



MAY 2025 Northampton District Newsbrief

Northampton District

SCOUTING AMERICA, MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL



BRIEFLY...

THERE'S A LOT TO DO!!

Northampton District volunteers are *working hard to stage events to engage your youth members and help you with your unit programs*. Keep your eyes on the website and the district news; in addition to the district picnic, membership kickoff, and bike day, we are planning skating, trampoline park, and camping events. Get involved! Get busy! Have fun!

Council Membership Kick-off

Energize your recruitment season! You're invited to the Council Membership Kickoff, Tuesday, May 20th, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Minsi Trails Council Service Center, 991 Postal Road, Allentown, PA

Northampton District Picnic

Mark your calendar! Join us for the Northampton District Picnic at Louise Moore Park, May 21 at 6:00 PM, as we celebrate our volunteers throughout the district. Please bring a dish to share. More information at <https://scoutingevent.com/502-nopicnic25>.

Northampton District Membership Kick-off

Join us June 4, 2025 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at Louise Moore Park. Check <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA502&calendarID=568311> for updated information.

Cub Scout Bike Day

Cub Scout Bike Day is June 4, 5:00–7:00 PM at Miller Heights Elementary School, Bethlehem. The event is open to Scout families and friends. Ask your friends to join you. See flyer on page 8 and register at <https://scoutingevent.com/502-Bikeday25>

Klecknersville Rangers Scouts BSA Weekend

On June 6 – 8, 2025 Scouts will have the opportunity to learn First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, and Fire Safety. There will be Patrol Competitions, Fire Fighter Demonstrations, tours of Fire Trucks and Ambulances, a bonfire and more. More information on page 11.



The Northampton District is a geographical area located in Northampton county which serves the youth of Bethlehem, Bangor, Chapman, Easton, Freemansburg, Glendon, Hellertown, Nazareth, North Catasauqua, Northampton, Pen Argyl, Portland, Roseto, Stockertown, Tatamy, Walnutport, West Easton, Wilson, Wind Gap, and all areas between.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT LINKS

Northampton District Home Page on Council Website:

<https://minsitrails.org/northampton-district/>

Northampton District Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthamptonDistrict/>

Trail to Eagle Resources:

<https://minsitrails.org/the-trail-to-eagle-resources/>

Northampton District school policies (for recruiting Scouts):

<https://minsitrails.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/School-policies.docx>

Cub Scout Go and See Guide for Packs, Dens, & Families:

<https://minsitrails.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Go-and-See-Guide-2024-VI.pdf>

Current district newsletter (permalink):

http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/current_newsletter.php

District newsletter archive (permalink):

http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/newsletter_archive.htm

Minsi Trails Council Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/minsitrailsbsa>

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP*: 2025 NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT & OTHER ACTIVITIES

MAY 16 to 18 - Beaver Day Weekend at Camp Minsi

MAY 18 - Wilderness First Aid Course

MAY 21 - Northampton District Picnic at Louise Moore Park, 6 PM (please bring a dish to share)

MAY 30 TO JUNE 1 - OA Order of the Arrow - Spring Weekend 2025

JUNE 4 - Cub Scout Bike Day — Open to All Youth! 5:00–7:00 PM, Miller Heights Elementary School, Bethlehem.

JUNE 4 - Northampton District Membership Kick-off, 7:00 to 8:30 PM, Louise Moore Park

JUNE 6 to 8 - Scouts, BSA weekend at Klecknersville Rangers Vol. Fire Co., Bath, PA - First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, and Fire Safety.

JUNE 7 - Marksmanship Madness at Camp Minsi

JUNE 20 - Scout Night and Campout with the Iron Pigs, 7:00 PM

**dates are tentative, check council calendar to verify*

Eagle Court of Honor for Damien C. W. - Troop 33



Silver Beaver honorees for 2024



Jay Rutan receives American Legion Scouting America Leader Knot Award American Legion Post 9 in Palmer, PA ,May 8, 2025



The American Legion Scouting America Leader Knot Award (formerly known as the American Legion Square Knot Award) is a recognition presented by The American Legion to adult leaders in Scouting America who have made a significant impact in promoting Scouting values and strengthening the relationship between Scouting and The American Legion.

To qualify, an adult Scouting leader must:

Be a registered Scouting America adult leader.

Be a member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion.

