

# Troop 6



**BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA**

# Parent Handbook

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## **WELCOME**

We welcome you, your family and son to Troop 6. Your son's decision to choose Troop 6 for his Scouting experience is very much appreciated and together we will do our best to support and guide him, making his experience one that he will remember throughout his life.

Scouting is a family experience as well. It is our wish and hope that you will support your son's endeavors by supporting the Troop and its functions whenever and wherever you can. A great Scouting program doesn't come about by chance. It happens when concerned and helpful parents get together and MAKE it happen.

Do not ever hesitate reaching out to a Troop leader with questions or concerns. A list of leaders and committee members can be found at the end of this handbook.

*We make a living by what we get,  
we make a life by what we give.*

Winston Churchill

# **ABOUT TROOP 6**

## **History**

Boy Scout Troop 1 was originally chartered on June 1, 1923 in Doylestown. Its sponsor, now called the Chartered Organization, was a Group of Citizens. In those days, the troop charter had two unit numbers assigned to it. Our "local" number was 1 while our "National" number was 6 as it is today.

Troop 6 met at the Armory on Shewell Avenue on Friday nights for many years. Sponsors changed from time to time. In 1928, it was A. R. Atkinson Post 210 (American Legion); in 1930, it was St. Paul's Episcopal Church; in 1932, the Baptist Church on Clinton and West Court Streets; and for a few years we met at the Court House on E. Court Street and were sponsored by the DOAYPO Club of Doylestown. In 1938 our sponsor became the Methodist Episcopal Church on South Main Street at Taylor Avenue where we maintained a charter through 1951. From 1952 through 1963 there was no Troop 6. In 1964, the Methodist Church on Main Street reactivated our charter. The troop moved with the congregation in 1967 to the current church facilities on Swamp Road.

Although we have been sponsored in Doylestown for a total of over 68 years, National Scout rules only acknowledge longevity for a continuous charter. The Doylestown United Methodist Church has provided the Troop with this continuity as our Chartered Organization since 1964.

## **Charter Organization**

The charter organization for Troop 6 is the Doylestown United Methodist Church (DUMC). Our Troop is "owned" by our chartered organization, which receives a national charter yearly to use the Scouting program as part of its youth program and since the DUMC has goals compatible with those of the Boy Scouts of America.

DUMC provides its facilities to Troop 6 for meeting and storage, as well as maintains a very interested and supportive presence. The chartered organization also approves all adult leaders.

## **The Troop 6 Boy Scout Program**

The Scoutmaster, with the help and support of the Assistant Scoutmasters, is responsible for the image and program of the Troop. He uses the methods of Scouting to achieve the Aims and Methods of Scouting, which are ***growth in moral strength and character, participating citizenship, and development of physical, mental, and emotional fitness.***

The Scoutmaster provides and conducts:

- Guidance and training to the Scouts and patrols.
- Conducts Scoutmaster Conferences for all rank advancements.
- Meets periodically with parents and conducts parent's sessions to share the program and encourage participation.
- Meets regularly with the patrol leader's council for the training and coordination in planning Troop activities.
- Participates in Committee meetings and various Council meetings and activities.

- Ensures that all activities are conducted under qualified leadership, safe conditions, and the policies of the chartered organization and the BSA.

## The Troop Committee

The Troop Committee is the Troop's board of directors and supports the program in the following ways:

- Ensures that quality adult leadership is recruited and trained.
- Provides adequate meeting facilities.
- Advises the Scoutmaster on policies relating to Boy Scouting and the chartered organization.
- Supports the Scoutmaster in carrying out the program.
- Responsible for finances, adequate funds, and disbursements.
- Plans and serves on Boards of Review and Courts of Honor.
- Responsible for procuring equipment for the Troop.

## Communication

Troop 6 realizes the importance of good communication to any organization and attempts to keep our Scouts and parents informed through the following methods:

- Our **website** which can be found at [www.troop6-bsa.org](http://www.troop6-bsa.org) , which posts all pertinent troop information including camping trip permission slips, BSA forms, photos of prior camping trips and events, important troop announcements, etc. **This is the primary method Troop 6 communicates, so please check weekly!**
- A **phone relay** to communicate changes or cancellations of meetings or camping trips.
- **Emails** as needed to remind and update Scouts and parents of events or important information.
- **Troop meeting announcements** are the primary mode of communication to the scouts, with the purpose of teaching responsibility and follow-up.
- **Quarterly Court of Honor/Mandatory Parents Meetings** are used to disseminate information and upcoming events while providing a forum for questions and answers.

Troop 6 relies heavily on disseminating information via the website and occasional emails. Please remember to check your email regularly so that you are kept current on important Troop information. If you do not have the ability to access email, make a Committee member aware and you will be provided with hard copies.

Also, PLEASE inform the Committee and Scoutmaster when your email address changes or you will not receive Troop information that will affect your son!

## **ROLE OF PARENTS**

Parents play a very important and crucial role in helping and supporting their son in achieving his growth and goals in Scouting. It is a proven fact that a Scout performs better and enjoys the program more, when parents take an interest and participate in the Troop's activities.

Remember, there is much more to being involved in your Troop's activities than driving your son to meetings and providing money for activities and equipment. The Troop is a voluntary organization. Your involvement will help to ensure that all the Scouts in Troop 6 have the benefit of a great program!

- Support your son by encouraging his participation and advancement in rank
- Attend quarterly Court of Honors/ Mandatory Parents Meetings
- Attend Eagle Court of Honors
- Ensure that your contact information is always up-to-date
- Help the Troop wherever you can. Here are some ways you can do it!
  - Attend monthly Committee meetings
  - Share your talents/abilities where they may benefit the Troop
  - Assist in the various yearly events and special functions
  - Provide transportation to and from monthly camping trips
  - Join the Committee or become an Assistant Scoutmaster
  - Become a Merit Badge Counselor

While we hope that all parents will step-up and volunteer to help 'carry the load', Troop 6 does expect ALL families to assist from time to time with special projects or events and providing transportation to and from weekend camping trips. Parents will be assigned tasks if they have not volunteered their services.

Troop 6 invites you to attend a monthly Committee meeting. This is one of the best ways to learn about the Troop, its leaders, and the Troop 6 Scouting program for your son.

As a parent of a registered Troop 6 Scout, you are automatically a voting member of the Committee. We sincerely ask for your support and encourage you to become a vocal member in setting the operating policy for the Troop.

If you would like to be formally registered as a Committee member you must complete a BSA Adult Registration and pay an annual fee of \$24.00.

If you have an interest in working directly with the Scouts and the Scouting program, then you may find satisfaction and enjoyment in becoming an Assistant Scoutmaster.

To learn more about what you can do to help the Troop, see any Troop 6 leader or committee member.

## **MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS**

There are various meetings and special yearly events that take place throughout the year in Troop 6. The following is a list and brief explanation of each so that you may become familiar with them and schedule the family calendar appropriately.

