



# CAMP THUNDERBIRD

A Pacific Harbors Council Resident Cub Scout Camp

# 2026

## Leader Guide

for Cub Scout Resident Camp

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## WHAT WE STAND FOR

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	Scout Law
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.	A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and 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 by Scouting America and operated within the rules, regulations, and guidelines set forth by the Washington State Department of Health.

### Resident Camp Purpose

To deliver a safe and exciting Cub Scout Camp destination so that all Scouts have an opportunity to experience the great outdoors, learn new skills, and have fun.

### Code of Conduct

Camp Thunderbird uses the high 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.

## REGISTRATION

### Registration

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It is very important that you register early in order to get your reservation confirmed. Online registration will give you an option to pay online or offline. All youth and unit leadership **MUST** be registered with Scouting America.

<https://scoutingevent.com/612-2026CubScoutSummerCamp>

### 2026 Camp Program Sessions

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- Session 1: July 9-12 (Thurs–Sun)
- Session 2: July 16-19 (Thurs–Sun)
- Session 3: July 23-26 (Thurs–Sun)
- Session 4: July 30-August 2 (Thurs–Sun)

### Campsite Capacity

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Campsites are assigned upon arrival to Camp Thunderbird. We make every effort to ensure that all Scouts from a unit will be placed together in the same campsite. In the true spirit of Scouting, Scouts from multiple units will be sharing campsites.

### Non-Scout Siblings

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Resident Camp is designed to be a one-on-one experience shared between a parent or guardian and their Cub Scout. Non-Scout siblings are not permitted to attend Resident Camp.

## REFUNDS, TRANSFERS, AND CAMPERSHIPS

### Refund/Transfer Policy

To continue providing quality Scouting programs at affordable prices, we have instituted the following refund policy for Resident Camp. 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](mailto:phc@scouting.org)**

- Refunds are based on the date the written request is received at the Creighton Scout Service Center.
- The deposit(s) collected at registration time is (are) non-refundable.
- Requests received two weeks (10 business days) or 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 a person is removed from camp for cause no refund will be given.
- Removal for Cause: in the event an adult or youth is removed from camp for disciplinary reasons or not following the rules.
- The Council may make exceptions in the case of family emergency, sickness, or changes in military duty. Requests must be submitted within 7 days after the event.
- Refunds will be made to the original form of payment.

**The final authority for all refunds is the council.**

### Camperships

Camperships (partial camp scholarships) are available to families who are making a sincere effort to help pay their own way and without outside assistance, would not be able to attend Scout Camp.

- Camperships will be awarded in amounts up to 50% of the camp fee.
- Camperships are due by June 1, 2026.
- Camperships are available for Pacific Harbors Council youth only.

Camperships will be reviewed by the Campership Committee on a first come, first served basis. Youth who sold popcorn in 2025 will be given priority, as long as funds are available. For application information, contact your unit leader, council service center, or visit [www.pacificharbors.org](http://www.pacificharbors.org).

## PRE-CAMP PREPARATION

### Pre-Camp Meeting

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There will be a pre-camp orientation meeting in the spring of 2026. All registrants will be contacted via email with the date and time. ALL attending adults are encouraged to attend. You will receive information regarding camp policies, medical forms, health information, and check-in procedures. If you missed the meeting, a recording can be found at [pacificharbors.org](http://pacificharbors.org).

### How to Prepare for Camp

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The following timeline will help ensure you are well prepared for an amazing camping experience. Be sure that your unit committee and leadership receive a copy.

#### 100 to 200 Days Out

- Primary registrant starts unit registration and provides parent portal information.
- Parents complete individual registrations via the parent portal.
- Make an appointment with your primary care physician for Part C of the health form.

#### 100 to 60 Days Out

- Unit Committee and Leadership reviews the 2026 Leader Guide.
- Unit Committee obtains commitments from leaders and parents for leadership and transportation.
- Unit Committee reviews projected attendance and reminds the unit about payments.

#### 60 to 40 Days Out

- Scouts and Adults receive packing lists.
- Parents receive final information about camp from the unit (departure time and location, med forms, etc.).
- Attend the Pre-Camp Meeting.
- Appoint an in-camp Cubmaster.
- Registration closes June 5, 2026.

#### 40 to 0 Days Out

- All Pack equipment is inspected and prepared for camp.
- Transportation and leadership are confirmed.
- Scouts receive a check of their equipment and packed supplies.

#### Before You Leave for Camp — Make Sure You Have:

- Health forms for all attendees.