Promote Scouting programs through an American Legion-affiliated post, unit, or district.

Demonstrate sustained service and leadership in promoting the Scouting movement.

Be nominated and approved by an American Legion post and certified by a local council or Scouting executive.

The award:

Encourages cooperation between The American Legion and Scouting units.

Recognizes the essential volunteer work of adult leaders.

Highlights the shared values of citizenship, patriotism, service, and leadership development.

NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIR

Hello Fellow Northampton District Scouters,

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you next week at our District picnic. Summer is upon us and it's a fantastic time for Scouting. Hiking, camping and all things outdoors are available to your unit and I sincerely hope you take advantage of them, especially summer camp at Camp Minsi. As always, please adhere to the Guide to Safe Scouting and ensure safety for everyone involved, both Youth and Adults.

We have some upcoming Membership/Recruitment kick off events in the next few weeks and I highly recommend that you take advantage of those events for fresh ideas, access to resources, and the opportunity to share ideas with fellow Unit Leaders. There is the Council Membership Kick-off on Tuesday, May 20th, at the Council Offices and the Northampton District Kickoff on Wednesday, June 4th, at Louise Moore Park. I strongly urge you to attend at least one of these events to get an early start on recruiting new scouts into your units. The more Scouts we have generally means the more Adult Leaders we have and typically, the more Adult Leaders make for better programs for our Scouts. Check the Minsi Council calendar for more details.

Along with the advent of summer I urge you all to start thinking about your Unit Planning for the next school year beginning as early as June. This will allow you the summer months to give time to pull together ideas from Youth and Adults, research those ideas and create a well thought out plan for the coming year. With all of us being pulled in many directions over the summer from graduation season, baseball season, and family activities, sending a quick email to your Committee to start the process will help ease a mad rush in August.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer and hope to see many of you next Wednesday night, May 21, at Louise Moore Park for our District picnic.

Mike Caffrey
Northampton District Chair



Membership News

Northampton District Recruiting Kick off

Come join us on Wednesday, June 4th for our District Recruiting Kick off. It will be held at Louise Moore Park Pavillion 1 at 7:00 pm. Let's get ready to Grow Scouting!

BeAScout Pin

Units, please review your BeAScout pin to make sure that the information is up to date. Verify contact information, meeting location, day, and times that you meet. Make sure your pin is turned on.

BeAScout Leads

Units, when you receive an email through BeAScout please reach out to the family and address any questions they may have. Invite them to a meeting so they can see your unit at work and meet the Scouts and leaders. We ask that you make a note on the invitation to let us know that the family has been contacted and the results of the contact. These leads are an excellent opportunity to grow your unit.

Northampton District Annual Awards Picnic

Come join us on Wednesday, May 21st at Louise Moore Park at 6:00 pm as we celebrate all our volunteers. It is an opportunity to meet our district committee and enjoy dinner. Sign up on the Minsi Trails council website at <https://scoutingevent.com/502-nopicnic25>. We ask that you bring a covered dish to share with our families. We look forward to seeing you.

Activities:

National Summertime Award – Cub Scouts

Just because school classrooms go dark in the summer doesn't mean Cub Scouting has to. Extend the fun of Cub Scouting into the year's hottest season by earning the National Summertime Pack Award. To qualify for the National Summertime Pack Award, a pack must hold at least one pack event or activity in each of the three months – June, July, and August. There is no attendance requirement to earn the pack award. Do that, and you'll get a streamer for your pack flag and a certificate suitable for framing. Dens with an average attendance of at least half their members at the three summer pack events are eligible for a colorful den participation ribbon.

Scouts and adults who participate in all three events are eligible to receive the National Summertime Pack Award pin, which they can wear on the right pocket flap of their uniform. Attending summer camp and day camp counts.

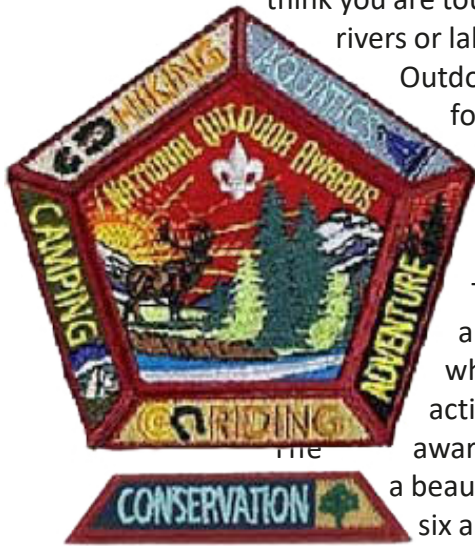
Complete the application and submit it to council.

