

**A Parent and Scoutmaster's
Guide
to
Boy Scout Day Camp**



**Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation
Camp Somers**

**Patriots' Path Council
Boy Scouts of America
www.ppbsa.org**

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WHAT IS BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP?

- ✿ The Boy Scout Day Camp Dan Beard program is primarily designed for younger Scouts who recently crossed from Webelos into a Boy Scout Troop; but any Scout of any age is encouraged to attend. Scouts who come to Boy Scout Day Camp are those who are ready for camp, but may not be ready to sleep over, Scouts who would like to come back for a second week of camp or who were unable to attend summer camp with their own Troop.
- ✿ It is a program designed for Scouts who have not yet had the opportunity to advance through any of the initial ranks in Scouting – Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class.
- ✿ It is a program that emphasizes rank advancement and skills rather than Merit Badges.
- ✿ The Boy Scout Day Camp program for the older Scout is Merit Badge related. However, the Scout is there to have fun in the various program areas.

HOW IS BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP DIFFERENT FROM CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP?

Without a doubt, Boy Scout Day Camp is very different from Cub Scout Day Camp. Cub Scout Day Camp groups Scouts into dens – a group of Cub Scouts that they spend their entire day with. Camp Somers offers both resident and day camp for Scouts; therefore all Scouts at Camp Somers will be mixed together in the various camp programs. Boy Scout Day Camp emphasizes the importance of the buddy system rather than Dens. This allows Scouts at Camp Somers to have much more freedom than they may have experienced in prior day camps. Part of the Scout's first day at camp will be spent working with a Camp Somers counselor on what Badge is best for each individual Scout.

WHAT IF MY SCOUT COMES UP FOR TWO WEEKS OF BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP?

Great! If a Scout wishes to participate in two or more weeks of Boy Scout Day Camp he will be able to spend another week in our Dan Beard area continuing to work on rank advancement or concentrate on Merit Badge work. This program changes weekly depending on group dynamics for that week. Scouts who participate in multiple weeks of Boy Scout Day Camp show stronger proficiency in their basic skills when they go home to their Troops in the fall.

WHAT SHOULD A SCOUT BRING TO BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP?

- ✿ Rain coat or poncho (remember: Be Prepared!)
- ✿ Water bottle or canteen
- ✿ Insect Repellent
- ✿ Sunscreen
- ✿ Pencil and Paper
- ✿ Swim Suit
- ✿ Towel
- ✿ **We recommend that Scouts do not bring their Handbooks to camp. At the end of the week they will receive a weekly report of the requirements they completed in Dan Beard which a Scout can then give to his Scoutmaster. We do not sign any Handbooks here in camp – no exceptions.**



WHAT IS AN AVERAGE DAY LIKE IN BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP?

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30-9:00	Bus drop off at Camp Somers and registration for those who missed orientation	Bus drop off at Camp Somers and daily attendance check			
9:00-12:00	DAN BEARD PROGRAM FOR THE FIRST YEAR SCOUT MERIT BADGE WORK FOR THE OLDER SCOUT				
12:00-12:45	Lunch at Camp Somers Dining Hall (lunch is provided as part of the program)				
12:45-2:00	“First Year Scout Resident Camp Experience” – First Year Scouts will spend an hour in different program areas each day learning a new skill associated with that area. Areas that will be visited include Aquatics, Outdoor Skills, Ecology, Shooting Sports, Handicraft and Sports. Daily activities during this time period will vary week to week depending on counselor availability and the abilities and interests of the First Year Scout. MERIT BADGE WORK FOR THE OLDER SCOUT				
2:00-3:00	Scouts will have go to the Waterfront area and work on either swim instruction or swimming Merit Badge, depending on ability. If a Scout has come for more than one week, he may chose to do another Merit Badge instead. **Swimming was chosen because of its importance for completion of Eagle Rank and accessibility to counselor outside of camp.** MERIT BADGE WORK FOR THE OLDER SCOUT				
3:00-4:00	“Game Time” while the Scouts regroup at the designated meeting area and prepare to check back onto the busses				
4:15	Bus pick up				

WHAT WILL MY SCOUT COME HOME WITH AT THE END OF THE WEEK?

