

BLACKHAWK AREA COUNCIL
RESIDENT CAMP
UNIT LEADER GUIDE



CANYON CAMP

STOCKTON, IL



CAMP LOWDEN

OREGON, IL



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Dear Camp Leader:

Welcome to camping with the Blackhawk Area Council! We look forward to having you join us this summer at either of our Council's beautiful camps- Canyon Camp or Camp Lowden.

We would like to thank you for taking a week of your time to attend summer camp with your scouts. The camp directors, camp staff, and the Blackhawk Area Council are looking forward to assisting you in your efforts to provide your scouts with a rewarding week of camping.

We strongly believe long-term camping at summer camp should be the highlight of a troop's entire year. Therefore, it is our goal to make the planning of your troop's program at camp as easy as possible and assist you in maximizing the achievements of each troop, patrol and scout.

The material in this Camp Leader's Guide, along with the material in the camp planning packet, will help you prepare your troop's program at camp. During the months before camp, you will also be receiving information through mail and email to keep you updated about camp program plans and to help you prepare for camp.

Please also check for updates and schedules on the council's website at www.blackhawkscouting.org/camping. The Camp Directors and their staffs are continually working to add and improve programs each and every year to give your scouts even more exciting adventures.

If at any time we can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Yours in Scouting,
Dan Dick
Vice President
Outdoor Adventures**

**Emily Cross
Council Program Director**



General Information

Fee Structure

Camp fees cover program supplies, food, liability insurance, health supplies, medical insurance, and staff services. Fees cover only a part of the cost of operation of the camps. Additional financing comes from proceeds of popcorn sales, Friends of Scouting, the United Way, and other council income sources.

Troop Deposit

To secure a slot in your troop's desired week a non-refundable \$200 troop deposit is due at the time of registration. The deposit may be paid online via our online registration system (debit, credit, PayPal, or e-check) or your troop may mail it directly to the council service center at 2820 McFarland Rd, Rockford, IL 61107. **A \$50 per person payment must be made by April 1st. The \$50 per person payment is transferable, however, it is not refundable.** Troop deposits do not guarantee a specific campsite. Campsite assignments are at the discretion of the Camp Director. Requests for specific campsites may be emailed to the Council Program Director Emily Cross – Emily.Cross@scouting.org by May 1st. A follow-up phone call directly to the camp two weeks prior to your arrival is encouraged.

Individual Camper and Adult Fees

Each person attending camp must pay a \$50 registration fee by April 1, 2018 to secure their registration at camp. This helps ensure proper supplies and preparation for your summer adventure. Full payment is preferred and will be more cost effective for your Scouts if paid in full by April 15.

Youth Fees:

Regular Fee per Scout if paid in full by/on April 15, 2018 is \$300 for a week long adventure.*

Late fee per Scout if payment received on/after April 16, 2018 is \$325 for a week long adventure.

**Webelos transferring to a Boy Scout troop have an extended payment date of May 15. If full payment is received by May 15, the Scout will receive the regular fee for summer camp 2018.*

Family Discount

A \$20 reduction will be given to each family that sends multiple youth Scouts to summer camp

Examples:

- Two brothers: John and Jim are brothers. If camp fees are paid prior to April 15, their family will owe \$580 total (\$630 if after April 15)
- Three brothers: John, Jim, and Jake are brothers. If camp fees are paid prior to April 15, their family will owe \$880 total for camp. (\$955 if after April 15)

Adult Fees:

\$160 per unit leader. The fee for adults attending camp for only part of the week will be figured by multiplying the daily camp fee of \$27.00 times the number of days in attendance. **Remember that all leaders, no matter their length of stay in camp, must have a completed physical form (BSA physical form parts A, B, and C), signed by a physician and dated within one year of their stay in camp.**

You will find our camp fees are modest compared to other youth camps (YMCA, sports, band, etc.). These reasonable fees are set with the goal of creating memories at Boy Scout camp that will last a lifetime!

SPECIAL NOTICE ON REFUNDS: Refunds of camp fees are considered on an individual basis. In the event of illness, injury, death of a family member, or other emergency, the Scout's parents must ask for a refund in writing, stating the reason why the Scout did not attend. Written request must be received no later than two weeks after the troop leaves camp. **A service fee of \$50.00 will be assessed.** Requests received after the two-week deadline will not be considered. Scouts and leaders who do not attend because of "changing their mind at the last minute" will receive NO refund.

Visitor Meal Fees

Please note that visitor meal fees are as follows:

Breakfast- \$5.00

Lunch- \$6.00

Dinner- \$7.00

Camperships

The Blackhawk Area Council provides financial help to needy and deserving Scouts in the council to ensure that all scouts have the opportunity to enjoy the summer camp experience even if facing financial hardship. A campership may cover up to one-half (early fee) of the Scout's camp fee, **as unit help is expected.** If a youth member of your troop needs assistance, please submit a Campership Request form. **The Campership Request form is due at the council service center by April 1, 2018.** If approved, a confirmation letter will be mailed to the unit leader. Information that appears on this request is kept confidential. Priority will be given to Scouts submitting for the first or second year. After being awarded a second campership, future camperships will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the Campership Review Committee, as funds are limited.

It must be understood that all other sources of financial help have been exhausted, including the youth's own earning power, his/her family, his/her unit, and the chartered organization's resources. Scouts should be participating in unit fundraising projects and the council popcorn sale to earn money for to be used for camp fees. This is important so that the Scout learns to help pay his/her own way. The Campership application is available in the appendix, at the Scout Service Center, and on the council's website – www.blackhawkscouting.org/camping.

Camperships and Fee Payment

If a Scout has applied for a campership, his camp fee is held at \$300.00. When your troop's camp fees are submitted, indicate on the Payment Transmittal form which Scout(s) have applied for a campership and pay nothing for the Scout(s) at that time. When you receive notification of campership money being awarded, the remaining camp fee amount due can be paid. Please do so ASAP. If a troop pays the full camp fee for a Scout that has applied for a campership, this is an indication that the troop has funds available to assist Scouts in need with their camp fee.

