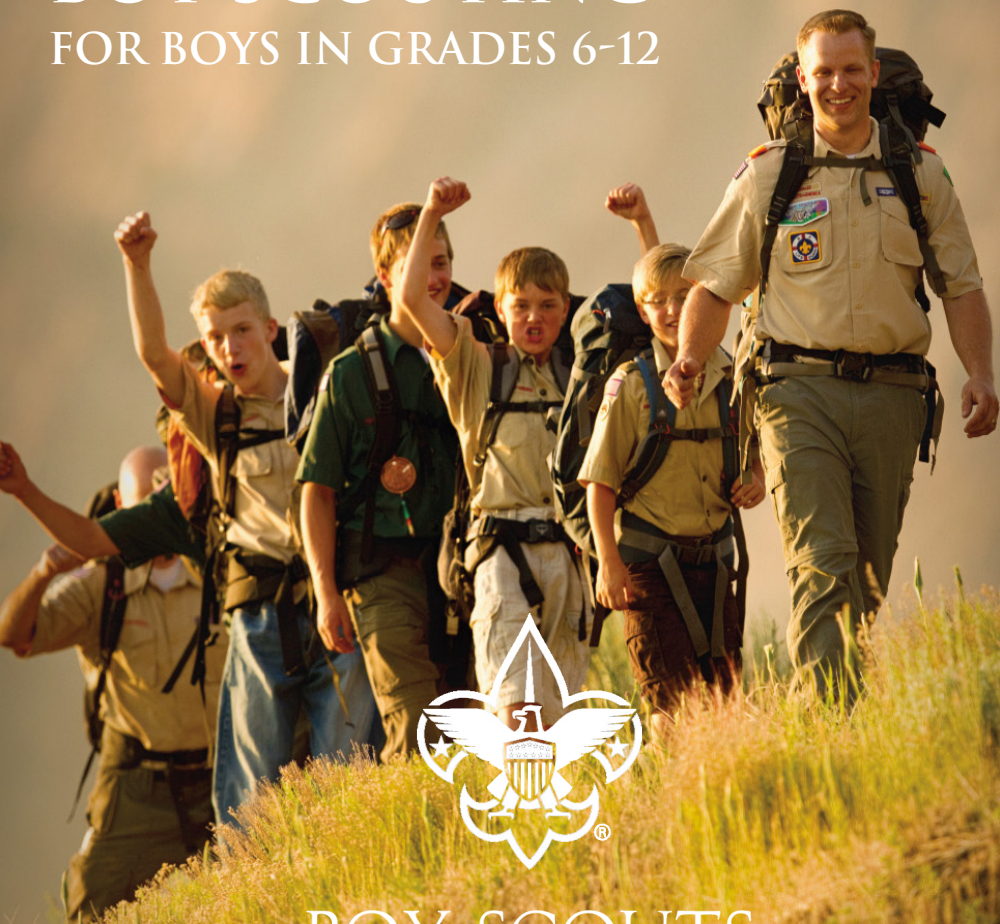


# PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE

## THE ADVENTURES OF BOY SCOUTING FOR BOYS IN GRADES 6-12



BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA®

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY COUNCIL



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## NORTHERN NEW JERSEY COUNCIL

### Our Vision

The Northern New Jersey Council serves over 14,000 youth in Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Passaic Counties. We provide outstanding opportunities for today's youth from all backgrounds and communities, guided by Scouting's core values as expressed in the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. Our motivated, energetic and experienced leadership is dedicated to delivering our programs and services, utilizing all of our resources and the latest technologies to best serve our stakeholders. We are committed to remaining financially sound and to serve as trustworthy stewards of the assets entrusted to us.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Boy Scouts of 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.

### VISION STATEMENT

The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.

### 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.



## Your Son, Boy Scouting, and You

As a parent, you want your son to grow up to be a person of worth, a self-reliant, dependable, and caring individual. Scouting has these same goals in mind for him. Since 1910, we've been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, developing good citizenship, enhancing physical fitness, and building self-esteem and ethical values of youth.

It is the purpose of the Boy Scouts of America to provide for youth an effective program designed to build desirable qualities of character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develop in them personal fitness; thus, to help in the development of American citizens who:

- ◇ Are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit.
- ◇ Have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.
- ◇ Have personal and stable values firmly based on religious concepts.
- ◇ Have the desire and the skills to help others.
- ◇ Understand the principles of American social, economic, and governmental system.
- ◇ Are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand America's role in the world.
- ◇ Have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people.

