

Webelos Weekend

A Parents/Leaders Guide to
Webelos Weekend

Background

Webelos Weekend is being held at Camp Geronimo, a Grand Canyon Council Scout Camp near Payson, AZ. It is an opportunity for Webelos youth, their parents and/or leaders to enjoy the outdoors, participate in Webelos-specific outdoor activities, have fun, and learn skills that will help them succeed when they cross over to Boy Scouts. The goal of attending Webelos Weekend is:

1. To have fun in the outdoors
2. To learn new things.
3. To give these Boy-Scouts-In-Training the opportunity to see what it is like to attend a Boy Scout Summer Camp, with real camp staff providing the program. This will lessen their fears of attending Summer Camp once they transition to Boy Scouts.

Who is Webelos Weekend for?

Webelos Weekend is for any boy who is between 9 and 11 years old and who is working on his Webelos or Arrow of Light rank.

How to attend Webelos Weekend

There are two ways to attend Webelos Weekend. The first way is as a parent-child partnership, where a parent accompanies the youth to camp. The second way is as a den, with or without parents attending. In this case, there must be at least one registered adult, and another adult, for every 5 boys, but there must always be at least one registered adult, plus another adult no matter how many youth are attending.

Registration and Check-in/Departure Process

Registration

The registration process is pretty straightforward, and takes place online through the Council website. Registration guarantees your spot at camp. Shooting Sports and other activities will be included in the schedule you will receive upon arrival at camp.

Check-in

Check-in begins at 11:00AM. When you arrive at camp, you will be greeted by camp staff at the covered shelter at the north end of the parking lot. You will need to check in with both Headquarters and Health Lodge staff at this location. You will be provided with campsite information and program schedules. Please be prepared at check in with completed health forms for EVERY youth and adult participant. Remember, an attached copy of the family health insurance card is REQUIRED.

You will be allowed to drive one vehicle into camp, unload, and immediately return the vehicle to the parking lot.

Here's the anticipated sequence of activities when you arrive at camp:

1. Check in with the camp staff at covered shelter by the gate as previously described.
2. Find your campsite.
3. Unload your gear.
4. Return vehicle to Parking Lot.

No exceptions, all vehicles must be returned to the Parking Lot.

Please BACK IN to parking spot.

5. Set up your campsite.
6. Check Schedule and Explore the Camp.

Checkout Process

Camp ends on Tuesday at 11:30AM with Check-out at Trading Post, where a sack lunch will be provided. Please police your campsite thoroughly and pick up any trash. Make sure that any trash in your campsite trash container is taken to the central dumpster. Please make sure that latrines and washstands are washed down and clean. Your campsite will be inspected prior to your checkout. Your Scouts should check that personal items are packed and please leave the campsite as clean as or cleaner than you found it. When you are ready to leave, please go to the Trading Post to Check-out.

Prior to departure, there may be departure packets, which will be available at the Trading Post.

Details on the camping experience***Parent/Leader Participation***

Your role as a leader or parent during Webelos Weekend is as a guide and mentor. As a parent or leader, your job is to step back and let the scouts try out their wings in a safe, secure environment, so please let them do as much as they are able to do, and don't do anything for them that they can do themselves. Encourage the scouts to work together as a team, rather than as an adult/youth partnership. This encourages the scouts to start developing leadership skills, builds confidence, and really emphasizes the Patrol Method.

You will accompany the youth during the structured part of the day (mornings and evening activities) and you are expected to pitch in and assist as needed during KP, and other times during camp so that your scouts can complete the activity in the time allowed. This means pitching in, not taking over unless safety is an issue.

Accompanying the youth during free time is recommended, but not required except where indicated. You must use your judgment as to whether certain youth are mature enough to buddy up with a friend and roam the camp alone. Setting those rules early in camp will help everyone have a great experience. The goal is to have the scouts become familiar with the idea of camping without their parents in a Boy Scout setting.