### **Troop Meetings**

Troop meetings are held on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 at DUMC in Overholt Hall. Scouts should arrive early to ensure a prompt start precisely at 7:30. Troop meetings consist of an opening ceremony, patrol corners, instruction, rank advancement, preparing for special events and camping trips, games/activities and announcements. Scoutmaster Conferences and Board of Reviews also occur during Troop meetings.

Class A uniform dress is required for all Troop meetings. (Class B uniforms should be worn when directed by the Scoutmaster for special events and summer meetings).

Should a Troop meeting have to be cancelled; the Scouts will be contacted by their Patrol Leaders.

### **Patrol Leader's Council (PLC)**

PLC's are typically held the Monday evening following a weekend camping trip, from 7:00 to 8:00 in Overholt Hall. All patrol leaders must attend. In the event that they are unable to attend, the Patrol Leader is responsible for ensuring the Assistant Patrol Leader or another member of the patrol attend as a substitute.

The Patrol Leader's Council is responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting the Troop's activities and is composed of the following voting members: Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders and Patrol Leaders. Events such as weekend and summer camping trips as well as upcoming meetings and special events are examples of what the PLC plans.

Should your son be elected as a Patrol Leader, he will need to attend these meetings.

Uniforms are not required at PLC's.

### **Quartermaster Meetings**

Quartermaster meetings are held on the same evening and time as the PLC's. All Patrol Quartermasters are expected to attend, meeting with the Troop Quartermaster and the adult Quartermaster Advisor. This is an important responsibility in the Troop, ensuring the Troop gear is maintained properly and always ready for the next camping trip.

### **Uniformed Leaders Meeting**

Following every PLC, the Scoutmasters meet from 8:00 to 9:00PM to plan and discuss the various Troops' program activities, including each Scout's advancements and ways to improve the Troop and make it exciting and fun for our Scouts.

## **Special Scout Events**

The Scouts of Troop 6 plan and prepare for a variety of regularly scheduled events and activities held throughout the year, which brings all the troops from the Lenape District together for fun competition.

- **Indoor Rally** - held in the fall, testing each Scout's skills through Troop competition.
- **Klondike Derby** – Held in January at Camp Ockanickon, the Scouts compete using their outdoor Scouting skills while pulling a Klondike sled.
- **Swim-O-Ree** – Swimming competition and fun events. A March favorite for Troop 6!
- **Camp-O-Ree** – A weekend of camping with fellow Lenape troops, each year emphasizing a different theme and events.

## **Quarterly Court of Honors/Mandatory Parents Meeting**

Troop 6 holds four such meetings each year on a Monday night, in lieu of a Troop meeting. They are held in September, December, March and June. It is mandatory for at least one parent of each Scout to attend. Important information is presented at these meetings including, new parent orientation, mandatory youth protection training, and presentations for fundraisers, special events/trips and the yearly summer camping week.

The Court of Honor portion of the meeting recognizes the Scout's efforts over the past three months for rank advancement, merit badges and special awards. Refreshments and some time to socialize follow the meeting. The December and June meetings include a potluck dinner prior to commencement of the Court of Honor.

## **Eagle Courts of Honor**

The highest rank a Scout can achieve is Eagle and Troop 6 is very proud of our Eagles Scouts (see *Eagle Aerie*). Upon reaching this milestone, Troop 6 has a ceremony in his honor. The Eagle Court of Honor is a very important day for that Scout, his family, all of Troop 6, our Charter Organization and the Bucks County Council.

An Eagle Court of Honor is an official Troop function, therefore, it is expected that all Scouts attend. Parents are also encouraged to attend, to show support for the Scout. Remember, your son will hopefully achieve this rank. Statistically, only two in one hundred Scouts reach the rank of Eagle. However, Troop 6 has achieved a much higher average and that is something for which we should all be proud.

## **Committee Meetings**

Troop Committee meetings are typically held each month, starting at 7:30, while the Troop meeting is conducted. The yearly calendar of events should be reviewed to determine when it has been scheduled each month. There is no meeting in July. ALL parents, whether or not a registered Committee member, have a right to take part in these meetings, as well as, to vote on important Troop issues.

Attending these meetings is a great way to learn about the Troop and the program offered to your son, as well as having a voice in the Troop.

## **DUMC Peach Festival**

In early September, the DUMC holds the annual Peach Festival on the church grounds. Troop 6 operates the food concession with all the proceeds going towards the DUMC Mission Fund. As an official service project, the hours volunteered can count for rank advancement service project hours.

## **Scouting Sunday**

The BSA designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. Scouting Sunday is celebrated at the Doylestown Methodist Church (DUMC), our Chartered Organization) the second Sunday in February. Our Scouts prepare and perform the 11:00 AM service. There is a luncheon for all the participating Scouts and their families immediately following the service in Overholt Hall.

Participation by our Scouts is highly encouraged as it demonstrates “A Scout is Reverent” and shows respect for our Chartered Organization.

## **Other Troop & Scout Service Projects**

During the year the Troop may coordinate or take part in service projects in our local community. Such projects not only benefit these causes or organizations but give our Scouts the opportunity to learn what it is like to be civic-minded with duty to their community.

## **UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS**

The proper use of the Boy Scout uniform is an important aspect of Troop 6 for the Scouts as well as the uniformed leaders. Wearing the complete uniform in the appropriate manner demonstrates each Scout's commitment to the aims of Scouting. (See section *Overview of the Boy Scout Program*).

The Troop operates a used uniform exchange program that can help defray the cost of new uniforms. Scouts are encouraged to share their out grown uniforms with other Scouts. The uniform exchange is held at each Court of Honor or at other times by contacting the parent in charge of the program, listed on the website.

New uniforms and the accessories can be purchased at the Scout Store, in the Bucks County Council in Doylestown (Scout Way by the Mercer Museum, Library and the Michener Art Museum).

### **Field Uniform (Class "A")**

- Scout Long or Short Pants
- Scout Long or Short Sleeved Shirt
- Green Shoulder Loops
- Scout Belt and buckle
- Scout Socks (Green style & to be seen over top of shoe)
- Troop 6 Neckerchief and Scout Slide of choice
- Shoes, sneakers or boots (No open-toed shoes, sandals, moccasins or crocks)
- Scout Hat is optional. However, if a hat is worn with uniform, it must be a BSA or Scout Reservation hat.
- Merit Badge Sash must be worn for Star, Life and Eagle Board of Reviews and should also be worn during Court of Honors.

#### **When Class "A" is Worn:**

- ✓ All Troop meetings (except after the June COH and prior to the start of school)
- ✓ At Boards of Review
- ✓ At all Court of Honors
- ✓ To and From all Scout Activities (neckerchiefs not required for weekend camping trips)
- ✓ Upon instruction from a leader

### **Service Uniform (Class "B")**

- Scout Long or Short Pants
- Troop 6 Orange\* T-Shirt (Available for purchase for \$6.50 each from Troop or Uniform Exchange)
- Scout Belt
- Scout Socks
- Shoes, sneakers or boots (No open-toed shoes, sandals, moccasins or crocks)
- Scout Hat is optional. However, if a hat is worn, it must be a BSA or Scout Reservation hat.