In a society where your son is often taught that winning is everything, Boy Scouting teaches him to "do his best" and be helpful to others as expressed in the Boy Scout Oath. These values help your son make good decisions throughout his lifetime and give him confidence as he becomes an adult leader of tomorrow.

With all the negative influences in today's society, Scouting provides your son with a positive peer group and a program that is fun and adventurous and helps him to "be prepared" to shape his own future.



# AIMS AND METHODS

## AIMS

Boy Scouting works toward three aims. One is growth in moral strength and character. We may define this as what the boy is himself: his personal qualities, his values, and his outlook.

A second aim is participating citizenship. Used broadly, citizenship means the boy's relationship to others. He comes to learn his obligations to other people, to the society he lives in, to the government that presides over that society.

A third aim of Boy Scouting is development of physical, mental, and emotional fitness. Fitness includes the body (well-tuned and healthy), the mind (able to think and solve problems), and the emotions (self-control, courage, and self-respect).

The methods are designed to accomplish these aims. Thus it is important that you know and use the methods of Boy Scouting. Other methods are good, but they may bring different results – results quite different than we are seeking.

## METHODS

**Ideals** - The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, motto, and slogan. The Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as he reaches for them he has some control over what he becomes.

**Patrols** - The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places a certain amount of responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to act in small groups where they easily can relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through their elected representatives.

**Outdoors** - Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with each other. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose.

Being close to nature helps Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and mankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Scouts to learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.



## Choosing a Boy Scout Troop

The choice of a troop is a personal decision. Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that Boy Scouting was founded with the goal of being “fun, with a purpose”, and the fun should be clearly visible in today’s Scouting programs.

**Transitioning from Cub Scouts** - The Webelos Arrow of Light requires your son to visit at least one Boy Scout Troop, attend an outdoor event with a troop, and complete an application to join. Some families have found it beneficial to visit more than one troop. Every troop has its own traditions, activities, and level of adventure. You need to find one that is right for your son.

**Contacting a Local Troop** - You can find and contact a local Troop by going to [www.beascout.org](http://www.beascout.org) and inputting your zip-code. If contact information is not available on the website you can contact the council office and someone will provide you with information for the closest Troop to you.

## Things to Consider When Visiting a Troop

**Troop Size** - While troops will vary in size, there should be a cadre of leadership appropriate to the number of boys in the troop. Ask how many patrols are in the troop.

**Age Range of Scouts** - Younger Scouts traditionally work on their Rank Requirements so they can advance through the Tenderfoot, Second and First Class Ranks. Much of their attention in meetings and on campouts is devoted to their basic Scout skills for these requirements. As the Scouts get into their teens, it is necessary to challenge them in order to hold their interest. Scouting has established “High Adventure” programs for Scouts who are 13 years of age or older. They may begin high-level canoeing, rock climbing, or sailing.

**Trained Leaders** - This is a very important part of your consideration of a troop. Trained leaders should know BSA policies on programs, safety, and youth protection.



# Organization Structure

## YOUR SON WILL BE A MEMBER OF A TROOP

Troops are made up of a number of patrols. Troops typically meet weekly, and have special occasions such as courts of honor where the Scouts are recognized for their achievements. Troop meetings are run by the senior patrol leader (with the guidance and support of the Scoutmaster). The troop will participate in and run outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, swimming, lifesaving, boating, canoeing, rowing, sailing, water skiing, archery, athletics, sports, fishing, and wilderness survival.

## Chartering Organization

The troop is owned by a chartered organization. Chartering organizations include schools, parent associations, religious organizations, service clubs, and other groups interested in youth. The chartering organization approves leaders, provides a meeting place, and operates troops within the guidelines and policies of the chartering organization and the Boy Scouts of America. The chartering organization selects a chartered organization representative who serves as a liaison between the troop and organization.

## Leaders

**Scoutmaster:** a friend to whom the boys turn to for advice and a coach for the patrol leaders.

**Assistant Scoutmaster:** Helps the Scoutmaster and takes charge of the troop when needed.

## Committee

A group of people usually parents who are responsible for the troop's welfare. The committee meets once a month and helps the Scoutmaster and youth leaders carry out their program.



# Organization Structure

## YOUR SON WILL BE A MEMBER OF A PATROL

Patrols are the basic unit of a troop, similar to the dens in Cub Scouts.