Facilities

Camp Geronimo is a Council-run Scout camp, which has facilities to support all types of camping. This is one of the two camps where Boy Scouts attend summer camp. There are 29 campsites holding 15-50 people each. There is at least one campfire ring in each site. Trash disposal is available at the camp dumpster. You will be sharing campsites with boys from other units.

Directions to Camp Geronimo

From Phoenix, take State Highway 87 north. After reaching Payson, continue on Highway 87 about 12 miles until you reach the Control Road turn-off marked by highway marker 265, turn right. Continue on the Control Road for about six miles, then turn left onto Webber Creek Road, follow this for about 2 miles into camp. Allow 2 to 2-1/2 hours driving time from Central Phoenix.

From Flagstaff take Lake Mary Road to State Route 87 south past Pine to Control Road. Turn left on Control Road (dirt) for about six miles, then turn left onto the Webber Creek Road, follow this for about 2 miles into camp. Allow 2 to 2 1/2 hours driving time.

From Prescott take HWY 69 south to near Dewey. Take Hwy 169 to I-17, then go north on I-17. Take the General Crook exit (#285) to General Crook Trail, and turn right, continue for 1.6 miles, turn right onto Hwy 260. Proceed 32 miles, climbing up the Rim, until you reach Hwy 87, turn right onto Hwy 87 and continue past Pine, until you reach Control Road. Turn left on Control Road (dirt) for about six miles, then turn left onto the Webber Creek Road, follow this for about 2 miles into camp. Allow 2 to 2 1/2 hours driving time.

Cooking

Meals provided as part of the Webelos Weekend fees include dinner Friday Night, breakfast Saturday Morning and Sack Lunch at Check-out. Before checking in Friday, please eat or bring your lunch to eat while waiting to check-in.

Food

Many adult/youth will want to bring some of their own snacks and food. Please keep these secured in a cooler or plastic bin, otherwise the local wildlife will visit your site extensively during the nighttime hours.

Campsite Assignment

Campsites will be assigned based on registration information. Youth and adults/leaders from the same unit will be assigned to the same campsite where possible. It is critical that you provide complete registration information on the registration site so that we can assign campsites correctly.

Latrines/Washstand/Water

Each campsite has a latrine (vault toilet), washstand, and water available. Participants are responsible for keeping these areas clean during their stay. We suggest you bring hand soap and toilet paper in case the latrines/washstands are not equipped. Latrines should be cleaned daily and before check out. Cleaning supplies are available at the Commissioner Shack (see map).

Trash

All trash should be removed each night from your site to prevent unwanted visitors during the night. Please help us keep our camp clean. All trash must be put into the dumpster prior to your departure from camp.

Vehicle

There is no parking available at the individual campsites. All equipment must be unloaded and vehicles removed to the parking area as soon as possible. Vehicles must be **backed-in** to parking spots to insure rapid evacuation should it become necessary. Camp roads must be kept clear at all times. Help keep the illusion of wilderness by parking in designated areas only.

Trading Post

Camp Geronimo has a full-service Trading Post with clothing, souvenirs, camp essentials and snacks. Pre-ordered T-shirts will be available at the Trading Post.

Free Time

There are numerous opportunities for scouts to explore camp. They can visit the various areas around camp such as Nature to check out the reptiles and amphibians. Or they can just hang-out, catch crawdads (please kill them as they are invasive and destroy fish in the lake), visit the trading post, or just have fun.

Shooting Sports

- This is a structured event that will be on your schedule.
- **DO NOT BRING ANY Personal Archery Equipment to Camp!**
- **DO NOT BRING Personal Firearms of ANY Type or Caliber to Camp!** (This includes airsoft, BB, paintball & other "projectile" devices.)
- **DO NOT BRING ANY Ammunition to Camp!**

BSA National Requirements and insurance regulations stipulate strict guidelines for use of the range. Thank You for Your Cooperation.

Campfire Ceremony

Friday night is a campwide Campfire, held at the amphitheatre, and presented by Camp Geronimo Staff.

Uniforms

Should be worn:

- During flag ceremonies
- During dinner
- During the evening campfire

All other times, they can wear other Class-B or activity shirts.

