

2026–2027 Unit Program & Finance Planning Guidebook



Founded in 1913, the Heart of Virginia Council, Scouting America, serves 7,000 youth and 2,300 registered adult volunteers in Central Virginia. The council offers training and support to units in 24 counties in the Tidewater and Piedmont regions of the state, an area spanning 8,143 square miles. Each district represents distinct Scouting communities that serve youth, families, and units within its region. We boast 604 beautiful acres of property in Goochland County, known as the Heart of Virginia Council Scout Reservation.



Program Planning

Steps to ensure a successful year in Scouting



Unit Fundraising & Season Pass

Popcorn, Peanuts, Camp Cards, and Savings



About Our Camps

Camp T. Brady Saunders, Cub Adventure Camp, and Camp Eagle Point



Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



Build the Adventure

Program Planning Training

About the Heart of Virginia Council

[8090 Villa Park Drive, Henrico, VA 23228](https://www.hovc.org)

(804) 355-4306

Leadership Center:
Monday – Friday, 9am to 5pm

Scout Shop:
Monday – Tuesday, 9am to 5:30pm
Wednesday – 12pm to 6pm
Thursday – Friday, 9am to 5:30pm
Saturday – 9am to 12pm

<https://hovc.org>



[@ScoutingVA](https://www.facebook.com/ScoutingVA)



[@hovc_bsa](https://www.instagram.com/hovc_bsa)

What's Inside & How to Use This Guidebook

Included in this Guidebook, you'll find information about training and best practices, program opportunities, planning resources, spring and fall fundraising, camping, Weekend Experiences, and much more!

Please note that special events listed in this program are subject to change, and events might not be included that are of interest to you. Please bookmark our Council Training and Events Calendar at <https://hovc.org/council-calendar> for the most current details.

Our special calendar events pages are divided into three sections to help units plan a well-rounded Scouting year. The first section highlights Council and District events, the second features typical and recommended unit-level activities that align with the season, and the third provides Scout Life suggested meeting themes to inspire engaging program ideas. Events will include program labels to help you quickly identify opportunities that best fit your unit. For information about your district and its offerings, please visit <https://hovc.org/districts> to confirm which district your unit belongs to.



Cub Scouts



Scouts BSA



Venturing



Exploring



Sea Scouts

Where possible, we will reference external text links and QR codes for your convenience. Should you determine a link or QR code is broken, please make us aware by completing the Contact form on our Contact & Staff Directory page at <https://hovc.org/contact>.

Your first step is to learn more about the Unit Program Planning Conference, what it entails, and how it will set you up for a successful and fun year in Scouting!

Let's get started!





Unit Program Planning Conference

The Unit Program Planning Conference is an annual meeting attended by your unit committee and parents to plan your next year of programming. By the end of this conference, your unit will have a calendar in place and a budget to support all of your activities. It's important to note that this conference is similar for the various programs; however, Unit Program Planning Conferences for Troops, Crews, and Posts are to be youth-led.

Before the Conference

Your Committee Chair and unit leaders will work together to gather the following key information:

- Key school and community event dates
- Personal dates that may affect your unit's activities
- Last year's annual plan (if one is available)
- Important Chartered Organization dates
- District and Council calendar dates
- Unit priorities and goals
- Regular Unit meeting dates

Step 1: Create a Basic Calendar

Take all of the data you gathered before the conference and put it into a draft calendar.

Step 2: Review

Review your prior year calendar and discuss what went well and what didn't. If you are a Cub Scout Pack, did you plan summer events to earn the Summertime Adventure beltloops and pins? What was attendance like for each individual event? Did you participate in Council sponsored summer or winter camps? Did you take advantage of the fall or spring fundraising opportunities? Use this information to guide you along the next steps of this process.





Program Planning

Steps to ensure a successful year in Scouting



Step 3: Brainstorm

Here's where this process gets fun! Discuss activities your unit might want to participate in addition to your regular meeting dates. Would you like to host a Blue and Gold Banquet for your Scouts and their families? Maybe a Pinewood Derby? How about quarterly Courts of Honor, weekend camping trips, and community service activities? Are there Council events you'd like to attend, like Eagle Commencement, seasonal camps, or Weekend Experiences?

An important consideration in this step is to remember that all suggestions are good suggestions, and that new ideas are what make Scouting so great!

As your ideas develop, start considering how you want to prioritize various meetings and events. Consider taking a vote on which to include in your program plan before officially adding them to your calendar.

