

Search and Rescue Merit Badge

Spring Camporee
JCC Rainbow Camp
Saukville, WI



Dear Unit Leader:

Thank you for signing up for Kettle Country Spring Camporee. We are here to help you deliver a quality program to the scouts of your unit. (The terms Troop, Unit, Crew and Group are used interchangeably.) The Camporee staff are a highly motivated group of leaders, adults and scouts who have all made sacrifices to be at camp and we have been working hard to continually upgrade our program to better serve you and your scouts. Your scout's safety and positive experience is our number one priority; working together with the staff, adult leaders and district to ensure an awesome experience. We are looking forward to a great weekend!

We have an action-packed weekend planned for the scouts and to complete the Search and Rescue Merit Badge, **each scout IS REQUIRED to complete the PRE-WORK PACKET.** Appropriate planning for meals is a must. Please familiarize yourself with the event agenda.

If you have any questions about the weekend's camp program, please email me at benkurtenbsa@gmail.com. Thank you for choosing Kettle Country Spring Camporee!

Sincerely,

Ben Kurten
Spring Camporee Chair
benkurtenbsa@gmail.com
920-334-1400

ADDITIONAL CAMPOREE DETAILS

WHO:

- All Scouts BSA Troop **and** Venturing Crews

WHEN:

- May 2, 2025 thru May 4, 2025
- Check-in begins at 5:00 pm

WHERE:

- JCC Rainbow Camp
- W3985 Trails End Rd, Fredonia, WI 53021

HOW MUCH:

- \$20.00 per Scout
- No Charge for Leaders, Adults and Staff

REGISTRATION:

Must register on-line at:

- Registration deadline: April 30, 2025, at midnight
- There will be NO on-site registration.

EVENT SCHEDULE

(Subject to change)

Search and Rescue MB	
May 2, 3 and 4	
Friday Night Activities	
05:00 PM - 07:00 PM	Check- In and Troop Site Setup
08:00 PM - 08:30 PM	Crackerbarrel
08:45 PM - 10:00 PM	Work On Pre-Work / Free Time
10:00 PM	LIGHTS OUT
Saturday Activities	
07:00 AM - 08:15 AM	Breakfast
08:25 AM - 08:35 AM	Flag ceremony / Program Kickoff
08:40 AM - 09:20 AM	Rotation 1
09:25 AM - 10:05 AM	Rotation 2
10:10 AM - 10:50 AM	Rotation 3
10:55 AM - 11:35 AM	Rotation 4
11:40 AM - 12:55 PM	Lunch
	Campfire MC - visit Troops during lunch for Skit submission
01:05 PM - 01:45 PM	Rotation 5
01:50 PM - 02:30 PM	Rotation 6
02:35 PM - 03:15 PM	Rotation 7
03:20 PM - 04:00 PM	Rotation 8
04:05 PM - 05:05 PM	Hasty Search - Campwide
05:30 PM - 07:30 PM	Dinner
08:30 PM - 09:30 PM	Campfire Program
10:00 PM	LIGHTS OUT
Sunday Activities	
6:45 AM	Wake Up
7:00 AM	BREAKFAST
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Flag ceremony / Interfaith Service for All
9:00 AM	Site inspection, Handout of Patches, etc.

CAMPOREE SEARCH AND RESCUE MERIT BADGE:

Join Bay Lakes Council Spring Camporee (hosted by Kettle Country District) and learn the skills and knowledge necessary to locate and assist individuals who are lost or in danger, potentially saving lives by teaching them how to navigate in challenging environments, identify potential hazards, and utilize proper search and rescue techniques; essentially preparing them to contribute to search and rescue operations if needed.

During the Camporee Scouts will develop:

- Life-saving skills:

The badge focuses on teaching practical skills that could be used to help find and rescue people in emergency situations.

- Understanding hazards:

Scouts learn to recognize potential dangers in various terrains and weather conditions during a search operation.

- Navigation techniques:

Proficiency in using maps, compasses, and GPS devices is emphasized to effectively locate missing individuals.