<https://www.ncacbsa.org/chain-bridge/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2021/07/National-Summertime-Pack-Award-Application.pdf>

National Outdoor Awards Program – Scouts BSA

Do you enjoy camping under the stars, rafting a whitewater river, or hitting the trail afoot, on a bike, or even on a horse? Can you pitch a tent, find your way, and bandage an ankle using only materials

in your pack? Are you prepared to do any of these in rain, snow, sleet, or heat? If so, the National Outdoor Awards are for you. There is nothing virtual about these awards—you can earn them only by demonstrating knowledge and experience in the outdoors. So, if you are a member of Scouts BSA, Sea Scout, or Venturer, and think you are tough and disciplined enough to hike or ride the miles, camp the nights, run the rivers or lakes, or do the work to conserve the land, then read on and see if the National Outdoor badges or possibly the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement could be for you!



National Outdoor Awards for Camping, Aquatics, Conservation, Hiking, Riding, and Adventure

When a Scout excels in outdoor participation, there are awards to show for it! This program, conceived by the BSA's National Camping Task Force, includes a series of six badges designed to recognize a Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer who has exemplary knowledge and experience in performing high-level outdoor activities.

The award consists of up to six emblem segments positioned around the perimeter of a beautiful center emblem. All are embroidered in full color. The segments represent six areas of emphasis: Camping, Aquatics, Conservation, Hiking, Riding, and Adventure, with rigorous requirements to earn each segment.

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/noa/>

Trash for Cash

It is that time of year again! Baseball season is here. We are again partnering with the Iron Pigs with Trash for Cash! There have been a few changes to the program, the major change is that there needs to be only 4 Scouts, instead of 6 from last year to participate in the program.

The program is available for Packs and Troops also.

Please contact John Yackabonis at john.yackabonis@scouting.org for available dates

Trash For Cash with the Iron Pigs. Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown, PA 18109.

Patti Davis

Northampton District Membership Chair





You're invited to
**Cub Scout
Bike Day!**

**Wednesday, June 4, 2025
5-7pm**

at Miller Heights Elementary School
3605 Allen St, Bethlehem, PA 18020

Organized by



**COALITION FOR
APPROPRIATE
TRANSPORTATION**

Bring your child's bicycle and helmet
Friends and family are welcome!

- ★ **Free helmets and bike safety checks**
- ★ **Practice on the big skills course**
- ★ **Neighborhood bike ride**
- ★ **Music, snacks, and fun!!!**

more info at LVCAT.org

Register here →



Thanks to our sponsors and partners:
Scouting America – Minsi Trails Council
Lehigh Valley Transportation Study (LVTS), PennDOT



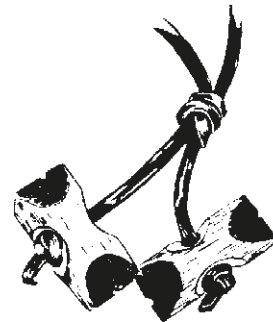
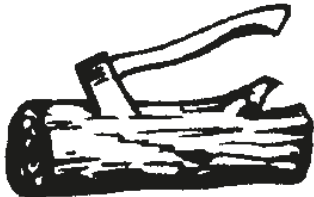
Minsi Trails' Wood Badge Registration is open!

[http://www.minsitrailswoodbadge.org/
register.php](http://www.minsitrailswoodbadge.org/register.php)

Fee: \$395; \$295 for Minsi Trails
registered leaders after \$100 Wood
Badge Fund scholarship. An addi-
tional \$50 discount if paid in full by
January 31.



**September 19-21, 2025
and
October 18-19, 2025**



What Wood Badge Did for Me

I was a Scoutmaster with about 3 years experience when I took Wood Badge. Looking back, I really wish I had taken it while I was still an Assistant Scoutmaster, or at least a year or two earlier. We were a medium sized troop, and I was having trouble letting the scouts run the troop. At one point my son and his friend cornered me and told me they weren't enjoying Scouts. It was obvious that I needed to change.

