

Camp Thunderbird

Leader Guide for Trailblazers

2025 Trailblazer Camp
May 16-18, 2025
Saturday Only option available



(Updated 03/18/2025)

Scouting America Mission Statement

The mission of Scouting America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Scout Oath

On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

Reverent

Camp Thunderbird is owned and operated by Pacific Harbors Council, Scouting America for the primary purpose of serving the youth and leaders within its chartered area. The camp is nationally accredited on an annual basis through National Camp Accreditation Standards and operated within the rules, regulations, and guidelines set forth by the Washington State Department of Health.

Resident Camp Purpose

To provide a pre-summer camp exposure that helps new Scouts complete core advancement requirements and better prepare them for a weeklong summer camp experience.

Code of Conduct

Camp Thunderbird uses the ideals of the Scout Law as the code of conduct. Leaders and parents are responsible for their Scouts' behavior. Adults are held to the same standard and are always asked to set the right example.

PRIOR TO CAMP

Registration

It's important to register early and get your reservation confirmed. Online registration will give you an option to pay online or at the council office. Use the QR Code or visit

<https://scoutingevent.com/612-2025SpringTrailblazers>



Scouting America Membership

All youth and adults **must** be registered with Scouting America before attending any overnight camp. New adult participants should submit their **adult application, Criminal Background Check (CBC) authorization, and payment** at least **three weeks before camp**. An adult is only considered fully registered once their entire application and CBC process are complete.

Refund/Transfer Policy

All cancellations and/or refund requests must be submitted in writing to: Creighton Scout Service Center, 4802 South 19th St, Tacoma, WA 98405, or emailed to phc@scouting.org.

- Refunds are based on the date the written request is received
- Requests received at least two weeks prior will receive a full refund (less any deposit).
- Requests received from 5 to 9 business days will receive a 50% refund.
- No refunds are available 4 or fewer business days prior to the event.
- If an adult or youth must leave camp for disciplinary reasons no refund is given.
- For a family emergency, sickness, or changes in military duty the council may consider a refund. Requests must be submitted within 7 days after the event.
- Refunds will be made to the original form of payment.

The Council is the final authority for all refund decisions

Review the Guide to Safe Scouting

An important part of your preparation is consulting the Guide to Safe Scouting available at <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>. This is the source for all Scouting America policies regarding adult leadership, youth protection, transportation, and appropriate activities that apply traveling to and from, and while attending camp.

Annual Health and Medical Record

All participants (youth and adult) must bring a fully completed Parts A and B of the Annual Health and Medical Record available at https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-016_fillable.pdf Other physical or medical forms are not acceptable. If parents will be away while the Scout is at camp, be sure the person who can make decisions for the child is listed. **Please include a copy of both sides of your insurance card.** Make sure the printing is legible and the copy is readable. If you have military insurance a copy of ONLY the front of the ID card is needed.

Medications

Allergies and medications must be listed. If there are none, then state none. Be sure to list all the medications that the Scout or adults will take while they are in camp. Medicine that is to be given in partial doses should be prepared before Camp. Inhaler and epinephrine auto-injectors used for emergency conditions may be carried by the camper. Adults may be responsible for dispensing medications to themselves or to the youth they are responsible for, otherwise all medication must be turned in to the Health Officer where they will be kept in a locked container and distributed by the Health Officer. Any injections that need to be given at camp if other than by the Scout or adult themselves must be administered by the Health Officer with written permission from the parent/guardian. Refrigeration is available in the Health Lodge if needed.

Special Needs and Dietary Restrictions

It is important to communicate any special needs or dietary restrictions to the camp Staff Advisor at least 4 days prior to arriving so there is time to make reasonable accommodations. Please send the Staff Advisor (Tricia.Salazar@scouting.org) the information that you feel is important.

In accordance with Scouting America policy, any participant (Scout or adult) who does not have a fully complete health form will not be allowed to remain at camp or participate in any events. **The form includes an authorization for emergency treatment and must be signed by the parent or guardian.**

Youth Protection

Adult Supervision: Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including all meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth or female adult program participants.

All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in. Registration as a merit badge counselor position does not meet this requirement.

One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of Scouting.

- In situations requiring a personal conference, the meeting is to be conducted with the knowledge and in view of other adults and/or youth.
- Private online communications (texting, phone calls, chat, IM, etc.) must include another registered leader or parent.
- Communication by way of social media (Facebook, Snapchat, etc.) must include another registered leader or parent.