Emergencies

In the event an emergency occurs in camp, the Camp Director must be notified immediately. If the Camp Director is not available, the Program Director or Camp Ranger should be notified. If the emergency is of a medical nature, contact the Health Lodge without delay.

Insurance

Each registered youth or adult member of BSA is automatically covered under BSA insurance. Tour Permits are not required for this activity as it is Council led, however, they are always recommended for any activity which has a risk level associated with it.

Sharing of Sleeping Quarters

When assigning sleeping arrangements, either two Scouts share a tent or two adults share a tent, or Scout and parent/guardian from same family share a tent. Under no circumstances can a Scout sleep in the same tent with an adult unless that person is their own parent/guardian.

Health and Safety

The safety of each participant/attendee is our highest concern.

Health Lodge

Camp Geronimo will provide a trained medical staff onsite and they are available for any first-responder issues and basic First Aid. Any medications (insulin, ADHD meds, inhalers etc) regularly taken by family members or participants **MUST** be brought to camp as only basic pain relievers/antibiotic ointments will be on hand at the Health Lodge. Any emergency prescription meds (ie EpiPens) need to be brought by the attendee.

Most importantly, if you or any of your family who are attending are sick when it is time to come to camp, please stay home and make sure that that person gets well. Refunds in that case will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Medical Forms

All attendees regardless of age at Webelos Weekend are required to submit the official BSA medical form, Part A and B to the Health Lodge staff when checking in at camp. You will hold on to the forms during your stay at camp. Bring form with you if a visit to the Health Lodge is necessary or required.

Responsibility

Every effort will be made to insure a safe environment for all attendees, but parents/guardians are ultimately responsible for the health and well-being of all attendees

Buddy System

Camp is more fun when shared with a friend. Scouts always should be with a "Buddy" or adult whenever walking around camp. The buddy system is to be used for all land and water activities in camp.

Child Abuse

Scout leaders are expected to be familiar with B.S.A. Youth Protection Guidelines. Report any suspected child abuse incidents immediately to the **CAMP DIRECTOR ONLY**. Camp Director will contact appropriate Council Staff and local law enforcement for investigation.

Corrective Discipline

As an official Scouting function, all participants are expected to do their best to follow the Scout Oath and Law at all times. Parents/Guardians are expected to maintain discipline with their scouts/wards. The camp staff is there to conduct the program and to assist you where and when they can while focusing on delivering a quality program for all campers.

It is not the intent of the camp staff to interfere with how a parent disciplines their child. However, Webelos Weekend is a safe haven for all children. BSA policy dictates that physical methods of disciplining are unacceptable. Spanking, slapping, or otherwise disciplining with physical methods will not be allowed while in camp. Non-physical methods of discipline such as time-out or removal from an activity are allowed. Failure to follow these policies may result in law enforcement being contacted and possible removal from camp.

Proper Footwear

Open-toed shoes are not permitted in camp. Why, you ask? Have you ever stubbed a toe on a rock or root? You don't want to! Proper footwear is required at all times.

Smoking

Smoking by adults is allowed only in designated areas at Camp Geronimo. The parking lot, in your car, and behind the dining hall. Please do not smoke in front of the Scouts.

Pocket Knives

Pocket knives are restricted to 3 inches or less of blade, and to those Webelos that have completed knife training and safety and have earned their Whittling Chip, and the card must be on their person when carrying a pocketknife. Sheath and survival knives are not allowed at camp.

Telephone

Cell Phone service is spotty at Camp Geronimo. Use of camp phone is restricted to emergency use only.

Storing of Food, Food Management

While it is unlikely that a bear or other predator will come into camp when Webelos are around, it could still happen. Food must be securely stored, either in secured containers (coolers) or in vehicles. Please make sure all tables are cleaned after every use to limit animal visits. Mini-bears (squirrels), skunks, raccoons and other smaller animals are very common in this area and are liable to pose as much a nuisance as a real bear or other animal.