MEDICAL EXAMS

ALL SCOUTS AND LEADERS MUST HAVE A COMPLETED BSA ANNUAL HEALTH and MEDICAL RECORD (PARTS A, B, AND C) ON FILE AT CAMP, NO MATTER HOW LONG THE DURATION OF THEIR STAY.

Note ...

- We need to have proof by way of a physician's signature and date the physical examination has been done. The physical must have been completed within the 12-month period prior to arrival at camp. To be valid, a doctor's signature and date must be clearly visible on the completed form.
 - A parent's or guardian's signature is required on the medical form.
 - Physical exams will not be performed at camp.
 - School, sports, and work physical forms are not accepted.
- **The camps do not provide special needs transportation.

Due to the terrain of our camps, youth and adults must be physically able to handle strenuous walking.

Order of the Arrow Candidates

Scouts and leaders wishing to complete the Ordeal at summer camp must have a current, completed medical form which includes parts A, B, C, (including physician's signature and date) on file in the camp health lodge. No exceptions.

SPECIAL NOTES

1. Per national BSA standards, all prescription and/or non-prescription medications, **MUST** be checked into the camp health lodge during the first day of camp.
 - **Each medication must be in its original container with the scout's name and clear, visible dosage instructions on the original pharmacy label.**
 - **It is highly recommended that parents send only enough of each medication to cover the Scout's time in camp. Do not send a full bottle of medication for a seven day stay at camp.**
2. Adult leaders at camp must have a signed and dated medical form **no matter how long they are staying in camp. Any adult not meeting this requirement may not function as camp unit leader and may not participate in camp activities or stay overnight.**
3. **THERE IS NO 'LESS THAN 72 HOURS' STIPULATION THAT EXEMPTS A CAMP LEADER FROM THIS MANDATORY STANDARD FOR BOY SCOUT SUMMER CAMP.**
 - **The 72 hours statement refers to the length of the activity, not to the length of time in camp. Since summer camp is a six-day activity (greater than 72 hours), everyone in camp must have a correctly completed BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B, and C) with a doctor's signature and date clearly shown. The date must be within the 12-month period prior to arrival at camp.**

SUMMER CAMP POLICIES

All camp leaders are asked to assist in the enforcement of all camp policies. With Scouts and Scouters living the Scout Oath and Law, only a minimum number of policies are necessary.

1. It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that trips and outings may never be led by only one adult. At least two adult leaders, one of whom must be 21 years or older, are required for Boy Scout Summer Camp. The second adult leader must be 18 years or older.
2. Please plan to arrive at camp no later than 2:00 p.m on Sunday. Keep parents informed as to departure and return times. Check-in begins at **1:30 pm at Camp Lowden and at 1:00 pm at Canyon Camp.**
3. No one (Scout or Scouter) should leave camp without informing the camp director or his designee. A Scout must have a signed **Scout Release Form** to leave camp early.
4. A signed Scout Release Form is required for a Scout to leave camp under any non-camp sponsored activity.
5. Blackhawk Area Council camps are tobacco, drug, and alcohol free environments. Leaders need to inform visitors of this policy and are asked to assist in the enforcement of this policy. **Those who violate this policy will be asked to leave camp property immediately.**
6. Vehicles are to be parked in designated parking areas only. Travel on camp roads is prohibited. At both camps, troop trailers may be parked on the campsite only with prior approval of the Camp Director.
7. The cutting of any standing tree or removal of bark is strictly prohibited.
8. Shoes are to worn at all times except while participating in swimming pool activities or while in the shower house.
9. Liquid fuels and liquid fuel burning equipment may be used by adults only. All liquid fuels must be stored in a locked storage facility administered by the camp.
10. **No pets are allowed at camp.** This includes during arrival on Sunday, Family Night on Wednesday, and departure on Saturday. Pets, particularly dogs (even if leashed), pose a danger and liability to other campers, staff members, and visitors. Please leave them at home.
11. **No personal firearms or bows may be brought to camp. No exceptions to this policy will be permitted.**
12. Unit leaders are *strongly urged* not to allow Scouts to bring electronic devices to camp. Radios, music players, electronic games, i-Pods, and walkie-talkies will only distract a Scout from his camping adventure. **Most importantly, no cell phones should be allowed.** They potentially present the unit leader and camp staff with a very difficult camper management situation. It is *strongly recommended* that all troops have a personal equipment check before they leave so that such items can be eliminated before arrival to camp. **Unit leaders bringing walkie-talkies and cell phones must make them inaccessible to their Scouts. Cell phones may be removed from Scouts and not returned until check-out on Saturday.**

USE OF CELL PHONES AT CAMP

FOR THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF EVERYONE AT CAMP, THE USE OF CELL PHONES, CAMERAS, AND ALL DEVICES CAPABLE OF RECORDING AND TRANSMITTING IMAGES ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED IN THE SHOWER HOUSE AND LATRINES

The Order of the Arrow

As you plan for summer camp, the Order of the Arrow would like you to be aware of several important items for 2018.

A call-out ceremony and Ordeal will be conducted each week of the regularly scheduled Boy Scout camping week. **It is the responsibility of the Scoutmaster, or the summer camp unit leader, to show the unit's copy of the O.A. election results to the summer camp chief.** This will be requested by the camp chief at the beginning of your week at camp. **This needs to be done for your unit to have participants in the call-out ceremony and the Ordeal.** As with all OA lodges, Wulapeju Lodge is not permitted to have out-of-council Scouts or leaders participate in the full Ordeal. This must be done in the council to which your unit is registered. Out-of-council units may have their elected Scouts and leaders "called-out" as public recognition while at camp. To have this happen, a letter from the council is required to grant Blackhawk Area Council/the specific camp you're attending permission to do so.

The Ordeal fee is \$45.00 for troops camping at Camp Lowden or Canyon Camp. The Ordeal fee includes the following items: OA sash, Wulapeju Lodge #140 pocket flap, OA Handbook, and dues paid through December 1, 2018.