### Review the Guide to Safe Scouting

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An important part of your preparation is consulting the Guide to Safe Scouting. This is the source of all Scouting America policies regarding adult leadership, youth protection, transportation, and appropriate activities. Units must comply with these guidelines enroute to and while attending camp.

- Have a minimum of two registered adult leaders in camp. All adults must be Youth Protection trained and registered with Scouting America.
- Meet all transportation guidelines.

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

Every person attending will need a pre-filled Health Form Parts A, B1, & B2. Be sure to use the Medical Form found in the Forms Section of this guide or at [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org).

### Check the Following Items BEFORE Coming to Camp

- Only the current edition of Scouting America Health & Medical Form (680-001) will be accepted. The current edition has a 2019 print date. Any previous edition or school-related sports physical forms will not be accepted.
- Be sure that all personal information, including Pack number, emergency phone numbers and insurance information is current and accurate. If parents will be away while the Scout is at camp, be sure the person who can make decisions for the child is listed.
- Be sure to include a copy of both sides of your insurance card. Make sure the printing is legible. If you have military insurance, a copy of ONLY the front of the ID card is needed.
- Be sure that the Allergies & Medications Section is completed. Are all medications listed? Is the medication currently within the labeled expiration date?
- Be sure that the Immunization Section is completed.
- Check that the form is signed by the parent/guardian (and physician if required).

### Medications at Camp

All medications (prescription and over-the-counter) must be checked in with the health officer at check-in. All medications must be in the original container. Prescriptions must show the current date on the label. Units may opt to take responsibility for locked storage and administration of their own medications.

### Medical Forms

The Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B1, and B2) is required for all participants. Part C (physician signature) is NOT required for events under 72 hours. Since camp is a 4-day/3-night event, Part C IS required for all attendees.

## YOUTH PROTECTION

### Youth Protection Training

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All registered adults must be current with Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) before participating in any Scouting activity. SYT must be completed online at [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org).

### Two-Deep Leadership

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Two registered adult leaders, or one registered leader and a parent of a participating Scout, 21 years of age or over, are required for all trips and outings. There must be a minimum of one female adult leader over 21 when female youth are in a mixed-gender unit. No adult may be alone with a youth other than their own child.

### Barriers to Abuse

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- No one-on-one contact between adults and youth except for parents with their own child.
- All activities must take place in view of others.
- No adult may share a tent with a youth who is not their own child.
- Leaders must respond to and report any violation of Youth Protection policies immediately.

### Reporting Suspected Abuse

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If abuse is suspected or Youth Protection guidelines are violated, contact the Camp Director immediately. Local authorities and Scouting America professionals will be notified. The safety of youth is the top priority.

### The Buddy System

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The buddy system provides an additional layer of safeguarding by ensuring no youth member is alone and that a buddy can get help in an emergency.

- Buddies are two and can also be three to prevent members from being alone.
- If the original pair is mixed gender, a third youth must be added.
- It is recommended that the age gap between buddies be at most three years for all non-sleeping activities, and no more than two years for tenting (except for siblings).

## CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT

### Arrival/Check-In

Check-in time for all sessions is 1:00 PM. Staff will not be available earlier than this time; individuals or units arriving excessively before check-in will be asked to leave the property until check-in officially starts.

No Scouts may be dropped off at camp without a unit leader or designated adult who will be staying at camp. Units will be checked in as a group once all Scouts and adults are present. Please leave all belongings in your vehicle. The only items you will need to begin check-in are everyone's medical forms and medicines.

### Vehicles

**When arriving at Camp Thunderbird, please park in the main parking lot. Vehicles must be backed in to their parking spot, per camp safety regulations.**

Vehicles are not allowed past the parking lot near the camp office. Only authorized service vehicles are allowed past the gates. Overflow parking is across the street in the Camp Akela parking area.

### Checkout Procedure

Packing up in your campsite is best left to the scheduled Campsite Packing time. When fully packed, take your equipment to your vehicle or the staging area at Hazel Devine. At the end of packing time your campsite will be inspected by a staff member. Please leave the campsite as clean as or cleaner than you found it, in accordance with 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 a "part-time adult", when swapping please come to the office with the replacing adult to check in/out at the same time.
- If you are leaving camp early, stop at the camp office to check out and collect your camper's documents.
- If you are a visitor picking up a youth, be prepared to present ID at the camp office.

**Once campers arrive for their session, we strongly ask that you don't leave until your session ends.**

## LEADER SPECIFIC INFORMATION

### Adult Leadership

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**As your Scouts' adult leader you will often know the needs of your Scout more than our staff. The duty of supervision primarily falls on the unit and the adults of that unit.**

### Uniform and Clothing

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Each Scout Leader and Scout should have a complete Scout uniform for their session at camp. The only rule Camp Thunderbird has is that uniforms must be worn properly (buttoned and tucked-in).