Step 4: Assignments

You know what you want to do, but now you need to decide who will be responsible for your events. If you're able to make those assignments during this official meeting, this will help you plan well into the future without scrambling for help.

Step 5: Financing & Funding

A calendar packed with great adventure is important, but it comes with a price tag. There are a number of expenses you'll need to consider when planning your program year and the dues you assess to the families you serve. Consider breaking up these expenses into two areas, Unit Expenses and Family Expenses. Unit expenses are typically covered by the unit, such as the purchase of advancement items, Pinewood Derby cars, etc. Family expenses include the cost of summer camp, Creepy Hollow, uniforming, etc.

Your plan for funding your year should be simple, easy to explain, and state the expectations of the unit and families. It's important that you offer opportunities for your families to subsidize their Scouting journey (we'll talk about fundraising later in this guidebook.)





Program Planning

Steps to ensure a successful year in Scouting



My.Scouting

Step 5: Financing & Funding continued

Examples of healthy finance plans include:

- the Pack charges dues of \$50, which includes their annual program expenses. Families pay their dues in November and participate in the Popcorn & Peanut fundraiser in the fall, and Camp Card fundraiser in the spring. Families can use the commission earned on those fundraisers to purchase uniforming, pay for camp, pay their dues, and attend special Council events.
- the Troop sells Popcorn & Peanuts in the fall, and Camp Cards in the spring. They keep a portion of the commission of those sales to cover unit expenses, and the remainder goes into a Scout Account. Scouts can use those funds to pay for anything Scouting related, like uniforming camp registration fees, and youth training.

In these examples, families are incentivized to participate in fundraising, but can pay out of pocket for the items and events fundraising would cover. Scout Accounts are a great way to help families subsidize the cost of Scouting, while helping your unit stay financially viable. Please see Scouting America's Fiscal Policies and Procedures for more information on Scout Accounts. Those can be found at https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Fiscal_Policies_and_Procedures_for_Scouting_America_Units.pdf, or by scanning the QR code.



Fiscal Policies

Step 6: Publish & Share Your Plan

Review your plan to ensure you have captured everything your unit wants to do in the upcoming year. Make sure you include your unit's funding plan with the expectations of each Scout and their family. Publish your plan and get it to each family via all methods of communication (email, social media, etc.). Creating a printable flyer serves as a reminder to existing members, and can be used when recruiting new and prospective families.

Remember...

Unit Program Planning might start with an annual meeting, but it's an ongoing process that will be regularly reviewed and updated to ensure your unit is still on track.



Program Planning

Steps to ensure a successful year in Scouting



Pre-Planning Worksheet

Before you begin, here's a quick pre-planning worksheet to reference as you move through the program planning process.

Unit Goals

Identify two to five priorities your unit hopes to accomplish this year, such as growth, advancement, outdoor experiences, leadership development, or service.

Major Events

List the key activities and traditions that will define your unit's Scouting year, including campouts, derbies, banquets, courts of honor, and special outings.

Fundraising Goals

List the fundraisers your unit traditionally participates in, fundraisers you'd like to consider for the coming year, and the financial goals these fundraisers can help you meet.

Recruitment Plan

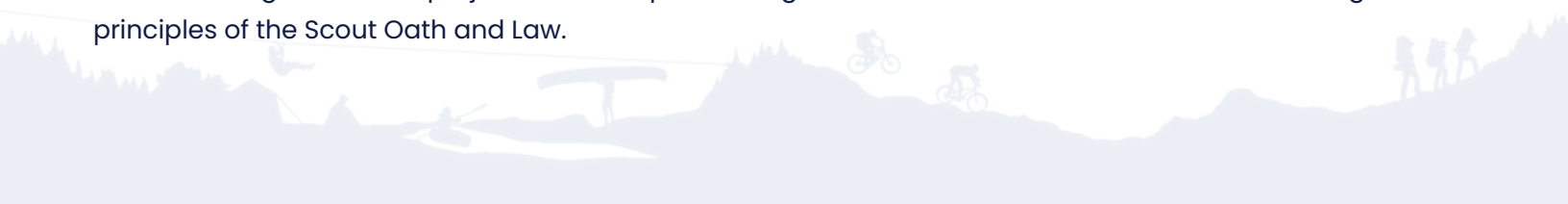
Outline how your unit will welcome new families by identifying recruitment events, open houses, school outreach efforts, and membership growth targets.

Adult Training

Review required and supplemental training opportunities to ensure all leaders are prepared, confident, and equipped to deliver a safe, high-quality program.

