

National Youth Leadership Training 2026 (Traditional Course)

What is National Youth Leadership Training?

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is a program of the National Council of Scouting America, delivered to youth by the local Council. The Bay-Lakes Council's traditional NYLT course is a 6-day, 5-night experience. The Bay-Lakes Council also offers a slightly longer NYLT course called Pack and Paddle, presented in a wilderness trek setting. Both courses feature personal development and leadership skills for youth in an outdoor setting and camping format. Both courses are conducted using the national standardized syllabus, under the leadership of quality program-trained volunteers.

What are the course objectives?

The National Youth Leadership Training course will empower participants:

- to be tomorrow's leaders today.
- to lead themselves; that they may serve others by leading them.
- with the confidence and knowledge to run the unit program.
- with a working knowledge of the skills needed for leadership.
- by preparing them to relay skills learned to others in their home unit and beyond.
- by providing the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with youth from other units.
- by creating a model troop for the participants to experience the BSA at its very best.

Who is qualified to attend?

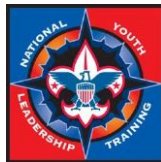
The NYLT course trains youth from Scouts BSA Troops, Venture Crews, and Sea Scout Ships. The Course is co-educational. Male and female Scouts, Venturers, and Sea Scouts are all eligible and encouraged to attend. Participants **must** be at least 13 years of age by June 28, 2026. Participants do not have to be serving currently in a leadership role but should have the skills and abilities to do so in the future. Certain outdoor skills are needed to attend the course: tent set-up and takedown, preparing and eating meals out of doors, and general camping procedures. The participant should have slept overnight in a tent prior to attending NYLT. Participants must have sufficient maturity to function in a team or patrol of individuals they have not previously met. Additionally, each participant's Unit Leader must approve the participant's preparedness for NYLT as noted in the "Unit Leader's Role" below.

The Unit Leader's Role (Your Home Troop Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, or Ship Skipper)

We expect the Unit Leader to work with participants prior to the course to provide them with an understanding of the basics of leadership. "Introduction to Leadership Skills" training, conducted at the unit level, is a prerequisite for NYLT. The Unit Leader must sign the "Unit Leader's Approval" form certifying the participant's preparedness for this course.

NYLT Traditional Course Registration Information

Register online at <https://scoutingevent.com/635-NYLTTtraditional2026> The course fee is \$325 if paid by March 15, 2026. The course fee increases to \$345 after this date. Registration ends on May 18, 2026. *Payments are transferable but not refundable.* The fee includes 2 t-shirts, council shoulder patch, "NYLT Trained" patch, other course and training materials, meals from Sunday dinner through Friday dinner, loads of challenges and lots of fun. Space is limited to the first 48 paid participants. History shows us that our NYLT courses fill up fast, so register as soon as you are able, to avoid the waiting list.



How is the course set up?

The NYLT course, in the span of a week, models a month of meetings and activities of two linked Scouts BSA Troops, for male and female Scouts. Volunteer adults and youth hold troop leadership positions such as Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Senior Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, etc. Participants are formed into patrols, and take turns performing the leadership functions necessary for them to successfully work as a team to complete the intensive National Youth Leadership Training syllabus. Behavior expectations adhere rigidly to the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Outdoor Code.

Uniform Requirements

One full Field uniform is required, and two are recommended. The Field uniform consists of your BSA uniform shirt, BSA pants/shorts, BSA belt, and BSA socks. The Field uniform is recommended for travel, and is required at camp for opening and closing activities. Much of the time, the uniform of the day will be Activity uniforms consisting of a scout themed hat, t-shirts, belt, and Scout or Venturing pants or shorts. Two NYLT t-shirts will be provided as part of registration fee; an opportunity to purchase more t shirts will be provided at a later date.

The Patrol Method

The patrol method is used exclusively during the course. Participants will work within their patrols to set up campsites, cook meals, construct team projects and plan and carry out other activities without direct adult supervision. Patrol leadership changes daily to give all youth a chance to be a Patrol Leader or an Assistant. This provides hands-on opportunities for each youth to grow in leadership. It does require that each youth be mature enough to handle the independence given.