### **When Class “B” is Worn:**

- ✓ During summer Troop meetings (after June COH and prior to start of school)
- ✓ Troop service projects
- ✓ At camp when Class “A” not required
- ✓ At the Indoor Rally and Swim-O-Ree
- ✓ Special functions as instructed/approved by the Scoutmaster

### **Some Tips on Uniforms**

- Immediately sew on all new rank badges that your son earns. Remember he worked hard and he is proud of his accomplishments.
- Keep all patches current (i.e. yearly Quality Unit, patrol patches).
- Encourage your son to sew them himself.
- Purchase 4-5 Class B shirts
- Purchase several pairs of Scout socks
- Boys grow, uniforms shrink – buy larger and hem longer!

# **MONTHLY CAMPING TRIPS & SPECIAL OUTINGS**

## **Camping Trips**

Some of the most enjoyable times in Scouting are experienced in the outdoors. The roots of Scouting were derived from outdoor skills and are still a major part of the Scouting Program. During such trips, Scouts work on rank advancements and outdoor skills, learn how to cook and clean over a fire, hike, tie knots, orienteering, and canoeing to name just a few fun and educational things!

Troop 6 encourages adults to attend camping trips and provide additional support and supervision. Once the adult has completed BSA Youth Protection Training and has met the Methodist Safe Sanctuary guidelines explained later in this section they can drive for campouts/events or join in the fun of campouts.

Troop 6 conducts approximately 8-10 weekend camping trips during the year (September through June). Attending a camping trip requires a completed permission slip and a fee typically ranging from \$20.00 to \$40.00 (more for special camps/events), which covers the cost of food, purchased by each Patrol, as well as any camping fees. Some camping trips may cost more due to the event taking place. From time-to-time each Scout will be responsible for preparing the weekend's menu with his Patrol, often for Second and First Class requirements, and then purchasing the food prior to the weekend camping trip. He will be given money for the food purchase and will be required to turn in receipts and any change.

A Scout will require certain equipment and proper clothing for weekend camping trips so that he remains comfortable and safe. Using the proper equipment and clothing will help to ensure an enjoyable time! (See *Guide to Equipment Selection*). Class A uniforms (without the neckerchief) and hiking boots are required when departing and returning from all camping trips.

Typically, Scouts meet at DUMC by 5:30 PM on Friday evenings to begin loading equipment and tents from the attic and depart at 6:00 PM. ***Scouts and adults attending the camping trip should eat dinner prior to departing – the Troop does not provide dinner on Friday evening.*** The Troop returns at approximately 12 Noon on Sunday, and unloads the trailer and stores gear in the church attic.

***Note to Parents:*** ***It is part of each Scout's responsibility to arrive early before a trip to help prepare, as well as assist in unloading and storing equipment when returning to the church. Please time your departures and arrivals appropriately so that your son shares in the responsibilities. No Scouts will be excused until all chores are completed.***

There are times when a Scout will be required to take equipment home to clean and dry. It is the Scout's responsibility to care for the equipment and ensure that it is returned at the next Troop meeting. See the *Camping Equipment Care & Damage Policy* in the Troop 6 Policies section.

**Medications:** For the safety concerns of the Scout and his fellow Scouts; only a uniformed leader may dispense prescription and non-prescription medications. Therefore, Scouts are not permitted to carry medications, except for Epi-Pens and rescue inhalers that must stay with the Scout at all times. Please be sure to provide the medication in the original container with

concise instructions in a zip lock bag to the appropriate leader on Friday evening, prior to departing.

Should your son have any special dietary requirements, consult the Scoutmaster prior to the trip.

**Transportation:** Parents are expected to provide transportation when needed. If there is not adequate transportation for a given trip, the result may be a limit to the number of Scouts that can attend or cancellation of the event. **All adults driving to and from campouts require current BSA Youth Protection training and a background check to meet the chartered organizations Safe Sanctuaries policy.**

## **Weekend Camping Trip Packing List**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class A Uniform (for leaving & returning – no neckerchief) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking Boots                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class B Orange T Shirt                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweatshirt or light jacket     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Socks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife (No sheath knife)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook   | <input type="checkbox"/> Wallet & Money                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight   | <input type="checkbox"/> Duffle Bag (Only One)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Hygiene Supplies                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Raingear – Jacket & Pants      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towel  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle/Canteen           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat  | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Repellant (No aerosols) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow (camping style)                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess Gear (a must!)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of clothes (non-uniform) adjust for seasons         |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking stool (no chairs)                              |   |

\* Important: Scouts must have all personal gear contained in no more than two containers. A dufflebag for clothing and a large stuff sack for sleeping bag, pad, pillow. No garbage bags!

\*\* EVERYTHING SHOULD BE LABELED INCLUDING DUFFLE BAGS AND STUFF SACKS!

## **Camping Phone Chain**

A telephone chain is maintained by the Committee in the event of any changes to the Troop's itinerary. We will count on all parents with sons camping to maintain the chain to ensure everyone is contacted. For this reason, it is important to make sure your home and cell phone numbers are kept current with the Troop and completed on the Camping Permission Slips.

## **Special Monthly Events**

A few times during the year the weekend camping trips are substituted with special one-day events. In recent years, the Troop has hiked the Delaware Water Gap, visited the Intrepid Air Museum and the Battleship NJ, hiked the historic area of Philadelphia, and rock wall climbing.

Typically in February, the Troop organizes a snow sports weekend or a day trip at a Pocono facility. Families are invited to join in the skiing fun while the Scouts camp at a nearby campsite.

## **SUMMER CAMP**

Each summer, usually the second or third week in July, Troop 6 camps at a BSA Reservation for a full week. We depart for camp on Sunday and return the following Saturday. The Patrol Leaders Council recommends a camp and the Scouts vote for the selection a year or more ahead with the guidance and support of the leaders. In recent years, Troop 6 has traveled to Pennsylvania, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, and New York.

These camps are very important in the growth and advancement of each Scout, especially the new Scouts. The first year Scout will complete the new Scout program, known as either the Dan Beard or Brownsea program, as well as earning their Swimming Merit Badge. The Swimming Badge is critical to ensure that your son can partake in many other trips and events throughout the year that require the completion of this badge. Also, there are rank requirements for swimming for Second and First Class that can only be completed at summer camp. If your son cannot attend summer camp in his first year, inform the Scoutmaster so that an alternative way to earn the Swimming Badge can be accommodated so as not to hold up your son's rank advancement.

All Scouts will have a tremendous opportunity to earn Merit Badges and work on rank advancement, as well as enjoying a week of camping and camaraderie with Troops from all over the country.