Adult Responsibilities

All adults in camp are expecting to provide proactive and engaged supervision of youth.

- Leaders must ensure that all participating in Scouting activities abide by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Adult leaders and youth members share the responsibility for the safety of all participants in the program, including adherence to Youth Protection and health and safety policies.
- Adult leaders are responsible for monitoring behavior and intervening when necessary.
- Discipline must be constructive and reflect Scouting's values.
- Corporal punishment is never permitted.
- Disciplinary activities involving isolation, humiliation, or ridicule are also prohibited.
- Physical violence, sexual activity, emotional abuse, spiritual abuse, unauthorized weapons, hazing, discrimination, harassment, initiation rites, bullying, cyberbullying, theft, verbal insults, drugs, alcohol, and pornography have no place in the Scouting program and may result in revocation of membership.

Accommodations

Separate accommodations for adult males and females and youth males and females are required.

- Separate tenting arrangements must be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth.
- Youth sharing tents must be no more than two years apart in age.
- Youth and adults tent separately (including families)
- Spouses may share tents.
- Separate shower and latrine facilities should be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. If separate facilities are not available, separate times should be scheduled and posted.
- Adults and youth must respect each other's privacy, especially in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp.
- Adult leaders should closely monitor these areas but only enter as needed for youth protection or health and safety reasons.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT CAMP – THE PROGRAM

Arrival and Check-in

Scouts must not be dropped off at camp without a unit leader or a designated adult who will remain at camp with them. Units will check in as a group once all Scouts and adults have arrived. Provisional Scouts should check in with the adult who transported them to camp, complete the check-in process together, and then be introduced to their Provisional Scoutmaster. Please leave all belongings in your vehicle. The only items needed for check-in are medical forms and any necessary medications. Each person will meet with the health officer when submitting their health form.

Vehicles

Upon arrival at Camp Thunderbird, please park in the main parking lot and back into your parking space as required by camp safety regulations. Vehicles are not permitted beyond the parking lot near the camp office, except for authorized service vehicles. Special exceptions will be reviewed by the Staff Advisor. Overflow parking is available across the street in the Camp Akela parking area. Your full cooperation is appreciated to ensure the safety of all Scouts.

Uniform and Clothing

The Scout uniform is typically worn at all flag ceremonies. Scouts respond best to a good example and leaders are encouraged to set a good example by wearing a full uniform. During the rest of camp, a Scout t-shirt is acceptable.

Scouts and leaders with inappropriate clothing will be asked to change. These could be shorts that are too short, shirts promoting alcohol, etc. **All campers are to wear closed footwear at all times (not hiking sandals).** Leaders must enforce this rule in their campsites. Bare feet are not allowed in camp except when at the waterfront. You are highly encouraged to bring water socks to change into while swimming or boating.

Clothing at the waterfront is especially important as this is an area of camp where wardrobe malfunctions can be most common. At the waterfront we recommend swimsuits that prioritize fit and function over fashion.

Trading Post

One of the most popular traditions of camp is visiting the Camp Thunderbird Trading Post. The hours of operation will be posted throughout camp as well as outside the door. The trading post is your one-stop shop for snacks, souvenirs, patches, and for any toiletries forgotten at home. The Trading Post accepts cash, checks, and Visa/MC for purchases.

Schedule

This schedule is subject to change based on actual registrations.

Friday Night – May 16th

5:00pm-7:00pm – Check-in and campsite assignments; class scheduling as needed.

NOTE: Dinner will not be provided, please eat before arriving

7:30pm – Welcome Campfire at Campfire Bowl

8:15pm – Cracker Barrel at the Dining Hall

8:45pm – Adult Leader Meeting

10:00pm – Lights Out /Quiet Hours

Saturday – May 17th

REQUIREMENTS BEING COVERED ARE BELOW

Each area will have several instructors allowing the Scout to identify what requirements they need to complete and work on those specific requirements with one of the instructors.

Merit Badges should be secondary to Trail to First Class requirements.

Class Size and student participation will dictate the actual requirements covered. Not all requirements may be completed in the time allotted.