Service Goals

Plan meaningful service projects that help Scouts give back to their communities while living out the principles of the Scout Oath and Law.





Unit Fundraising & Season Pass

Popcorn, Peanuts, Camp Cards, and Savings



Fundraising



POPCORN & PEANUT FUNDRAISER



It's important to efficiently, safely and easily raise funds for your unit. We will provide tools and training so your unit can exceed your goals, and Scouts and units can earn great incentives! Visit <https://hovc.org/popcorn>.

Why Fundraise?

- Fundraising is an easy way to fund your unit's program.
- It helps families subsidize their Scouting adventures.
- A Scout is Thrifty: Scouts learn life lessons by "earning their own way".
- Scouts can use their fundraising efforts toward the completion of the Salesmanship merit badge.
- There are fun incentives and prizes!



Commission Structure

Units can earn 30 – 35% commission on popcorn and peanut sales. The base commission is 30% and Units can earn a 5% bonus commission for attending training.

Incentives and Prizes

We work with Keller Marketing to offer cool, quality prizes Scouts will love! From pocket knives and drones to Lego kits and camping packages; the more a Scout sells in-person and/or online, the more impressive the prizes!



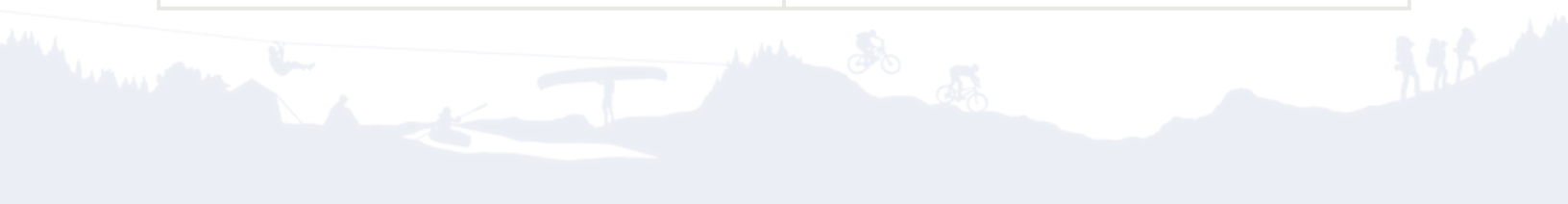


Unit Fundraising & Season Pass

Popcorn, Peanuts, Camp Cards, and Savings

Popcorn & Peanut Schedule

Event	Date
Crater District Kick-Off	August 3 rd Roundtable
Arrohattoc District Kick-Off	August 4 th Roundtable
Dogwood District Kick-Off	August 5 th Roundtable
Huguenot Trail District Kick-Off	August 11 th Roundtable
James River District Kick-Off	August 13 th Roundtable
Show & Sale Distribution	August 14 th & 15 th
Costume-Making Workshop	September 5 th
Unit Show & Sale Payments Due	October 16 th
Show & Sale Orders Due	Tuesdays (11:59pm)
Show & Sale Order Pickup	Wednesdays (12pm to 2pm)
Final Distribution	November 13 th & 14 th
Final Payments Due	November 16 th





Unit Fundraising & Season Pass

Popcorn, Peanuts, Camp Cards, and Savings



Camp Cards

CAMP CARD FUNDRAISER

RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT ALL YOUR SCOUTING ADVENTURES!

Camp Cards are a great way to raise dollars for your unit and can also be used to provide the necessary funds needed for spring and summer camping programs! There are four regional cards to choose from, featuring coupons and deals that are area-specific. Choose from a Council card, a Northern Neck card, a Crater District card, and a Buckingham / Farmville card... or grab some of each! Visit <https://hovc.org/camp-cards>.

Why Fundraise?

- Fundraising is an easy way to fund your unit's program.
- It helps families subsidize their Scouting adventures.
- A Scout is Thrifty: Scouts learn life lessons by "earning their own way".
- Scouts can use their fundraising efforts toward the completion of the "Salesmanship" merit badge.
- There are fun incentives and prizes, including bi-weekly prize drawings.



Commission Structure

Cards are sold with 50% of the proceeds kept with the unit and 50% returned to Council. Take advantage of our Early Bird sale and earn 60% of the proceeds, with 40% returned to Council. Cards are sold for \$10.00 each. Unsold cards can be returned by the scheduled end date without penalty, making this a RISK-FREE fundraising opportunity.

Incentives and Prizes

Every other week throughout the spring Camp Card sale, Scouts from Packs and Troops will be chosen at random to win fun, age-appropriate prizes. Scouts receive one entry for every 10 cards sold!