Parents are welcome to attend, providing additional support and supervision as long as there is room after the uniform leaders and they have satisfied the BSA Youth Protection Training and background check, as well as have a desire to assist the Scouts and leaders.

The BSA Medical Form is required in order for each Scout and adult to attend. Health and safety is of the utmost concern to the BSA. Therefore, participation in any long-term camping or high-adventure expeditions cannot take place without complying with all BSA National and local medical and informational requirements. The BSA now requires everyone including adults attending to have a complete physical and signed-off by a physician on an annual basis.

A non-refundable deposit of \$40.00 for summer camp is collected in January with the balance owed in April. Once summer camp money has been paid to the camp, it is typically non-refundable except for illness or injury and certified by a physician.

Troop 6 encourages each Scout to help earn the money to pay for summer camp. A great way to do this is to participate in the Troop 6 Spring Flower Sale. See the *Fees and Fund Raisers* section.

## SUMMER CAMP PACKING LIST

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class A Uniform   | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Pants/ Long and/or Short                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Badge Books              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Short Sleeve Shirt (or long)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight (w/extra batteries) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Belt  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wallet & Money                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue Troop Neckerchief                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Washcloth & Soap               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neckerchief Slides                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush & Paste             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class B Orange T Shirts (4-5 suggested)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Socks (3-4) Normal or Knee Length-not ankle socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Towels ( <b>2</b> )            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking Boots  | <input type="checkbox"/> Comb or Brush                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sneakers  | <input type="checkbox"/> Footlocker                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweatshirt or light jacket                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife (No sheath knife)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T-Shirts (3-4)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Repellant (No aerosols) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts (3-4)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen (No aerosols)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeans (1-2)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socks (4-5)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Compass                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear (6)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raingear – Jacket & Pants                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Pen & Pencils                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swim Suit   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rope                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat   | <input type="checkbox"/> Daypack                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow (camping style)                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle/Canteen           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes Hanger  | <input type="checkbox"/> OA Sash                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bed sheet                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower Shoes  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag Pad               |

### Optional Items

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whetstone/knife sharpener | <input type="checkbox"/> Tissues         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses                | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera/film     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothespins               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mending Kit     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Gear              | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book for reading          |  |

### Items NOT Permitted

- ✓ **CELL PHONES**
- ✓ Music players (iPods, radios, discman, walkman, MP3 players)
- ✓ Electronic games
- ✓ Two-Way Radios
- ✓ Fireworks
- ✓ Firearms
- ✓ Food/Snacks/Beverages
- ✓ No Sheath Knives
- ✓ Aerosols of **any** kind
- ✓ Mosquito Coils
- ✓ Matches or Lighters

## **FEES & FUND RAISERS**

### **New Scout - \$100.00\***

This registration fee pays for a new Scout's Handbook, Troop Neckerchief and slide, shoulder loops, T6 patch, patrol patch and Troop Class B shirt, which equates to \$34.00 in value. This also includes a one year's subscription to Boys Life magazine, and covers the cost of badges/advancement and supplies associated with each Scout. This fee also covers the BSA National registration fee and Troop insurance.

\*The base yearly dues fee of \$70 is included and that will be prorated for the number of months remaining when joining or transferring. Transferring Scouts do not have to pay the \$24 BSA National fee

### **Renewal Dues (for Scouts currently registered in Troop 6) - \$70.00\***

Yearly dues are payable by the end of October each year and cover the period of September through following August.

*\*In order for the Scout to participate in all Troop activities, the BSA Scout Application must be fully completed and new fees as well as renewal fees kept current (new and renewal).*

### **Adults and Uniformed Leaders - \$24.00**

To become a registered leader in the BSA organization, an adult must complete a BSA Adult Application form (one time only or when you change positions). The fee to BSA National is \$24.00 for a full year.

Yearly registration fees for uniformed leaders are paid from the Troop 6 treasury. Committee Members are to pay \$24.00.

### **Monthly Camping/Special Events**

Monthly camping trips will range from \$20.00 to \$40.00 per Scout depending on the type of activity, campsite fees, etc.

Special event fees will be additional and vary based on the planned trip. Details will be listed in the specific trip permission slip. Please retain the upper portion of a permission slip for your reference.

### **Summer Camp**

Costs for summer camp at a BSA Reservation will range from \$275.00 to \$340.00. A non-refundable deposit is due in January with the balance owed in April. If bus transportation is necessary then that amount is in addition to the camp fee.

### **Refunds for Monthly Camping Trips**

Troop 6 is unable to refund any money that has been spent for food, lodging, transportation or other expenses involved with each trip once purchases or certain reservations have been made. If your son is unable to attend a camping trip for which he has signed up and paid, it is important for him to let his leaders know as soon as possible.

## **Troop 6 Shirts (Class B)**

The Troop maintains a supply of orange Class B shirts and charges \$6.50 each. They are sold at the quarterly Court of Honors/Mandatory Parents Meetings. A uniform exchange is also maintained to help defray your costs of uniforms.

## **Autumn Fundraiser (Mandatory)**

Troop 6 has typically sold apples for the mandatory Autumn Fundraiser. The money raised is used to purchase camping equipment, advancement badges and patches and materials and supplies.

Each Scout must sell the allotted number of bags of apples (typically 20). However, a Scout may choose to “buy-out” and not participate for a designated fee. The Troop Committee sets the number of bags and buy-out fee each year.

## **Spring Flower Sale (Optional)**

Each Spring, Troop 6 sells flowers, a selection of potted plants and hanging baskets, with delivery by Mother’s Day weekend. This fundraiser is solely for the purpose of raising money for each Scout in order to defray the cost of summer camp. (If the Scout does not attend summer camp he may use the money toward any Scout related fees or costs).

The Troop Treasurer distributes the funds directly to the Scouts.

This is a great fundraiser to help families defray the cost of summer camp, while teaching the Scout responsibility. Many Scouts have paid for the entire summer camp fees with the funds received by selling plants.

## YOUTH PROTECTION / SAFETY

If your son was a Cub Scout, then the topics of Youth Protection and Safety is no stranger to you!

The Boy Scouts of America take these subjects seriously and have very involved and specific policies and procedures and expect every troop to follow them without exception.

Troop 6 wants you to know that we also take these issues very seriously and continuously work very hard to ensure that our leaders are fully trained and practice all Youth Protection and Safe Scouting Procedures. Our utmost goal and concern is for the safety of our youth.

Youth Protection is also a requirement for every Scout in order to join a troop. We urge you, his parent, to become familiar with the BSA policies as well. You can start by reviewing the inserted pamphlet found in the beginning of the Boy Scout Handbook entitled, **How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide**. It is necessary for you spend time with your son reviewing this information.

Prior to being awarded his Scout Badge, your son must be able to show the Scoutmaster that the exercises in this pamphlet have been completed with his parent or guardian. (Scout Handbook page 4 – Joining Requirements, requirement 7)

Safety is a major concern of the BSA and Troop 6. All Scouting activities have safety procedures that must be followed by the Scouts and the leaders as well. These are outlined in detail in the BSA **Guide to Safe Scouting**, which can be reviewed at anytime on the BSA website, [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org), or if you prefer, Troop 6 can provide you with a copy of the Guide upon request.

