft Mon/Tues Block 2	
		Paddleboarding Badge		Must have Swimmer designation.	None	Aquatics Weeks 1-4 Wed/Thur Block 2	Class dependent on staffing levels.





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	T y p e	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Personal Fitness	9 of 139	Weeks 1 & 3 Only	No changes from 2024 Prerequisites: 1a, 1b, 6, and 7	Scoutcraft Week 1: Wed/Thur Block 2 Week 3: Mon/Tues Block 1	Eagle-Required Week 1 class may extend into Friday
		Photography	26 of 139	None	No changes from 2024	Handicraft Mon-Thu Block 1	Great 1 st year MB choice! Council recently purchased new camera in 2024 for this MB.
		Pioneering	45 of 139	None	No changes from 2024	Scoutcraft Mon-Fri Block 1	Not a good 1 st Year choice. Must fully master knots.
		Railroading	73 of 139	None	No changes from 2024	Scoutcraft Mon/Tues Block 2	New for 2025!





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	T y p e	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Rifle Shooting	16 of 139	Class size limited to 8	Changes: Requirements 1a-f; 1g(1&2); 1h-j; 2 (Option A) a-k; 2 (Option B) a-j 2 (Option C) a-n & (New), 3.	SBSA Rifle Range Mon-Thur Block 1 Mon-Thur Block 2 Mon-Thur Block 3	Enjoy our newly-refurbished Rifle Range!
		Robotics	43 of 139	Week 2 Offering Only	No changes from 2024	Yon Porch Mon/Tue Block 1 & 2	
		Rowing	75 of 139	Must have Swimmer designation.	No changes from 2024	Aquatics Weeks 1-4 Mon-Thur Block 3	Class dependent on staffing levels.
		Small Boat Sailing	37 of 138	Must have Swimmer designation.	No changes from 2024	Aquatics Weeks 1-4 Mon-Thur Block 3	Class dependent on staffing levels.




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		Scouting Heritage	78 of 138	Weeks 2-4 Only	No changes from 2024 Prerequisites: Requirements 5 (Bring unit history) and 6 (Bring your scouting memorabilia collection to camp.)	Dining Hall Wed/Thur Block 3	If the Scout does not want to bring their scouting memorabilia collection to camp, have them take several pictures that can then be explained to the class and counselor.
		Sculpture	51 of 138	None	No changes from 2024	Handicraft	Used as a “back-up” merit badge for any Scout completing another Handicraft MB ahead of schedule. Will be scheduled at camp.
		Search and Rescue	49 of 138	Week 2 MB Offering Only	No changes from 2024	Mon-Tue Block 3	
		Shotgun Shooting	27 of 138	Class size limited to 6	Changes: Requirements: 1a-f; 1g(1&2); 1h-j; 2 (Option A) a-k; 2 (Option B) a-n and (New) 3	Shotgun Range Mon-Thur Block 1 Mon-Thur Block 2 Mon-Thur Block 3	Not a good 1 st Year fit. Counselor recommends Scout takes Rifle Shooting MB first.






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		Signs, Signals & Codes	60 of 138	Weeks 2-4 Only	No changes from 2024	Scoutcraft Wed/Thur Block 2	Not a good 1 st Year fit. Course material is geared for older Scouts. May extend into Friday
		Soil & Water Conservation	71 of 138	Weeks 2-4 Only	No changes from 2024	E-Con Wed/Thur Block 2	
		Space Exploration	30 of 138	Weeks 2-4 Only	No changes from 2024 Prerequisite: 8	E-Con Mon/Tue Block 2	No-cost to the Scout for rockets used in this MB.
		Snorkeling Badge		Must have Swimmer designation.	None	Aquatics Weeks 1-4 Mon/Tue Block 2	Class dependent on staffing levels.

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		Swimming	3 of 138	Must have Swimmer designation.	No changes from 2024	Aquatics Swimming 1 Weeks 1, 2 & 4 Mon-Tues Block 1 & 2 Swimming 2 Weeks 1-4 Wed/Thur Block 1 & 2 Swimming 3 Week 1-4 Mon-Thur Block 3	Eagle-Required Class dependent on staffing levels.
		Surveying	2 nd rarest MB earned by Scouts in 2024! 137 of 138	Week 1 Only Class limited to 8 Scouts	No changes from 2024	Location TBD Mon-Thur Blocks 1 & 2	Not offered very often at MNSR. Now is your chance. Taught by licensed surveyor, Keith Van Iderstine
		Textile	103 of 138		No changes from 2024	Handicraft Wed/Thur Block 3	New for 2025!

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	T y p e	Merit Badge	2024 Ranking (of 138)	Restrictions (If necessary)	Changes & Prerequisites	Section & Block	Counselor Recommendation & Information
		Traffic Safety	70 of 138	Week 2 Only	No changes from 2024	Dining Hall Mon/Tue Block 1	
		Watersports	125 of 138	Week 3 Only Must have Swimmer designation.	No changes from 2024	Aquatics Week 3 Mon/Tue Block 1 & 2	Not offered very often at MNSR. Now is your chance. Class dependent on staffing levels.
		Weather	44 of 138	None	No changes from 2024	E-Con Mon/Tues Block 3	
		Wilderness Survival	24 of 139	Overnight on Tuesday night.	No changes from 2024 Prerequisite: Requirement #5,	Scoutcraft Mon/Tues Block 1	Scoutmaster might want to council 1 st Year Scouts and those who would camp in the woods for the first time. Overnight on Tuesday night.
		Woodcarving	20 of 139	None	No changes from 2024	Handicraft Mon-Thur Block 2	See Trading Post Manager for proper knife selection.