

BLUE RIDGE SCOUT
RESERVATION

SCOUTS BSA WINTER CAMP

A winter wonderland of skills and thrills! Scouting adventure, learning, and winter fun await you!

January 3-5,
2025

Camp
Powhatan



INTRODUCTION

Kick off 2025 with us at the Blue Ridge Scout Reservation! We are excited to have you join us for an unforgettable experience. Our staff is dedicated to delivering the best program possible to ensure you have a fun and rewarding time.

This guide is your go-to resource for preparing for camping and merit badge classes. While we've got an incredible lineup planned, remember that a few details might change along the way. Your flexibility makes all the difference!

We can't wait to see you in January for an awesome weekend!

♥ Camp Powhatan Winter Camp Staff

CONTACT US

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Camp Powhatan Office (during event only)	540-980-3787

Camp Powhatan Location

2600 Max Creek Road
Hiwassee, VA 24347

GETTING REGISTERED

Register on Black Pug [HERE](#)! The deadline to register your Scouts and adults is January 1, 2025, but the earlier the better to ensure that your participants are able to build their ideal schedule. Select the preferred merit badges and programs for your youth and adults to create a full schedule for all of your participants on Black Pug.

Pre-order your Winter Camp sweatshirt online so you can come to camp ready to go! (link coming soon).

Fees

Scouts BSA Youth	\$75
Adult Participant	\$50

Leadership requirements

Each Scout unit must be accompanied by registered unit leaders, with a minimum of two-deep leadership at all times. For female units, at least one registered female leader is required to attend, in compliance with Youth Protection Guidelines.

Please contact us if you would like to send a Provisional Scout so we can make appropriate accommodations for that Scout.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND CAMP PROCEDURES

You and your Scouts will need to bring your own camping tent and plenty of warm winter gear. Expect that it will be chilly and potentially snowy! You may reserve an adirondack cabin via your Black Pug registration for \$40 per adirondack. Units are limited to no more than 3 adirondack reservations.

All troops and Scouts will be camping in the front campsites: Rock Ridge, Tipi, and Cherokee. The Shower Palace adjacent to the main parking lot will be fully functional and is recommended for most restroom and shower needs. Other restroom and shower facilities are very limited at this time of year, so please plan accordingly.

Check In

Please plan to check in between 5:00 and 9:00 PM on Friday evening at the office in front of the Shower Palace by the main parking lot. During check-in, we will collect BSA Health Forms (A & B) and any other required documentation (such as ATV waivers). We will work with you here to determine campsite assignments, which will be first come, first serve. Adirondacks must be reserved and paid for ahead of time.

Check Out

Units can check out after 3:00 PM on Sunday at the camp chapel. Prior to checking out, please make sure that your unit's campsite is entirely clear of food, trash, and belongings. Units will be given an exit packet at check-out. Exit packet will include patches for all participants, individual competition awards, health form returns, and invitations to future camp events.

Please be sure to notify Winter Camp leadership staff of any individuals leaving early.

Medical Care

Unit leaders and Scouts are responsible for managing and securely storing all medications. If refrigeration is needed, it will be available at the Health Lodge. A staff health officer will be stationed at the Health Lodge at all times to assist with medical emergencies. However, unit leaders serve as the first point of contact for providing aid to an injured Scout. BSA Health Forms (parts A & B) must be submitted to the staff health officer during check-in on Friday night and will be returned to units in the exit packet during check-out.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency, a camp-wide siren will sound. All individuals must immediately return to their unit campsite. Unit leaders are responsible for accounting for all members and should remain at the campsite until further instructions are provided by event staff.

Trading Post

The Camp Powhatan Trading Post will be open throughout the day and evening on Saturday and Sunday. With our Square payment system, we accept all forms of payment.

Scout Packing List

- Base layers: moisture-wicking thermal top & bottoms
- Insulating layers: fleece/wool sweater & pants
- Outerwear: waterproof jacket & pants
- Scouts BSA field uniform: for chapel service
- Hat: insulated winter hat/beanie
- Gloves: insulated, waterproof gloves/mittens
- Socks: 2-3 pairs of wool or synthetic socks
- Footwear: insulated, waterproof boots suitable for snow/mud
- Sleepwear: warm pajamas or a clean, dry base layer
- Camping tent: include ground tarp
- Sleeping bag: rated for cold weather (0°F to 20°F recommended)
- Sleeping pad: to insulate from the ground
- Pillow and blankets: optional but recommended
- Backpack: to organize daily gear
- Water bottle: durable and insulated to prevent freezing (1–2 liters)
- Mess kit: plate, bowl, utensils, and a reusable cup/mug
- Flashlight/headlamp: with extra batteries
- Personal first aid kit: basic supplies for minor injuries
- Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, comb/brush, and biodegradable soap
- Towel: small or medium-sized
- Lip balm: SPF-rated to protect against chapping
- Sunscreen: for UV protection, even in winter
- Hand warmers: single-use or reusable
- Sunglasses: to protect eyes from glare and wind
- Camp chair: lightweight and portable
- Notebook and pen: for notes or journaling