Any Scout or adult not attending Camp Lowden or Canyon Camp for the week, the Ordeal fee is \$55.00. This includes an additional charge for food and an administration fee.

SPECIAL NOTE: All Scouts and adults wishing to complete the Ordeal at summer camp must have a current completed BSA Annual Health Form (parts A, B, and C) including parent's and physician's signatures and date (must be clearly visible) on file at camp. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Troops camping at other council's camp:

1. You must make a reservation to have your candidates called out. You will need to call the camp at least two (2) weeks in advance of the desired date for your candidate(s)' call-out. Only the troops making a reservation will be able to have Ordeal candidates called out. Space is limited, so a reservation must be made. Camps reserve the right to limit the number of Ordeal candidates from troops not attending Blackhawk Area Council camps. If there is no room available, your Scouts will need to do their "Ordeal" in August.
2. What to bring ...
 - A completed, signed, and dated BSA medical form (parts A, B, and C)
 - Uniform for call-out, Thursday dinner, and the final ceremony
 - Work clothes for sleeping out and work on Thursday
 - Sleeping bag and ground cloth
 - Poncho for cover / rain gear
 - Toilet Kit and towel
 - Medications necessary for the duration
3. Arrive no later than 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening

CANYON CAMP



**Blackhawk Area Council
Canyon Camp
4856 East Townsend Road
Stockton, IL 61085
815-492-2175
FAX 815-492-2533
WWW.CANYONCAMPBSA.ORG**



Canyon Camp 2018

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

We are very excited that your troop has chosen Canyon Camp for its summer camping experience. We are working hard on selecting an outstanding camp staff with the tradition and experience you expect of Canyon Camp. In turn, we hope to provide a program that will fulfill each of your Scouting needs.



The summer camp program is designed to help each Scout in your unit to achieve the best possible experience at a long-term summer camp. We strive to provide programs for every Scout who comes to summer camp, from a first-year camper to the Scout who has been coming to camp for four or five years. Younger Scouts working on advancement will be offered an emphasis on First Class requirements while participating in the Canyon Ranger program. The older Scouts coming to camp might want to get in the O.W.L. program. Pioneer Potpourri will also be returning for all Scouts.

It is our hope that Canyon Camp will provide the experiences and memories that will stay with you and your scouts for a lifetime. As you plan your summer camp experience, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us..

Yours in Scouting,

Dick Reynolds, Co-Camp Director
Home: 815-964-3740
Email: richardjreynolds@juno.com

Lee Binkley, Co-Camp Director
Home: 608-325-5540
Email: leebinkley@hotmail.com

YOUR TROOP'S WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE AT CANYON CAMP

Sunday	Camp orientation, merit badge sign-up, O.W.L sign-up, and great opening campfire.
Monday	Merit badge instruction begins, First Class emphasis work begins, mile swim practice begins, open camp, and Catholic Mass.
Tuesday	Cook the noon and evening meals in your campsite, participate in campsite activities, and Scout vesper activities.
Wednesday	Cook breakfast meal in the campsite. Visitor's night, Order of the Arrow ceremonies, with Calling Out.
Thursday	Open camp, moonlight swim, O.A induction, and chapel non-denominational Christian services.
Friday	Paul Bunyan Breakfast, mile swim, finalize all Merit Badge work, closing campfire with troop skills.
Saturday	Canyon Camp Court of Honor.

Additional information can be found online at www.CanyonCampBSA.org

Address and Mail

Mail for your scout(s) should include: name and Troop number, c/o of Canyon Camp BSA, East Townsend Road, Stockton, IL 61085. Example:

Johnny Scout, Troop 1
c/o Canyon Camp BSA
4856 East Townsend Road
Stockton, IL 61085

Outgoing mail leaves by 9:00 AM. The mailbox is located at the Trading Post. Incoming mail may be picked up by a troop leader at the camp office during the afternoon. Parents should be aware that mail sent on Thursday or Friday may not reach the scout before he leaves on Saturday.

Telephone

In case of an emergency, parents can reach the Camp Director at 815-492-2175. The camp fax number is 815-492-2533. The camp telephone is located in the camp office and is for camp business and emergency use only. The telephone is available to scouts only when accompanied by an adult leader. When placing a long distance call, you must either call collect, use a calling card, or place the call on your credit card. Leaders using cell phones may find it difficult to receive a signal. Please refer to the camp's cell phone policy on page 8.

Emergency Warning System

If both the camp bell and siren are sounding simultaneously and continuously, all scouts and scouters are to report to the Dining Hall. This will be reviewed on the first night of camp.

Trading Post

Hours of operation will be posted. The Trading Post stocks and sells refreshments, patches, camp t-shirts, neckerchiefs, notebooks, Scouting literature, Scouting equipment, stamps and postcards. Merit Badge pamphlets may be purchased if available. **All major credit cards are accepted in the Trading Post and the main office.**

Family Night

On Wednesday night, camp is open to parents and friends. Everyone is invited to observe the flag lowering at 6:00 p.m. and afterwards share a barbeque supper, which will be available until 6:40 p.m. Please inform parents that after 6:40 p.m. food will not be available in the camp dining hall. Picnic tables are available for troops wishing to organize family or troop picnics.

Following supper, there will be an "open house" where parents and friends can visit camp program areas. The evening program will conclude with Native American dancing and the Call-Out Ceremony for the Order of the Arrow.

Leaders will be asked to inform the Program Director by Tuesday afternoon of an estimate of the total number of additional guest that may be expected for the evening meal on Wednesday. This helps the camp prepare the correct amount of food for the guests of camp.

FAMILY NIGHT MEAL COST

Visitor's Meal: \$7.00

Children under 12: \$5.00

Visitors should be reminded that they are not permitted to drive to campsites or activity areas. All vehicles must remain in the parking lot. Camp is not capable to provide transportation for guests. Wheelchairs, golf carts, and other such modes of transportation are not available for guest use. Pets are not allowed in camp.

