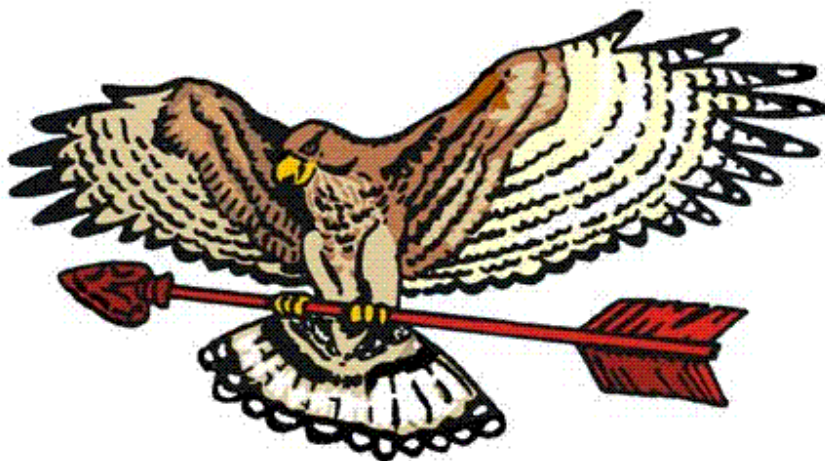


# **Where To Go Camping Guide**

**2010-2011**

**Atlanta Area Council**



**Egwa Tawa Dee #129**

# Preface

Dear Scouts & Scouters,

Welcome to Egwa Tawa Dee's 2011 Where to Go Camping Guide! This publication is a source of information about camping for Scouts and Scouters. The first section contains information about camping locations and opportunities in and around the Atlanta Area Council and our Section. Following that, you will find information that Scouts and Scouters need to know before going camping like BSA policies, standards, etc. Thirdly, you will find information about the BSA camping awards and recognition. An appendix with many useful forms and documents completes the guide.

It is the humble duty and privilege of Egwa Tawa Dee's Vice Chief of Program to edit the Where to Go Camping Guide and, in doing so, leave his mark of service to the lodge. In this edition, I concentrated not only on the content of the guide, but also on streamlining the guide and improving upon the words of my predecessors. I hope you will find that the result is a much more aesthetically pleasing guide and, more importantly, one that is easier to read, so that you can concentrate more on what the words say than how they say it. I hope that you will take the time to check out a few of the places described inside.

One very important part of this publication is located on the very last page: the Where to Go Camping Guide Submission Form. We at Egwa Tawa Dee are always looking for new places to camp, so if you have found a place that you think others should know about, then please fill out that form and mail it to the address provided so that we can share your good fortune with others.

I hope that this guide will be of assistance to you and your unit. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me at the address below.

Yours in Brotherhood,  
Joshua Buchsbaum  
2010- 2011 Vice Chief of Program  
Egwa Tawa Dee Lodge  
[vcprogram@acegwa.org](mailto:vcprogram@acegwa.org)

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# Atlanta Area Council Camps

The Atlanta Area Council takes pride in all three camps it currently maintains and operates. Woodruff and Bert Adams Scout Reservations offer strong Summer Camp programs. For more information, ask for a current *Summer Camp Leader's Guide* from the Program Center at the Volunteer Service Center.

## Camp Allatoona Aquatics Base



The Camp Allatoona Aquatics Base is 600 acres (242 hectare) of lakefront property leased from the Army Corps of Engineers by the Atlanta Area Council. The camp is on Lake Allatoona just north of Metro Atlanta. This nearby camp is used throughout the year for weekend camping, day trips, and other Scout outings. The main emphasis at Camp Allatoona is aquatics. At the Camp Allatoona Aquatics Base Scouts can enjoy aquatic activities including canoeing, rowing, sailing, skiing, swimming, motor boating, and lifesaving. CAAB is one of the few aquatics bases in the United States that offers expert training in ALL the aquatics Merit Badge skills plus training for the aquatics High Adventure Camps! CAAB is also a wonderful development facility for adult leadership in aquatics skills and much more...

Canoes and rowboats are available for checkout following Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat Guidelines if they are available. Powerboats and sailboats are dedicated to program use. "Fun" days are scheduled - see the AAC Program Schedule for more information.

### Activities

- Swimming
- Boating (canoe, kayak, row, sail & motor)
- Currently maintained:
  - 5 motor boats
  - 4- 22ft to 25ft Cabin Sailboats
  - Over 20 group and individual sailboats
  - More than 10 kayaks
  - More than 20 canoes
  - Waterskiing
- Fishing (age 16 with fishing license)
- Camping

### Facilities

- Swimming Dock
- Boat Launching Ramp & Dock
- Campsites & Campfire Arena
- Pavilion (reservation required)
- Picnic Area (reservation required)
- Latrines at each site
- Hiking Trails
- Water (year round)
- Emergency Phone
- AED

For more information, visit <http://www.campallatoona.org>.

## Woodruff Scout Reservation



Nestled in the pristine North Georgia mountains, Robert W. Woodruff Scout Reservation is the perfect spot for camping all year round. Thousands of Scouts and their adult leaders from all around the world have made Woodruff their preferred camping environment. Few camps can match the experience that you will enjoy at Woodruff.

Located near the Chattahoochee National Forest, Woodruff contains 1575 acres of beautiful mountainous trails, water, and sights and is known as one of the finest summer camp experiences in the country. Scouts have come from as close as Blairsville to as far away as Japan to breath the fresh air that “Lady Woodruff” provides. Woodruff is about 90 miles from Atlanta, making it a great getaway from the hustle and bustle of life off-reservation.

The Atlanta Area Council recently completed an 8 million dollar capital improvement on the camp, and its facilities, representing a major commitment to the worldwide Scouting movement. More than 150 highly qualified and experienced older Boy Scouts, Venturers, and Professionals comprise the Woodruff Summer Camp Staff. The Atlanta Area Council is proud of its 6:1 Scout to staff ratio, noting that the council’s professionals have you and your Scout’s safety on their minds.