Youth Protection Training is performed on-line and can be found at [www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org).

*EFFECTIVE 10/2011 ALL NON-BSA REGISTERED ADULTS TAKING PART IN A SCOUTING FUNCTION, DRIVING FOR A CAMPING TRIP/EVENT OR CAMPING WITH TROOP MUST COMPLETE BSA YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING AND SUBMIT A BACKGROUND CHECK. THIS IS A REQUIREMENT SET BY OUR TROOP'S CHARTERED ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS SAFE SANCTUARIES.*

We encourage ALL parents to take the time to conduct the convenient on-line Youth Protection Training. Doing so will give all parents, whether or not you are involved in the scouting program, a well-informed education of what rules leaders must abide by to maintain safety for all Scouts.

ALL uniformed leaders and Committee members must conduct Youth Protection Training every two years and must be current in order to maintain these positions and take part in Troop activities. Any fathers attending weekend or summer camping events must also conduct Youth Protection Training.

If you should ever have any questions or require additional information regarding the BSA policies or Troop 6 practices, please do not hesitate contacting the Scoutmaster or the Committee Chair.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE BOY SCOUT PROGRAM**

Since 1910, it has been the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

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

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

The third aim 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).

To accomplish these aims, Boy Scouting has developed its program using eight 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.

**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.

**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.

**ADVANCEMENT.** Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps to overcome them through the advancement method. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he overcomes each challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a boy grow in self-reliance and the ability to help others.

**ADULT ASSOCIATION.** Boys learn from the example set by their adult leaders. Troop leadership may be male or female, and association with adults of high character is encouraged at this stage of a young man's development.

**PERSONAL GROWTH.** As Scouts plan their activities and progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. The religious emblems program is also a large part of the personal growth method.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT.** Boy Scouting encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared leadership and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership roles of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

**UNIFORM.** The uniform makes the Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth who believe in the same ideals.

### **Ranks of Boy Scouting**



### **Scoutmaster Conference**

When a Scout completes all the requirements in each rank (except for the Board of Review), he must then request a Scoutmaster Conference. The purpose of the Scoutmaster Conference is to develop, over a period of time, an increasing level of understanding and trust between the Scoutmaster and each Scout. The format of the conference is relatively casual and should allow for the following:

1. Both the Scoutmaster and the Scout should try to learn a little more about each other at each successive conference. This is where the understanding and trust are developed.
2. The Scoutmaster reviews the Scout's work to be able to recommend him to the Board of Review. If for any reason, the Scoutmaster does not feel that the Scout is ready to advance to the next rank at that time, he will discuss his reasons with the Scout and together, they will outline a plan to correct the reasons for the Scoutmaster's concerns.
3. Together, the Scout and Scoutmaster chart a course for the next rank. This is a time for goal setting and planning. They work as a team, trying to set reasonable goals for the Scout's future progress.

Upon successful completion of the Scoutmaster Conference, the Scout is ready to request his Board of Review from the Troop Advancement Chair.

## **Board of Review**

References: BSA Troop Committee Guidebook and Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures.

The National Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America establishes the basics for advancement as: *"The Boy Scout requirements for ranks shall be the basis for the Scout's advancement. There shall be four steps in (the) Boy Scout advancement procedure: learning, testing, reviewing, and recognition."* The Board of Review fulfills the reviewing requirement.

A Board of Review is composed of at least three and not more than six committee members. Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, relatives or guardians may not participate in the Board of Review.

The Board of Review is not a time to retest the Scout, but to determine the Scout's attitude and his acceptance of Scouting ideals. The board should make sure that a good standard of performance has been met.

Not only is it important to review those Scouts who have learned and been tested for a rank, but also to review those Scouts who have shown little or no progress in their advancement over the past few months.

The Scout must present himself in full Class A uniform and if for Star, Life or Eagle, he must wear the merit badge sash with all his badges earned to date sewn on.

### **The Board of Review has three purposes:**

1. To make sure that the work has been learned and completed.
2. To find out what kind of experience the boy is having in his patrol and troop.
3. To encourage the Scout to progress further.

### **Conduct of a Board of Review**

The Advancement Chairperson will normally chair all Boards of Review. A certain amount of formality and meaningful questioning should be used during the review. The members should review the Scout's Handbook before the Scout is presented. After the Board has asked their questions, the Scout should be excused to permit deliberation. Advancement can be denied by the board: if the work has not been learned or completed; or, it is determined that the Scout has the wrong attitude or does not accept the ideals of Scouting. The Scout is then recalled by the Chair and the decision of the Board is given to him. (If the decision is going to be negative, discuss it with the Scoutmaster before speaking to the Scout).

Generally, questions asked require a narrative answer. Examples of questions are:

- Why is being a Boy Scout important to you?
- What do you like most in troop outdoor activities?
- What new things did you do/learn on your latest campout/service project/troop meeting?
- What did you learn/feel in giving service to others? (Service projects should help foster a sense of personal responsibility and citizenship, applies to 2nd Class, Star & Life).
- What are your goals in Scouting?
- How did/does learning \_\_\_\_\_ help you--- in Scouting/School/Home/be a better person etc.

(use any requirement for this rank, or any previous rank, from the requirements in the Scout Handbook (state details of requirement not the requirement number)

- If you could make any changes to improve the Troop, what would you suggest/try? (This question is always asked in some form and feedback is provided to Scoutmaster & Committee Chair.)

Any other question(s) that a Board Member feels meet the three main purposes of the review!

## **The Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan & Outdoor Code**

### **The 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.**

### **The Scout Law**

**A Scout is:  
  
Trustworthy  
Loyal  
Helpful  
Friendly  
Courteous  
Kind  
Obedient  
Cheerful  
Thrifty  
Brave  
Clean  
Reverent**

**Slogan: Do a Good Turn Daily**

**Motto: Be Prepared**

### **Outdoor Code**

**As an American, I will do my best to  
Be clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be careful with fire,  
Be considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be conservation-minded**

## **BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL**

Troop 6 is part of the Buck County Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The Council is divided into four (4) Districts - Lenape, Pennsbury, Playwicki and Tohpendel. Troop 6 is in the Lenape District.

The Mission Statement of the Council is:

***"It is the mission of the Bucks County Council, Boy Scouts of America, to meet the spiritual, developmental, and social needs of young people by instilling lifetime values that result in achieving full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on the Scout Oath and Law."***

We are fortunate that the Council office is located in Doylestown, by the library and Mercer Museum on Scout Way. Here, the professional and volunteer Scouters ensure that a quality program is provided to our youth, by providing continual leader training, monthly roundtables and organizing the many Pack and Troop District and Council functions throughout the year, just to name a few.