Troop Site

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED

- Two-Man Wall Tents
- Dining Tarp/patrol
- Cots with Mattress
- Picnic Table
- Broom
- Rake

Each Scout should bring along his personal Mess Kit including: plate, cup, knife, fork and spoon. Please bring your American flag and troop flag.

Coleman Style Stoves are NOT Available

**THE 2018 CANYON CAMP CAMPSITE MEALS MENU ARE
POSTED ON THE CAMP'S WEBSITE,
WWW.CANYONCAMPBSA.ORG**

**CAMPSITE MEALS WILL BE TUESDAY LUNCH, TUESDAY SUPPER, AND WEDNESDAY
BREAKFAST.**

Merit Badges at Canyon Camp

Visit the Canyon Camp website (www.canyoncampbsa.org) for updates on merit badge and program schedules.

Merit badges are earned in camp just as they are at home. Most camp offered merit badges are intended to be done outdoors. Others are better suited to be done in a troop's community. It is strongly recommended to bring merit badge books with you. A limited number of books are available at the Trading Post.

Before Camp:

1. Talk with your scouts about the merit badges they hope to earn at camp.
2. Have each scout obtain and read the merit badge pamphlet for each merit badge he hopes to earn at camp. Many merit badges have requirements that need to be completed prior to arrival at camp. Written verification of prior completion of requirements must be brought to camp by each scout.
3. Encourage your scouts to concentrate their efforts on only as many merit badges that they can successfully complete in an activity filled week.
4. Be sure your scouts have the right equipment for the right merit badge
5. Fill out blue cards for each merit badge. This can be done prior to camp- all blue cards require scout leader signature.

**Camp counselors have the right to ask for verification and/or demonstration of skill/requirement mastery for any previously certified requirement.

At Camp:

1. On Sunday night, your scouts will meet the merit badge counselors. Don't over program a scout with merit badges. Camp should be an adventure for your scouts and not a time of pressure to complete an enormous amount of requirements.
2. Encourage your scouts to be prepared before they get to camp and then let each scout do his own work with camp counsellors.
3. At the end of the week, the scoutmaster will receive in his departure packet either the signed completed merit badge applications (blue cards) or partial completion forms. Each scout should be encouraged to complete partials t home with another counselor. A scout has until he turns 18 to complete any merit badge.
4. Whether or not a scout will successfully complete a merit badge is often determined in the first two days of camp. Know where your scouts are every day and regularly check their merit badge progress. Progress updates for each scout will be available at daily scout leader meetings.

Areas, Merit Badges, and Activities

Aquatics	<p>Aquatic merit badges are: Canoeing, Kayaking, Lifesaving, Rowing, Swimming</p> <p>If participating in Swimming, Lifesaving, Canoeing, Paddle Boarding, or Rowing, the Scout will need extra towels, long-sleeved button shirt, sneakers, sweatshirt, long pants, and a belt. Be sure the parents of your Scout know all these clothes will get wet! Also available in this area are the mile swim and snorkeling.</p> <p>Additional activities offered: Swimming Instruction, Safe-Swim Defense Plan Instruction, Safety Afloat Instruction, Recreational Swimming, Recreational Boating, Paddle Craft Safety Training, Swimming & Water Rescue Training, Mile Swim, Rowing and Canoeing Instruction, B.S.A. Snorkeling, Kayaking, Water Volleyball and Water Basketball.</p>
Climbing	<p>Merit badge offered: Climbing</p> <p>Canyon Camp offers a unique set of climbing opportunities ranging from natural rock rappelling, rockwall climbing, milk crate climbing, ziplining and other exciting adventures!</p>
Trading Post	<p>Salesmanship merit badge will be offered as a new merit badge in 2018! Stop by the trading post for other treats and camp memorabilia!</p>
Outdoor Skills (Scoutcraft)	<p>Merit badges in Scoutcraft are: Camping, Geocaching, Orienteering, Personal Fitness, Pioneering, and Wilderness Survival</p> <p>Additional activities: Knife and Axe Safety, Map & Compass, Rope work, Lashings, Nature Hiking, Geocaching.</p>
Shooting Sports	<p>Available Merit Badges are Archery, Fishing, Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting. Scouts should be aware that a substantial amount of practice time is needed to achieve</p>

	<p>scores. It is often difficult to complete these badges in one week. There is a nominal fee for shotgun shells. Depending on the individual, this charge could range from \$10.00 to \$15.00. Recreational shooters will also be charged. There is a \$3.00 charge to make an arrow for the Archery Merit Badge. Scouts will be charged for the replacement of lost arrows.</p> <p>Only camp shooting sports equipment is allowed on the ranges. *All personal weapons, bows, arrows and shells must be left at home. Only camp equipment will be used.</p> <p>Additional Activities: RIFLE RANGE: Safety and Fundamentals Instruction, Recreational Shooting. ARCHERY RANGE: Safety and Fundamentals Instruction, Recreational Shooting, Field Archery. *There is a charge for lost arrows. Back again this year is the Target Paintball Range. You will have a variety of targets to shoot at – no people! Cost is \$1.00 for 20 paintballs. Camp will furnish the paintball equipment. Do not bring your own guns.</p>
Ecology/Conservation (Nature)	<p>Available Merit Badges Astronomy, Bird Study, Energy, Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management +, Forestry, Geology, Insect Study, Mammal Study +, Nature, Oceanography, Pulp and Paper, Reptile and Amphibian Study, Soil and Water Conservation, and Weather (+ Must be taken together).</p> <p>Be prepared with clothes and sneakers are needed for wading in streams for some merit badges. Verification of previous projects, photographs or sketches must be brought to camp for insect study.</p>
Handicraft and Creative Arts	<p>Available Merit Badges include Animation, Art, Basketry, Chess, Game Design, Indian Lore, Leatherwork, Movie Making, Music, Photography, Public Speaking, Robotics, Space Exploration, Theater, and Woodcarving. Each Scout will need additional money to purchase materials used in handicraft projects. Depending upon individual selection of projects, the cost could range from \$10.00 to \$20.00</p> <p>Open activity times are available to all Scouts. Each Scout will need additional money to purchase materials used in handicraft projects.</p>
Eagle Required Area	<p>Available are: Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Emergency Preparedness, First Aid, and Personal Management. Many have prerequisites that need to be completed prior to camp.</p>

Other activities are also offered at camp such as: Human Foosball, Mountain Bike Hike, Ga-Ga Ball, Standing Paddleboard, and many other camp wide activities!