Troop Packing List

- BSA health forms, parts A & B
- Complete set of patrol cooking gear
- Seasoning for meals
- Ingredients for cooking competition signature troop dish

- Extra drinking and cooking water
- Dish washing station
- Troop first aid kit
- Extra fire-starting materials
- Secondary heat sources

Prohibited Items:

- Electronic devices like gaming consoles or tablets
- Fireworks, alcohol, tobacco, or inappropriate items
- Pets

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

FRIDAY		
5 PM - 9 PM	Check in	Shower Palace
8:00 PM	Campfire, Flag Retirement	Amphitheater
10:00 PM	Cracker Barrel	OA Shelter
SATURDAY		
7:00 AM	Breakfast Run	Dining Hall
8 AM - 11:30 AM	Merit Badge Program 1	Program Areas
8 AM - 11:30 AM	Adult Leader Program 1	Program Areas
12:00 PM	Lunch Run	Dining Hall
1 PM - 4:30 PM	Merit Badge Program 2	Program Areas
1 PM - 4:30 PM	Adult Leader Program 2	Program Areas
5:00 PM	Dinner Competition	Parade Field
7:00 PM	Movie Night/Astronomy	CTC
8:00 PM	Adult Night Climb	Tower
10:00 PM	Cracker Barrel	OA Shelter
SUNDAY		
7:00 AM	Breakfast Run	Dining Hall
8:00 AM	Chapel Service	Chapel
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Merit Badge Program 3	Program Areas
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Adult Leader Program 3	Program Areas
12:00 PM	Lunch Run	Dining Hall
1:00 PM	Craft Competition	Handicraft
3:00 PM	Check Out	Chapel

MEAL SERVICE AND MENU

Remember that we will provide all of the necessary ingredients for cooking these meals, but units are expected to bring all of their troop's cooking gear and encouraged to bring their own seasonings.

Our Winter Camp staff will organize the meal ingredients into prepared packages for your cooking patrols based on the number of participants. Representatives from each patrol will report to the Dining Hall to collect the meal package. The preparation and delivery of each meal is the responsibility of the patrol.

The Saturday dinner cooking competition will depend on you! Our staff may choose to submit their own signature dishes for competition, but we will not be providing a regular patrol-cooked meal. Plan ahead with your troop to build a unique dish that could win a prize! Keep in mind that your taste-testing judges will be camp rangers and volunteers. Each troop should plan to prepare enough of the dish to share with the camp, so that everyone is able to fill their plate!

FRIDAY

No dinner will be provided during check-in, so please plan to eat dinner before arrival. There will be a cracker barrel after the campfire.

Cracker Barrel: granola bars, chips, baked goods, hot beverages

SATURDAY

Breakfast: burritos

Lunch: foil packet meals

Dinner: cooking competition!

Cracker Barrel: s'mores bar, fruit, chips, hot beverages

SUNDAY

Breakfast: kebabs

Lunch: campfire pizza

MERIT BADGES AND PROGRAMS

We are excited to offer over 30 merit badges at Winter Camp, with a special focus on merit badges that are not offered at Camp Powhatan during Summer Camp. On your Black Pug registration, Scouts will be able to select 3 merit badges/programs to fill the 3 slots on Saturday and Sunday. Adults will be able to do the same with the adult course offerings.

Please note that due to the limited time constraints of Winter Camp, our merit badge instructors have outlined pre-requisites for each merit badge, which you can find below. For many of these

badges, we cannot offer a full completion if pre-requisites are not completed before camp arrival. If the requirements expected to be completed at camp cannot be, Scouts are welcome to work with those counselors on Sunday morning or at other free times during the event.

These are the options of activities you will find on Black Pug during registration, with the exception of camp wide activities. Camp wide activities do not require pre-registration.

Program 1, Saturday Morning

YOUTH

- American Heritage
- Archeology
- Auto Maintenance
- Chemistry
- Climbing
- First Aid
- Safety
- Pulp & Paper
- Painting
- Public Speaking
- Collections
- Cooking
- Totin' Chip
- Youth ATV

ADULT

- CPR/First Aid
- Leave No Trace
- Scout Executive Sips
- Wilderness First Aid

Program 2, Saturday Afternoon

YOUTH

- Scouting Heritage
- Shotgun
- Soil & Water Conservation
- Emergency Preparedness
- Indian Lore
- Architecture
- Climbing
- Cooking
- Welding
- Robotics
- Totin' Chip

ADULT

- CPR/First Aid
- Leave No Trace
- Scout Executive Sips
- Adult ATV
- Wilderness First Aid

Saturday Evening Special Program

YOUTH: Astronomy

ADULT: Night climb

Program 3, Sunday Morning

YOUTH

- Climbing
- Cooking
- Crime Prevention
- Disabilities Awareness
- Health Care Professions
- Personal Fitness
- Search & Rescue
- Sculpture
- Sustainability

- Geocaching

- Totin' Chip

- ATV Youth

ADULT

- CPR/First Aid
- Scout Executive Sips

- Wilderness First Aid

Campwide Activities

- Campfire
- Dinner Competition
- Movie Night
- Chapel Service
- Craft Competition

- Obstacle Course
- Nature Hike
- BRMC History Display
- Fire Starting Methods

Merit Badge Pre-Requisites and Limitations

– STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES –

American Heritage:

Pre-requisite 1: Read the Declaration of Independence. Pay close attention to the section that begins with "We hold these truths to be self-evident" and ends with "to provide new Guards for their future security." Rewrite that section in your own words, making it as easy to understand as possible. Bring your written, printed 'rewrite' to camp, and we will discuss the importance of the Declaration to all Americans in our camp session.