- Teamwork and communication:

The importance of coordinated effort and clear communication within a search and rescue team is highlighted.

- Personal safety:

Scouts also learn how to stay safe while participating in a search operation, including proper gear and clothing selection.

The Camporee is designed so that if each Scout completes the pre-work and all the activities during the weekend – they will have earned the Search and Rescue merit badge.

UPON ARRIVAL TO CAMP:

Units should arrive between 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm on Friday and follow the signs for check in. The first person arriving from your unit should check in the entire unit at the check-in station.

“CRACKER-BARREL” FRIDAY EVENING from 8:00 to 8:30 pm.

We need the SPL (or acting SPL) and one adult leader. We will use this time to discuss the Friday night activity as well as the next day’s event.

“STATION ROTATION” LOGISTICS:

All Stations are to be done as patrols. Each patrol should be no larger than 8 scouts. Upon check in, we will be asking for patrol names and rotation schedules will be distributed at that time.

FIELD UNIFORM:

A Field Uniform is required for Saturday & Sunday Opening and Closing Flag Ceremonies only. Scouts should consider putting their uniform in their day bag during sessions if they choose.

CAMPOREE STAFF:

Our camporee staff are a motivated and well-trained group of volunteers who are devoting their personal time to make this a memorable experience for your scouts.

Please help us further the Aims of Scouting with all scouts at camp, including camporee staff. If you have any questions throughout the weekend, please seek out a committee staff member for assistance.

MEAL PROCEDURES:

All meals and food are the responsibility of each Troop / Unit.

Cooking by coals or gas is allowed. Each Unit is responsible for bringing an above-ground fire pit if planning to cook by coal or fire as they will not be provided by the camp or the district, nor are any campfires permitted on the ground.

ELECTRONICS POLICY:

With the ever-changing advancement of technology, Merit Badge books are now available in electronic form and Spring Camporee staff supports the BSA in this advancement. Therefore, E-Readers will be allowed at camp. Gaming, internet, phone calls, and text messaging should be reserved for when you get back home. Youth Protection policies must be adhered to at all times and are especially important in relation to photography use. Failure to comply with Youth Protection policies may result in scouts or adults being asked to leave the camp without refund. Your agreement to this is recognized by registration to this event.

Search and Rescue Pre-work Packet:

Each Scout wanting to earn the Search and Rescue Merit Badge at the completion of the Camporee must have the pre-work completed prior to the camporee and **TURNED IN** at registration.

Each Scout must complete the following *before arriving at camp*:

- 1) Review the Search and Rescue Merit Badge Workbook: <http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Search-and-Rescue.pdf>
- 2) Legibly and completely fill in the Search and Rescue Merit Badge Workbook requirements 1b, 2a-c, 3b-c, and 6c
 - i. Scouts must also write their name and unit number on each page as well as staple their entire workbook together.
- 3) Filled out Blue Card with Scoutmaster Signature
- 4) As part of this merit badge – all scouts are required to have a day pack and must contain at a minimum, the 10 Scout Essentials. This is a requirement that will be check-offed for each Scout attending.

Packets and Blue Cards (one for each Scout) needs to be turned in at registration. They will be returned during check out with signed Blue Cards.

Please Note:

The below requirements will be completed at the camporee – it is highly recommended that Scouts take the initiative to review and read through these requirements and have some basic understand of each requirement topic.

Requirements that are covered at the camporee:

- 1a, 2, 3a, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Event Stations

Station	Merit Badge Requirement	Competition
1	Incident Command System (5)	ICS Jeopardy
2	Rescue Teams (6a-c, 10)	Participation
3	Maps and GPS (7a-d)	Participation
4	SAR Scenarios (8a-d,)	Participation
5	First Aid and Staying Found (1a-b, 2a-c)	First Aid Skills and 10 Essentials
6	SAR Terminology (3a-c)	Relay Race Quiz
7	SAR Agencies (4)	Memorization game
8	Hasty Search Planning (9a)	Participation

Station 1: Incident Command System - ICS Jeopardy

The Jeopardy game will be centered around the Incident Command System (ICS) and the main principles/processes surrounding it. Knowledge of the subject will be gained by completing prerequisite/requirement 4 on the SAR merit badge and from the SAR professionals at the Camporee.