CANYON CAMP ADVENTURE PROGRAM

Canyon Camp's Adventure program includes a variety of activities for both the young and the "young at heart".

O.W.L.

The Outdoor Wilderness League offers new adventures and experiences for your older Scouts and Leaders. Scouts must be at least First Class and must be at least 13 years old or "wiser". Leaders and Scouts wishing to use canoes in the program must pass the "Swimmer" test. Operation O.W.L. is comprised of a variety of activities. Scouts and Leaders who would like to participate in this challenging program should register Sunday evening. More information will be available at www.canyoncampbsa.org

NOTE: A \$5.00 transportation/participation fee will be required from all participants for each out-of-camp trip. Adults will be needed to help transport participants to the activity site. You will be reimbursed for gasoline usage.

CANYON RANGER

This program is primarily available to 1st year campers/Scouts (Scouts who have NOT earned 1st Class may participate). Activities will be geared to completing advancement requirements, as well as those "just for fun." The intent of this program is to familiarize 1st year Scouts with the program areas of the camp. Upon completion of the program, a special camp award will be presented to participants. There is no charge for Scouts participating in this program. Various activities and instruction will focus on completion of requirements toward 1st Class.

PIONEER POTPOURRI

Pioneer Potpourri is a program designed for 1st and 2nd year campers, but all campers can participate. The sessions of this program are aimed at fun and learning without an emphasis on rank advancement. Activities that may be included are:

- Tie Dye
- Homemade Ice Cream Floats
- Non-Newtonian Fluids
- Firem'n Chit / Advanced Fire Lays
- Candle Making
- Survival Bracelet
- Pioneer Cooking

CANYON CAMP
BLACKHAWK AREA COUNCIL, BSA



From the east

- Take Rt. 20 west through Stockton, IL
- Travel 2 miles to Canyon Park Rd. You'll see a sign on your right for BSA Camp
- Turn right and travel for 2 miles to Townsend Rd. You'll see the Canyon Camp Sign on your left. The sign is opposite a farm.
- Turn left and travel for 4 miles to the camp entrance. The entrance is after you cross the Apple River and you pass the bluffs on your right.

From the West

- Take Rt. 20 east through Woodbine, IL
- Travel 6.5 miles to Canyon Park Rd. You'll see a sign on your right for BSA Camp.
- Turn left and travel for 2 miles to Townsend Rd. You'll see the Canyon Camp Sign on your left. The sign is opposite a farm.
- Turn left and travel for 4 miles to the camp entrance. The entrance is after you cross the Apple River and you pass the bluffs on your right.

From the North

- Take Scout Camp Rd. just west of Apple River, IL.
- Go south for 7.5 miles and turn left on Townsend Rd.
- After crossing the creek, the camp entrance is on your left.

***Camp's address is accurate in Google Maps at:
Canyon Camp, BSA, 4856 E Townsend Rd, Stockton, IL 61085***

Suggested Packing List for Summer Camp:

The list below is recommended for those scouts attending Summer Camp. If you have any questions please discuss them with your troop leadership.

CLOTHING

- Scout Uniform - for travel to and from camp, meals, and for ceremonies.
- Troop/camp/scouting/other T-shirts (6)
- Jeans - 2 pair
- Shorts - 3 pair
- Poncho or Raincoat
- Warm Jacket
- Sweatshirt or Flannel
- Tennis Shoes and/or Hiking Boots
- Swimsuit
- Pajamas
- Underwear - for 6 days
- Socks - for 6 days
- Handkerchief
- Watch (optional)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Pack and Frame OR Duffel Bag
- Sleeping bag
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Scout Handbook
- Spiral Notebook or equivalent
- Pens and Pencils
- Sunscreen and Chapstick
- Money - for MB materials, craft supplies, Trading Post goodies, etc.
- Insect Repellent
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Soap
- Towels and Washcloth (for bathing and swimming)
- Comb or Brush
- Other personal care products - contact lens cleaner, etc. (optional)
- Pillow (optional)
- Pocket Knife* (optional) *Must have 'Totin Chit' Card
- Camera (optional)
- Bible or Prayer Book (optional)

NOTE: Non-folding knives and fireworks are not permitted at Blackhawk Area Council Camps. Prior to coming to camp, scouts are encouraged to clearly mark all personal items with their name and troop number. Your Scout Handbook is a good source for additional information on what to pack.

Camp Lowden



**Blackhawk Area Council
Camp Lowden
4418 South Scout Road
Oregon, IL 61061-9727
815-732-6674
FAX 815-732-4817
www.camplowden.org**



Camp Lowden

Dear Unit Leader:

Welcome to Camp Lowden Summer Camp 2018! We know that you are going to have a super week of camping and a tremendous Scouting experience while you are here with us. We are excited about the upcoming season of summer camp and are glad that you have chosen Camp Lowden for your summer camp adventure.

This year's camp staff is really fired up and ready to serve your troop's camping and Scouting needs. Our program offers a full experience for the seasoned camper, as well as for a new Scout. Seasoned campers will enjoy a challenging outdoor experience in our Tier 2 Adventure program. Opportunities in the Tier 2 Adventure program will test the mettle of older Scouts as they endeavor to strengthen their Scouting skills. Our 30' climbing tower has proven to be a worthwhile challenge for even the most able Scouts and Scouters! The "Ice Wall" takes that challenge to an even higher level, two Ga-Ga Ball Pits, and 9 Square in the Air add a whole new dimension of fun to our program. ATV training with a trail ride, a BMX challenge course, and a 1200' zip line also complement the Tier 2 Adventure.