Unit Fundraising & Season Pass

Popcorn, Peanuts, Camp Cards, and Savings



Season Pass

26-27 SEASON PASS

for the Heart of Virginia Council



Big Value, Bigger Adventures!

The Season Pass offers free or discounted access to popular council events like the Spring Cub Camporee, Pinewood Derby, Camporees, Fishing Derbies, and Summer Camp discounts—plus a 10% year-round discount on HOVC branded items at the Scout Shop. With over \$111 in value, families will see more benefits and opportunities for their Scouts to participate in exciting, well-run programs.



CUB SCOUTS

SCOUTS BSA



Included for HOVC youth CUB SCOUTS	Scout Cost	Value
- BSA Accident Insurance	\$ 0	\$ 1
- HOVC Spring Cub Camporee	\$ 0	\$20
- HOVC District Pinewood Derby	\$ 0	\$10
- HOVC Summer Fishing Derby (NEW)	\$ 0	\$20
- HOVC Cub Event Nov 2026 (Replaces Tiger/Lion Day)	\$ 0	\$10
- HOVC 2026 Cub Resident Camp (HOVC Units)*	\$25 discount	\$25
- HOVC 2026 Cub Day Camp (HOVC Units)**	\$25 discount	\$25
- 10% off HOVC branded items in the Council store (unlimited use)		

SEASON PASS VALUE \$111+ Value

Participation in all listed events is included unless noted as a discount beginning January 1, 2026

* Based on Cub Resident Camp youth 2026 (projected) \$210 Camp Fee (projected) \$195 Early Bird Camp Fee

** Based on Cub Day Camp youth 2026 (projected) \$140 Camp Fee

Included for HOVC youth SCOUTS BSA	Scout Cost	Value
- Accident Insurance	\$ 0	\$ 1
- HOVC Camporees (2 per year)	\$ 0	\$20
- HOVC 2026 Summer Camp (HOVC Units)*		
• \$20 Brady Bucks Gift Card TBS Trading Post	\$ 0	\$20
• Camp TBS Registration (Includes Provisional Youth)	\$40 discount	\$40
- HOVC Winter Camp (HOVC Units)**	\$10 discount	\$10
- HOVC Summer Fishing Tournament (NEW)	\$ 0	\$20
- 10% off HOVC branded items in council store (unlimited use)		

SEASON PASS VALUE \$111+ Value

National Youth Leadership Training/Buckskin each Troop receives one \$120 discount
Participation in all listed events is included unless noted as a discount beginning January 1, 2026

* Based on Camp TBS 2026 youth (projected) \$460 Camp Fee (projected) \$435 Early Bird Camp Fee

** Based on Winter Camp youth 2026 (projected) \$65 Camp Fee

Additional Details

The details above are subject to change. Get the most current details and additional information, including a printable flyer, training presentation and FAQs by visiting <https://hovc.org/season-pass>.





About Our Camps

Camp T. Brady Saunders, Cub Adventure Camp, & Camp Eagle Point



Reservations



The Heart of Virginia Council Scout Reservation, located at 1723 Maidens Rd, Maidens, VA 23102, boasts 604 beautiful acres of property in Goochland County, consisting of our Camp T. Brady Saunders and Cub Adventure Camp. Our camps are available for unit activities and camping when not being used for special functions such as summer camp. Units also have access to Eagle Point, a special primitive property on Buggs Island located at 3500-3984 Taylor Ferry Rd, Boydton, VA 23917. Reservations can be easily made online by visiting <https://campreservation.com/602/Camps/693> or scanning the QR code.



Camp T. Brady Saunders (est. 1964)

Diverse programming centered on adventure, leadership, and personal development. Our brand-new **Albright Ecological Area** with upgraded **Koch Nature Lodge** opened in 2025 and includes 3 wilderness campsites for Scouts who enjoy a challenging rustic experience. Learn more at <https://bradysaunders.net>.

Cub Adventure Camp (est. 2002)

Offers year-round camping and outdoor programming which includes shooting sports, nature, swimming, aquatics, and camping. Learn more at <https://cubadventurecamp.net>.



Camp S. Douglas Fleet

Short-term camping facility available for units to use during the off-season at Camp T. Brady Saunders.

Eagle Point

120 acre primitive property leased from the Army Corps of Engineers and located on Kerr Reservoir (Buggs Island). Learn more at <https://hovc.org/eagle-point>.