Pre-requisite 2(d): Interview three people in your community of different ages and occupations (no more than one may be a family member). Ask these people what America means to them, what they think is special about this country, and what American traditions they feel are important to preserve. (Suggested method: Use a one-page worksheet to conduct each separate interview, and bring these worksheets to camp to review. Document the person's name, age, occupation, and locality, and their answers to the above questions.)

Prerequisite 3(c): Research your family's history. Find out how various events and situations in American history affected your family. If your family immigrated to America, tell the reasons why. Write up your findings and bring a printed report to camp to share with your counselor.

Prerequisite 5(a): Watch ONE motion picture (with the approval and permission of your parent/s) that is set in some period of American history. Pay attention to how accurate this film is with regard to the historical events depicted, and also with regard to the way the characters are portrayed. Write notes of your observations during the film, and bring these notes to camp to discuss with the counselor.

Archaeology

Architecture

Astronomy

ATV:

Participants must be at least 16 years old to participate. Completion of the [ATV Waiver](#) is required for participation. Class size is limited to 6 participants at a time.

Automotive Maintenance

Chemistry

Climbing

Cooking:

Pre-requisite 4: cook 3 meals at home. Scouts taking the merit badge will need to be involved with troop cooking of at least 3 meals at the event.

Scouts will need to be present at all 3 periods to complete the merit badge. Bring a small pack for a short hike.

Crime Prevention

Disabilities Awareness

Emergency Preparedness

First Aid

Geocaching

Health Care Professions

Indian Lore

Painting

Personal Fitness

Personal Management

Public Speaking:

Pre-requisite 1. Give a three- to five-minute introduction of yourself to an audience such as your troop, class at school, or some other group (in this case, the class).

Pre-requisite 2. Prepare a three- to five-minute talk on a topic of your choice that incorporates body language and visual aids (we will work on preparing visual aids in class, but Scouts must prepare the talk in advance).

Pulp and Paper

Robotics

Safety

Salesmanship

Scouting Heritage:

Prerequisite 2(a): Write and bring with you to camp a short (printed) biographical summary of any TWO of the following, and tell of their roles in how Scouting developed and grew in the United States: Daniel Carter Beard, William D. Boyce, Waite Phillips, Ernest Thompson Seton, James E. West, and "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt.

Pre-requisite 5: Learn about the history of your unit or Scouting in your area. Interview at least two people (one from the past and one from the present) associated with your troop. These individuals could be adult unit leaders, Scouts, troop committee members, or representatives of your troop's chartered organization. Find out when your unit was originally chartered. Create a report of your findings on the history of your troop, and present it to your patrol or troop or at a court of honor, and then add it to the troop's library. This presentation could be in the form of an oral/written report, an exhibit, a scrapbook, or a computer presentation such as a slide show. A copy of the report/file/scrapbook/presentation must be brought to camp. If written, bring a printed document; if given in person before a group, a video of this event must be submitted on a thumb drive or via online link; if prepared as a computer presentation, a copy of the file or online link must be provided.

Pre-requisite 6: Make a collection of some of your personal patches and other Scouting memorabilia. With their permission, you may include items borrowed from family members or friends who have been in Scouting in the past, or you may include photographs of these items. Prepare an informal report on your collection in advance, and bring it (or the collection) to camp. The report may be printed, or consist of photos on a thumb drive. If bringing the collection to camp, take necessary steps to keep it safe and secure. There is no requirement regarding how large or small this collection must be.

Pre-requisite 8: Interview at least three people (different from those you interviewed for requirement 5) over the age of 40 who were Scouts. Find out about their Scouting experiences. Ask about the impact that Scouting has had on their lives. Share what you learned with your counselor. Suggested interview method: Use a one-page worksheet to conduct each separate interview, and bring these worksheets to camp to review. Write on the back if your subject has more to say. At the top of each page, document the person's name, age, current occupation/career, and locality, as well as their childhood troop number, sponsoring organization and locality. Ask what their highest scouting rank was, and the types of leadership positions they held as a scout. Ask if they attended summer camp as a youth (if so, where?), and if they went to any national scout events such as jamborees, Philmont, and so on. Ask open-ended questions such as "Can you describe some of your memorable events as a scout?" "What were some of your favorite camping spots?" and "Tell me about the first time you went camping." These worksheets should be brought to camp.

Sculpture

Search and Rescue

Soil and Water Conservation

Sustainability

Welding