



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
TIDEWATER COUNCIL



**Blue Heron Lodge 349 March Ordeal
May 16th – 18th, 2025**

Event Guide

When: May 16-18, 2025 (Friday – Sunday)

Be Prepared. There is no rain/snow date for the event so prepare for foul weather. Pipsico Scout

Where: Pipsico Scout Reservation, 57 Pipsico Road, Spring Grove, VA 23881

Contact:

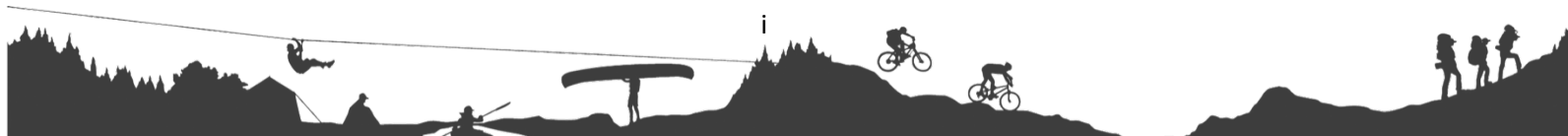
Billy Howey: Event Chairman

Robert Patton: Event Advisor

Register Cost: Members: \$ 30.00, Brotherhood Candidates: \$55.00

Registration is available on Black Pug at <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA596&calendarID=468274>

REGISTRATION CLOSES MARCH 10, 2025



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL OA MEMBERS

Enhanced Youth Protection Policies and Procedures. It is imperative that parents and unit leadership believe that youth participation in Order of the Arrow events at Pipsico Scout Reservation will be within a safe environment. The council Scout Executive has mandated implementation of additional youth protections for Order of the Arrow events as outlined below. With the growth of our female youth membership, additional adult supervision is required, primarily from our female adult members 21 years of age or older. In the paragraphs below we outline the ways – policies, procedures, restrictions, processes, and standards that we believe, if followed, will ensure a safe and enjoyable event for all. We are scouting's Honor Society. As such, all of us youth and adults should set the example, because we should BE THE EXAMPLE. Everyone's reputation, safety, and integrity matter.

Appropriate Clothing and footwear: Uniforms, appropriate to the activity and weather, are the most appropriate thing to wear. Shorts should be of standard uniform length and be of similar type material. Spandex is not acceptable. Swimsuits are only to be worn at the pool and not around camp. Nightwear and exercise clothes are not acceptable attire for casual wear around Pipsico Scout Reservation. Closed toed shoes are required; sandals and flip flops are not acceptable.

Specific Youth Protections Policies and Procedures:

- **Two deep leadership** must always be present and visible to other members and is required when youth under 18 years of age are present during any Scouting activity in camp or within the campsites.
- **Tent and gender separation within campsites.** Adults and youth must have their tents placed in clearly marked separate areas within campsites. Generally, unless otherwise specified, male youth and adults, as well as female youth and adults will be placed in separate areas of the campsite. Areas will be marked so as to show the different areas.
- **Additional female youth protection policy.** BSA Youth Protection Policies also require that when female youth under 18 years of age are present, two registered, YPT trained adults 21 years of age or older, with at least one being female be present and visible. The OA is unique in that individuals attend and not units. Female adults and youth tent areas will be clearly marked, be visible at night, designated areas for tent placement and separation.
- **Campsite Steward Teams.** Each campsite will have at least one "Campsite Steward Team." Designated female only sites will have at least one two-leader team with at least one qualified female 21 years of age or older. These teams will be the "go to" adult supervision in the campsite, responsible for ensuring proper tent separation is in place, available as trusted adults in the event any youth should have that need, as well as being responsible for the orderly and clean operation of the campsite and its related facilities.
- **Availability of adult female supervision.** Depending upon the availability of a sufficient number of female adults, campsite arrangement may need to be adjusted to comply with Youth Protection Policies.

Reporting of Youth Protection policy violations or suspected violations

Any member observing or suspecting a youth protection violation should first take immediate action to ensure that any youth involved are safe and then immediately contact to any council professional staff member, e.g., Camp Ranger, OA Staff Adviser or any other professional staff member on site. If a professional staff member is not present, then report immediately to the COC adviser (or his/her designee, if one of the COC adviser is not immediately available) who will take further action.

Camp Buddy System: Female youth must have a female youth buddy. Male youth are to have a male youth buddy. During group activities **outside of the campsites** in the general program areas of camp during activities between reveille and lights out, a male youth is allowed to join two females, or a female youth is allowed to join two males – in small or large groups. A single female and a single male are not permitted to be buddies alone. Youth and adult buddies are strictly not allowed at any time anywhere on the property, unless specifically directed by event leadership, and then only on a temporary basis under adult supervision to comply with safety for weather events or

other emergencies.