Patrols are typically made up of 4 to 8 Scouts.

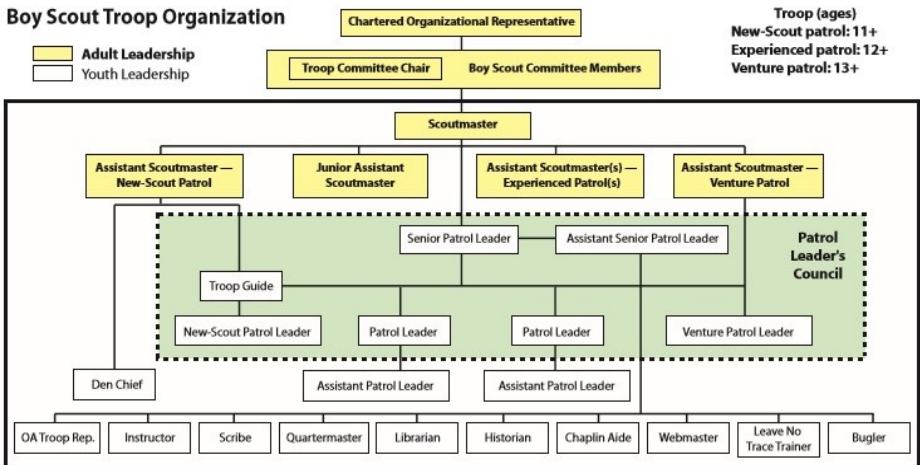
Patrols are led by a patrol leader and assistant patrol leaders.

Patrol members work on individual advancement and team-building skills.

The members of the patrol will come up with a name, shout/cheer and design a flag.

The organization of most Troops can be seen in the flow chart below:

### Boy Scout Troop Organization



# Advancement Trail to Eagle



## Scout

The Scout learns basic Scout knowledge such as the Scout Sign, Salute, Handshake, Oath, Motto, Slogan and Promise.

## Tenderfoot

The Tenderfoot Scout packs camping gear, camps overnight in a tent he helps pitch, ties knots, participates in a flag ceremony, helps prepare meals and can describe safe hiking and trail rules.

## Second Class

The Second Class Scout demonstrates compass work and basic orienteering and map reading. He demonstrates basic fire building, axe sharpening and use and prepare a meal for his patrol.

## First Class

The First Class Scout demonstrates how to correctly identify direction and location without a compass. His cooking skills are put to the test as he plans and executes a full day's menu using safe food handling and a hot stove.

## Star

The Star Scout transitions into a new role in the troop. He now leads, not just learns. The emphasis on his development is driven by leadership to his troop and service to his community. Requirements include community service hours and earning merit badges.

## Life

The Life Scout leads by example. His commitment can be summed up by tenure, community service and leadership positions within the troop. It's time for the boy to take a serious look at his path to Eagle Scout and to mentor other boys in the troop to reach the same goal.

## Eagle

Eagle Scouts must complete 21 merit badges and a comprehensive and challenging service project that must pass the standards from BSA and substantially benefit a community or service organization other than the Boy Scouts of America. The project is designed to be a long-lasting tribute to the hard work and legacy of Scouting.



# THE BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Boy Scouts learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers as they earn from among 130 merit badges. Any Boy Scout may earn a merit badge at any time – they do not need to have had rank advancement to be eligible.

## How do Scouts go about earning a merit badge?

Scouts should talk to their unit leaders and fellow Scouts about their interest in earning a merit badge. They should read the requirements of the merit badges they think might interest them. They then choose one to earn. The unit leader will give the Scout a signed merit badge application (the “blue card”) and the name and contact information of a merit badge counselor. Scouts need to get in touch with the merit badge counselor and tell them that they want to earn the merit badge. The counselor may ask to meet the Scout to explain what is expected and to start helping the Scout complete the requirements. Scouts should also discuss work that they have already started or possibly completed. Unless otherwise specified, work for a requirement can be started at any time. Scouts should ask their counselor to help them learn the things they need to know or do. Scouts should obtain and read the merit badge pamphlet on the subject. When the Scout is ready, they should call the counselor again to make an appointment. When they go, they should take along the things they have made to meet the requirements. If they are too big to move, they can take pictures or have an adult tell in writing what the Scout has done. The counselor will test the Scout on each requirement to make sure they know their stuff and have done or can do the things required. Scouts are expected to meet the