About Our Camps

Camp T. Brady Saunders, Cub Adventure Camp, & Camp Eagle Point



Do your Scouts enjoy the experiences they have at official Council events at either Camp T. Brady Saunders or Cub Adventure Camp? Wouldn't it be great if you could offer those same adventures to your Scouts year-round? Get them on your unit calendar now!



Weekend Experiences offer the same great programming at your convenience. Leaders can choose from age-appropriate activities such as Aquatics, Fishing, Nature, Range & Target Sports, STEM, Raingutter Regatta, LEGO Derby, Sports & Personal Fitness for Cub Scouts and COPE/Challenge activities, climbing and rappelling, and range and target sports for older Scouts.



Set up your tents or enjoy a stay in the Western Fort, Mountain Cabins, or Yurts! Electricity is available in certain areas, as are bath houses and latrines.

Mix and match your program sessions, each 3 hours long, and enjoy a stress-free camping experience your Scouts will never forget! You show up and we'll provide the equipment and support staff to ensure a safe and fun weekend.

Visit <https://hovc.org/weekend-experience> to learn more, view our activities menu, get pricing details, download a flyer, and book your Weekend Experience!





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



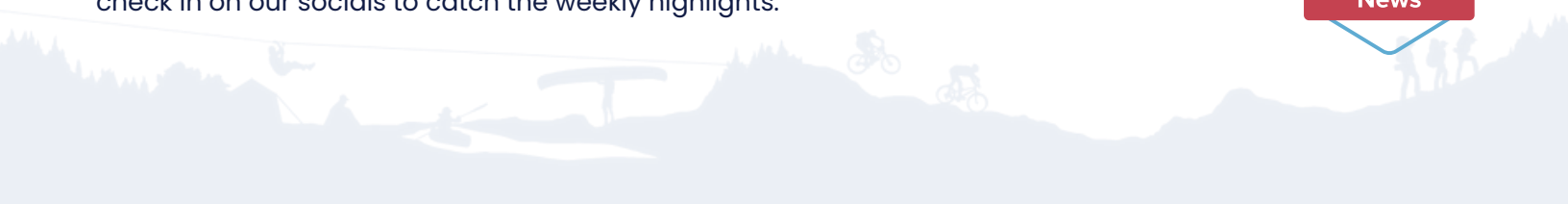
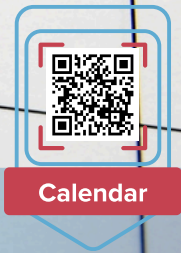
The Heart of Virginia Council maintains a living calendar of events through our Black Pug reservation software that is posted to our website at <https://hovc.org/council-calendar>. This calendar includes **special events** like fundraising deadlines, annual **Tournament of Eagles** and **Sporting Clays** events, regular **district meetings** like Roundtables, and **more!** Bookmark and visit this page often, as it is regularly updated and provides direct links to registration pages and other resources.

Easily **subscribe** to our calendar, **personalize it** to suit your needs, and view the **mobile-friendly** version when you're on-the-go. You can even **filter it** by District, type of event, date, and location.

The following pages include calendar items for the months of July 2026 through June 2027. Please note that events included are subject to change; therefore, you are encouraged to visit the **Council Calendar** page for confirmation. If you have questions about or additions for the Council Calendar, please send us a message through the form located at the top of our **Contact** page at <https://hovc.org/contact>.

We proudly host a **Duty to God: Reverence Hub**, a webpage full of information about important religious observances that should be a part of your program planning. You'll also find religious awards for many world religions, resources for planning interfaith observances and services, and more. Find the Reverence Hub at <https://hovc.org/reverence-hub>.

Never miss a calendar update! Each Friday at noon, we publish a weekly newsletter that's jam-packed with special reminders, important announcements, and can't-miss events. The **Friday 5** and **Courier newsletters** are your best resource for timely information. Easily subscribe and catch up on archived editions by visiting <https://hovc.org/news>, and check in on our socials to catch the weekly highlights.