NOTE: The Buddy System is optional during Saturday during program hours for program activity in general program areas where large groups of Arrowman are congregated **and activities are clearly visible**. This includes training, games, ceremonies, meals, the show and other similar group activities.

Use of Adirondacks in Site 11: The Adirondacks will be closed and locked at all times and will not be used.

Camp Lions Staff Cabins: The Registrar chair and adviser will decide who will be allowed to use the cabins in the staff loop and who will be authorized to use the cabins. Each cabin will be designated for use by youth, by gender and age, and occupants by name will be clearly visible and listed on the door or clipboard outside of the cabin. The event adviser will have a list of these designations for reference. The age of occupants can be no more than two years apart. No one else is allowed to be in a cabin that they are not assigned to at any time. This would constitute grounds for being dismissed from camp and sent home. The Staff Center, if open, may be used, with permission of the COC Advisers, for gathering as long as buddy system rules are followed. The COC Advisers shall have the final say on staff cabin occupants.

An email will go out to those people who will be getting a Staff Cabin for the Event. Staff Cabins need to be clean prior to your departure from Camp.

Camp Curfew / Quiet Time / Lights Out: Quiet hours are from 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM. BSA Camping Standards states that all youth should have the opportunity for 8 hours of rest time. Campers must remain in their designated campsites during this time except to use restroom facilities and then only if with a buddy.

Use of Burton Center and Dining Hall. The Burton Center and Dining Hall will be closed to all participants except cook crew (with sufficient adult supervision) between 11:00 PM and 7:30 AM. Exceptions to prepare for the next day's program, or other needs must be arranged with the event adviser and then only when sufficient adult supervision is present in the building.

Use of Aquatics area, including showers. The pool, aquatics building, will be closed and may not be used. Individual Locking Showers and Restrooms will be open for use.

Use of shelters, Jim Gray Bowl or Chapel. The Jim Gray Bowl and Chapel may only be used as gathering places for scheduled program events. Gathering during the day will follow all of the youth protection restrictions described in the above paragraphs, particularly for those shelters situated along the roadside or near campsites. Shelter lighting will remain on during all hours of darkness, typically sunset to sunrise or as otherwise directed by the event adviser.

Use of Camp Rotary, Bill Hill (Campmaster Building), Camp Kiwanis, the Barn, Maintenance Buildings, and adjacent facilities (e.g. K Building and OA Shelter). Unless used for designated program activities or specifically authorized for temporary use in support of program activities, e.g., Vigil activities Friday evening, these camps and adjacent facilities are closed to all participants.

Use of camera surveillance on Pipsico Scout Reservations. To ensure the safety of all on the property and to deter unauthorized entry, movement and exit from the property, cameras, monitored by the professional staff, have been placed in various locations around the camp property.

BSA Driving Age: BSA has set the driving age at 18. Youth under 18 are not permitted to have passengers or drive on camp under any circumstances, unless specifically authorized by either the Camp Ranger, Staff Adviser (or designated professional staff member). We understand the challenge this creates, but this rule must be enforced for BSA insurance to cover scouts and scouters.

Schedule of Events (subject to change if circumstances change)

Final planned schedule of events will be emailed out prior to the event and also available at check in.

General Event Information

Check-In

Normal check-in will be from **5:00 PM till 8:00 PM** on Friday night. Check-in will be at the Burton Center, the building adjacent to the parking lot in Camp Lions. Please, do not arrive early, there will be no one to check you in. You may **NOT** enter the campsites prior to check-in. **Everyone must check-in when they arrive** and will be provided with campsite information and where to place their tent. The event staff must have an accurate record of who is on property and where they will be camping. If you are arriving late or on Saturday, please let the Chapter Chief and Chapter Adviser know when to expect you. **If arriving late, you must check in at Burton Center.**

For the safety of Scouts walking through camp, only vehicles with an authorized pass will be allowed inside the yellow gates of camp. No one under the age of 21 can drive inside of Camp while the event is in progress. All vehicles are to stay in the parking lot unless otherwise authorized by the Campmaster, Ranger, Lodge Adviser or Event Adviser. Any additional gear or Scouts will have to hike in or can utilize one of the available carts, located at the Burton Center. Work vehicles with event approval and pass will be allowed to drive in camp during day hours only. The yellow gate at the Burton Center is now an electronic gate and cannot be opened manually. To gain entrance using your pass you will have to go to the Burton, and they will open the gate for you to enter. Upon exiting Camp, the Sensor will open the gate once you are close to it. Once the gate is opened or closed please don't stop in its path. Gate will close on your vehicle.