Station 2: Rescue Teams

Meet with professional search and rescue team members; discuss how these different teams play different roles in search and rescue missions and have different training and equipment to address the challenges presented by different types of rescues and the environments in which they may occur.

Station 3: Maps and GPS

Learn about the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) system, latitude, and longitude. Discuss and participate in demonstrations.

Station 4: SAR Scenarios

Discuss different SAR scenarios

Station 5: First Aid Skills, Staying Found and 10 Essentials

Scouts must show how to identify and treat various illnesses and injuries. Scouts will also discuss how to “stay found” and the 10 essentials , including showing that they have along their 10 essentials in their day bag.

Station 6: SAR Terminology

The SAR terminology relay race is meant to test Scouts’ understanding of various terms commonly used in search and rescue.

Station 7: SAR Agencies

The SAR memorization game will be quizzing Scouts on Scouts’ understanding of the responsibilities of search and rescue professionals and the official duties of a search and rescue team.

Station 8: Hasty Search Planning

Learn search elements/clue awareness, tracking, LNT, locating subject, attraction, trail sweep, search grids,

All Camp Activity:

Hasty Search

Scouts’ Search and Rescue skills will be put to the test in a race against time to find something of value. Using the skills Scouts have learned, Scouts must work as a team to succeed at this challenge.

SATURDAY EVENING CAMPFIRE:

The Spring Camporee staff will be providing a Saturday evening campfire program (weather permitting.) Each patrol is **REQUIRED** to come up with a scout approved / appropriate skit or song to be performed during the campfire. Patrols will need to obtain approval of their skit prior to the campfire.

LEADERSHIP:

Each unit must have always at least two registered adult leaders in camp (on site).

HEALTH & SAFETY:

Every scout and adult attending camp must have with them a current BSA Health Form with Parts A and B completed. Unit leaders should collect and review all medical forms prior to camp and keep in their possession for review.

Each unit should bring their own unit first aid kit. Each unit leader should conduct all minor treatment to youth and adults. All medications are to be kept in their original container, locked up and dispensed by the unit leader. Unit leaders should keep track of when, how much, the type, and by whom the medication was dispensed.

The camp will have a "health officer" on staff for the duration of camp for more serious situations. However, if a medical emergency occurs, dial 911 immediately. An adult unit leader must accompany a scout to the camp infirmary located at the Staff Building.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

Many accidents that happen at camp can be avoided. Always wear closed-toe shoes, drink plenty of water - no matter the temperature outside and use good-scout common sense.

DISCIPLINE:

The Unit Leader and their assistants are responsible for the discipline and order of their unit. The Camp Staff will not assume responsibility for, or interfere with, unit discipline unless it directly involves the health and safety of scouts or unit leaders are not present at the time of the issue. The Camporee Chair will be notified of any problem by the staff member. No arrangements can be made to send a scout home before informing the Camporee Chair of the situation.

CAMPSITES:

Unit sites will be pre-assigned with location provided at check-in. We reserve the right to place more than one unit in a campsite.

LEAVING CAMP (DURING SESSIONS):

Scouts are expected to stay on-site from the opening to the conclusion of camp.

Adults needing to leave need to formally check out with the Camporee Chair or Medical Director

This is a safety policy, so all people are accounted for at camp.

CHECKING OUT (END OF CAMP):

Units can check out Sunday morning with the help of a staff member. Each unit is to practice

Leave No Trace principles and keep the grounds in better shape than when we found them. We

are guests at the JJC Rainbow Camp and would appreciate the ability to come back again.

Spring Camporee patches will be handed out following approved site inspection.

END OF LEADER GUIDE