

2025 Blue Ridge Eco-Challenge!

The goal is to survive... and possibly finish.

WHEN- Event on Saturday, October 4. Camping on Friday and Saturday if you like.

WHERE- Camp Ottari
2882 Simpkinstown Rd, Hiwassee, VA 244347

COST- \$15 per person attending. Cost includes patch for each person, station materials, awards, and insurance.

OPTIONAL- Finisher T-shirt for \$15. Moisture wicking performance shirt with event logo and "Finisher"- If they survive the challenge, they will proudly wear the shirt. See attached order form and design

REGISTRATION- Please register online with link below by Friday, September 19 to allow for adequate materials and final planning to be done.

<https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA599&calendarID=593321>

FORMAT- Think of the TV Show "The Amazing Race"

Scouts will register in patrols with a minimum of five and a maximum of ten Scouts. Patrols will start at the top of Ottari and receive a set of instructions that they will use to begin navigating along a course with various challenges to test their Scouting skills and teamwork. At the end of each challenge, they will receive instructions to navigate to the next point on the course. The course will cover approximately five miles, taking them around camp and into the surrounding wilderness. Challenges will not be scored for points, but simply to be completed so patrols can continue on their journey. This is not a race or a competition against other troops; it's an endurance challenge to push the patrol to work together, conquer tasks, and persevere to the finish line.

The question is, can your patrol survive to the finish?



IMPORANT NOTES:

*****Each troop needs to provide volunteer leader(s) to staff a challenge station along the course.*** This is easy and often pretty entertaining. Bring a folding chair, water, and a good book to read during down time between patrols. The station is already planned and all of the materials will be provided. Troops will receive their station assignment a few days before the event to review and ask questions. ***There is a mandatory organization and information meeting for volunteers on Saturday morning, 8am at the camp office so we are all prepared and coordinated.*****

Potable water for the weekend will be accessible only from the camp office. Troops should bring containers to shuttle clean water. Limited bathroom facilities and porta-johns will be available, but shower houses will be closed and winterized at this point in the year.

Troops need to come with completed parts 1 & 2 BSA medical forms for all registered youth and adults present. The Troop will retain these during the event, but have them ready if needed in an emergency.

REQUIRED GEAR FOR EACH SCOUT:

- Bag lunch to eat while on the Eco-Challenge Course
- Trail snacks are good for energy- this is a long course!
- Minimum 2 liters of water- refill stations will be on the course
- Change of clothes and extra hiking socks in a small trash bag
- Rain gear
- Pocketknife for those that have Totin' Chip
- A backpack to carry the above gear and any patrol gear below

REQUIRED GEAR FOR EACH PATROL:

- One to three Scout who can pass the BSA Swimmer classification test who bring a towel and bathing suit to change into when needed- each patrol needs at least one swimmer.
- Scout handbook in a ziplock bag
- Compasses- minimum of 2
- Basic First aid kit for patrol
- Pad of paper or mini-notebook
- Pen or pencil

SCHEDULE:

Friday-		Optional camping- Troops can arrive after 4pm
Saturday-	8:00am	Meeting for all Station Leaders/Staff
	9:30am	Opening Ceremony & Challenge Explanation
	~9:40am-1 1:00	Staggered rolling start for patrols- start times will be assigned ahead of time.
	9:45am-5:30pm	Course stations open and Eco-Challenge is on!
	6:00pm	Troop dinner time
	8:00pm	Campfire & Eco-Challenge awards
	10:00pm	Taps and all quiet
Sunday-	10:00am	Clear out campsite - event closes

Any questions at all?

Please contact Aaron Smith 540-797-4469 maaronsmith@icloud.com