Orientation

Periodic communications by email will be sent out, and there will be a virtual Parent Orientation Meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2026 and again May 14, 2026 at 7:00pm Central. More information with a video teleconference link will be sent out as the dates approach. There will also be a parent Facebook group open by invitation.

Other Questions?

For more information on the program, please contact the Bay-Lakes Council Center for Scouting at (920) 734-5705 or (800)3-SCOUTS. The 2026 NYLT Traditional Course Director is Paul Walheim, blcnylt25@gmail.com or (920) 224-4287.

What do I do next?

If you have not already done so, complete the online registration at <https://scoutingevent.com/635-NYLTraditional2026>

Please print and complete **pages 4, 5, and 6 of this document**, including signatures from the participant, parent, and unit leader. Electronic signatures ARE acceptable.

Also, please **complete the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record** <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/> including **Parts A, B and C**. All signatures must be dated on or after July 4, 2025. The form must include a medication list and copies of the front and back of your insurance card. It is wise to keep a copy of all of these documents for your records.

By May 18, 2026, please mail all documents to the course director: **Paul Walheim**
815 Newbury Street
Ripon, WI 54971

Or email to blcnylt25@gmail.com



PERSONAL EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

ONLY OFFICIAL SCOUT UNIFORM AND PARTS ARE ACCEPTABLE.
 EXTRA UNIFORMS MAY BE BORROWED FROM SOMEONE IN YOUR TROOP.
 BE PREPARED FOR AN OVERNIGHT HIKE AS WELL AS LIVING IN CAMP.

CLOTHES:	
UNIFORM SHIRT (short sleeves) (1)	PAJAMAS/SLEEPING CLOTHES
UNIFORM PANTS (1) (preferably zip-off)	UNDERWEAR (3 sets min.)
UNIFORM SOCKS (3 minimum)	CHANGES OF CLOTHING (Scout appropriate)
UNIFORM BELT AND BUCKLE	TOWELS & WASHCLOTHS (2 min.)
COURSE CLASS B T-SHIRTS (2 provided)	RAINCOAT/PONCHO (activities take place rain or shine)
SWEATSHIRT OR JACKET (Scout appropriate)	COAT/HAT/GLOVES (June can be cool in northern Wisconsin)
SHOES SUITABLE FOR HIKING (2 pair)	
PERSONAL ITEMS:	
HEALTH FORMS	SHOWER SHOES/CROCS
REQUIRED/PREScribed MEDICATION, in original labeled containers	PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT
	SEWING KIT
TOOTHBRUSH/TOOTHPASTE	SAFETY PINS
SOAP AND CONTAINER / SHAMPOO	SUNSCREEN (No aerosols)
DEODORANT	INSECT REPELLENT (No aerosols; high DEET content)
COMB/BRUSH	HIKING BACKPACK (You will be hiking into camp)
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT:	
LIGHTWEIGHT TENT	PILLOW
GROUND CLOTH (waterproof)	SPIRAL NOTEBOOK AND PENCILS/PENS
MESS KIT, UTENSILS, CUP	FLASHLIGHT (spare batteries)
PACK COVER	WATCH
SLEEPING BAG (may also want a liner)	ALARM CLOCK (NOT A CELL PHONE!)
GROUND PAD (no cots)	
OPTIONAL ITEMS:	
Spending money for trading post	Cell phone (for use in tents only)

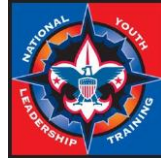
NYLT, GARDNER DAM ADVENTURE BASE, AND BAY-LAKES COUNCIL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST, DAMAGED OR MISPLACED EQUIPMENT.

Mark your clothing with your name, even any parts of the official uniform which you borrow from someone, so you have a means to identify it, IF your patrol launders its uniform shirts and pants. This has happened in the instance of clothing being soaked or soiled due to weather issues.

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST ARRIVE IN OFFICIAL SCOUT UNIFORM (the first four items in bold print on the required list). Scouts will be in uniform for the whole week. A pack or framed backpack must be used for getting gear from the parking lot to the campsite. Participants must not use suitcases, footlockers or trunks at the campsite. Normal prescribed patrol equipment will be issued.