First year Scouts will enjoy the leadership and guidance of experienced staff members as they embark upon a program designed to encourage their first steps in the Scouting program. Open ended and formulated to suit the needs of the individual Scout, our First Class Express program is sure to satisfy all who are new on the Scouting road of adventure, advancement, and opportunity.

I am confident that you will find your Camp Lowden 2018 camping experience fun and full of lifetime memories. On behalf of the 2018 Camp Lowden Staff, We again extend a hearty welcome to camp, to you, and your troop. As you prepare for the adventure that lies ahead, please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions or concerns. We will be most happy to help in any way we are able.

Yours in the Spirit of Scouting,

John Cornacchia, Co-Camp Director
815-541-7399
johncornacchia@aol.com

Jason Endress, Co-Camp Director
815-499-0950
chem_rulz@mchsi.com

Once camp has started, you may also call Camp Lowden, 815-732-6674.

YOUR TROOP'S WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE AT CAMP LOWDEN

Sunday	Camp orientation, merit badge check-in/sign-up, and opening campfire.
Monday	Merit badge instruction begins, First Class emphasis work begins, mile swim practice begins. Cook the evening meal in the campsite*.
Tuesday	Cook breakfast and lunch meals in the campsite. Chapel Services. A separate Ecumenical Non-Denominational Christian service and a Catholic Mass are held. Troop photos at dinner.
Wednesday	O.A. Calling Out Ceremony.
Thursday	O.A, induction and camp wide activities.
Friday	Mile swim, finalize all merit badge work, visitor's night closing campfire, and Court of Honor
Saturday	Lowden Logger breakfast and unit departure from camp.

*As noted in the General Information pages, the camp does not provide personal eating utensils for campsite cooking. Each Scout and Scouter will be responsible for providing their own cup, plate, and silverware to use for the three meals during campsite cooking.

Address and Mail

Mail for your Scout(s) should include:

Name and Troop #, c/o Camp Lowden, 4418 South Scout Road, Oregon, IL 61061-9727. Parents should be aware that mail sent on Thursday or Friday may not reach the Scout before he leaves on Saturday.

Return Address ***** ***** Scout's Name and Troop# c/o Camp Lowden, BSA 4418 South Scout Road Oregon, IL 61061-9727
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Telephone

In case of emergency, parents can reach the Camp Director at 815-732-6674. Fax number is 815-732-4817. The camp telephone is located in the camp office and is for camp business and emergency use only. The telephone is available to scouts only when accompanied by an adult leader. When placing a long distance call, you must either call collect, use a calling card, or place the call on your credit card. Please refer to the cell phone policy on page 8

Emergency Warning System

If the camp bell rings, it signals an emergency. All scouts and scouters are to go directly to the closest area where people naturally gather (i.e., campsite or program area). A staff member will escort the group to the emergency location for the situation (dining hall or other shelters depending upon the situation). Additional emergency procedures will be explained the first day you are in camp.

Trading Post

Hours of operation will be announced. The Trading Post stocks and sells refreshments, patches, handicraft items, camp t-shirts, Scouting literature, and Scouting equipment. First class postage stamps are available in the main office. All major credit cards are accepted in the Trading Post and the main office.

Family Night

On Friday night, camp is open to parents and friends. Guest should plan to arrive *no earlier than 5:00pm*. Everyone is invited to observe the flag lowering and share a picnic style dinner at 6:00pm. Following dinner, there are announced activities and games.

Leaders must inform the Camp Director at the Leader's meeting on Monday as to the total number of additional family members that may be expected for the evening meal on Friday.

FAMILY NIGHT MEAL FEES

Visitor's Meal ~ \$7.00

Children under 12 ~ \$5.00

Visitors should be reminded that they are **not** permitted to drive to campsites or activity areas. All vehicles must remain in the parking lot.

Camp is not capable of providing transportation for guests. Wheelchairs, golf carts, and other such modes of transportation are not available. Pets are not allowed in camp.

Troop Site and Equipment

All sites can be arranged for Patrol camping by your Troop. You may bring your own tents or you may request a site having platform tents. Platform tents are not screened or floored. Two cots and mattresses are provided with each platform tent. Assignment to all sites with platform tents will be made based on availability. Site location and capacity are determined and assigned by the Camp Director.

Requests for a campsite with platforms or other special campsite requests must be made by calling or writing the council office no later than May 1st.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
Picnic Table, Shovel, Rake and Broom

OPTIONAL
Chef Kit & Cook Kit, Water Jug & Dining Fly

If you wish to cook with a Dutch oven, please bring your own. Propane stoves and tanks are NOT available.

Every unit has the opportunity to use council camp equipment. When this equipment is checked out, it is in good condition. It must be returned in the same good condition as when your unit received it. Remember, other units will be using the equipment.

A unit has two options concerning camping equipment:

1. Bring all its own gear
2. Use a combination of unit and council equipment

Our only request is that we be informed of your unit's intentions at least two weeks in advance so that we can make sure requested equipment is available.

1. Each Scout must bring his personal mess kit: plate, cup, knife, fork, and spoon. Camp will not provide personal eating utensils for the campsite cooking experience.
2. Please bring your American flag and troop flag.
3. Bring any other cooking gear you deem necessary.
4. Special barrels for recyclables will be located throughout the camp.

THE 2018 CAMP LOWDEN MENU WILL BE POSTED ON THE CAMP AND COUNCIL WEBSITES AS SOON AS IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED.