Under no circumstances should food (this includes anything that might smell like food like flavored waters etc) be allowed in tents that are to be occupied by campers. We recommend practicing backcountry procedures of not sleeping in the same clothes that campers have been active in during the day, to eliminate the possibility of having food odors on sleeping clothes. Similarly, campers should wash before bed to insure that bedrolls remain clean and any food odors are removed from their skin.

Wild Animals

Camp Geronimo sits inside thousands of acres of National Forest, so wild animals can be expected. Animals ranging from mice, squirrels, and skunks, all the way to elk, bears, and possibly mountain lions. Now, no animal in its right mind is going to be anywhere near a bunch of noisy Webelos, but those aren't the animals we are worried about. Please make sure that campers do not approach animals, feed them, touch them, or bother them. This is their home, and we are just visitors to it, so we need to respect their home. Feeding animals, even accidentally, teaches them to rely on humans for food, so during times when there are few campers or events happening, they may starve because they have lost their ability to forage on their own.

If you have an encounter with a wild animal that appears dangerous, you need to report the incident to a staff member.

Animals in Camp

Pets are not allowed in camp. Please leave your pets at home. Please remind parents and visitors that pets are not allowed in camp at any time. Service animals are permitted, but be aware that this is a wilderness area and the issues this environment can cause with animals.

Personal Cleanliness

Being clean in body and mind are part of the Scout Law and part of Scout training. Be sure that your Scouts wash up each morning and evening prior to going to bed. Be sure that they change their clothing regularly and wash their hands before coming to each meal.

Behavior, Code of Conduct

It is important that your Scouts remember they are members of the "Boy Scouts of America". As Webelos, now is the time to teach them proper outdoor manners and to learn to live by the "Outdoor Code". Please don't allow your Scouts to cut down live trees and/or plants or allow them to destroy nests or other wildlife that lives at Camp Geronimo.

This is also the time to reinforce the Scout Oath and Law. We recognize that all campers, both youth and adult, should 'live' the Oath and be Trustworthy, but we also know that this is not always the case.

Also, teach them that when traveling around our camp, they should pick up any garbage or trash along the way and dispose of it properly. The general rule of Scout camping on any level is that "You leave it cleaner than when you found it".

Teach your Scouts that "crossing/cutting" through anyone's campsite to get from one point to another is not allowed. They should always go around the site. Also there is to be NO crossing/cutting through any program areas by Scouts or adults. This can cause a very unsafe condition and will not be allowed.

What to bring

<p style="text-align: center;">What you should wear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Season-appropriate clothing ○ Dress in layers ○ Loose-fitting long sleeve shirts help keep sun off you ○ Long pants help when hiking through trees and brush ○ Hats with brim to keep sun off ○ Hiking boots/sturdy shoes (no open toes) ○ Good crew-length socks (no holes in them) ○ Uniform/Activity shirt <p style="text-align: center;">Gear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Your BRAIN! ○ Positive Attitude ○ Any medicines you take every day in original bottle. ○ Knife (with Whittling Chip or Totin' Chip) ○ Snacks ○ Water bottle or canteen ○ Whistle ○ Hat ○ Hiking Stick ○ Small First Aid Kit (bandaids, blister pads) ○ Windbreaker/poncho/rain gear ○ Compass ○ Small flashlight or headlamp ○ Adults - Cell Phone (if already have one) ○ Batteries ○ More water ○ Sunblock and insect repellent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cub or Boy Scout Book ○ Backpacking Pack or Large Daypack ○ Jackets or other clothing for nighttime temps ○ Pajamas/sleeping clothes ○ Insulated sleeping pad/air bed/mattress ○ Cot ○ Air/camping pillow ○ Sandals/camp shoes ○ Changes of clothing ○ Personal hygiene (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, towels, shower supplies, comb) ○ Season-appropriate sleeping bag ○ Camp Chair <p style="text-align: center;">Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rope ○ Prayer book ○ Camera and film ○ Daypack <p style="text-align: center;">What not to bring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alcoholic beverages and drugs ○ Fireworks ○ Firearms and ammunition ○ Personal archery equipment ○ Cross bows ○ Sheath knives ○ Electronic games of any type ○ Camouflage clothing – makes it hard to find you if you get lost
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