	Completed	Outstanding	Not Started
<p><b>Information for Applicants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A merit badge application can be signed <b>only</b> by a youth merit badge counselor.</li> <li>• You must have a buddy with you (Scoutmaster or another merit badge counselor).</li> <li>• You must wear a uniform.</li> <li>• You must complete the application in the presence of your approved application or unit leader. You will be awarded the merit badge only after you complete the application.</li> </ul> <p><b>Information for Counselor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merit badge applications must be signed in advance by the applicant's unit leader.</li> <li>• The Scoutmaster must be buddy (Scoutmaster or another merit badge counselor) on all non-educational sessions.</li> <li>• You may not charge any requirement, but you may charge your knowledge or experience that makes the counseling more interesting and valuable.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**APPLICATION FOR MERIT BADGE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Is a registered \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Boy Scout ☐ Variedly Scout ☐ Venturer of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_


Drop here, one step

District \_\_\_\_\_

Council \_\_\_\_\_

I have discussed this merit badge with \_\_\_\_\_ and I have discussed this merit badge with \_\_\_\_\_ and I have discussed this merit badge with \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of unit leader \_\_\_\_\_



requirements as they are stated—no more and no less. When the counselor is satisfied that the Scout has met each requirement, they will sign the “blue card”. Scouts should then give the signed application to their unit leader so that the merit badge emblem can be secured and awarded to the Scout.



# SUMMER CAMP

**Camp Turrell** is located in the foot hills of the Catskill Mountains. Just an hour and fifteen minute drive from the heart of the Northern New Jersey Council, Turrell is surrounded by over 800 acres of pristine wilderness.



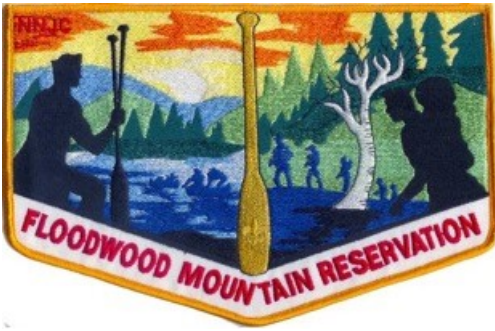
With quick access to natural rock faces, a 95-acre lake complete with island outpost

camping, Camp Turrell is a Scouting paradise. Looking to spend more time in a program area? Want to finish up those last few requirements for a merit badge, practice your paddle board skills or finally get that bullseye? Turrell's ample open program time allows for Scouts to decide how they want to spend their time at camp!

**Camp NoBeBoSco** is set on 380 acres in New Jersey's Kittatinny Mountains, NoBeBoSco's idyllic landscape offers Troops an opportunity to experience Scouting in away that has remained true to the early days of Scout Camp. NoBe takes pride in offering a top-quality program true to Scouting's roots. NoBeBoSco is the largest camp operated by the NNJC and welcomes Boy Scout Troops from across the United States. Going to NoBe for the summer is a beloved tradition. NoBe operates a theme-based program each summer that isn't revealed until just a few weeks before camp. Whether Scouts spend time in Merit Badge classes, working hard in the First Year Camper or Older Scout programs, attending one of the four weekly campfires, testing their skills and teamwork at the Wednesday Water and Land games, or relaxing at the Thursday Night Carnival and BBQ, Camp NoBeBoSco never leaves you wondering what to do next!



# HIGH ADVENTURE



**Floodwood Mountain Reservation** is nestled in the Adirondack Mountains 60 minutes west of Lake Placid, NY. Floodwood is the ultimate wilderness Adventure program in the Northern New Jersey Council. Complete with direct access to numerous lakes, ponds and rivers, Scouts and Scouters have the opportunity to

paddle pristine waterways, and hike several of the High Peaks during a guided 4-5 day trek that has been traveled by hundreds of Scout groups before you! Or, work with the staff Trek Director and your Voyageur to plan your own adventure afloat or afoot! Instrumental to the success of your trek is your camp—provided Voyageur. Voyageurs are trained in a variety of camping skills, First Aid and CPR, and act as guides for your unit. Most importantly, your Voyageur works with all the participants in maximizing their potential, leadership development, and ensures a safe and fun time out on the water and trails.