**MEALS COOKED BY THE TROOP IN THE TROOP'S CAMPSITE
WILL BE MONDAY DINNER, TUESDAY BREAKFAST,
AND TUESDAY LUNCH.**

Program Areas at Camp Lowden

Aquatics	<p>If participating in Swimming, Lifesaving, Canoeing, Stand Up Paddle boarding, or Rowing, the Scout will need extra towels, a long-sleeve button shirt, sneakers, sweatshirt, long pants, and a belt. Be sure the parents of your Scout know these things will get wet! Scouts using the river must have a pair of shoes that are suitable to be worn in the river. Also available in this area: Swimming Instruction, Safe-Swim Defense Plan Instruction, Safety Afloat Instruction, Recreational Swimming, Recreational Boating, Mile Swim, Sailboarding, Rowing and Canoeing Instruction, B.S.A. Snorkeling, Rafting, Kayaking, Paddle Craft Safety Training, Swimming, Water Volleyball, and Water Basketball.</p>
Outdoor Skills	<p>Axemanship, Map & Compass, Geocaching, Edible Plants. Cooking Without Utensils, Rope work, Wilderness Survival, Dutch Oven Cooking, Orienteering, Lashings, Nature Hiking, Altar Fire Cooking, Model Campsite, Fishing, Signals and Codes</p> <p>*A Scout will need to supply his own backpack to complete the Camping merit badge. Paperwork can be done before camp. A Scout needs 20 days and 20 nights of camping experience. Once camp week (6 days and 6 nights) may count toward this total.</p> <p>Scouts working on the Cooking Merit Badge will need to bring to camp: menus, food lists, price lists, food pyramid. Paperwork should be done prior to camp. Prerequisite: Documentation that three meals have been cooked at home is required to complete this merit badge at camp.</p> <p>Additionally, Pioneering and Wilderness Survival Merit Badges are available in this program area.</p>
Ecology/Conservation	<p>Available merit badges are Reptile & Amphibian Study, Soil & Water Conservation, Environmental Science, Mammal Study, Bird Study, Astronomy, Insect Study, Nature, Fish & Wildlife Management, Geology, Weather, Forestry, Energy, Plant Science, Pulp and Paper, Medicine, Animal Science, and Chemistry. Clothes and sneakers are needed for wading in streams. Verification of previous projects, photographs or sketches must be brought to camp.</p>

<p>Shooting Sports</p>	<p>Available merit badges are Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting, and Archery. Scouts should be told that a substantial amount of practice time is needed to achieve scores. It is often difficult to complete these badges in one week.</p> <p>There is a nominal charge for shotgun shells. Depending on the individual, this charge could range from \$15.00 to \$20.00. Recreational shooters will also be charged. There is a \$3.00 charge to make an arrow for Archery Merit Badge. Scouts will be charged for the replacement of lost arrows.</p> <p>RIFLE RANGE: Hunter Safety Instruction, Recreational Shooting, .22 Rifle Instruction, Shotgun Instruction, Skeet Shooting ARCHERY RANGE: Safety and Fundamentals Instruction, Recreational Shooting.</p> <p>All personal weapons, bows, arrows and shells must be left at home! Only camp equipment will be used. Only camp shooting sports equipment is allowed on ranges.</p> <p>Back again this year is the Target Paintball Range. You will have a variety of targets to shoot at – <u>no people!</u> Cost is \$2.00 for 20 paintballs. Camp will furnish the paintball equipment</p> <p>DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN FIREARMS.</p>
<p>1st Class Express</p>	<p>This program is intended for the first-year camper. Throughout the week Scouts are encouraged to attend the sessions that will help them achieve the requirements that they still need to complete the 1st class rank. The flexibility of the program allows Scouts to attend only the sessions that they need for requirements yet to be completed. Sessions are scheduled so that only 1st Class Express Scouts are working together – working as a team. An optional overnight will be held.</p>
<p>Handicraft</p>	<p>Available merit badges include Sculpture, Leatherwork, Basketry, Art, Wood Carving, and Indian Lore. Each Scout will need additional money to purchase materials used in handicraft projects. Depending upon individual selection of projects, the cost could range from \$10.00 to \$30.00.</p> <p>Open activity times are available to all Scouts. Each Scout will need additional money to purchase materials used in handicraft projects. Depending upon individual selection of projects, the cost could range from \$10.00 to \$30.00 for the extra challenging projects such as moccasin kits.</p>
<p>Eagle Required</p>	<p>Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Emergency Preparedness, and First Aid. There are prerequisites that need to be completed prior to camp. Check with the Eagles’ Nest Director on Sunday night during merit badge sign up for the list of others that may be available.</p>

<p>Tier 2 Adventure Program</p>	<p>Camp Lowden's High Adventure Program is a multifaceted opportunity for older Scouts to enjoy several of the more challenging aspects of a week at camp. Offerings in Lowden's Tier 2 Adventure Program including the possibility of wilderness survival, repelling, tomahawk throwing, rafting on the Rock River, canoeing the Rock River, Golf Merit Badge, snares and deadfalls, branding, orienteering, GPS, Standup Paddleboarding, Lowden-Miller State Forest hikes, chess, horseback riding, high ropes course, ice wall climbing, golf, 1200' zip line, and robotics. Participants work with the director to plan their week of activity. They may then participate in as little or as much as they would like throughout the week. The Lowden Tier 2 Adventure Program experience truly adds a new dimension to a week of Scouting for the older scout</p>
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MERIT BADGES AT CAMP LOWDEN

Merit Badges are earned in camp just as they are at home! Most camp offered merit badges are intended to be done outdoors. Others are better suited to be done in the troop's community. Troops or Scouts must bring the appropriate merit badge pamphlets to camp. They are not for sale in the Trading Post.

Before camp ...

1. Help each Scout plan which merit badges to earn while at camp.
2. Have each Scout obtain and read the merit badge pamphlet for each merit badge he hopes to earn at camp. Many merit badges have requirements that need to be completed prior to arrival at camp. Written verification of prior completion of requirements must be brought to camp by each Scout.
3. Encourage your Scouts to concentrate their efforts on only as many merit badges as they can successfully complete in an activity-filled week. Remember camp should be fun, too! Don't over-schedule!!
4. Be sure your Scouts have the correct equipment for each merit badge they are taking.
5. *Blue merit badge cards are no longer needed. All achievement records are now done electronically. Each unit will receive an itemized, printed report of their Scouts' accomplishments.*

**** Camp counselors have the right to ask for verification and/or demonstration of skill/requirement mastery for any previously certified requirement.**

Web Site: Visit the Camp Lowden web site (www.camplowden.org) for updates in the merit badge and program schedules.

