



Leaders Guide 2025



Welcome to the Woods with Merit 2025 Camporee! As you earn merit badges, each one represents not only a skill acquired but also the spirit of the Bobwhite—focused, cooperative, and always striving to improve. From outdoor challenges to leadership opportunities, this camporee will help you grow as a Scout, build lasting memories, and strengthen your connection with nature and your fellow Scouts. Let’s embrace the adventure and make this camporee one to remember!

**Contact information woodswithmerit@gmail.com
Camp Director Breanna Richardson
Camp Commissioner Renica McLaughlin**





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Check-In Process

- Plan for your troop to arrive at Pleasant Grove between 5:30-8:30pm Friday.
- When you arrive there will be parking lot attendants to assist you.
 - You will be allowed to take just your trailer down to your designated campsite, unload your equipment and bring it back to the parking area – extra vehicles will unload at the parking area
 - No vehicles will be allowed to park past the House museum
 - No riding in the back of trucks or trailers
- Registration desk will be at the parking lot

Check-out Process

- Registration desk will be moved to the pole barn, please inform us that your are leaving the premises
- You will be allowed to bring your trailer back to the campsite to load up after 11:30

Camping

- You will be assigned a designated camping area
 - Bring everything you need to camp and feed your troops for the weekend
 - **Bring your own water if you're not use to well water**
 - There is 1 potable water pump with a **BLUE** handle
 - There are non-potable well pumps they have a **RED** handle
 - **No ground campfires**
 - You can have a freestanding fire pit and grills
 - There has to be a **5 gallon bucket of water** next to the fire pit at all times
 - The ashes have to be properly disposed of and carried off with you, bring a container to put them in





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Uniform & Dress Code (youth & Adult)

- Closed-toe shoes that secure to the foot, must be worn at all times by everyone
- No flip flops or sandals
- The Scouts BSA Field uniform, commonly referred to as Class A, is the expected uniform for morning flag ceremonies, interfaith ceremony and campfire
- Sleeveless shirts are acceptable; please no halter tops or spaghetti straps. Campers midriffs must be covered.
- Shirts that promote alcohol, tobacco, or are otherwise inconsistent with Scouting values are not allowed.
- **Shorts shall be to at least fingertip length.**

Trash

- Plan to pack out all your trash with you, there is a dumpster on site but if its full you will have to take it with you
 - The dumpster is located near the House museum and Garden center
- Your goal is to leave Pleasant Grove better than you found it
 - **Police line your campsite**

Leadership

- Each troop Must have **2 registered adult leaders** over the age of 21 in camp at all times
- Female troops must have a **registered female adult leader** over the age of 21 at camp at all times

Medical

- We will have a Registered Nurse on site at all times
 - The RN tent setup will be marked on the map

Medications

- Will be handled like its a weekend camping with your troop
- All prescription drugs are kept and administered by an adult within the unit





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Restrooms

- There will be porta potties on site
 - There is 1 that lives at the Pole Barn
 - There will be 6 brought in 4 males/2females, they will be clearly marked
 - The restrooms on site will be for adults only, emergency situations and at the discretion of an adult leader.
 - These restrooms are open to public from dawn till dusk

Valuables

- Unfortunately, even at Scout camp, losses occur. For self-protection, items you do not wish to lose should be left at home. The camp carries no insurance for personal items and is not responsible for loss or theft of personal items. Tents are private areas. At no point should a Scout enter another Scout's tent.

Smoking

- There is no smoking in the campsites or merit badge areas
- Designated smoking area will be in the parking lot
 - Please dispose of your "trash" appropriately

Alcoholic Beverage and Drug Use

- It is the policy of the Council Camping Committee that no alcoholic beverages or harmful drugs will be allowed at camp.
- Anyone failing to comply with this regulation will be immediately removed from camp property.

Fires, Stoves, Tents & Open flames

- For safety reasons, there are to be no open flames in tents.
 - This ban on open flames in tents includes a ban on the use of matches, candles, kerosene, propane or liquid lanterns in tents.
 - Lighting in tents is to be provided by battery-powered lanterns or flashlights only.
 - All cooking fires, campfires and stoves are to be attended while they are burning.
 - Fires are only to be built in designated areas (your own portable fire pit) and must be extinguished so that they are cold to the touch when unattended.