**All campers are to wear closed footwear at all times (no hiking sandals or crocs).**

Scouts and leaders with inappropriate clothing will be asked to change. The Field Uniform is to be worn at morning and evening flags, during the flag retirement ceremony, and Scout's Own service.

### Clothing at the Waterfront

At the waterfront we recommend swimsuits that prioritize fit and function over fashion.

### Discipline and Hazing

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**Normally, the discipline of a camper is the responsibility of the unit leader in charge at camp. However, all serious discipline problems must be reported to the Camp Director immediately.**

Under no circumstances shall a camper be deprived of food, isolated, subjected to corporal punishment, physical exercise, or verbally abused as a means of punishment. Initiations or hazing of any Scout is strictly prohibited.

### Buddy System

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**Scouts always need to be with a buddy whenever walking around camp.**

Buddy pairs may only be single gender, not co-ed. The rule of thumb for the buddy system is line of sight — if you cannot see your buddy, go find them.

## GENERAL CAMP INFORMATION

### Visitors

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Visitors are welcome on the property; please keep your stay to a reasonable time and follow these 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.
- All adults will wear a wristband while at camp. Wristbands can be picked up at the administration office.
- If a visitor wishes to stay for a meal, a meal ticket may be purchased at the camp office.
- There are no provisions or facilities to allow parents to camp in the parking lot or stay overnight.
- Only registered Scouts are allowed to stay overnight in camp.
- **LEAVE PETS AT HOME. Pets are not allowed — no exceptions.**

### Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

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**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. Violation of this policy can result in immediate removal for cause.

### Firearms, Bows, and Fireworks

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**Per Scouting America regulations, personal firearms and archery equipment will not be permitted at any camp session. Campers may only use equipment provided at camp. Fireworks will not be permitted under any circumstances.**

### Emergency Procedures

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In the event of an emergency, the Camp Director shall be notified immediately. If the emergency is of a medical nature, contact the health officer without delay.

### Property Damage

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Packs will be held responsible for damage to their campsite that was not identified on the initial site inspection.

**THIS YEAR'S THEME**



This summer, Cub Scouts become Agents in Action as a camp-wide mystery quietly unfolds throughout the week.



Operation Thunderbird

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### Flag Retirement

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Flag retirement ceremonies may be held for every camp session. This ceremony is a privilege that Scouts of Scouting America are authorized to perform, to lay a worn US flag to rest in a respectful and meaningful way.

### Scouts Own

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

### Polar Bear Plunge

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A chilly dip in the lake awaits on your second-to-last morning at camp (so you don’t have to pack wet towels!). This is optional for everyone. Campers who do not pass the swim test can still participate.

### Trading Post

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The Camp Thunderbird Trading Post is your one-stop-shop for snacks, souvenirs, patches, and any toiletries forgotten at home. The Trading Post accepts cash, checks, and Visa/MC. An adult must be present at the time of purchase for any knives.

### Campfire

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Our all-camp campfire is a wonderful time to show off your favorite skit or song! Please come to camp with a few ideas. All skits and songs will be vetted by the Program Director to ensure they are appropriate. If you are concerned a skit or song may be inappropriate, remember: “when in doubt, throw it out.”

## QUESTIONS NOT OTHERWISE ADDRESSED

### Can an individual Scout from another unit join ours at camp?

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If a Cub Scout becomes registered with the unit attending camp (dual registration), they can attend under that unit's leadership.

### What if we arrive early to camp?

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Staff will not be available until check-in time. Campers arriving excessively early will be asked to leave the property. Restrooms will be available with posted signage prior to check-in.

### Can the camp accommodate food allergies?

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The camp can make minor substitutions but is unable to completely re-work the menu for severe food allergies. In these cases, it is best to bring supplemental food items. When you register, please annotate specific allergies. If needed, contact the Assistant Camp Director to speak with the cook directly.

### What access is available for disabled persons?

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All buildings are accessible. All program areas have accessibility. Several of the hiking routes would be challenging.

### Are there showers available?

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Yes. There is a shower house with single occupancy showers available all day long. You may want to bring shower shoes for your own comfort.

### Can adults bring cell phones?

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Yes. Please use them away from Scouts to prevent homesickness issues. Camp has spotty coverage at best.