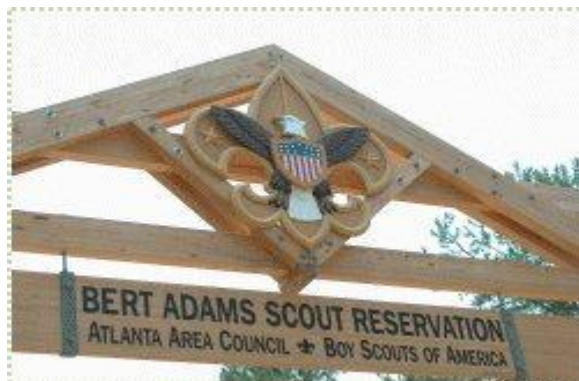
Woodruff has a spectacular 86-acre private lake, on and in which they offer motor boating, swimming, and small boating, all in separated areas. The lake is complete with a small island in front of its state-of-the-art Pirrung Amphitheater, on which the staff erects 3 teepees every summer.

### Significant Facilities

- Larry & Mae Chase Gateway (pictured above)
- Rizor “Heart of Camp” Building, which houses:
  - Trading Post
  - Snack Bar (renowned for its slushies)
- Gilbert R. Pirrung Amphitheater (lakefront, 1200 seats)
- Buck & Winnie Waterfront
  - Swimming docks (2 out-docks)
  - Small boating area
  - Motor boating
- Shotgun, Rifle, and Archery Ranges
- General John H. Stembler Bridge (400 ft.)
- COPE/climbing area
  - 62-foot climbing tower
  - zip line
  - 2 climbing chimneys
  - 6 rappelling lanes
  - COPE course (11 high and 11 low elements)

For more information, visit <http://wsr.atlantabsacamp.org> or the Camping section of <http://www.atlantabsa.org>.

## Bert Adams Scout Reservation



Since 1960, Bert Adams Scout Reservation has been an Atlanta Scouting favorite for camping and other Scouting activities. Bert Adams offers 1250 acres of long-term resident camping, weekend camping, and tons of outdoor Scouting fun. BASR includes Camp Gorman, Camp Emerson, Camp Jamison, Cub World, and the new Adventure Camp. Thousands of Scouts come to Bert Adams each year for Boy Scout, Webelos, and JROTC Summer Camp, Order of the Arrow events, Venturing and Explorer outings, Cub Family Camping, Cub World Events Cub Pack Picnics, District Camporees, ScoutReach Outings, Wood Badge Training, Junior Leadership Training, and many other Scouting events.

When the decision was made to close and sell the old Camp Bert Adams Property in Vinings, Georgia, the Council Executive board immediately began raising funds for a new Scout reservation. The initial purchase was for 1490 acres. Summer Camp was initially conducted at Camp Gorman, and later in Camps Emerson and Jamison. On July 2, 1961, the camp was officially dedicated to Albert S. "Bert" Adams, an early pioneer Scouter and successful Atlanta businessman.

### Significant Facilities

- Main Gate Way (pictured above)
- 62' Climbing Tower
- Central Shower Buildings
- Ellis Amphitheatre (lakefront, 2000 seats)
- Health Lodge
- Aquatics Center
- Camp Jamison Weekend Use Area
- Morcock Training Center

Additional Facilities include archery and rifle ranges, program pavilions, Wood Badge Training Area, Gorman Dining Hall, Observatory, Foot Bridges, Maintenance/Storage facility, and numerous cabins.

For more information, visit <http://basr.atlantabsacamp.org> or the Camping section of <http://www.atlantabsa.org>.

## Summer Camp Staff

Summer Camp Staff is an excellent opportunity for older Scouts to reach out to younger Scouts. Council summer camps need qualified Scouts to give their skills, time, and leadership. Some of a Scout's fondest memories are forged on this team; Scouts on Camp staff experience a great long-term camping adventure and advancement opportunity. This is not your typical summer job!

"Counselor in Training" positions are available to 14 and 15 year olds. CIT's volunteer for two weeks assisting the camp staff and learning how to be a staff member. Many CIT's choose to return the following year to be paid staff members. 15 year olds may apply for a CIT or paid staff position. Starting at 16, all staff members are paid and work and live on camp for the summer. Summer camp is a great opportunity not only to give back to Scouting, but also to further your own knowledge by teaching it to fellow Scouts. I hope you all take the time at least one summer to be a part of this great experience.

## Atlanta Area Council Camping Policies

- Register 4 weeks in advance through the AAC Program Center.
- Follow the current policies and procedures in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.
- Abide by the Scout Oath and Law.
- Follow the General Practices and Procedures for use of facilities.
- Leave all animals and pets at home (seeing eye dogs exempted).
- Do not dig garbage pits or ditches around tents.
- If cancellation is necessary, do so through the camp ranger or AAC Program Center prior to the arrival date.
- Fill out a complete roster and give to the ranger or campmaster upon arrival (including all youth, adults, and guests).
- Build fires only in established areas.

### Lakefront Use

- Do not bring your own watercrafts or gasoline motors, except at Allatoona.
- Swim only in the designated areas with permission from the Camp Ranger.
- Notify the Campmaster or Camp Ranger before conducting any water activities.
- Follow the Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat plans.

### Vehicle Use

- Observe posted speed limits. Drive only on roads.
- Motor bikes, trail motor bikes, and motorized go-carts are not allowed for use at camp.
- Please park only in the designated area (The camping committee courteously requests your cooperation for safety, for the protection of campers, for the conservation for your council camp's property, and for the execution of the *AAC Camping Practices*).

### Policy to Request Use

In order to use any AAC property, request in writing must be made at least 2 weeks in advance to the Program Center Director, including the unit number, district, unit leader information, and a list of participants. Normal arrival time at camp is 4:30pm until 10:00pm on Friday for weekend camping. If you must arrive early, special permission must be approved through the Program Center.

Upon arrival at camp, immediately check in with the Campmaster or Camp Ranger and provide a list of all participants - youth, adults, and guests.