Check Out

Check out will be on Sunday morning. All participants are to check-out with associated Chapter Adviser/ designee. Please ensure that your camping area is left better than what you found it and that your latrine has been swept clean and toilet lids are down.

Early Departures

If you need to depart early, please let your Chapter Adviser/designee know in advance of your plans. Any participant leaving camp, whether returning or not, must notify associated Chapter Advisor/designee and check out at the Burton Center. Please notify your Chapter Advisor/designee of arrival if returning back to camp.

General Rules

- All camping will follow Outdoor Ethics.
- No open fires are permitted except in designated campfire rings.
- **All vehicles** are to be parked in the designated parking areas.
- Members will remain in their designated area or other area as determined by the lodge between lights out and reveille unless using restrooms or as specifically authorized by the staff adult leadership.
- **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** should youth male campers enter the female camping area or youth female campers enter male camping area. The only exception will be only for emergencies and then only when accompanied by two adults, one female over the age of 21 for entering female camping areas.
- **Campsites ARE NOT PROGRAM AREAS; therefore, no one will enter a camping area not designated for them without expressed permission of the Campsite Steward Team.**

Campsites

Campers need to provide their own tents and bedding. All Pipsico tents and cots are in storage for the winter. Sites will be assigned to comply with BSA Youth Protection policies.

Trading Post

The Trading Post may be open during this event. Cash, MasterCard, and Visa are accepted for all transactions.

Water and Bath Facilities

Drinking water is available within every campsite and most program areas. Hot showers (both male and female) are available at the Central Showers by Site 9 and also the Exterior Showers and Restrooms at the Aquatics Center. Primary bathroom facilities are latrines inside of each campsite and private, enclosed, and locking toilet facilities are available at the Central Shower house, Aquatic Center Exterior and the front of the Reservation in the Gregson Center, and at the Burton Center.

Parking and Vehicles in Camp

Since safety is our number one priority, vehicles are not permitted past the Burton Center parking lot unless authorized

by the event staff. Any vehicle that is authorized to drive beyond the Burton Center must remain on the main road. Absolutely no vehicles are permitted on grass or in campsites. Likewise, no vehicles authorized in camp may block the loading dock at the rear of the Dining Hall. Vehicle owners, and operators, who drive beyond the Burton Center parking lot do so at their own risk. Tidewater Council will not accept responsibility for any vehicle damage within the camp. No other motorized vehicles (golf carts, etc.) will be allowed in camp at any time except for use by designated camp staff. If the need arises for a vehicle to be in camp, approval **MUST** first be obtained from the Camp Master or Camp Ranger.

Special Needs:

Prior arrangements should be made for any youth or adult with special needs. Any special needs should be noted when registering. Visitors should alert staff when checking in of special needs.

Medicals

According to BSA policy, all Scouts and leaders should complete an Annual Health and Medical Record form (parts A&B only) for all Scouting activities. This is just the health history form (excluding the physician's portion). **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL** to obtain and maintain copies of these forms for their records.

Medical staff will be present at check-in to obtain a copy for camp records. The official BSA form is located here: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf.

Medical Treatment

All participants must report all injuries and other medical situations to the camp staff at the Health Lodge, even those they treat themselves. Qualified medical personnel will be on duty at the Health Lodge or within the camp at all times. If necessary, the camp staff will contact emergency medical services and ambulance services using 911.

Prescription Medications

All prescription drugs are kept and administered by the individual except as follows: medication considered as a narcotic, opioid or any medication requiring refrigeration, it can be checked in with the Health Officer at check-in. By law, medications must be in a container with a typed label from the pharmacy.

Emergency Procedures

Pipsico Scout Reservation maintains emergency procedures to meet, and in some cases, exceed the standards set by the Boy Scouts of America. It is essential for everyone's safety that all participants fully understand and follow these procedures. Please be sure to follow only instructions delivered by the staff chain of command. Likewise, if an emergency arises, or is brought to your attention, please notify the nearest staff member immediately so that we may launch the appropriate procedures. Do not attempt to resolve an emergency situation alone. Notify the nearest staff member. In the event that an emergency arises, an alarm will sound from the program administration building, Burton Center. When this alarm is heard, participants are required to assemble on the field in front of the Dining Hall or in the Dining Hall (for weather hazards) and await further instruction.

Youth Protection Policy Reminders

In addition to the specific policies and guidelines presented above, leaders are asked to review the Guide to Safe Scouting before attending camp and ensure compliance with policies as detailed in the Guide, particularly in respect of youth protection policies. Failure to comply with the Guide to Safe Scouting and youth protection policies will result in disciplinary action.

Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members and protect their own privacy at all times. Except in emergencies, adults and youth may not enter each other's designated sleeping and shower areas. No Scout may share a tent with an adult who is not his own parent or guardian. No youth may share a tent with a youth more than two years difference.

General Policies

Alcoholic Beverages & Drugs

Alcohol and illegal drugs are prohibited. All prescription drugs are kept and administered by each individual (See the Prescription Medications section above.)

Electronic Devices

Radios, CD players, video games, and other personal electronic devices detract from the camping experience and provide an inviting target for theft. Do not bring them to camp. If you permit them during travel to and from camp,

please leave them in the car during your stay at camp. Youth campers are not permitted to have two-way radios or pagers in camp, as these have proven to be highly disruptive of the camp routine.

Fires, Stoves, Tents & Open Flames

Fires will be authorized depending on the status of State and County fire prohibitions in effect for the weekend of the event. All ground fires are permitted ONLY in the designated fire rings at each camp site. The staff will update units on the current fire policy at check-in. Units must post water buckets or a fire extinguisher in the fire area. Cutting of live trees, shrubs, or vegetation is prohibited. Wood is available in the Ax Yard.

For safety reasons, there are to be **no open flames in tents**. This ban on open flames in tents includes a ban on the use of matches, candles, kerosene, propane, or liquid lanterns in tents. Lighting in tents is to be provided by battery-powered lanterns or flashlights only. It is, however, acceptable to use a lantern under a dining fly. All campfires and stoves are to be attended to while they are burning. Fires are only to be built in designated areas and must be extinguished so that they are cold to the touch when unattended.

Liquid Fuels

Only Adult leaders may use stoves and lanterns requiring liquid fuel. Extra fuel must be turned over to the Quartermaster for safekeeping in locked storage.

Money & Valuables

Each Scout is responsible for the safeguarding of their money and personal property. It is recommended that expensive cameras, watches, and personal entertainment devices be left at home. Regardless, all items should be clearly marked, with their name. Tidewater Council will not be responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen, or damaged onsite.

Pets

No pets are allowed in camp. Service animals must be identified.

Restricted Areas

The following areas are off limits to all campers: The Ranger's home and maintenance areas, barn, camp staff living areas, the kitchen and food storage areas (except for authorized volunteers,) any program area where staff is not present, and the cliffs along the James River. Scouts may visit the waterfront for beach combing or fishing only when staff is present or when accompanied by an adult leader. **ALL WATERFRONT AREAS ARE STRICTLY OFF LIMITS AFTER DUSK.**

Smoking & Vaping

Vaping by anyone under 21 years old is illegal and prohibited, as is use of tobacco in any form while at camp. Adults who smoke must do so out of sight of any youth members. Smoking is prohibited in any tent or building. Cigarette butts must be field stripped and placed in a trash receptacle (do not drop in roads or parking lot). **Participants under the age of 21 observed using tobacco in any form, will be required to depart the reservation for the duration of the event.**

Taps/Lights Out

A Scout is courteous. All Scouts should be in their designated campsites at 10:45 PM to wind down the day's activities. **Taps and lights out is at 11:00 PM** and all campers should be in their designated camping area. Adult leaders must ensure that fires and lanterns are extinguished and that all youth have retreated to their tents or designated cabin, and everyone is quiet from 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM.

Trailers

Trailers in camp are typically not needed nor authorized. However, if needed for supplies or equipment for an event program element, the responsible adult driver should contact the event adviser to arrange for temporary storage in the campsite or near a program area.

Trash Disposal

Participants should practice Leave No Trace principles to the maximum extent practicable. If you packed it in - you pack it out! Chapters are expected to police their camping area and remove all trash to the dumpsters located behind the dining hall or at the front of camp near the barn. Trash that will not fit in the dumpsters becomes the responsibility of the chapter to remove from the campground. Do not pile trash next to the dumpsters. If the dumpsters are full at the time of checkout, then individuals MUST pack out their trash and dispose of it properly.

Weapons, Knives, Full Axes, Fireworks, & Firearms

Pipsico provides all necessary and appropriate equipment for our shooting programs. Personal firearms, ammunition, bows, and arrows are not permitted in camp. Also, no water guns are permitted at camp.

Pocketknives may be carried by adult leaders and any Scout who has earned the Totin' Chip or Whittling Chip.

Fireworks & firearms of any kind are prohibited in camp. Law Enforcement Officers (LEO's), please notify the council prior to camp of any special requirements by your department.