At the end of the week, each Scout will return with his Dan Beard advancement report and a Merit Badge Application also known as a “blue card.” All of this paperwork should go to your Scoutmaster. It is important to realize that attendance at camp for the week does not necessarily guarantee a completed Merit Badge. Counselors will work with Scouts throughout the week to earn a completed merit badge, however sometimes Scouts are not able to complete all requirements for a badge. If a Scout does come home with a partial, he is able to continue working on the badge with a counselor outside of camp, or if he is one or two requirements shy of completing the badge he may come back

to camp while it is still in session to complete those requirements. It is important to note that a partial does not expire until a Scout's 18th birthday when the Scout is ineligible to earn any more Merit Badges.

**DOES MY SCOUT NEED A MEDICAL FORM FOR BOY SCOUT
DAY CAMP?**



Absolutely! Each Scout in the Boy Scout Day Camp program must have an Annual Health and Medical record Parts “A” and “C” completed. This form is contained in the confirmation packet that each registered Scout can access on the council website (www.ppbsa.org). A Scout may not remain in camp without this form. This must be updated annually and only needs to be signed by a parent/guardian – no doctor visit is necessary. As with all forms needed in the Boy Scout program it is good practice to keep the original for your records and make a copy for the camp.

DO NOT SEND MEDICAL FORMS TO THE COUNCIL OFFICE.

**WHAT IF A SCOUT NEEDS TO TAKE A MEDICATION WHILE AT
CAMP?**

A Scout's medications for the week must be turned in upon arrival. All medications must be stored at the Health Lodge only. As part of the Monday morning check in process Scouts will stop at the Health Lodge to meet the Health Officer and turn in all medications. If a Scout does need to take medications while at camp he should turn in his medicine with a filled out “Medication Record” form which is contained in the Annual Health and Medical Record. This should be attached to the “Annual Health and Medical Record”. Medication will not be dispensed without this form.

IS THERE ANY OTHER PAPERWORK CAMP SOMERS NEEDS FOR MY SCOUT TO ATTEND FIRST YEAR SCOUT DAY CAMP?

In addition to the Medical Form and a Medication Record a Scout should also bring his signed “Three Strikes Rule” sheet and the “Emergency Contact Names” form, both of which are contained in the confirmation packet on the council website. These forms are also necessary for a Scout to remain in camp.

WHAT IF I WANT TO VOLUNTEER MY TIME WITH THE BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP PROGRAM?

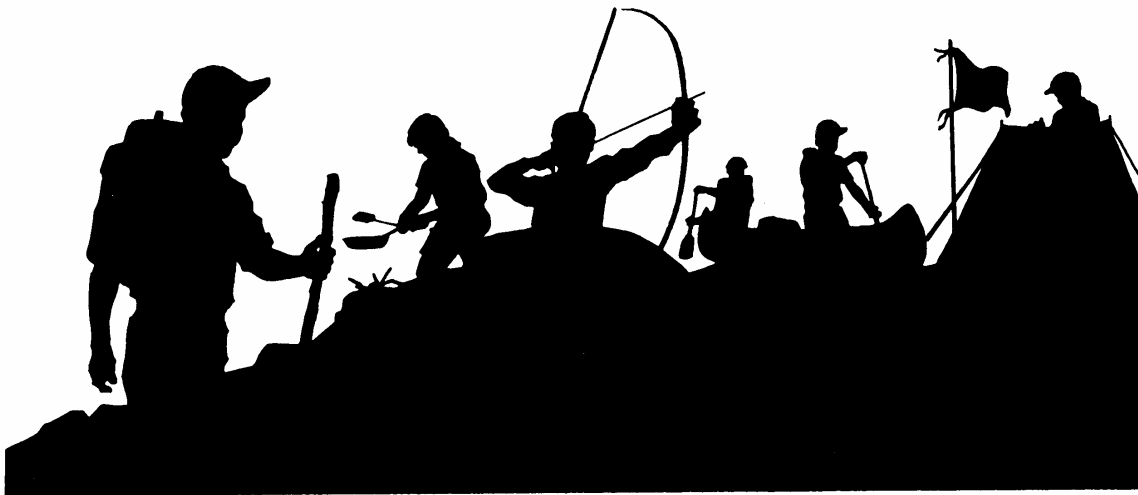
That’s great! Assisting with a Scout’s first experience at summer camp is a worthwhile experience even if it’s just for a day! Adult volunteers help supplement the paid staff at Day Camp. To be considered, the following criteria must be met:

- Registered member of the B.S.A.
- Current Youth Protection Training
- Completed Adult Staff Application
- Medical & Medication Forms
- Personal Interview

There are a limited number of openings for Adult Volunteers each week at Camp. If you are interested, complete an application and mail it with your son’s registration form. You will be contacted for an interview.