#### **Camping Forms**

*Unit Guide for Camping and Activities Request  
Short Term Camping and Activities Request Form  
Camping/Activity Roster*

*Send AAC Camping Requests to:  
Program Center Director  
Atlanta Area Council, BSA  
1800 Circle 75 Parkway  
Atlanta, GA 30339  
Telephone: 770-989-8820*

# Short and Long Term Camping

*The goal of this section is to introduce new opportunities for Scouts to hike, camp, go horseback riding, canoe, go cycling, or participate in other fun Scouting activities. Below, you will find information about other Council Scout Camps, State and National Parks, and private recreational areas in Georgia and in surrounding areas. Please help us to maintain updated information in this section by submitting camps using the submission form located in the back of this guide.*

## Other Councils' Scout Camps

*Across the Southeast, councils own and service camps for on and off-season use. To take full advantage of these opportunities you will need to contact the individual Council Program Center.*

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### **Camp Frank G. Lumpkin :: Chattahoochee Council, GA**

Located in LaGrange, Georgia Camp Lumpkin is a relatively new camp which opened in 1999. The Camp features 1000 acres of property in a pine wood peninsula covering twenty miles of shoreline and an Olympic sized pool. Summer Camp runs five weeks beginning in mid-June. 35 Merit Badges are offered. Their first year camper program runs all day long and Project C.O.P.E. and mountain biking are available. Conservation projects and outpost camping is available to all units. Unique to Camp Lumpkin is the Trail to Eagle courses which advise Eagle Scout candidates on projects and general scouting knowledge.

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### **Camp Sidney Dew :: Northwest Georgia Council, GA**

Camp Sidney Dew of Armuchee, Georgia rests on 550 acres and contains 10 campsites. Private Lake Goodyear allows swimming and boating in addition to rolling trout streams. A pool is also available on site. Summer Camp runs four weeks beginning in mid-June. 29 Merit Badges are offered. The Spike Buck First Year program offers an opportunity in the morning or afternoon for first year campers to earn First Aid, Swimming, and one other Merit Badge. Camp activities include a fishing and casting clinic, Chuck Wagon, and visits to the Mountain Man area. Older boys may participate in Project C.O.P.E. or earn the climbing Merit Badge. Boys 15 and older are given a high adventure opportunity, which combines one day of C.O.P.E., a 3-day, 26 mile backpacking trek on the Appalachian Trail, and a one day Whitewater rafting trip.

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### **Camp Thunder :: Flint River Council, GA**

Along the Pine Mountain range, you are sure to find Camp Thunder of Molena, Georgia. 12 Campsites sit atop 2200 acres of this beautiful and impressive camp. Lake In-I-To, a major Aquatics Base, is located on the larger of two rivers on the property. Summer camp operates 8 weeks every summer beginning in June. 39 Merit Badges are offered. The Buckskin first year camper program offers the First Aid and Swimming Merit Badges and the 5-mile hike required for the Tenderfoot rank. Camp activities include outpost overnights, a Hunter Safety course, Duck Day, and Wilderness hikes. The Trail to Eagle Program offers help on Eagle Required Merit Badges and workshops on projects, leadership, and paperwork. Project C.O.P.E. and a mountain biking program are available for older boys, as are High Adventure opportunities out of the Gerald I. Lawhorn Canoe Base.

### **Camp Rainy Mountain :: Northeast Georgia Council, GA**

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Sitting on 500 acres in Clayton, Georgia, Camp Rainy Mountain features 21 campsites and a private lake. Summer camp is conducted over 8 weeks beginning in mid-June. 42 Merit Badges are offered in addition to a first year program called TNT. Project C.O.P.E., Mountain biking, and Whitewater kayak crew trips are available. Venture Scouts are welcome.

### **Camp Osborn :: Southwest Georgia Council, GA**

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Located in Sylvester, Georgia, Camp Osborn sits on 859 Acres and has 7 campsites. Osborn features a private lake for its boating program and a swimming pool for swimming sports. Two weeks of summer camp are offered beginning in mid-June. 31 Merit Badges are offered. Project C.O.P.E., Trailblazers for first year campers, and High Adventure Canoe trips on the Flint River are available.

### **Camp Tolochee :: Okefenokee Area Council, GA**

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Just twenty minutes from St. Simons and Jekyll Island beaches, Camp Tolochee is home to 11 campsites. Boating is offered on a private lake, and swimming sports use a pool. Summer camp runs for three weeks beginning in mid-June. 33 Merit Badges are offered. A First Class Emphasis program, troop swim/shoot/canoe, climbing, and an overnight kayaking trip to St. Simons Island and Sound are available.

### **Robert E. Knox Scout Reservation :: Georgia-Carolina Council, GA-SC**

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Robert E. Knox Scout Reservation sits on 550 acres in Augusta, Georgia with 7 miles of beautiful Clarks Hill Lake shoreline. Knox is open for two weeks in June every summer. A relatively new reservation, Knox has new program facilities and boasts being a “traditional camp,” where Scouts cook their own food in their patrols and sleep in dome tents. The Jimmie Dyess Program is designed for first year campers and teaches them the essential Scout Skills necessary to earn the first three ranks. The Trail To Eagle Program offers Eagle-Required Merit Badges to Scouts with First Class Rank or above. Training is offered for adult leaders.

### **Camp Old Indian :: Blue Ridge Council, SC**

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Located in Traveler’s Rest, South Carolina, Camp Old Indian sits atop 1200 acres in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains and contains 15 campsites. Swimming and boating are offered on two separate lakes. Scouts are housed in cabins or Adirondacks. Summer camp runs for seven weeks beginning in mid-June. 41 Merit Badges are offered. The pathfinder program operates for first year campers and includes an overnight. A Ranger Program, consisting of whitewater rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing, and team building, is offered to Scouts at least 14 years-old. High Adventure opportunities include a 54-mile hike in Western South Carolina.