TIME	AREA					
	Scoutcraft	Nature	First Aid	Aquatics	Merit Badge	Merit Badge
8:30 – 9:25am	Knots/Ropes	Plants	Tenderfoot	Swim Test		
9:30 – 10:25am	Knots/Ropes	Animals	Tenderfoot	First Class	Woodcarving	Fingerprinting
10:30 – 11:25am	Knife/Tools	LNT	2 nd Class	First Class		
11:30 – 1:00pm	Assembly at the Parade Field – Lunch – Rest Period					
1:00 - 2:00pm	Fire Building	Plants	2 nd Class	Swim Test		
2:00 – 3:00pm	Map/Compass	Animals	First Class	2 nd Class	Leatherworking	Chess
3:00 – 4:00pm	Lashings	LNT	First Class	2 nd Class		
4:00 – 5:30pm	Free Time – Areas stay open for follow up on unfinished requirements as needed					
5:45 - 7:00pm	Assembly at the Parade Field - Dinner					
7:00 – 8:15pm	Free Time – Optional Program Events (TBD)					
8:15pm - 9:00pm	Assembly at the Parade Field first – walk to the Opening Campfire					
9pm	Cracker-barrel – Adult Leader Meeting					
10pm	Lights Out – Quiet Time					

Sunday, May 18th

7:30am – Reveille

8:00am – Morning Assembly at the Parade Field (No Flags) – Breakfast

9:00am – Camp Service Project (1 Hour)

10:15am – Scouts Own (Optional)

11:00am – Camp tear down and departure

12:00am - Conclusion

Advancements

The advancements listed below will be covered in the sessions. Scouts will be able to register for their sessions on or about Friday, April 11th. An email reminder will be sent.

SCOUTCRAFT AREA WILL COVER

Scout Requirements

- 4a) Square knot
- 4a) Two half-hitches
- 4a) Taut-line hitch
- 4b) Rope Care / Fuse ends of rope
- 5) Pocket knife safety

Tenderfoot Requirements

- 1c) Outdoor Code/Leave No Trace
- 3a) Practical Use of Square knot
- 3b) Practical Use of two half-hitches
- 3c) Practical Use of Taut-line hitch

Second Class Requirements

- 2b) Use knife to make tinder for fire
- 2c) Build a fire
- 3a) Map and Compass

First Class Requirements

- 3a-c) Lashings

NATURE AREA WILL COVER

Tenderfoot Requirements

- 4b) Poisonous or hazardous plants

Second Class Requirements

- 1b) Leave No Trace principles
- 4) Identify 10 wild animals

FIRST AID AREA WILL COVER

Tenderfoot Requirements

- 4a) First Aid for
 - o Simple cuts and scrapes
 - o Minor burns or scalds
 - o Insect bites/stings and ticks
 - o Snakebite
 - o Nosebleed
 - o Frostbite and Sunburn
 - o Choking
- 4c) Injury prevention
- 4d) First Aid kit (assembled before camp)

Second Class Requirements

- 6a) First Aid for the following
 - o Object in eye
 - o Animal bite
 - o Puncture wounds
 - o Serious burns
 - o Heat exhaustion
 - o Shock

- Heatstroke, dehydration, hypothermia, and hyperventilation
- 6b) Hurry cases stopped breathing, stroke, severe bleeding, poisoning
- 6c) Preventing injuries in 6a.
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AQUATICS AREA WILL COVER

Second Class Requirements

- 5a) Safe Swim precautions
- 5b) Swim Test
- 5c) Water rescue methods
- 5d) Water rescue – when not to use

First Class Requirements

- 6a) Swim Test
- 6b) Safe Trip Afloat
- 6c) Basic parts of a boat/oars
- 6d) Positioning on watercraft
- 6e) Line rescue

MERIT BADGES

- Leatherworking
- Woodcarving
- Chess
- Fingerprinting

Service Project

Scouts will have an option to complete one hour of service on Sunday.

Scouts Own

Recognizing that reverence is an integral part of the character-building process of the Scouting America, an optional, non-denominational “Scouts’ Own” service will be held at the beautiful camp chapel on Sunday Morning.

Check Out Procedures

Packing up in your campsite is best left to the scheduled Campsite Packing time. You may begin packing your campsite before this but don’t let this make you late to other events. When you are fully packed, please take your equipment to your vehicle or the staging area at Hazel Devine. Your campsite will be inspected by a staff member. Your Scouts should check that all personal items are packed and please leave the campsite as clean or cleaner than you found following Leave No Trace principles.

Leaving Camp

For your protection, all campers, whether youth or adults, **MUST check out with the camp office when leaving camp and check-in when returning.**

- If you are leaving camp early, we ask that you please stop at the camp office to check out and collect your camper’s documents. We want to make sure everyone in your

group leaves with their medical forms as well as any awards.