Within the Council headquarters is the Service Center, where you can conveniently purchase all Scouting apparel, accessories, and handbooks.

If you are not familiar with the Council, we highly recommend you visit the website at [www.buckscountybsa.org](http://www.buckscountybsa.org).

# **GUIDE TO EQUIPMENT SELECTION**

This guide is to provide you with a general idea of what items are needed for camping as well as a range of what to spend. Please do not hesitate asking questions or inquiring further with any leader. The leaders of Troop 6 are experienced and may be able to assist you in making good and economical equipment selections.

**Important Note: No matter what brand of equipment you purchase and what it cost, the most IMPORTANT thing you will do is to make sure every single piece of equipment is labeled or etched with your sons name, address and phone number!**

## **Sleeping Bag**

For the type of camping Troop 6 generally conducts, the considerations for selecting a sleeping bag are warmth, weight and compactness.

When selecting a sleeping bag, consider the following:

- A minimum temperature rating of 20 degrees
- A mummy-shaped bag. It's light and is easily packed into a stuff/compression sack to reduce bulk
- Synthetic insulation types such as Polarguard, Thinsulate, Hollowfill, and Quallowfill. (Natural Down is an excellent choice for its warmth and lightweight but dries very slowly if it gets wet and requires more care. A better choice for older, experienced scouts)
- A bag with enough length for your son to grow into

A good quality bag can be purchased in the \$75 - \$150 range.

## **Sleeping Bag Pad**

Sleeping bag pads for use at Troop 6 campouts should be limited to the closed cell foam pad (economical and light), or a self-inflating style. In addition to providing comfort, the mattress acts as an insulator and moisture barrier. Very thick egg crate type foam or blow-up air mattresses should not be considered due to weight and bulk.

Expect to pay at least \$20.00 or more for a foam pad and more for a self-inflating mattress. Thermorest is a good, durable brand but there are more economical brands while your son grows.

## **Stuff Sack & Duffle Bag**

Every Scout needs the proper equipment to transport his personal gear. A medium size duffle bag for 2 days of camping and a stuff sack to carry his sleeping bag and pad. Varied sized stuff sacks can be purchased locally at Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) or on-line via Campmor.

## Daypacks/Backpacks

An economical daypack, preferably with a hip belt will be sufficient for the majority of Troop 6 activities. It will be generally used for short hikes or bike trips to carry rain gear, lunch, water and handbook.

Backpacks (external or internal frame styles) are expensive, \$80 - \$250, and used for overnight hiking when tent, sleeping bag, cooking gear, clothing, and food is carried. These bags must be properly fitted to each person to attain ultimate balance and weight distribution. If not, they will be unbearable when carrying weights of 50 lbs or more over long periods. Such a backpack will be necessary should your son participate in high-adventure scouting, such as Philmont. When a backpack is needed, be sure to purchase from a knowledgeable and reputable store that can properly fit the bag to your son and will always be there to make adjustments in the future as he grows.

## Rain Gear

The importance of rain gear is often overlooked. Improper or cheap rain gear equates to a wet and unhappy scout! Furthermore, a Scout is vulnerable to hypothermia if not properly protected from the elements. The only type of rain gear to consider is a two-piece (jacket and pants) style made from coated nylon material. Nylon is durable, washable and will not rip if caught by a branch and will not crack in cold weather. ***Poncho-style rain gear is worthless in the wind and does not cover the legs.***

***\*Remember that for the entire camping weekend there are no "Indoors". Once a Scout gets wet and cold he will stay that way for the weekend!***

Expect to pay \$40 - \$100 for good rain gear.

Rain suits that are constructed with Gore-Tex are the top-of-the-line in rain gear as it "breathes" while keeping the wearer dry. However, expect to pay \$100 - \$300 for a jacket and \$100 - \$150 for pants. Although excellent, it is not the economical choice for a child that has not finished growing unless he is considering attending Philmont or serious backpacking.

## Hiking Boots

Troop 6 requires all boys to wear hiking type boots to all camping trips. The purpose for this is to ensure safety and protection, support, warmth and dry feet. It is not necessary to spend money on serious hiking boots (\$100 and up) for the activities on weekend camping trips. However, a moderate pair of outdoor type boots is important. They should have the following qualities:

- Deep tread to grip on rough or wet terrain
- Over the ankle for good support – reducing risk of sprains
- Water proof or resistant (can be treated with topical water proofing)
- Durable to protect feet from moderate impacts, rocks and rough terrain

While your son's feet are growing rapidly, adequate type boots can be found in department stores or shoe outlets. For the more serious hiker or those scouts attending Philmont, very good quality hikers with Gore-Tex will be a must.

## **Mess Kit**

Each scout will prepare, eat and drink from their mess kit. Troop 6 does not use disposal plates or utensils when camping. The typical BSA issue or Coleman aluminum is adequate, but it does not always withstand the rigorous use of our youth. A slightly better quality stainless steel like the Coleman Peak Stainless Steel set are very good quality and priced in the \$20-\$30 range. A mess kit should consist of a frying pan, dish, small pot with lid, and a cup. Depending on preference, you may want to substitute the drinking cup with a better camping style metal cup for both hot and cold beverage use.

## **Vitt-L-Kit**

This is a kit consisting of a set of metal knife, fork and spoon. They come in either a pouch or in some cases snap together so that they can be kept organized. The BSA or Coleman style is more than adequate for all uses.

## **Water Bottles**

This is very often an overlooked piece of equipment. Hydration is so important on hikes or strenuous activities in the summer and winter too. Each scout should be prepared to carry a minimum of one liter, two liters for longer hikes. Preferable is the waist belt holder or attaching to a daypack/backpack. Canteens with shoulder straps should be avoided, as these are difficult to carry over distances and require a hand to hold in place. Nalgene wide-mouth bottles are very good and indestructible, however not necessary for typical Troop weekend camping trips. The reuse of plastic water bottles or Gatorade bottles, etc work just as well.

## **Flashlights**

Come to any scout overnight and you will observe a variety of flashlights and lanterns with a variety of functions! However, here is where it must be stressed that smaller is better. The more lightweight and compact, the more room a scout has to carry other objects at the same time, not to mention the weight of his pack.

The newer generation LED lights are very small and light and produce the same amount of light as a large, heavy Maglight. Head lamps (strapped around the head like a headband), are very popular, as the scout has both hands free to assemble his tent, cook food, carry gear, read in tent, etc. Always remember to pack extra batteries!

## **Ditty/Garbage Bags**

Varied sized ditty bags or using plain plastic garbage bags are great for sorting and storing the various items in the scouts duffle or footlocker, maintaining organization. A plastic garbage bag should always be packed to contain the scout's soiled and wet clothes so as not to contaminate his clean items.

## **Personal Hygiene Supplies**

A Scout is Clean! Each scout should pack a towel (two for summer camp), soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb/brush, deodorant and any other preferred hygiene supplies.