### **Camp Ho Non Wah :: Coastal Carolina Council, SC**

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Camp Ho Non Wah rests on 140 acres of Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina and contains 8 campsites. Historic Charlestown and Aircraft Carrier Yorktown are located nearby for day trips. Private Lake McGee is used for boating and a 25-meter pool is available for swimming. Summer Camp runs for 5 weeks starting in late June. 38 Merit Badges are offered. The tribe program serves first year campers and is coupled with a 5-mile hike and an overnigher. In-camp activities include campfires, camp-wide games, sports night, and open waterfront Aquatics Night. A Hunters Safety course, island camping, canoeing, water skiing, and Project C.O.P.E. are available for older Scouts, as is the Blue Water Sailing Program which takes crews on a 5-day cruise on the Carolina coast during which they practice skills such as seamanship, day and night navigation skills, snorkeling, swimming, and fishing.

### **Camp Coker :: Pee Dee Area Council, SC**

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Camp Coker lies on 500 acres of Society Hill, South Carolina and contains 10 campsites. The camp property contains sandy rolling hills and a dense pine forest. The private 35-acre Lake West Wood hosts aquatics activities. Summer Camp runs for 8 weeks beginning in June. 35 Merit Badges are offered. The Trailblazer program teaches basic outdoor skills, and includes an overnight and a 5-mile hike. Camp activities include in-line skating, nature trail hikes, cooking demos, campfires, troop shoot/swim/boat, and a canoe outpost overnight. Older Scouts can take motor boating, water skiing, and cycling Merit Badges, and participate in Project C.O.P.E. The River Ranger, 5-day canoe trek on Little Pee Dee is also available.

### **Camp Jackson Venture Camp :: Greater Alabama Council, AL**

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Scottsboro, Alabama is home to this premier camp for older boys. Camp Jackson consists of 500 acres along the Tennessee River at the base of Sand Mountain. Summer camp dates are not currently available, but four different exciting adventures will be offered. Activities will include survival cooking, wilderness camping, island camping, fishing, swimming, and caving. Off-season boating is available to units with trained leaders.

### **Camp Comer :: Greater Alabama Council, AL**

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Beautiful Camp Comer sits atop 1067 pristine acres of Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Alabama and contains 13 campsites. Tent and Adirondack group camping sites are available. Lake Republic serves all aquatics activities. Summer Camp runs for six weeks starting in June. 29 Merit Badges are offered. The Trailblazer first year camper program includes an overnight outpost camping experience. Older Scout programs include sailing, advanced rifle, motor boating, Project C.O.P.E., rappelling, climbing, and whitewater rafting.

### **Camp Tukabatchee :: Tukabatchee Area Council, AL**

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Located in Prattville, Alabama, Camp Tukabatchee rests on 1000 acres and contains 12 campsites. A sixty-acre lake serves all aquatic wants. Hot water and bathhouses are located in every campsite. Excellent first year camper opportunities, a Hi-Low C.O.P.E. course, and on site horsemanship are available. Mountain and trail biking, and white water opportunities are offered for older Scouts. 5-day out-of-camp treks include whitewater rafting, tubing, rock climbing, rappelling, caving, and a visit to Space Camp for Boy Scouts, Venturers, and Explorers over 14.

### **Camp Davy Crockett :: Sequoia Council, TN**

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Camp Davy Crockett lies on 8 miles of Cherokee Lake shoreline just outside Whitesburg, Tennessee. The camp boasts 1800 acres of rolling hills full of fun, adventure and exploration and contains 16 campsites. Summer Camp runs for six weeks every summer. 35 Merit Badges are offered. First year campers can participate in the Eagle Bound Program, which includes an overnigher. Native American camp operates Monday through Thursday. In this exciting program, scouts canoe to a remote part of camp in the afternoon and return the next morning in time for regular program. Older scouts can participate in Project C.O.P.E. High Adventure opportunities include 3 days on the Appalachian Trail or on Cherokee lake followed by two days' float and whitewater on the Nolichucky River.

### **Camp Buck Toms :: Great Smoky Mountain Council, TN**

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Camp Buck Toms lies on 12 miles of shoreline on Watts Bar Lake in Tennessee. Summer camp operates for 6 weeks. 43 Merit Badges are offered. First Year campers can join the Dan Beard program, form patrols, visit all the program areas, and earn two Merit Badges. Troop activities include a canoe overnight and perimeter trail hike and the climbing/rappelling tower and traverse wall is open to all scouts. Older boys may take a week-long Project C.O.P.E. course. Mountain Man begins with one day of Project C.O.P.E./climbing. For the next four days, older boys can go on a backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail and end the week with whitewater rafting.

### **Skymont Scout Reservation :: Cherokee Area Council, TN**

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Skymont Scout Reservation lies in the Cumberland Mountains about 80 miles southeast of Nashville, in Altamont, Tennessee. Skymont is comprised of 2460 acres, 15 campsites, and 4 lakes. Summer camp runs for six weeks every summer. The Polaris First Year Program teaches basic Scouting skills for rank advancement including a 5-mile hike. The Adventure Area boasts a 55-foot climbing tower and rappelling for all ages, and a 300-foot zip line. Mountain bikes are available to all Scouts. Whitewater trips run all day on Fridays. The Cumberland Adventure program offers wet caving, snorkeling, swimming at the falls, hiking, and rock climbing for scouts over 13. Older Scouts can participate in blacksmithing, and Project C.O.P.E. High Adventure opportunities include whitewater rafting, canoeing, kayaking, Appalachian Trail hiking, climbing/rappelling, cross-country biking, and the Skymont Perimeter Trail hike.

## BSA High Adventure Bases

### Philmont Scout Reservation

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Philmont Scout Ranch, located in Cimarron, New Mexico, is the BSA's oldest national high-adventure base. It covers 137,000 acres—about 214 square miles—of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) range of the Rocky Mountains in northern New Mexico. The ranch operates thirty-four staffed camps and 55 trail camps. Philmont has high mountains dominating rough terrain with elevations ranging from 6,500 to 12,441 feet. Backpacking treks, horseback cavalcades, training, and service opportunities are all offered at this one-of-a-kind adventure center. The dramatic scenery of New Mexico is home to world-class courses and seminars. Philmont Training Center is also located at the ranch. This is one of Scouting's premier training facilities. Philmont also offers the Double H High Adventure Camp at a separate location.