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Fireworks

- Fireworks are not permitted in camp.
- Any individual found to have or to have had fireworks in his possession while in camp will be dismissed from camp immediately

Lost and Found

- Turn in any found items to the Medical tent or to a staff member
- Any items left behind will be held onto for 30 days, contact woodswithmerit@gmail.com to check for an item

Cell Phone and Electronics

- Radios, cell phones, CD players, video games, and other personal electronic devices detract from the camping experience
- We would request that Scouts not to take cell phones to program sessions or, at the very least, to turn them off during sessions.
- Use of cell phones during program sessions is inconsiderate to other participants and, in some cases can be dangerous
 - This includes the use of ear buds, ask the scouts to leave these behind and not to take to their classes

Merit badges

- Scouts are required to read the merit badge book they are taking
 - Bring a copy of the book with you, paper or digital
 - There will be no books available at camp
- A list of prerequisites will be given out once merit badge classes are assigned
 - Please have your scouts complete these before arriving at camp
- Merit badges are volunteer based and can be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances





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Gateway Challenge

- Contest is open to all Troops to build a gateway for their campsite
 - Troops can decide whether or not to participate
- Troops must let registration know they are participating in the challenge upon check in
- Please take into consideration the time you plan to arrive and depart to ensure you have adequate time to build your gateway and take it down
- Construction can begin when the Troop arrives at their camp site on Friday
- All gateways must be completed by Saturday at 1:15pm
 - Judging will be at 1:45
- Each troop should have a detailed sketch/plan for their gateway
 - The gateway can be up to 20 feet wide, 10 feet high and no set depth
 - Must include the theme of the year - **Bobwhites**
- Troops can plan ahead to bring the needed supplies to construct their gateway
 - Troops must bring their own pioneering poles and ropes
- Gateways must be free standing using only stakes and ropes, no digging of holes please
- Assembly/Binding of poles must be done using rope only
 - No fasteners of any kind (nails, screws etc.)
- Poles are to be secured by using proper lashings to construct the gateway
 - Vertical, horizontal and diagonal poles need to have those lashings required to support the Gateway
 - Proper lashings can be found in the Scout handbook
- Troop numbers should be incorporated in the design (sign, flag, numbers etc.)
- All gateway materials (except natural elements) must be taken home with Troop
- Must be scout lead and built, adults need to supervise for safety precautions
- Climbing on gateways during construction is NOT ALLOWED. Please use step ladders if needed for assembly





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Campite Inspection

- We will be conducting Unit Campsite Inspections during the Camporee.
- Please review the Campsite Inspection form with your Senior Patrol Leader to see what the judges will be looking for.
- Judging criteria will include: Camp Layout, Camp Cleanliness, Posting of Menus, Posting of Schedules, Posting of Duty Rosters, Camp Safety, Patrol Identity, Campsite Improvements, Troop First Aid Kits
- Judging will take place the same time as gateway inspection, Saturday at 1:45

The Gateway score and Campite inspection score will be combined together to determine the winners.

Judging starts at 1:45pm on Saturday for both Gateway and Campsite.





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Patrol Campsite Inspection Sheet

Troop # _____

Patrol Name: _____

Unit Patrol Site Score Sheet

____ 1 Tents properly pitched

____ 2 Proper display of American & Troop Flags

HEALTH & SAFETY

____ 3 All tools & equipment safely stored

____ 4 Tent lines flagged for safety

____ 5 First Aid Kit Visible & identified

____ 6 Campsite clean of litter & trash

CAMP KITCHENS

____ 7 Cook stoves cleaned and stored properly

____ 8 Kitchen clean & orderly

____ 9 Food properly & safely stored

____ 10 Fire pit with fire bucket

Score each item from 0 to 5 points.

Do Not Deduct Points

Possible 50 points

Total Points _____

Judges: _____





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Gateway Judging

| Troop# | SCORE | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| | Sketch & finished product comparable | ___/10 pts |
| | Complexity | ___/10 pts |
| | Stability | ___/10 pts |
| | Lashings & Knots | ___/10 pts |
| | Theme Incorporated | ___/10 pts |
| | | |
| | | |
| | Total Number of Points | ___/50 |





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Cooking Competition

Bobwhite Quail-themed cooking competition, Scouts are tasked with creating a flavorful appetizer using grains, soybeans, corn, and wheat—ingredients that connect to the natural diet of the Bobwhite Quail and the bounty of the land. Consider crafting a savory corn and soybean fritter, a crispy wheat-crust bite filled with seasoned grains, or even a creative grain and corn salad with a soy-based dressing. Each dish should highlight the earthy, wholesome flavors of these ingredients, celebrating both sustainability and culinary creativity. Let your imagination shine, and may your appetizer earn you the title of *Camporee Chef*! Bring your dish to the Pole Barn at 6:30.