## **Knives**

Scouts who have attained their Totin-Chip card may carry knives. A good choice is the Swiss Army style knife by Victorinox, "Tinker" model. Purchase a knife with a belt holster for carrying and easy access. A good quality knife adequate for whittling and other typical scout uses should cost \$20-\$30.

Remember, equipment does not have to be new or one of the prestigious names in camping gear in order to be serviceable. Used or hand-me-downs are a good way to allow a scout to become accustomed to the gear and to form a preference of his own. These items amount to a good amount of money, and especially while in both the learning, losing and growing stages, there is no need to spend high prices for items that will be outgrown.

## **Where to Purchase**

### **Campmor** (Catalog and Retail Store)

Paramus, NJ  
800-226-7667  
[www.campmor.com](http://www.campmor.com)

### **(REI) Recreational Equipment Inc.** (Catalog and Retail Store)

200 W Ridge Pike Ste 115  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
(610) 940-0809  
[www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com)

### **(EMS) Eastern Mountain Sports** (Catalog and Retail Store)

Valley Square  
1700 Valley Square Blvd  
Warrington, PA  
215.343.0169  
[www.ems.com](http://www.ems.com)

### **Cabelas** (Catalog and Retail Store)

100 Cabela Drive, Hamburg, PA 19526  
(20 miles west on Rt 78 from Allentown)  
610-929-7000  
[www.cabelas.com](http://www.cabelas.com)

### **L. L. Bean** (Catalog and Retail Store)

Freeport, ME  
800-221-4221  
[www.llbean.com](http://www.llbean.com)

## **TROOP 6 EAGLE AERIE**

The following is a list of those who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout while members of Troop 6:

Fredrick H. Clymer Jr. - 1933	Carlos G. Perea - 2003
Robert E. Rehoer - 1973	Nnamdi A. Aduba - 2003
Kenneth V. Muench - 1975	Charles V. Johnson, Jr - 2003
David G. Fetzer - 1983	Anthony J. Barrilli - 2003
Mark A. DeLawter - 1984	Brian D. Frank - 2004
John S. Benson - 1985	Philip M. Smith - 2004
T. Richard Yoder Jr. - 1986	Steven G. Bagnall - 2004
Bradley W. DeLawter - 1987	Michael Broglie - 2004
Glen G. Canterbury - 1987	Alexander Taormina - 2004
John P. Russell - 1987	Galen Ober - 2004
Grahm T. Reilly - 1987	David Worthington - 2005
Edward W. Gagnas III - 1989	Bobby Gardner - 2005
Bryan G. Kane - 1989	Brian Kuhns - 2006
Paul C. Burger - 1989	James Gilmore - 2006
Mark E. Canterbury - 1989	Christopher Magyar - 2006
Scott D. Christe - 1989	William Montanari - 2007
Jeffrey T. Kennedy - 1990	Parker Rushworth - 2007
Michael J. Newman - 1990	Robert L. Cull - 2008
Dennis R. Stoehr - 1991	Michael J. Murphy - 2008
Brandon S. Marriott - 1992	Ethan T. Quist - 2008
Brian T. Lomas - 1992	Jacob Smith - 2008
John P. Hevner - 1993	Benjamin Smith - 2008
Barry L. Cunningham - 1993	Colin Baxter - 2008
Charles D. Sherwood - 1994	Jake Revere - 2008 *Spirit of Eagle
David A. Burger - 1994	Adam Johnson - 2009
Andrew Jakubowitch - 1995	Adam Hinde - 2009
Joseph Turner - 1996	Nicholas Lager - 2009
John Turner - 1996	JR Brunetto - 2009
Jed Salvesen - 1996	Alexander P. Cull - 2009
P. Everett Fisher - 1996	Christopher Baccash - 2010
Andrew Kane - 1996	Timothy Miller - 2010
J. Lee Stough - 1997	Zachary DiAngelo - 2010
Erling R. Salvesen - 1997	John Shoffler - 2011
Frank J. Lacquaniti - 1998	Robert J. VanPelt - 2011
Brian Castagna - 1998	Cole N. Rushworth - 2011
Derek Sheaffer - 1998	Padraig A. Kiley - 2011
Kirk M. MacMinn - 1999	Anthony S. Collora - 2011
William E. Shurmann - 1999	Mitchell Buttala - 2012
James M. Turner - 1999	Spencer Palermo - 2012
Stephen Lovelace - 2000	Kyle Hanbicki - 2012
Christopher Karlberg - 2000	Steve Austin - 2012
Eric A. Wright - 2000	James Braza - 2012
Michael J. Jarossy - 2000	Jack Bandlow - 2013
Charles M. Bendas - 2000	Ryan Asplen - 2013
Devon Bowers - 2001	Deiter Hanbicki - 2013
Joe Barone - 2001	Vincent Brunetto - 2013
Matt Smyth - 2001	Zachary Miller - 2013
Todd Bagnall - 2001	
Travis Cope - 2001	
Brett MacMinn - 2001	
Dan Jencks - 2002	
Jonathan P. Barone - 2002	
Christopher M. Broglie - 2002	
Keith N. E. Troisi - 2002	
Scott P. Jones - 2003	

# **TROOP 6 POLICIES**

## **Camping Equipment Care & Damage**

Occasionally, upon the return from a camping trip, the Scouts are assigned the task of taking home equipment to clean and dry. It is the responsibility of each Scout to clean and dry the equipment in an appropriate manner, making note of any problems, malfunctions or missing components. The equipment is to be returned on the **next Troop meeting**, checking in with the Troop Quartermaster so that he can record that the equipment was returned.

If the equipment is not returned, then the Scout's family will be responsible for the replacement cost.

In the event of damage to Troop equipment due to willful destruction or reckless behavior, the Scout's family will be responsible for the replacement cost. The Scoutmaster will also have the right to remove camping privileges as well if equipment damaged or if not cleaned thoroughly and returned promptly following a camping trip.

## **Parents/Visitors on Camping Trips**

Troop 6 encourages parents to camp with the Troop during weekend camping trips or during the summer camping trip at a BSA Reservation. The Troop does request that all visiting persons abide by the Troop 6 guidelines and follows the same schedule and regiment as the leaders and the Scouts. Youth Protection Training and background check must be current within the past two years. While you are present during the camping trip, you are also considered a leader.

Some key points are as follows:

- When driving Scouts to/from our destination there is no stopping or deviating from the route for any reason except for a bathroom break
- Parents do not sleep with their sons. The Scouts need to maintain the Patrol system and be responsible for their tents and gear
- Parents should not reprimand their son, show son special favors or help him with his duties
- Do not help your son resolve issues – let a senior Scout or scoutmaster handle
- Parents will eat the same food the Scouts or leaders prepare and sleep in the same tents or accommodations as everyone else
- Do not bring any food, drink, candy, etc or electronic equipment
- Always adhere to the Two-Deep Leadership policy of the BSA, as well as following all BSA Guide to Safety Requirements. When in doubt, ask a scoutmaster
- Be part of the daily activities and routine and show interest in our Scouts!
- There is no smoking or use of alcohol

These are key points covering the major items. If you have any questions, please consult the Scoutmaster.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q** – *What does the Troop expect from parents of a new Scout?*

**A** – For the details, see section, *Role of the Parents*. In general terms, note the following:

**Dues** – Make sure they are current and prompt

**Contact Information** – Complete the *T6 Scout Personal Data Form*. When there are changes, be sure to relay, especially email addresses

**Meeting Attendance** – Ensure that your son attends meetings and special events

**Camping Rules** – If your son brings home equipment after a camping trip, ensure he cleans and returns

**Get Involved** – When and where you can, help out with driving to/from camps, service activities, fund raisers, etc. Show interest!