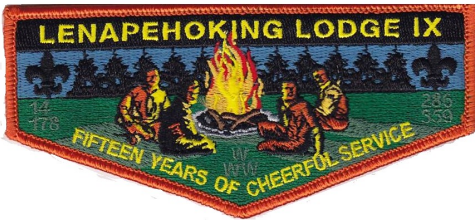
## OUR TREKS ARE DESIGNED TO:

- Foster teamwork, cooperation, and camaraderie,
- Push participants beyond their natural comfort zone,
- Put youth in positions where they need use real-world applications of their Scout Skills
- Instill a sense of pride, self-confidence, and accomplishment in all participants
- Provide memories and experiences that will be remembered for a lifetime!



# ORDER OF THE ARROW

The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. Unlike other recognition groups, members of the Order of the Arrow become eligible for induction by a vote that includes both members and non-members.



Lenapehoking Lodge IX is the Northern New Jersey Council's Order of the Arrow Lodge. Arrowmen, as members are called, are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long-

term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others. OA service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich and help to extend Scouting to America's youth. Membership in the Order of the Arrow supplements a Scout's leadership to his troop. It does not replace it!

## PURPOSE

As Scouting's National Honor Society, the OA's purpose is to: Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in away that warrants similar recognition. Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp. Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation. Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

## IMPACT

Lenapehoking Lodge IX has been a strong and capable youth leadership arm of the NNJC since it's merger in 1999. Playing an integral role in developing young men into capable leaders, Lenapehoking IX places strong emphasis on supporting the NNJC's camping operations. Three induction weekends are held each year that both allow new members to join the Order, and provide needed service to our camp properties in preparation for their summer operation. Each year over 3,000 youth and adults benefit from the hard work and dedicated service of Lenapehoking IX.



# NYLT



National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for youth members to grow their leadership skills and experience.

NYLT is a six-day course centering around the concepts of what a leader must BE, what he must KNOW, and what he must DO. The key elements are then taught with a clear focus on HOW TO.

Content is delivered in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ the leadership Skills much faster.

NYLT integrates the best of modern leadership with the traditional strengths of the Scouting experience. Through activities, presentations, challenges, discussions, and audio-visual support, participants will be engaged in a unified approach to leadership that will give them the skill and confidence to lead well. Through



a wide range of activities, games, and adventures, Participants will work and play together as they put into action the best Scouting has to offer. Space is limited and Participants must receive the recommendation of their Unit Leader to participate!



# PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' ROLE

## YOUR ROLE

You may be wondering or even a little nervous about what your role is in Boy Scouting. Well, your first role in Scouting is simply to continue what you are doing: be a parent! Help your son succeed. Be supportive. You're here because you see value in the Scouting program. There will always be times when your son doesn't want to go to the weekly meeting, or seems to be losing interest in advancement and doing his best in Scouting. That's when he needs a parent's encouragement.

## VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Without volunteers like yourself, there would simply be no Scouting- anywhere! Naturally, parents are a primary source of leaders in the Scouting program. Parents can support their son's Scout troop in two different ways: as a uniformed member of his troop's adult volunteer corps, or as a troop committee member. To become a Scouting volunteer is one of the finest decisions you'll ever make.



Unit volunteers are themselves an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. They volunteer not only to serve Scouting, but also to serve their son and his friends, and to have the chance to be a positive influence on the youth of the community. In your troop, the Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster(s), committee chairperson, troop committee members, and chartered organization representative all work with the troop's parents to provide a good environment and program for the Scouts they serve.



# EVERY SCOUT DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER

For every registered position with in the BSA and our local council, specific trainings were designed to give you what you need to be a successful leader. Much of it can be done on-line at [myscouting.org](http://myscouting.org). Other training opportunities are provided in person by Northern New Jersey Council and your Scouting district in your community. These trainings will give you a full understanding of the Boy Scout program, and provide you with many resources to help you in troop operations.

Our Scouting leaders are WELL TRAINED! To be a trained Scoutmaster or assistant Scoutmaster requires Youth Protect Training, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills and Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Specific Training as detailed below:



## YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

The Boy Scouts of America has a very strong program in place to protect our youth from abuse of all kinds. ALL leaders are required to be trained in Youth Protection, and to refresh that training at regular intervals. There are key rules we follow that you will hear about, such as two-deep leadership and no one-on-ones. All parents are strongly encouraged to take Boy Scout Youth Protection training, which is available on-line at [myscouting.org](http://myscouting.org) under e-training.

**Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills** is a weekend course that offers all the skills necessary to provide for the outdoor portion of the Scouting program. NNJC offers this course multiple times each year.

**Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training** is completed in one full day or three evenings. This course concentrates on troop operations.