- If you are a visitor coming to camp to pick up a youth be prepared to present ID at the camp office which will be checked across that scouts Health Form (if you expect a youth member to get picked up by a visitor, make sure their information is on that youths health form under the “authorized to take youth to and from events” section.

General Camp Information

Visitors are welcome on the property, however, please keep your stay to a reasonable time and follow the following rules.

- A parking lot is located at the entrance to camp. Only camp vehicles are permitted beyond the lot.
- Visitors are to check in at the camp office (Located in the Dale O Johnson Building) when they arrive and check out when they leave.
- Scouting America resident camp security policy states that all adults will wear a wristband while at camp. Wristbands can be picked up as you check-in at the administration office.
- If a Visitor wishes to stay for a meal, please check with the Event Director.
- There are no provisions or facilities to allow parents to camp in the parking lot or stay overnight.
- **LEAVE PETS AT HOME.** Camp abounds with natural wildlife. For this reason, pets are not allowed, not even if they can be carried. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

Illicit drugs and alcohol are forbidden at Camp Thunderbird including use of marijuana.

Tobacco use, including smokeless tobacco and vaping products, must be out of sight of Scouts, buildings, and camp activities. Tobacco use is only allowed in the designated smoking area behind the dining hall. Any litter from tobacco products is the responsibility of the user. Violation of this policy can result in immediate removal for cause.

Firearms, Bows, and Fireworks

Per National Scouting America regulations, personal firearms and archery equipment will not be permitted at any of the camp sessions. Fireworks will not be permitted under any circumstances.

Emergency procedures

In the event of an emergency, the Staff Advisor shall be notified immediately. If the emergency is of a medical nature, contact the health officer, or call 911 for life threatening situations.

Other Program Requirements

The recurring theme is that safety is paramount. A few more things to ensure a successful event.

- The buddy system should be used.
- The use of smartphones, cameras, mirrors, drones, etc., in places or situations where privacy is expected is prohibited.
- All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders.
- Scouting America does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program.
- Hazing and initiations are prohibited and have no part during any Scouting activity.
- All forms of bullying and harassment including verbal, physical, and cyberbullying are prohibited.
- Inappropriate public displays of affection are prohibited.
- Sexual activity is prohibited.
- Appropriate attire is required for all activities

Reporting Requirements

Adult leaders and youth members have a responsibility to recognize, respond to, and report Youth Protection violations and abuse.

Youth Protection policy Violations

- Serious Youth Protection policy violations or behaviors that put a youth's safety at risk must be reported to the Scout Executive.
- Online reporting is also available at Incident Reporting.

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse

- All people participating in Scouting programs are mandated reporters of child abuse.
- Reports must be made to local law enforcement and child protective services. State law may require additional reporting.
- This reporting duty cannot be delegated to any other person.
- Reporting to the Scout Executive or Scouts First Helpline ensures that follow-up can occur for the safety of our youth. Scout Executives and Scouts First coordinate follow-up actions.

Scouts First Helpline

- As part of its "Scouts First" approach to the protection and safety of youth, Scouting America has established a dedicated 24-hour helpline to receive reports of known or suspected abuse or behavior that might put a youth at risk. **1-844-SCOUTS1 (1-844-726-8871)**
- If immediate assistance is needed in the handling of a sexual abuse allegation, contact Scouts First Helpline (1- 844-SCOUTS1).

If you have any questions or concerns beyond this parent guide, please feel free to contact the Staff Advisor:

Tricia Salazar. Email: tricia.salazar@scouting.org; Mobile: 360-325-7807

Suggested Packing List

- Scouting America Annual Health forms (Part A and B)
- Medications in original container
- TENT, SLEPPING BAG, PILLOW
- Scout Book & Writing Materials
- Uniform
- Blue Cards
- Pants/Shorts
- T-Shirts
- Sleepwear
- Underwear
- Socks
- Comfortable Closed Shoes (no flip flops or sandals)
- Swimming suits
- Water shoes
- Towels
- 10 Essentials
- Water Bottle
- Flashlight
- Sun Protection (sunblock, sunhat)
- Pocket Knife (with Totin Chip)
- Rain gear
- Personal Items (Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap)
- Feminine Hygiene Items
- Bug Repellent
- Watch, Sunglasses, hat)