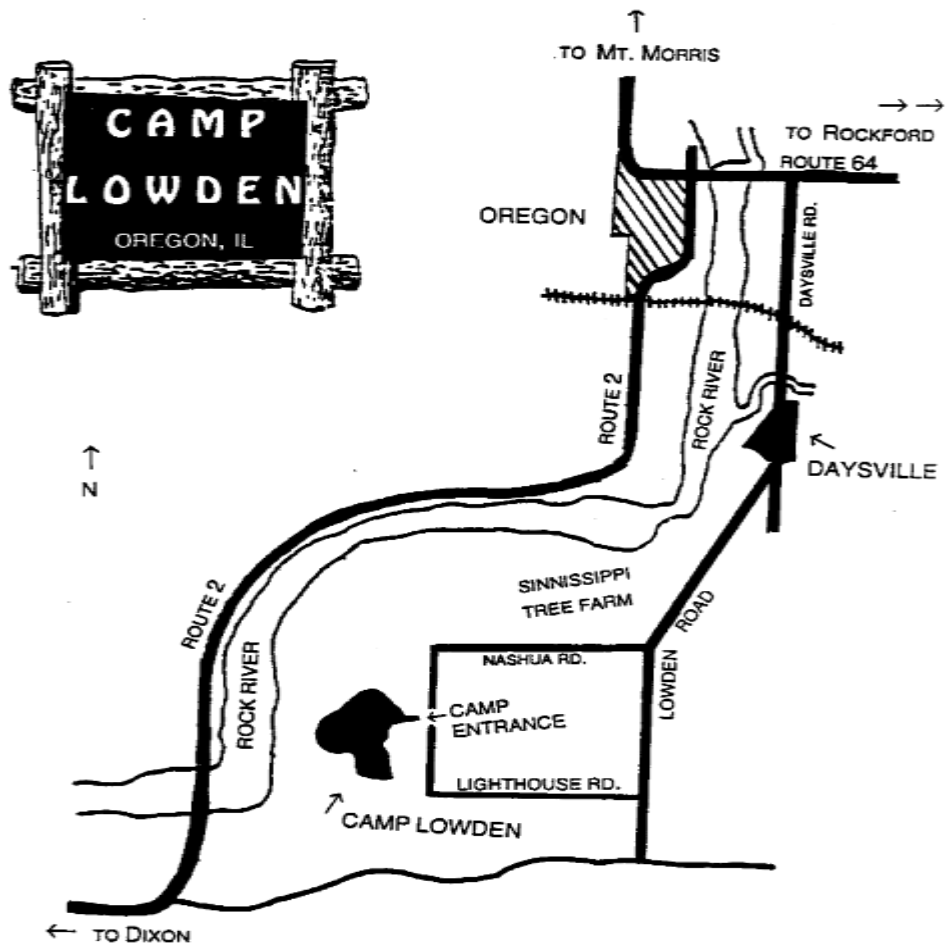
At Camp ...

1. On Sunday night, your Scouts will meet the Merit Badge Counselors. Don't over-program a Scout with merit badges. **Camp should be fun!**
2. Encourage your Scouts to be prepared before they get to camp and then let each Scout do his own work with the camp counselors.
3. Whether a Scout will successfully complete a merit badge is often determined the first two days in camp. Know where your Scouts are every day, and regularly check their merit badge progress. Progress reports for each Scout will be available at the daily leader meetings.

4. At the end of the week, the Unit Leader will receive a troop check-out packet with a complete list of each scout's achievements for the week and partial completion forms for each merit badge not fully completed. Each Scout should be encouraged to complete partials at home with another counselor. A Scout has until his 18th birthday to finish any Merit Badge. Safe Swim Defense cards, Safety Afloat cards, camp patches, buddy tags, leader training certification cards, and any other awards will also be included in the departure packet. Troop medical forms will be returned in the check-out packet as well.

Additional Programs Offered Throughout the Week

Climbing Tower	BMX Biking
Mountain Boarding	Pioneering Projects
River Tubing	Trail Hiking
Black Powder Shooting	Mountain Biking
Ga-Ga Ball	Tomahawk Throwing
Frisbee Golf	Bouldering Wall
Mountain Bike Trip	ATV Training and Trail Ride
Ice Wall Climbing	Standup Paddleboarding
9 Square in the Air	Slack Lining



Suggested Packing List for Summer Camp:

The list below is recommended for those scouts attending Summer Camp. If you have any questions please discuss them with your troop leadership.

CLOTHING

- Scout Uniform - for travel to and from camp, meals, and for ceremonies.
- Troop/camp/scouting/other T-shirts (6)
- Jeans - 2 pair
- Shorts - 3 pair
- Poncho or Raincoat
- Warm Jacket
- Sweatshirt or Flannel
- Tennis Shoes and/or Hiking Boots
- Swimsuit
- Pajamas
- Underwear - for 6 days
- Socks - for 6 days
- Handkerchief
- Watch (optional)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Pack and Frame OR Duffel Bag
- Sleeping bag
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Scout Handbook
- Spiral Notebook or equivalent
- Pens and Pencils
- Sunscreen and Chapstick
- Money - for MB materials, craft supplies, Trading Post goodies, etc.
- Insect Repellent
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Soap
- Towels and Washcloth (for bathing and swimming)
- Comb or Brush
- Other personal care products - contact lens cleaner, etc. (optional)
- Pillow (optional)
- Pocket Knife* (optional) *Must have 'Totin Chit' Card
- Camera (optional)
- Bible or Prayer Book (optional)

NOTE: Non-folding knives and fireworks are not permitted at Blackhawk Area Council Camps. Prior to coming to camp, scouts are encouraged to clearly mark all personal items with their name and troop number. Your Scout Handbook is a good source for additional information on what to pack.

Blackhawk Area Council

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Rockford, IL. 61107

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Camp Lowden

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Find us on Facebook!

The Blackhawk Area Council Camping Committee would like to acknowledge Wulapeju Lodge #140, Order of the Arrow, for its generous donation in funding the 2018 camping season Camp Leader's Guidebook.