**Q** – *Does Troop 6 hold meetings when the schools are closed?*

**A** – Yes. If due to weather or other circumstances the weekly meeting has to be canceled, your son will receive a call from his Patrol Leader. You may also receive an email as well.

**Q** – *Do we ever meet anywhere besides DUMC?*

**A** – Yes. The majority of Monday evening Troop meetings are held at the church. There are some throughout the year such as the Indoor Rally and Swim-a-ree that are held elsewhere. Also, our June COH is held at Peace Valley Park. This information is relayed to your son at Troop meetings, and can be found on our website and at the Quarterly COH/Parents Meeting.

**Q** – *How can I help my son advance?*

**A** – Be sure to review the section, *Role of Parents*. Maintain an awareness of his status and progression on rank advancement and any merit badges he may be working on. Offer to work with him to practice any requirements he needs to master. (Remember, only a uniformed leader can test a scout's skills and sign-off on a requirement). Also, stay in touch with the Assistant Scoutmaster assigned to your son's Patrol, like you would with his teacher at school.

**Q** – *How do Patrol elections work?*

**A** – Each boy in a patrol is entitled to vote for his Patrol Leader. The PL then appoints his assistant, scribe and quartermaster. Elections are held every 6 months.

**Q** – *What happens on an average weekend camping trip?*

**A** – On an average camping trip the Scouts prepare their meals and the adults will either cook their own food or eat with the Scouts. We try to arrange activities to promote advancement for at least half of the day on Saturday and make advancement available to anyone who needs it the balance of the weekend. On an average camping trip, the Scouts usually sleep two to a tent and no adult is permitted to sleep with a Scout.

**Q** – *Why does the Troop stress so much that my son should attend Summer Camp?*

**A** – The roots of Scouting were derived from outdoor skills and of course what a better place to really get into the outdoors than at an official Scout reservation for an entire week! First, this allows each Scout the opportunity to bond with each other in a safe, fun and educational environment with each of their troop-mates for a period long enough to allow those relationships to happen. Second, the reservation allows them to work on merit badges and rank advancement that in many circumstances they will not have the opportunity throughout the year as many merit badges and special courses can only be done at these facilities. These camps are filled with trained and certified counselors of all kinds for specialty subjects such as; science, environmental, swimming and water sports, rifle, shotgun, archery and a number of other topics. As you will be aware, earning merit badges are an integral part of their rank advancement and a must for Star, Life and Eagle.

**Q** – *What is provisional summer camp and how does it work?*

**A** – Provisional summer camp is when boys go to another camp independent of the Troop. They stay with another troop for the week, with leadership provided by the camp. Some Scouts attend as a provisional if he cannot attend camp with the Troop or sometimes to earn more merit badges and have fun!

**Q** – *What can a parent do to assist their son while he is working on advancement or a merit badge?*

**A** – The Scout should be familiar with the requirements and what to do after meeting with the counselor and reviewing the merit badge book. As with rank advancement requirements, parents can be supportive and work with him to ensure an understanding of what is required. If you or your son has any questions, you should consult with the counselor, the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster.

**Q** – *Does the Troop provide dinner on Friday night of a weekend camping trip?*

**A** – **No.** All participants should eat dinner before arriving at DUMC at 5:30PM.

**Q** – *How can my son earn service hours for rank advancement?*

**A** – There are many ways throughout the year to earn service hours. First, there are various Troop organized projects such as, the Peach Festival, Library Book Move, CROP Walk, or DUMC Mulch Fest. Your son can also volunteer to assist Scouts working on their Eagle projects, as well as perform special services in his community, church or school.

**Q** – *Why does the Troop have a policy that scouts cannot bring cell phones or electronic on camping trips or special events?*

**A** – Cell phones and electronic equipment is a distraction on many levels on campouts. The time away with their fellow scouts and leaders is important and the primary purposes are to work and have fun together as a group, as well as observe nature. They get enough of this equipment when not on campouts and this time can be better spent on him communicating with his peers and leaders, working on advancement and most important, enjoying the outdoors as they should be! Any communication with home in case of an emergency is to be through the leaders.

Also, our Chartered Organization Doylestown United Methodist has a policy that youth on retreats or campouts cannot have in possession any electronic equipment and since Troop 6 is sponsored by DUMC, we must abide by their policies.

**Q** – *My son takes prescription medication. How can I make sure that he takes it during the camping trips?*

**A** – All medications must be given to the designated Asst. Scoutmaster by the parent prior to leaving on the trip in clearly labeled containers and instructions. He will secure all meds and ensure that your son receives them as prescribed. During summer camps the meds are surrendered to the camp health officer and dispensed via the camp staff.

**Q** – *Is there a limit on what each Scout should take on a weekend camping trip?*

**A** – Yes. A Scout should only bring what is essentially needed for the weekend. As a rule, all his gear must fit into a medium size duffle bag except for the sleeping bag. There are no chairs, electronic equipment, cell phones, or personal food or beverage allowed. Bringing any items not permitted will result in losing his camping privileges.

**Q** – *I notice that a footlocker is recommended for the weeklong summer camping trip. Why is this?*

**A** – The summer camping trip requires more clothes and gear for the specific activities and since it is for 7 days. A footlocker allows the Scout to hold more and keep it better organized. Footlockers also transport easier and don't allow the contents to be crushed.

**Q** – *My son is a picky eater, so can I send along food I know he will eat?*

**A** – If he has a food allergy, then we need to know that, so please denote on the permission slip. Your son needs to learn to eat varied foods and also eat the food prepared by his patrol. Therefore, we cannot allow additional food items sent for such a convenience.

**Q** – *Why is the Troop policy on handing in permission slips so rigid?*

**A** – Most people don't realize the amount of effort – planning and coordination that go into each every monthly camping trip. Once headcount is set, reservations must be made, drivers to be selected and a BSA Tour Permit to be completed and submitted to the local Council. All this takes time, especially to do it correctly and safely and the leaders have day jobs too! Much of the money collected is then given to the Scouts volunteering to buy the food for the trip, so that is handed out one-week prior to the trip. Any late-comers would not be accounted for in the driver list, food list and Tour Permit with the BSA which covers us for insurance.

## **TROOP 6 ADULT LEADERSHIP**

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