### How many adults do we need to bring?

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Each unit needs to provide at least 1 registered adult for every 4 youth attending. Each unit also needs a minimum of 2 registered adults for two-deep leadership. You cannot exceed the 1 adult to every 4 youth ratio.

### What if a participant has to take medicine every morning?

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Please be sure to list this on their medical form. All medication must be checked by the health officer. Prescriptions must be in the original container. As a unit, you can opt to be responsible for locked storage and administration of medication.

### Can a different adult cover different nights?

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Yes. Adults can only share a tent with their own child(ren) and only with those of the same gender or who are married. When leaving, stop by the office on your way out to check out. All adult leadership must be registered members of Scouting America.

### Can we buy camp shirts before camp?

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No. All registered youth campers will receive their camp shirt during orientation on the first day.

## CAMP DIRECTIONS

**Camp Thunderbird: 11740 Summit Lake Rd, Olympia, WA 98502**

### From the North

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Take I-5 South towards Portland; take ramp (right) onto US-101 towards Aberdeen/Port Angeles — road name changes to SR-8. Turn right (north) onto Summit Lake Rd NW. Approximately 1 mile past the Summit Lake Grocery (there is a sign for an antique store). Camp Thunderbird is at 11740 Summit Lake Rd, Olympia, WA 98502.

### From the South

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Take I-5 North towards Seattle. At I-5 Exit 104, turn right onto ramp towards US-101/Aberdeen/Port Angeles. Road name changes to US-101, then SR-8. Turn right (north) onto Summit Lake Rd NW. Approximately 1 mile past the Summit Lake Grocery (there is a sign for an antique store). Camp Thunderbird is at 11740 Summit Lake Rd, Olympia, WA 98502.

## SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

### DO NOT FORGET!

- Scouting America Annual Health Forms (Parts A, B1, and B2)
- Medications in original container
- TENT
- Cub Scout field uniform
- Pants and/or shorts
- T-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Underwear and socks
- Comfortable closed shoes (no flip flops or sandals)
- Swimming suits (fit and function over fashion)
- Water shoes
- Towels
- First Aid Kit
- Water bottle (with your name on it)
- Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- Trail food
- Sun protection (sunblock, sunhat, etc.)
- Whistle
- Personal toiletries (don't forget the toothbrush!)
- Feminine hygiene items
- Bug repellent
- Watch
- Folding chair for the campsite
- Sunglasses
- Poncho/waterproof jacket
- Cub Scout/WEBELOS Handbook
- Writing utensils
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Sleeping pad or mat
- Spending money for the Trading Post

### Please DO NOT Bring to Camp

- Matches or lighters
- Large knives, axes, or saws
- Perfumes/cologne
- Alcohol of any kind
- Pets
- Fireworks
- Firearms
- Bows/arrows
- Play guns/knives
- Marijuana or drugs of any kind
- Personal electronics (laptops, tablets, handheld games)

**Scouts and Their Knives: All Scouts who want to carry a pocketknife must have completed their knife skills adventure for their current rank. Scouts may purchase a knife at the Trading Post with an adult present.**

Please label all items. Lost and Found is located in the Camp Office. Camp Thunderbird is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items.

## SAMPLE 4-DAY SCHEDULE

### Day 1 — Thursday (Arrival Day)

1:00 PM	Check-In Opens
2:00 PM	Campsite Setup & Orientation
4:00 PM	Opening Program / Mission Briefing
5:30 PM	Dinner
7:00 PM	Evening Activity
9:00 PM	Lights Out

### Day 2 — Friday

7:00 AM	Polar Bear Plunge (Optional)
7:30 AM	Morning Flags & Breakfast
9:00 AM	Program Block 1
11:00 AM	Program Block 2
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Rest Hour
2:30 PM	Program Block 3
4:30 PM	Free Time / Open Activities
5:30 PM	Dinner
7:00 PM	All-Camp Campfire
9:00 PM	Lights Out

### Day 3 — Saturday

7:00 AM	Morning Flags & Breakfast
9:00 AM	Program Block 1
11:00 AM	Program Block 2
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Rest Hour
2:30 PM	Program Block 3
4:30 PM	Free Time / Trading Post
5:30 PM	Dinner

<b>7:00 PM</b>	Flag Retirement Ceremony
<b>8:00 PM</b>	Scouts' Own Prep
<b>9:00 PM</b>	Lights Out

**Day 4 — Sunday (Departure Day)**

<b>7:00 AM</b>	Scouts' Own Service (Optional)
<b>7:30 AM</b>	Morning Flags & Breakfast
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Campsite Packing & Cleanup
<b>10:30 AM</b>	Campsite Inspection
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Checkout / Departure