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



July 2026

Council & District Events

Closed for Independence Day July 3 - 4	Summer Camp at TBS June 28 - July 4 July 5 - 11 July 12 - 18*	Summer Camp at CAC July 17 - 20
<u>Early Product Sale Kick-Off</u> July 22	National Jamboree July 22 - 26	<u>Scout Night with the Flying Squirrels</u> July 24
Scout Shop Fall Uniform Sale	<u>Eagle Brick Orders Due</u> July 10	No Roundtables in July

*Provisional Troop 3 Week

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

Scouts BSA Summer Camp at TBS Program Planning OA Fall Induction is coming In September <u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u>	Cub Scouts Go to Summer Camp at CAC Program Planning <u>Summertime Fun Adventure</u> <u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u>	Fundraising Attend the Early Product Sale Kick-Off Determine your fundraising needs and goals
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Citizenship** | Troop: **Music**





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



August 2026

Council & District Events

<p>Popcorn & Peanut Kick-Offs Crater: August 3 Arrohattoc: August 4 Dogwood: August 5 Huguenot Trail: August 11 James River: August 13</p>	<p>Popcorn & Peanut Distribution August 14 - 15</p> <p>Show & Sell Pick-Up Dates August 19 & 26</p> <p>Consignment Sale August 29</p>	<p><u>Buckskin - the Leadership Experience for Scouts BSA</u> August 2 - 8</p>
<p>District Roundtable Meetings Crater: August 3 Arrohattoc: August 6 Dogwood: August 5 Huguenot Trail: August 6 James River: August 5</p>	<p>James River 50 Miler August 3 - 7</p>	<p>Scout Shop Fall Uniform Sale</p>

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA Fall Recruitment Planning</p> <p>OA Fall Induction Is Coming In September</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts Fall Recruitment Planning</p> <p><u>Summertime Fun Adventure</u></p> <p>Back to Pack Event with Parent Orientation</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising Attend Product Sale Kick-Off</p> <p>Determine your fundraising needs and goals</p> <p>Will you earn free rank patches?*</p>
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*To earn free rank patches, units must:

- Sell \$1,000 in Camp Cards, Popcorn, and/or Peanuts
- Hold a Family Friends of Scouting Presentation
- Have a timely unit renewal

Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Cycling** | Troop: **Shotgun Shooting**





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



September 2026

Council & District Events

<p>Show & Sell Pick-Up Dates September 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30</p> <p><u>Costume-Making Workshop</u> September 5</p> <p>Consignment Sale September 19</p>	<p><u>National Youth Leadership Training - NYLT</u> September 4 - 7</p>	<p>Closed for Labor Day September 7</p>
<p><u>District Roundtable Meetings</u> Crater: September 7 Arrohattoc: September 3 Dogwood: September 2 Huguenot Trail: September 3 James River: September 2</p>	<p><u>University of Scouting</u> September 27</p>	<p>Scout Shop Fall Uniform Sale</p>

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA Fall Service Project</p> <p>Fall Camping</p> <p>Eagle Brick Ceremony on September 20</p> <p>Fall Court of Honor</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts Join Scouting Night Events</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Fall Family Camping or <u>Weekend Experience</u></p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p> <p>Complete new <u>Annual Health & Medical Records</u></p>	<p>Fundraising How is your product sale going?</p> <p>Are you meeting your goals?</p> <p>Celebrate National Peanut Day on September 13</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Camping** | Troop: **Emergency Preparedness**





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



October 2026

Council & District Events

<p>Show & Sell Pick-Up Dates October 7, 14 & 21</p> <p>Consignment Sale October 10 & 17</p> <p>Show & Sale Payments Due October 16</p> <p>FINAL Take Orders Due October 26</p>	<p><u>Basic Adult Leadership</u> <u>Outdoor Orientation</u> October 10 - 11</p> <p><u>Introduction to Outdoor</u> <u>Leadership Skills</u> October 10 - 11</p>	<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: October 5 Arrohattoc: October 1 Dogwood: October 7 Huguenot Trail: October 1 James River: October 7</p>
<p><u>Sporting Clays Classic</u> October 8</p>	<p>Creepy Hollow Weekend 1 October 17 - 18</p> <p>Weekend 2 October 24 - 25</p>	<p>Jamboree on the Air & Internet October 16 - 18</p>

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA Fall Service Project</p> <p>Fall Camping</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts Join Scouting Night Events</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Attend Creepy Hollow</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising Did you reach your goals?</p> <p>Have you made your payments?</p> <p>Scouts think about their prize selections</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Family** | Troop: **Wilderness Survival**





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



Calendar



Scout Life

Planning Calendars with Themes

November 2026

Council & District Events

<p>Fall Fundraiser Prize Orders & Top Seller Reports Due November 9</p> <p>FINAL Product Distribution November 13 & 14</p> <p>FINAL Payments Due November 16</p>	<p><u>Hampden-Sydney College Merit Badge Day</u> November 7</p>	<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: November 2 Arrohattoc: November 5 Dogwood: November 4 Huguenot Trail: November 5 James River: November 4</p>
<p>Lion & Tiger Rally November 7</p>	<p>Dogwood District Fall Camporee for All Scouts November 6 - 8</p> <p>Huguenot Trail District Fall Camporee November 20 - 22</p>	<p>Closed for Thanksgiving November 26 - 27</p>