Arrowmen have the opportunity to participate in an OA Trail Crew. The first week of the Trail Crew is spent making Philmont a better place for others by building trails in the backcountry. The next week is spent experiencing Philmont at its finest, hiking a customized itinerary throughout the backcountry and participating in many of the activities offered at the camps along the way.

For more information, visit <http://www.scouting.org/philmont> or <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org>.

### Sea Base

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The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base is owned and operated by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America to offer unique educational aquatic programs to our members. Located in Islamorada and on Summerland Key in the beautiful Florida Keys, as well as Marsh Harbour, Great Abaco Island, Bahamas, the heart of the Florida Keys, the near shore reefs and crystal clear waters offer unparalleled opportunities for long term and short term programs year round.

Florida Sea Base operates nine different adventures out of three different locations: two in the Florida Keys, and one in Marsh Harbour, Bahamas. Coral Reef Sailing, Sea Exploring Adventure, Scuba Adventure, Scuba Certification, and Live aboard Scuba Adventure operate in the Florida Keys at Mile Marker 73.8 at Sea Base on Lower Matecumbe Key located 75 miles south of Miami (Lower Matecumbe Key - MAP). Out Island Adventure and Keys Adventure programs operate in the Florida Keys on Summerland Key at Mile Marker 23.8, and at the Brinton Environmental Center located 125 miles south of Miami. Bahamas Adventure and Bahamas Tall Ship Adventures operate out of the Bahamas Sea Base in Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas, located about 100 miles east of Fort Lauderdale.

For more information, visit [www.bsaseabase.org](http://www.bsaseabase.org).



## Northern Tier

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Northern Tier offers Scouts and Venturers the world's best wilderness canoeing. There are three different bases of Northern Tier: Sommers Canoe Base, Ely, Minnesota; Northern Expeditions, Bissett, Manitoba; and Don Rodger Canoe Base, Atikokan, Ontario. Beginning in December, you may participate in the challenging cold-weather camping program called Okpik (OOK' pick). The Northern Tier offers many adventures, each geared to the goals and desires of your group. Come to the Northern Tier for an unforgettable journey through the heart and soul of Canoe Country. Learn more at [www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org).



## National Parks

The United States Federal Government has afforded Scouting many opportunities for camping and other outdoor activities. National Parks offer historical, biking, camping, hiking, and aquatic activities. A few of these parks are Chickamauga & Chattanooga, Kennesaw Mountain, Chattahoochee River, Martin Luther King, Jr., Ocmulgee, Andersonville, Jimmy Carter, Fort Pulaski, Fort Frederica, and Cumberland Island. For more information on the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, please visit <http://www.nps.gov>.

## State Parks

The state of Georgia currently owns, operates, and protects over 77,500 acres of natural beauty throughout the state. There are more than 63 Georgia State Parks and Historical Sites. These places make great day trips and weekends full of fun, knowledge, and adventure. Many parks offer group campsites ideal for Packs, Troops, and Crews alike. All Georgia state parks and historical sites are open year round. For more information on the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, please visit <http://www.gastateparks.org> or call (770) 389-7275 or 1-800-864-7275.

## Recreation Opportunities on Privately Owned Lands

Many major corporations and individuals have purchased land all over the southeast for open or restricted use. For example, Georgia Power owns the lake, boat dock, and land surrounding Lake Tugaloo in Rabun County, Georgia for open use. Duke Power offers over twenty lakes for swimming, boating, fishing, and recreation. Many city and local municipalities own and operate parks for recreation. Many are free if accompanied by a local resident. These private and local prospects are harder to locate than National or State Parks, but you may find them worth the effort.

# Rafting and Tubing Trips

A major part of a good Scouting camping program is outings that are varied and adventurous. Many units enjoy water sports activities during warmer months. With any water trip, the BSA Safe Swimming and Safety Afloat rules must be followed the entire time. We are lucky in Georgia to have great white-water rafting opportunities to the north and year-round springs to the south. Below you'll find some information and ideas that you might enjoy sharing with your unit's leadership when planning their outing calendar.

## White-Water Rafting

There are 3 rivers that offer great white-water rafting within an easy drive of Atlanta. These are, in order of skill level required (from low to high): the Nantahala River in NC, the Ocoee River in TN, and the Chattooga River in SC & GA. The U.S. Forest Service set a minimum weight of 60lbs for rafting on the Nantahala River and both the Ocoee and Chattooga Rivers have minimum ages. Each river is serviced by a number of commercial outfitters that will work with your unit to make sure you have a fun, safe rafting trip. Be sure to make your reservations early for summer weekends, because they fill up fast!



## Tubing

Florida offers many wonderful springs for year-round swimming, canoeing, and tubing. The one closest to Atlanta is the Ichetucknee Springs State Park, southwest of Lake City, Florida. There is no camping allowed at this park, but group and family camping is offered at nearby O'Leno State Park, and a privately owned commercial campground is located near the park's north entrance. Many outfitters are located outside the park and offer tube and raft rentals. Some of these outfitters will carry your large group of rental items into the park for you. The State Park rents canoes. There are a number of rules to protect the river and springs, so be sure to go over them with your Scouts before you enjoy your outing. During the summer, the park offers a shuttle for the drivers to park their vehicles at the south end. The number of persons allowed to use the north entrance is very limited during the summer, so plan to arrive when the park opens at 8AM to ensure a wonderful day on a spring feed river with no motor boats allowed and no development along the banks - completely pristine!

**Florida State Park Website:**  
<http://www.floridastateparks.or>



## Cave Camping

One of the most exhilarating experiences in Scouting is cave camping. There are many caves in north Georgia and neighboring States. Caving is a perfect noncompetitive team activity that builds self-confidence and can be offered to Scouting groups of all ages. Scout units find this type of trip to be a very nice outing in the winter as the caves are the same temperature year-round: about a comfortable 60 degrees. Just a few hours north of Atlanta, in Tennessee, are three commercial caves that offer groups wild cave expedition trips and allow spending the night in the cave. All these caves require reservations and provide experienced guides. This is a very good way to introduce your Scouts to the excitement of caving in a safe manner; Scouts should never enter a cave without very experienced spelunkers leading the way (i.e. outfitters). Due to the nature of the sport, safety must always be a top priority in the caves, but a safe caving trip is always a fun one.