WHAT IF MY SCOUT CANNOT ATTEND CAMP ON A PARTICULAR DAY?

If your Scout will be absent from camp please call the camp between 8:00-9:00a.m., and leave a message on the camp answering machine. If you wish to speak with someone regarding the First Year Scout program, the camp office opens at 9:00 a.m. The camp telephone number is 973-347-2240. Please note the resident camp is at flags and meals between 7:45-9:00am, 12:00-1:00pm, and 5:35-7:00pm. The camp answering machine is in service between those hours.



WHAT ABOUT ORIENTATION?

There are two orientation dates for the Boy Scout Day Camp. All Scouts and their parents should plan on attending one of the two nights.

Wednesday June 30, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Camp Somers Dining Hall

Wednesday July 21, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Camp Somers Dining Hall

All paperwork can be turned in at this time. Please note that Scouts who bring their completed Medical Forms to orientation will have the opportunity to take their swim test (Scout should wear swim suit and bring towel) after the orientation information session.

HOW DO I GET TO CAMP?

Camp Address:

Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation
750 Waterloo Road
Stanhope, NJ 07874

Directions:

- From I-80: Take Exit #25 (Route 206 North, Newton). Take the first right (another ramp) after the exiting I-80. There will be a sign for Waterloo Village. After following the ramp, take the first right. This is the access road. Go to the end and make a left onto Waterloo Road. The camp entrance is on the right, 300 yards past the entrance to Waterloo Village.
- From Route 46: Proceed west on Route 46 to I-80 West. (Approximately 1.5 miles beyond the old Ledgewood Circle) Follow directions above from I-80, Exit #25.
- From Route 10: Proceed west to the old Ledgewood Circle onto Route 46 West and follow to I-80 West. Follow directions from I-80, Exit #25.
- From Route 206: Follow Route 206 to Waterloo Road. If coming from the north, turn right into Waterloo Road and proceed approximately 2.5 miles. The Waterloo Village entrance will be on your left and the camp entrance is 300 yards beyond on the right.

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Bus and Registration Related Questions – Contact the Council Office at 973-765-9322

Program Questions – Contact the Camp Somers Program Director at 973-347-2240

Miscellaneous Camp Questions – Contact the MASR Reservation Director at 973-347-2240

Medical Questions – Contact the Camp Health Officer at 973-347-2240

FIRST CLASS FIRST TERMINOLOGY

- First Year Scout Camp - First Year Scout Boy Scout Day Camp is a program which emphasizes the importance of rank advancement rather than merit badges. First Year Scout Camp gives Scouts a small sampling of what resident summer camp has to offer.
- Dan Beard - Dan Beard is Camp Somers' first year camper program for both day and resident campers. Dan Beard works with Scouts on requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class.
- Merit Badge - A merit badge is an invitation to explore an exciting subject. With more than a hundred to choose from, some merit badges encourage you to increase your skill in subjects you already like, while others challenge you to learn about new areas of knowledge.
- Blue Card - A blue card is a Scout's tri-fold application for a merit badge. When it is returned a Scout may receive either a partial or a complete. A partial will show what requirements a Scout still needs to fulfill; while a complete will state "complete" on the grid side of the blue card.
- Advancement Report - At the end of a week of Dan Beard each Scout will receive a report that states what requirements were completed throughout the week.
- Confirmation Packet - Once a Scout has registered for First Year Scout Camp he will receive a confirmation letter with instructions to download all the necessary paperwork as well as any other information for the First Year Scout Program.
- Medical Form - A Medical Form informs the camp what (if any) medical conditions each individual Scout has. It is imperative that this be updated annually as medical conditions may change from year to year.
- Medication Form - A Medication Form informs the camp what (if any) medications each individual Scout may be taking. It is imperative that this be updated annually as medical conditions may change from year to year.