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA</p> <p>Attend the Dogwood District Fall Camporee</p> <p>Scouts who earned Eagle in 2026, their parents, and Scoutmaster are invited to attend the <u>Eagle Scout Commencement</u> for FREE in February. Are you going?</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Attend the Lion & Tiger Rally</p> <p>Attend the Dogwood District Fall Camporee</p> <p>Prepare for January Pinewood Derby Races</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p><u>National Day of Service</u> November 14</p> <p>Fundraising</p> <p>The <u>Camp Card Sale</u> starts soon! What are your goals?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Conservation** | Troop: **Special Needs Awareness**





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



December 2026

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: December 7 Arrohattoc: December 3 Dogwood: December 2 Huguenot Trail: December 3 James River: December 2</p>	<p>Closed for Christmas December 24 - 25</p>	<p>Scout Shop Closed for Annual Inventory December TBA</p>
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Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA</p> <p>Plan to attend Winter Camp</p> <p>Check your cold-weather camping gear</p> <p>Holiday Service Project</p> <p>Winter Court of Honor</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Holiday Service Project</p> <p>Final Preparations for your Pinewood Derby Races</p> <p>Start Planning Blue & Gold</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>Contact your District Executive to schedule your Family FOS Presentation</p> <p>How is your <u>Camp Card Sale</u> going? Have you entered Scouts for the bi-weekly drawings?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Reverence** | Troop **Wildlife Management**

A Scout Is Reverent

Utilize our [Duty to God: Reverence Hub](#) for information about religious emblems and awards, to download a calendar of religious observances, and learn how to plan an interfaith service.





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



January 2027

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: January 4 Arrohattoc: January 7 Dogwood: January 6 Huguenot Trail: January 7 James River: January 6</p>	<p>Closed for New Year's Day January 1</p> <p>Closed for MLK Jr. Day January 18</p>	<p>Winter Camp at TBS January 15 - 17</p>
<p>Commissioner College January 30</p>		

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA</p> <p>Attend Winter Camp</p> <p>Prepare to hold-a-spot for Summer Camp</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Host your PWD Races</p> <p>Continue Planning Blue & Gold</p> <p>Prepare to register for Day Camp & Resident Camp</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>Contact your District Executive to schedule your Family FOS Presentation</p> <p>How is your <u>Camp Card Sale</u> going? Have you entered Scouts for the bi-weekly drawings?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: Pinewood Derby | Troop: Safety

Cub Adventure & Day Camp

Cub Scout Summer Camps have a Pirate theme in 2027!





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



February 2027

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings Crater: February 1 Arrohattoc: February 4 Dogwood: February 3 Huguenot Trail: February 4 James River: February 3</p>	<p>Closed for Presidents Day February 15</p>	<p>James River District Klondike Derby February 5 - 7</p>
<p><u>Eagle Scout Class of 2026 Commencement</u> February 21 - tentatively</p>		

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA Plan to attend Winter Camp Cold Weather Camping Register for the James River Merit Badge University & Klondike Derby on March 6 Register for Summer Camp <u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts Den & Pack Meetings Host your Blue & Gold Register for Day Camp & Resident Camp Plan a <u>Weekend Experience</u> <u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising Host your Family FOS Presentation How is your <u>Camp Card Sale</u> going? Have you entered Scouts for the bi-weekly drawings?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Technology** | Troop: **Engineering**

Scouts BSA Summer Camp at TBS

Have you heard of our Trailblazer Program? This special program is designed to help first-year campers earn rank requirements and learn important Scout skills while easing into the summer camp experience.





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



March 2027

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: March 1 Arrohattoc: March 4 Dogwood: March 3 Huguenot Trail: March 4 James River: March 3</p>	<p>James River District Merit Badge University</p> <p>March 6</p>	<p>2027 Klondike Derby</p> <p>March 6 - 7</p>
<p>Closed for Good Friday & Easter</p> <p>March 26 - 28</p>		

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA</p> <p>Prepare for Spring Camping: Check Your Gear</p> <p>Spring Court of Honor</p> <p>Plan a <u>Weekend Experience</u></p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Prepare for Spring Camping: Check Your Gear</p> <p>Earn the <u>Polar Bear Award</u></p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>How is your <u>Camp Card Sale</u> going? Have you entered Scouts for the bi-weekly drawings?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Art** | Troop: **Archery**