# Safe Scouting Introduction

## Medical Forms

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(See Appendix for Class 1, 2, and 3 Medical Forms.) It is recommended that all members of the Boy Scouts of America have periodic medical evaluations by a licensed health-care practitioner. \*In recent years, in an effort to provide better care to those who may become ill or injured and to provide youth members and adult leaders a better understanding of their physical capabilities, the Boy Scouts of America established minimum standards for providing medical information prior to participating in various activities. Furthermore, the Boy Scouts of America has introduced a new health and medical form, which includes the following parts:

**Parts A and B** are to be completed at least annually by participants in all Scouting events. This health history, parental/guardian informed consent and hold harmless/release agreement, and talent release statement is to be completed by the participant and parents/guardians.

**Part C** is the physical exam that is required for participants in any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, for all high-adventure base participants, or when the nature of the activity is strenuous and demanding. Service projects or work weekends may fit this description. Part C is to be completed and signed by a certified and licensed health-care provider—physician (MD or DO), nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. It is important to note that the height/weight limits must be strictly adhered to when the event will take the unit more than 30 minutes away from an emergency vehicle-accessible roadway, or when the program requires it, such as backpacking trips, high-adventure activities, and conservation projects in remote areas. See the FAQs for when this does not apply.

**Part D** is required to be reviewed by all participants of a high-adventure program at one of the national highadventure bases and shared with the examining health-care provider before completing Part C.

- **Philmont Scout Ranch.** Participants and guests for Philmont activities that are conducted with limited access to the backcountry, including most Philmont Training Center conferences and family programs, will not require completion of Part C. However, participants should review Part D to understand potential risks inherent at 6,700 feet in elevation in a dry Southwest environment. Please review specific registration information for the activity or event.
- **Northern Tier National High Adventure Base.**
- **Florida National High Adventure Sea Base.** The PADI medical form is also required if scuba diving at this base.

NOTE: Philmont Scout Ranch and Florida Sea Base require the use of their special medical form by all youth and adults because of the strenuous nature of the activities taking place there.

It is recommended that unit leaders have a complete medical history and permission slip for every participant attending each Scouting activity. The medical history form and permission slip, in most cases, will allow emergency medical treatment to a youth member in case of injury or illness when a parent or guardian cannot be contacted.

## Youth Protection

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### *Adult Leadership Requirements for ALL Scout Outings:*

**Two-deep leadership:** Two registered adult leaders, or one registered adult and a parent of a participating Scout, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age or older, are required for all trips or outings. There are a few instances, such as patrol activities, when no adult leadership is required. Coed overnight activities require male and female adult leaders, both of whom must be 21 years of age or older, and one of whom must be a registered member of the BSA.

During transportation to and from planned Scout outings, meet for departure at a designated area. Prearrange a schedule for periodic checkpoint stops as a group. Plan a daily destination point. A common departure site and a daily destination point are a must. If you cannot provide two adults for each vehicle, the minimum required is one adult and two or more youth members—never one on one.

**Safety rule of four:** No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any backcountry expedition or campout. If an accident occurs, one person stays with the injured, and two go for help. Additional adult leadership requirements must reflect an awareness of such factors as size and skill level of the group, anticipated environmental conditions, and overall degree of challenge.

**Single-room or dormitory-type accommodations for Scouting units:** Adults and youth of the same gender may occupy dormitory or single-room accommodations, provided there is a minimum of two adults and four youth. A minimum of one of the adults is required to be youth-protection trained. Adults must establish separation barriers or privacy zones such as a temporary blanket or sheet walls in order to keep their sleeping area and dressing area separated from the youth area.

When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian.

If separate shower and latrine facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers. The buddy system should be used for latrines by having one person wait outside the entrance, or provide Occupied and Unoccupied signs and/or inside door latches. Adult leaders need to respect the privacy of youth members in situations where the youth are changing clothes or taking showers, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults also need to protect their own privacy in similar situations.

Two-deep adult leadership is required for flying activities. For basic orientation flights, the adult licensed pilot in control of the aircraft is sufficient for the flight, while two-deep leadership is maintained on the ground.

## Co-Ed Camping

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The relationship between persons on a trip must always follow with the high standards of the Boy Scouts of America. If these guidelines are followed co-ed camping is allowed.

Male and female leaders must have separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available. Male and female youth participants will not share the same sleeping facility.

For all other questions and inquiries, see the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

## Standards of Conduct

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The *Scout Handbook*, *Field book*, and *the Guide to Safe Scouting* are in many cases the definitive source for all manners of conduct. As Scouts and Scouters, we are taught to always leave a camp site as good as if not better than we found it, as well as to live by the Outdoor code (below).

## The Outdoor Code

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As an American, I will do my best to...



**Be clean in my outdoor manners.**

*I will treat the outdoors as a heritage.*

*I will take care of it for myself and others.*

*I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways.*



**Be careful with fire.**

*I will prevent wildfire.*

*I will build my fires only where they are appropriate.*

*When I have finished using a fire, I will make sure it is cold out.*

*I will leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of my fire.*



**Be considerate in the outdoors.**

*I will treat public and private property with respect.*

*I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping.*

**And**



**Be conservation minded**

*I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals, grasslands, wildlife, and energy. I will urge others to do the same.*

# Tour Permits

## Local Tour Permit

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For trips under 500 miles, you must submit a Local Tour Permit. You must submit this form at least 2 weeks before your trip. Keep in mind that this is when it must arrive at your local Council's program center, not the post-marked date. Filling out a Tour Permit is the only way to have your trip covered by the BSA insurance policy. It is not necessary to submit a Local Tour Permit if attending a district or council function/activity. Filling out a Tour Permit not only informs your council about the trip, and puts you on the insurance policy, but it also assists you in planning the trip since the information required is the information you need to plan the trip. (See Appendix for Local tour permit form.)