BEFORE COMING TO CAMP PLEASE SEE THAT ALL BADGES AND INSIGNIA ARE PROPERLY SECURED ON YOUR UNIFORM.

Note: If you borrow uniforms from another Scout, you do not need to replace their badges with yours.



National Youth Leadership Training 2026

Please print and complete the following 3 pages, along with the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record including Parts A, B and C, and the front & back of insurance card. Forms should be delivered to the course director by May 18, 2026.

Email: blcnylt25@gmail.com

Paul Walheim

815 Newbury Street

Ripon, WI 54971

NYLT Participant:

Printed Name: _____
First Middle Last

T Shirt Size:		Food Allergies:	
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Unit Leader's Approval

My signature below indicates my certification that this participant is a potential future youth leader, that he/she has been familiarized with the concepts of leadership put forth in the "Introduction to Leadership Skills", that, if a Scout, has attained the rank of First Class or higher, that he/she will be comfortable camping in a patrol setting for a week, and that he/she will be a positive influence within his/her course patrol.

Unit Leader: (Please Print Clearly)

Unit type: _____ Unit number: _____ District: _____

Print Name _____ Signature _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent or Guardian's Approval:

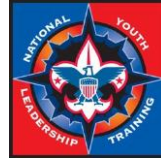
I approve the attendance of my son/daughter named above, as a participant at the Bay-Lakes Council National Youth Leadership Training Course to be held at Gardner Dam Adventure Base on June 28-July 3, 2026. I certify that they meet the necessary participation requirements, and that I will ensure that they have the necessary equipment and uniforms to meet the requirements for the course.

Parent/Guardian: (Please Print Clearly)

Print Name _____ Signature _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Information About You, the Participant

Name _____ Troop/Crew/Ship Number _____

Rank _____ Positions Held _____

Preferred Name for course name tag: _____

Why do you want to attend NYLT and what do you expect to learn?

Code of Conduct

The Scout Oath, Scout Law and Outdoor Code form the basis for all behavior at NYLT. The Participant should read each item and sign to indicate their pledge and agreement to conduct themselves in accordance with these standards.

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, and Reverent.

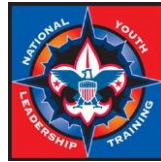
Outdoor Code: As an American, I will do my best to: Be clean in my outdoor manners. Be careful with fire. Be considerate in the outdoors. Be conservation minded.

STANDARDS

- I agree to exhibit conduct and behavior that is consistent with the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Outdoor Code.
- I agree to follow all directions of NYLT staff members, Gardner Dam Adventure Base staff, or their agents.
- I agree to use Scouting equipment safely and appropriately. If I damage or lose Scouting equipment due to neglect or misuse, I may be required to pay for repair or replacement of the equipment.
- I understand that serious or repeated failure to live up to this pledge may result in the necessity that I return home prior to the end of the stated activity. Further, I understand that if my conduct requires return home, I will not be eligible for any refund of fees paid, and my parent or guardian will be financially liable for any and all transportation costs.

Participant Signature _____ Date _____

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING
GARDNER DAM ADVENTURE BASE
NYLT PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION



BAY-LAKES COUNCIL,
SCOUTING AMERICA
JUNE 28 THRU JULY 3, 2026

Participant Name _____ Troop/Crew/Ship Number _____

Parents - Please answer the following questions to the fullest of your ability. It is our intention to support the learning of every NYLT participant as best we can. We can only support those needs that we are aware of. Our course utilizes troop setting and classroom formats for some of the learning, and energetic group activities at times. Understanding if a young person has difficulty with attention, note-taking, comprehension, or has a physical limitation will help us provide the best environment possible for them to succeed. This information will be kept strictly confidential and will only be shared with select staff if concerns arise.

Does your child have difficulty in school?

If yes, please explain the difficulty and how it is addressed.

Does your child have an IEP, 504 plan, or other educational or emotional accommodation at school?

If yes, please explain what accommodations are provided and situations you expect we may need to provide additional support.

Is this your child's first time away from home without a parent or usual adult leaders?

If your child regularly takes medication for ADD/ADHD or other emotional concern, will this medication be continued during our course?

Understanding that our program is challenging, fast-paced, and in a rustic camp setting, is there anything else you feel we should know to be able to best support your child?