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



Calendar



Scout Life

**Planning
Calendars
with Themes**

April 2027

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings Crater: April 5 Arrohattoc: April 1 Dogwood: April 7 Huguenot Trail: April 1 James River: April 7</p>	<p>James River Pinewood Derby Race April 17</p>	<p>Basic Adult Leadership Outdoor Orientation TBD</p> <p>Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills TBD</p>
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Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA Prepare for Spring Camping: Check Your Gear</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Plan for the Cub Family Camporee</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising How is your <u>Camp Card Sale</u> going? Have you entered Scouts for the bi-weekly drawings?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: **Nature** | Troop: **Project Planning**

Looking Into the Future

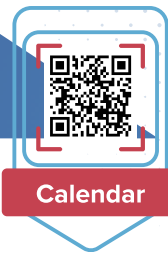
Wood Badge returns in April of 2028!





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



Calendar



Scout Life

**Planning
Calendars
with Themes**

May 2027

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: May 3 Arrohattoc: May 6 Dogwood: May 5 Huguenot Trail: May 6 James River: May 5</p>	<p>James River Pinewood Derby Race</p> <p>April 17</p>	<p>Summer Camp Swim Tests for T. Brady Saunders</p> <p>TBD</p>
<p>2027 Build the Adventure Program Planning Series</p> <p>TBD</p>	<p>Closed for Memorial Day</p> <p>May 31</p>	

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA</p> <p>Prepare for Spring Camping: Check Your Gear</p> <p>Register for Buckskin - The Leadership Experience</p> <p>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</p>	<p>Cub Scouts</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p>Attend the Cub Family Camporee</p> <p>Prep for Cub Scout Day Camp & Summer Camp</p> <p>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</p>	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>The Camp Card Sale ends this month. Have you entered Scouts for the bi-weekly drawings?</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: [Personal Fitness](#) | Troop: [Camping](#)

Cub Family Camporee

The Cub Family Camporee has an international theme! Choose a country to represent, and come in costumes, bear their flag, share their recipes, and have fun planning unit yells and songs!





Special Calendar Events

Get the Big Stuff on your schedule



June 2027

Council & District Events

<p>District Roundtable Meetings</p> <p>Crater: June 7 Arrohattoc: June 3 Dogwood: June 2 Huguenot Trail: June 3 James River: June 2</p>	<p>Cub Scout Day Camp at Deep Run Park June 7 - 11</p> <p>Summer Camp at CAC June 18 - 21 June 23 - 26 July 23 - 26</p>	<p>Summer Camp at TBS June 27 - July 3 July 4 - 10 July 11 - 17 July 18 - 24*</p>
<p>Scout Night with the Tri-City Chili Peppers TBD</p>	<p>Closed for Juneteenth June 19</p>	

*Provisional Troop 3 Week

Typical & Recommended Unit Events

<p>Scout BSA</p> <p>Prepare for Spring Camping: Check Your Gear</p> <p>Summer Court of Honor</p> <p>Register for Fall <u>NYLT</u></p> <p>Program Planning</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Cub Scouts</p> <p>Den & Pack Meetings</p> <p><u>Summertime Fun Adventure</u></p> <p>Go to Cub Scout Day Camp & Summer Camp</p> <p>Program Planning</p> <p><u>Log Outdoor Metrics in My.Scouting</u></p>	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>Pre-register for the Popcorn & Peanut Sale!</p> <p>Determine your fundraising needs and goals</p>
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Scout Life Suggested Meeting Themes

Pack: [Games](#) | Troop: [Multimedia](#)





Build the Adventure

Program Planning Training



In May of 2026, the Heart of Virginia Council shared brand-new **Build the Adventure** videos to help Packs, Troops, Crews, and Posts plan successful annual programs.

Each video includes program-specific planning tricks and tools, promotions for upcoming training, fundraising information, a BeAScout pin update tutorial, and more. Scan the QR codes below to see the program-specific video (YouTube), then complete the appropriate survey to help us better plan for future events and to assist you with your program planning.



Build the Adventure for Packs

Direct link: https://youtu.be/yNKAYAsr_M4?si=JaBjG8dQP_ANfNFv

Survey: <https://247scouting.com/forms/602-Pack2627Survey>



Build the Adventure for Troops, Crews, & Posts

Direct link: <https://youtu.be/kFTHzh5IPAs?si=xXE0-haGjw8-RuN8>

Survey: <https://247scouting.com/forms/602-TroopSurvey2627>

