

NYLT GUIDEBOOK

Cowles Scout Reservation
Inland Northwest Council, Scouting America



Scouting  **America**[™]
Inland Northwest Council



Welcome!

Welcome to NYLT at Cowles Scout Reservation!

Thank you for choosing to participate in one of the most dynamic and impactful leadership programs offered by Scouting America: National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT). This year's course will be held at Cowles Scout Reservation, a nationally recognized facility that provides an exceptional environment for both participants and staff. Each course varies in size, with participants organized into a troop comprised of multiple patrols, much like you may experience at your home unit.

During your week at NYLT, you will have the opportunity to develop and strengthen your leadership abilities through both theory and practical application. We refer to this as an opportunity because your experience and growth will depend on the effort you invest. Effective leadership—of both you and others—begins with a clear, purposeful vision of future success.

Our NYLT staff is dedicated to ensuring that your time at camp is both meaningful and memorable. You will live and work in a team-centered environment where you will apply leadership skills to address engaging and challenging scenarios. The week will conclude with a final challenge designed to inspire you to continue building upon the proud legacy of Scouting's leaders and benefactors.

NYLT will prepare you to be a stronger leader within your unit and throughout your life. It is designed to guide you on your journey toward becoming a true servant leader—one who develops and uplifts every member of the teams you lead. The skills you gain will benefit you now and well into the future.

Please review all enclosed information and share it with your family and unit leader(s). Be sure to read the checklist on page four and complete all required steps before departing for the course. We are excited to welcome you to NYLT and look forward to meeting and supporting you. If you have any questions, please contact us at nyltinwc@gmail.com.

Yours in Scouting,

Casey D.
Senior Patrol Leader

Xanaia D.
Senior Patrol Leader

Bethany Latner
Course Director/Scoutmaster

Michael Dunlap
Scoutmaster



About the Course

Registration - \$300

Participants will receive 2 course T-shirts and 1 course hat. Sweatshirts and extra shirts are available for purchase via the registration portal.

The NYLT course represents a month in the life of a typical linked troop. Your **FULL** participation throughout the week will be required for course completion. We will have troop meetings, patrol leader council meetings, and a major troop event towards the end of the week. This is going to be an exciting journey full of discoveries, adventures, and friendships. Your youth and adult staff are here to guide you throughout the week. Your staff is a talented resource and ready to help you in any way you need. Each of the youth staff was selected from the top participants of their course to return and lead you. Next year it could be you on Staff!

NYLT is run by youth leaders under adult supervision. Adults perform administrative services and ensure guidelines are met, including health and safety. The course presentation and instruction are the responsibility of the senior youth leaders who act as the senior patrol leaders. The SPL's staff (troop guides and others) serve as instructors, for the primary presentation of sessions.

NYLT is not like summer camp and is not designed for rank advancement or earning merit badges. NYLT is an intense and challenging hands-on leadership training program. NYLT participants must be physically, emotionally, and mentally prepared to handle the demands of this advanced training. In order to get the most benefit from this unique experience, participants must exhibit emotional maturity, a positive attitude, proficiency in basic camping and outdoor cooking, and have an ambition to serve in leadership roles.

Scouts BSA members must be at least 13 years old, and have completed the 8th grade by the first day of the course and no older than 17 years old. They must also have completed the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops and achieved the rank of First Class. Venturers and Sea Scouts must be at least 14 years old (or 13 and completed eighth grade) and can be no older than 20 years old. They must have completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews or Ships and have some basic camping experience.



Pre-Course Checklist

- Read this NYLT Guidebook. It contains important information about your NYLT course.
- Complete your registration and payment at <https://scoutingevent.com/611-NYLT> and attach all required documents.
- Inland Northwest Council is NOT accepting digital copies of the required Annual Health & Medical Records Parts A,B &C. Please bring a hard copy with all required signatures on your first day of course.
- Make the time to review the equipment list in your guide so you are prepared for the week.
- Have your parent/guardian be prepared and available for the future online parent meeting.



Post-Course Opportunities

CAPSTONE Project - Take Home Project

Participants commit to creating and carrying out a measurable plan that involves creating a Vision and three SMART Goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely) to apply the leadership skills learned at the National Youth Leadership Training course back in their home troop or crew. You work with your unit leader (Scoutmaster/Advisor) to develop simple, actionable goals (like improving patrol meetings or planning an event) and then implement them. This project ends with the achievement of earning your INWC NYLT neckerchief. Anyone interested in staffing future courses will need this completed.



NAYLE – National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience

National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience is an exciting program that enhances leadership skills and expands upon the team-building and ethical decision-making skills learned in National Youth Leadership Training. NAYLE emphasizes leadership, teamwork, and selfless service, using the core elements of NYLT to help youth strengthen these skills. The NAYLE course is now available at all four national high-adventure bases. The material presented is basically the same at all four venues but is specific to the unique environment of each site. Scouts must be 14 but not yet 20 years old, hold a unit leadership position, and have completed NYLT.



NYLT Leadership Academy

The NYLT Leadership Academy is a course designed to develop and teach NYLT graduates how to be outstanding presenters, evaluators and model leaders in their community, nation and world. The focus of this program is on inspiring and enabling participants to deliver effective, world class National Youth Leadership Training courses in their local councils with special emphasis on improving presentation skills, evaluation skills, and on learning in more depth the NYLT leadership skills.