There is also a Fast Start Training which is a good first step for any new volunteer and 'This is Scouting', a two-hour training for ALL adult leaders involved in Scouting. New parents might also benefit from this training where you will learn all of the basic facts and policies of the Boy Scouts of America.



# How Much Does Scouting Cost?

<b>Registration Fee</b>	Annual fee for youth and leaders	\$ 24
<b>Insurance Fee</b>	Annual fee to help in any medical costs	\$ 9
<b>Boys' Life Magazine</b>	Optional, but strongly recommended	\$ 12
<b>Troop Dues</b>	The amount varies by Troop, depending on money-earning projects conducted by the Troop to decrease the amount needed to run the program	
<b>Uniform</b>	The uniform consist of a tan scout shirt, green shoulder loops, neckerchief and slide and green scout pants.	
<b>Books</b>	The 13th edition of the Boy Scout Handbook is required. The Handbook is a Scout's most helpful tool, filled with information from first aid to cooking. Your son will use his handbook in meetings and on trips to help guide him along scouting's trail to be an Eagle	



You can purchase everything you need for scouting at the National Scout Shop located within the council service center in Oakland, NJ or online at [www.Scoutingstuff.com](http://www.Scoutingstuff.com)

The Scout Shop hours are:

9am– 6pm (Mon., Wed., Thurs.)

9am– 8pm (Tues.)

9am– 5pm (Fri.)

9am–2pm (Sat.)



# **Your Friends of Scouting Dollars at Work**

## **The True Cost of Scouting**

You can think of the "True Cost of Scouting" in terms of an iceberg. When you see an iceberg only 20% of that iceberg is visible above the water, the rest is submerged-supporting the visible part. It's very similar to Scouting.

Most Scouts and Scout families will only see 20% of the total operation of the Northern New Jersey Council or the Scouting program.

They will not see the other 80% of the operation that makes the Scouting program come alive for their son.

### **The Scouting "Iceberg"**

Above the Water 20% -

Handbooks, Uniforms, Boys' Life Magazine, Activity Fees, Summer Camp,

#### **Volunteer and Staff Training**

##### **Urban Outreach Initiative**

To reach into our urban underserved communities.

##### **Reference publications and resources**

Program planning kits,

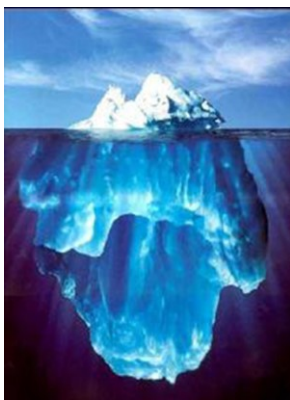
Program Helps, camping guidebooks;

New member recruitment Flyers, posters, lawn signs, banners and more

##### **Camp Promotion**

##### **Camp Equipment**

Vehicles, pumps, pool



##### **Service Center**

Utilities, insurance, and repairs for headquarters

##### **Audio Visual Supplies**

Used in training, camp promotion, activities, recruitment and much more

##### **Council Website**

Go online to learn more about our council and its program  
[www.nnjbsa.org](http://www.nnjbsa.org)

##### **Recognition**

For leaders who attend training, volunteer for special projects



## MY TROOP INFORMATION

My troop is part of the Lenape Trail district.

I am in troop number: 147

My troop meets every: Tuesday from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM (when school is open)

My troop meets at: The Franklin Reformed Church Community House, 45 Hillside Cres. Nutley

My patrol is: \_\_\_\_\_

My patrol leader's name is: \_\_\_\_\_

My patrol leader's phone number is:

( ) \_\_\_\_\_.

My patrol leader's email is:

\_\_\_\_\_.

My Scoutmaster's name is:

Al Welenofsky\_\_\_\_\_.

My Scoutmaster's phone number is:

( 973 ) 667-0323\_\_\_\_\_.

My Scoutmaster's email is:

awelenofsky@optimum.net\_\_\_\_\_.

Committee Chairman: Mike Groome Michael.Groome@verizon.net

## MY COUNCIL INFORMATION

My Council is Northern New Jersey Council.

Council Website: [www.nnjbsa.org](http://www.nnjbsa.org)

Council Address: 25 Ramapo Valley Rd. Oakland, NJ 07436

Council Phone Number: (201) 677- 1000

Council Hours of Operation: 9:00am to 5:00pm



# NOTES





**Prepared. For Life.™**