## National Tour Permit

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For trips over 500 miles - local council camps exempted - and trips, crossing national boundaries, a National Tour Permit is required. The form must be in your local program center at least 1 month in advance of your trip. Similar information to the Local Tour Permit is required. (See Appendix for National Tour Permit form.)

## Insurance

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All vehicles **MUST** be covered by a public liability and property damage liability insurance policy. The amount of this coverage must meet or exceed the insurance requirement of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. BSA recommends that coverage limits are at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000. Any vehicle carrying ten or more passengers is required to have limits of \$100,000/\$300,000/\$100,000.

In the case of rented vehicles, the requirement of coverage limits can be met by combining the limits of personal coverage carried by the driver with coverage carried by the owner of the rented vehicle. All vehicles used in travel outside the United States must carry a public liability and property liability insurance policy that complies with or exceeds the requirements of that country.

# Awards and Recognition



## Merit Badges

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Camping-related Merit Badges include: Backpacking, Camping, Canoeing, Climbing, Cooking, Cycling, Environmental Science, Hiking, Nature, Orienteering, Pioneering, Rowing, Skiing, Small-Boat Sailing, Snow Sports, Soil and Water Conservation, Swimming, and Wilderness Survival.

## Aquatic Awards

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Aquatic awards include the following: Board Sailing, BSA; BSA Lifeguard; Mile Swim; Snorkeling, BSA; Kayaking, BSA; SCUBA, BSA.






## Historic Trails Award

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Love of America and devotion to your country depends upon a thorough appreciation, and understanding of the ideals, principles, and traditions that have made this country strong. The Historic Trails Award requirements emphasize cooperation between historic societies and Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Venturing units. A unit should establish a close relationship with a local society as soon as possible when planning an historic activity.

To earn this award, members of your unit must plan and participate in a historic activity. A unit historic activity requires members to:

-  Locate a historic trail or site and study information relating to it. (The information may be obtained from an adult historic society, public library, or people living near the trail or the site.)
-  Hike or camp 2 days and 1 night along the trail or near the site.
-  Cooperate with an adult group such as a historic society to restore and mark all or part of this trail or site.



(This may be done during the hike or overnight camp.) Alternatively, cooperate with such a group to plan and stage a historic pageant, ceremony, or other public event related to this trail or site – such event should be large enough to merit coverage by the local press.

-  Your unit leader must then file the Historic Trails Award application with your council service center.

## 50 Miler Award

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The primary objective of this program is to stimulate Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Ventur Scout interest in the ideals of the movement and to promote activity that will result in personal fitness, self-reliance, knowledge of wood lore, and a practical understanding of conservation. Chartered unit participation is most desirable; however, provisional groups are eligible. This award does not apply if any other is available for a trip.

The Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer unit or provisional group must follow these rules for a 50-Miler trip:

- 🦋 Select a suitable trail or waterway.
- 🦋 Adult leaders older than 21 must make the entire trip.
- 🦋 If the trip is five hundred miles or more from homes of group members (local council camp excepted) or crosses national boundaries and into the territory of other nations, a National Permit Application, No 34419, is necessary. For trips and overnight camps less than five hundred miles, use a Local Tour Permit Application, No. 34426.

The 50-Miler Award is presented to each qualifying individual for satisfactory participation in an approved trip. In order to qualify for the award the group of which the individual is a member must fulfill all of the following requirements.

- 🦋 Make complete and satisfactory plans for the trip, including the possibilities of advancement.
- 🦋 Cover the trail or canoe or boat route of not less than 50 consecutive miles (a maximum of 10 miles per day); take a minimum of 5 consecutive days to complete the trip without the aid of motors. (In some areas, pack animals may be used.)
- 🦋 During the time on the trail or waterway, complete a minimum of 10 hours each of group work on projects to improve the trail, springs, campsite, portage or area. If after checking with recognized authorities, it is not possible to complete 10 hours each of group work on the trail, a similar project may be done in the unit's home area (There should be no unauthorized cutting of brush or timber.)
- 🦋 Unit or tour leader must then file a 50-Miler Award application with the local council service center. This application gives additional details about planning the trip.



## Conservation Awards

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Conservation awards include the Leave No Trace Award and the Boy Scout World Conservation Award.

Leave No Trace is a plan that helps people to be more concerned about their environment and to help them protect it for future generations. Leave No Trace applies in a backyard or local park (front country) as much as it does in the wilderness (backcountry).

Leave No Trace is awareness and an attitude rather than a set of rules. One should practice Leave No Trace in one's attitude and actions wherever one goes.




There is a popular saying that goes, "Take only pictures, leave only footprints."

### Leave No Trace Backcountry Guidelines

-  Plan Ahead and Prepare
-  Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
-  Dispose of Waste Properly
-  Leave What You Find
-  Minimize Campfire Impacts
-  Respect Wildlife
-  Be Considerate of Other Visitors



The Boy Scout **World Conservation Award** is recognition bestowed upon Boy Scouts who satisfy the following requirements:

-  Earn the Environmental Science Merit Badge.
-  Earn either the Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge or the Fish and Wildlife Management Merit Badge.
-  Earn the Citizenship in the World Merit Badge.



The **William T. Hornaday Award** recognizes Scouts and Scouters for ecology efforts and service to conservation in their communities. To earn the Hornaday Award as an individual, youth members must earn a series of Merit Badges followed by a concentrated series of conservation and/or environmental education projects to be conducted in the member's community or nearby, under the advice of a trained conservation, naturalist, or environmental engineering expert.



There are five levels for this award -- Unit Certificate, Badge, Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Holders of the Bronze and Silver levels may wear the square knot. Holders of the Gold medal may also wear the gold medal or the square knot.



## National Camping Award

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The National Camping Award is granted to Boy Scout troops and Varsity Scout teams for attaining, on either an annual or a cumulative basis, or both, the required number of days and nights of camping. The ribbon that is awarded recognizes significant achievement in annual campouts and/or cumulative camp outs over a period of years. The ribbon is designed to be displayed with the troop flag.