Course Code of Conduct

Inland Northwest Council, Scouting America

To ensure a positive, safe, and enriching environment for all participants and staff involved in the NYLT Timberwolf Course, I will adhere to the following code of conduct:

I _____ (name), agree to adhere to the following rules:

- I will follow the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Outdoor Code, and remember that these are the basis for all the following rules and should be the basis for all of my actions.
- Disruptive and/or bullying behavior is not tolerated and may result in my expulsion from course.
- I will not use or possess any alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illegal drugs, firearms or other weapons. I understand that if I do, the Course Director, my parents and police will be notified immediately.
- If I damage any property owned by the camp or another individual, I will pay for it.
- I understand that cell phone use is restricted and will follow camp policy. I realize my cell phone will be confiscated if I am using it against camp policy. I will leave all other personal electronic devices at home unless medically necessary.
- I will use matches and lighters only when appropriate and safe.
- I will follow safe knife and axe yard rules when using knives, saws, and axes.
- I will follow Safeguarding Youth guidelines and the buddy system at all times.
- I will wear the appropriate Scout/Venture uniform at all times.
- The NYLT Staff is primarily responsible for the behavior, safety, and welfare of the participants during this course. All staff members have the training, right and responsibility to help and correct any problems they encounter. I will follow the directions of those leaders as if they were my troop or crew leaders.

Participant/Staff Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

SM/Crew Advisor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____





Arrival Information

Participant check-in will begin at 12:00pm at the Cowles Scout Reservation Main Parking Lot on Monday, June 22, 2026. Please arrive no later than 12:45PM.

Arrive in your complete Scouts BSA, Venturing, or Sea Scout Field Uniform (Class A), with a Scouting activity shirt underneath.

Please eat lunch before checking in at camp.

Have all medications listed in your Annual Health & Medical Form on hand and in the original prescription containers.

Once checked in, your camping gear will be organized and delivered to your patrol campsite at a later time by our Quartermaster Team.

You will only need a day pack with your Scouting 10 essentials to begin course.

Late Arrival

If a late arrival consideration needs to be made, please contact Bethany Latner at nyltinwc@gmail.com or 509-280-6101. We want to ensure all participants are accounted for, and we can prepare for their arrival.



Departure Information

Family, friends, and unit leaders are welcome to attend the NYLT Closing Ceremony on Saturday, June 27th at 4:30 PM. Please arrive no later than 4:15 PM to have ample time to park and walk down to Carbon Lodge.

You may arrive as early as 4 PM to allow time to load up your scout's gear prior to the ceremony.

Closing Ceremony

We kindly ask that you attend the entire Closing Ceremony. This will provide participants the opportunity to receive their awards, support their friends, and stay informed about new announcements for future NYLT courses.

Dinner will be served following the conclusion of the ceremony. Each participant is entitled to two complimentary guest tickets; any additional guests will be \$5 each.

To ensure that we prepare enough food, please register your entire group at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/611-NYLTDinner>



NYLT Packing List

The official uniform for NYLT is the current Scouts BSA or Venturer Uniform. For personal comfort and performance of the course activities, all participants will need to have the required items listed below:

Required

- Official Scout uniform shirt
- Official Scout shorts and/or pants
- Socks (2-3 pairs)
- Undergarments
- Belt
- Sweater, sweatshirt, or jacket
- Warm clothing
- Pajamas
- Hiking boots/sturdy footwear (no open toe)
- Rain gear (including tent/hammock rain fly)
- Tent (4-person or smaller) OR Hammock
- Hiking Backpack (needed to carry gear to camp & outpost)
- Ground cloth
- Camping pad
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Day pack (w/ pen, pencils, notepad, etc)
- Water bottle
- Flashlight
- Camp chair
- 10 essentials
- Insect Repellent
- Sunscreen
- Toiletries: Toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, soap, towel, washcloth
- Mess Kit: Plate, bowl, cup, fork, knife, and spoon

Optional

- Watch
- Sunglasses
- Change of shoes
- Hanger for uniform
- Extra blanket
- Pillow
- Pocket knife (folding)
- Extra clothing
- Work gloves

Administrative

- Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A,B, & C)
- Any and all daily prescribed medications

DO NOT BRING: snacks, coolers, radios/speakers, gaming devices, large amounts of money, fireworks, non-Scout reading materials, tobacco products, beverages, or footlockers. Do not bring items inconsistent with the Scout Oath and Law.

REGARDING MOBILE PHONES: Once in camp, participants must not use their phones except at the discretion of the Course Director. That is, no gaming, social media, etc. The NYLT staff is NOT responsible for any devices lost, stolen, or damaged during NYLT, including travel to and from the event.



Refund Policy

The Inland Northwest Council's refund policy has been established to control better and account for funds during events. The Inland Northwest Council retains final decision authority on all refunds.

For cancellations because of medical reasons, a medical note is requested, and fees may be waived. For cancellations because of family emergencies – a death in the family or a major unforeseen event, a statement from the family is needed, and fees may be waived. If, for any reason, a participant youth or adult is removed for cause, violation of camp rules, or fails to provide any required medical forms or registration documentation, there will not be any reimbursement.

Requesting refunds is the responsibility of the unit leadership. For activities such as day camps, camporees, klondikes, and recognition dinners, the refund request must be coordinated IN WRITING with the council staff advisor or council service center within 72 hours of the event.

Note for Youth Registrations: Being sent home for cause, disciplinary action or changing your mind about attending does not constitute a reason for a refund.

Again: The Inland Northwest Council retains final decision authority on all refunds.