- I. **Patrol Activities.** Each patrol of the troop participated in at least three of the following activities during the last 12 months.
  - a) Attended a Camporee
  - b) Held a day hike
  - c) Did a conservation project
  - d) Attended a Scout retreat
  - e) Conducted a project for BSA Anniversary Week
  - f) Conducted a father-and-son campout
  - g) Attended a Klondike Derby



- II. **Short Term Camp.** All patrols in the troop were represented in four or more short-term campouts during the past 12 months.
- III. **Long Term Camp.** All patrols in the troop were presented in a long-term (6 or more consecutive days)

Fill out the application and deliver it to your council offices.

# What is the Order of the Arrow?

The Order of the Arrow (OA) is Scouting's National Honor Society. According to the Official National Order of the Arrow Website "The purpose of the Order of the Arrow is fourfold: to recognize those Scout campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives; to develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit; to promote Scout camping; [and] to crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others"

Dr. E. Urner Goodman and Caroll A. Edson founded the OA during the summer of 1915 at the Treasure Island Camp of the Philadelphia Council. It was not until 1934 that the OA was approved as a part of the Scouting Program. 14 Years later, in 1948, the Boy Scouts of America's National Brotherhood of Honor Campers, became an official part of the national camping program of the Boy Scouts of America.

Currently, the Order of the Arrow boasts 176,000 members organized in lodges associated with approximately 327 local BSA councils.

Scouts are elected to the Order by their fellow unit members, following approval by the Scoutmaster or Varsity team Coach. To become a member, a youth must be a registered member of a Boy Scout troop or Varsity Scout team and hold the First Class rank. The youth must have experienced fifteen days and nights of Boy Scout camping during the two-year period prior to the election. The fifteen days and nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of six consecutive days and five nights of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps. Adult selection is based on their ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and is not for recognition. Selected adult Scouters must be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities, and provide a positive role model for the youth members of the lodge.

The Order of the Arrow strives to teach leadership skills that Scouts can then use to serve their units. While an Arrowman's first duty is to his unit, the Order of the Arrow offers some highly time-intensive leadership roles. It is the responsibility of these youth to explain these situations to their units, and to share their Chapter, Lodge, and or Section schedule. With that in mind Lodge events are designed to *supplement*, not replace troop activities. Learn more at the National OA Website: [www.oa-bsa.org](http://www.oa-bsa.org).



# Resources

*For more information on the topics discussed in this guide, please refer to the following resources.*

## **BSA Publications**

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*BSA Handbook and Field book*  
*Order of the Arrow Handbook*  
*Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisors*  
*Scoutmaster's Handbook*  
*Tours and Expeditions*  
*Guide to Safe Scouting*  
*Passport to High Adventure*  
*Nationally Approved Historic Trails*

## **Other Printed Publications**

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*Scout Camps USA*  
*AAA Camp Book*  
*Hiking Georgia*

## **Websites**











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[www.BSAcamps.org](http://www.BSAcamps.org)  
[www.bsaseabase.org](http://www.bsaseabase.org)  
[www.BSAcamps.org](http://www.BSAcamps.org)  
[www.bsaseabase.org](http://www.bsaseabase.org)  
[www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org)  
[www.Scouting.org](http://www.Scouting.org)  
[www.Scouting.org/philmont](http://www.Scouting.org/philmont)  
[www.Scoutcamp.org/](http://www.Scoutcamp.org/)  
[www.gastateparks.org](http://www.gastateparks.org)  
[www.nps.org](http://www.nps.org)  
[www.aacegwa.org](http://www.aacegwa.org)  
[www.atlantabsa.org](http://www.atlantabsa.org)

# Appendix

*The appendix contents are as follows; these forms, documents, etc. can be found at the websites listed or you may photocopy them from the printed copy of the Where to Go Camping Guide that your district's OA Chapter Representative has received.*

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-  **Bert Adams Scout Reservation Brochure**  
<http://atlantabsa.org/openrosters/docdownload.aspx?ID=32978>
-  **Bert Adams Scout Reservation Map**  
<http://atlantabsa.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=84929>
-  **Woodruff Scout Reservation Brochure**  
<http://atlantabsa.org/openrosters/docdownload.aspx?ID=32977>
-  **Woodruff Scout Reservation Map**  
<http://atlantabsa.org/openrosters/docdownload.aspx?ID=14160>
-  **Directory of Council Summer Camps in Georgia**  
[http://www.scouter.com/compass/Where\\_To\\_Go/BSA\\_Camps/Georgia/](http://www.scouter.com/compass/Where_To_Go/BSA_Camps/Georgia/)
-  **Annual Health and Medical Form**  
[http://www.scouter.com/compass/Where\\_To\\_Go/BSA\\_Camps/Georgia/](http://www.scouter.com/compass/Where_To_Go/BSA_Camps/Georgia/)
-  **Local Tour Permit**  
<http://Scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34426.pdf>
-  **National Tour Permit**  
<http://www.Scouting.org/%7E/media/legacy/assets/forms/4419.pdf.ashx>
-  **50 Miler and Historic Trails Award Forms**  
<http://www.Scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34408.pdf>
-  **How to Pack a Backpack**  
<http://www.rei.com/learn/Camping/rei/learn/camp/packing2f>

Submission Form for the

Egwa Tawa Dee

**Where to Go Camping Guide**

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # (Camp): ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) - \_\_\_\_\_ ext: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # (Office or Other): ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) - \_\_\_\_\_ ext: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) - \_\_\_\_\_ ext: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe camping facility:

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- |  |
|--|
| Check if available at the facility:                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group Tent Camping        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Activity Field            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Rings                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pavilions                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pool                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake (swimming)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake (boating)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restroom facilities       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower facilities         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backcountry opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dining facilities         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trained/Qualified Staff   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safe Drinking Water       |

**Information Submitted by:**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit type (Pack, Troop, Team, Crew, Ship, Post) and number: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Submission: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_

<b><i>Please Send Information to:</i></b>
<i>Attn: OA WTGC Guide</i>
<i>Atlanta Area Council, BSA</i>
<i>1800 Circle 75 Parkway SE</i>
<i>Atlanta, GA 30339</i>