Wood Badge was a key part of that change. Many of the scouts had attended National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), but I didn't speak their language and it frustrated them. I learned that language during the two weekends of Wood Badge, and I learned a whole lot more.



Two sessions still come to mind when I think about the skills taught during the course: listening and dealing with conflicts. These not only helped me when working with the scouts, but I definitely used these tools when working with the troop committee, parents, and at also at work. Most importantly, I better understood what the older scouts were capable of doing, so I was able to step back and let them lead.



So, it's fair to say that taking Wood Badge turned me around as a Scoutmaster. It's also fair to say that it helped me in my career, and when working with people in general.



Jim Swain

Northampton District Roundtable Commissioner

13-502-25 Course Senior Patrol Leader



KLECKNERSVILLE RANGERS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

SCOUTS BSA, WEEKEND JUNE 6 – 8, 2025

**It's BAAAAAACK. Our annual Scouts BSA, Weekend.
Come and join us for some fun and games, and your chance to earn
3 merit badges.**



FIRST AID



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



FIRE SAFETY

This weekend you will have the opportunity to learn First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, and Fire Safety. There will be Patrol Competitions, Fire Fighter Demonstrations, tours of Fire Trucks and Ambulances, a Bon fire and plenty of fun to be had. There is a \$10.00 fee per Scout.

- Registration begins at 1600 on Friday. Check out time on Sunday is 1300.
- Space is limited so do not hesitate to get registered. Paid registrations get priority.
- Camp Site space is limited, plan accordingly.
- Troops are responsible for all meals and supplies.
- Scouts MUST be PRE REGISTARED for merit badges.
- All Pre-requisites MUST be complete before classes begin.
- Blue Cards MUST be provided for each Merit Badge and signed by Scoutmaster.

Troop No. _____ No. of Scouts Attending: _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Contact Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Position: _____ Email: _____

(Checks can be made out to Klecknersville Rangers Vol. Fire Company, Scouts BSA, Weekend)
Payments may be made the day of event. If mailing, be sure to give enough time to get through the mail system.

Registrations forms are due no later than Saturday May 24.

Mail checks to: Klecknersville Rangers Vol. Fire Co.

C/O Scouts BSA, Weekend
2718 Mountain View Drive
Bath, Pa. 18014

Unless severe weather is expected, this will be a rain or shine event.

For questions, please call Brian (610) 751-6201 or email: BDRADCLIFFE1973@GMAIL.COM



KLECKNERSVILLE RANGERS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

SCOUTS BSA, WEEKEND JUNE 6 – 8, 2025

Please use the space below to list the boys / girls who will be attending each merit badge session.
Mail in with registration / payment, if paying in person email list to:
BDRADCLIFFE1973@GMAIL.COM



Will run Saturday and Sunday mornings
(Must show proof of CPR certification)

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Will run Sunday Morning
(Must have proof of First Aid Merit Badge)

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Will Run Saturday Morning

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KLECKNERSVILLE RANGERS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

SCOUTS BSA, WEEKEND JUNE 6 – 8, 2025

Event Timeline

Friday June 6

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|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1600 – 2000 | Check-in, Registration, Camp Set up |
| 2000 | Scoutmaster Meeting |
| 2000 | SPL Meeting |
| 2300 | TAPS |

Saturday June 7

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 0630 | Reville |
| 0630 – 0800 | Breakfast |
| 0800 | Morning Colors |
| 0815 – 0830 | SPL Meeting |
| 0815 – 0830 | Scoutmaster Meeting |
| 0830 – 1200 | Merit Badge Sessions |
| 1200 – 1330 | Lunch |
| 1330 – 1600 | Patrol Competitions |
| 1600 – 1800 | Dinner |
| 1800 – 1900 | Awards / Patrol Skits |
| 1900 | Bon Fire / Non-denominational services |
| 2000 | Firefighter Demonstrations |
| 2300 | TAPS |

Sunday June 8

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| 0630 | Reville |
| 0630 – 0800 | Breakfast |
| 0800 | Morning Colors |
| 0815 – 0830 | SPL Meeting |
| 0815 – 0830 | Scoutmaster Meeting |
| 0830 – 1200 | Merit Badge Sessions |
| 1200 – 1300 | Check out |
| 1300 – 1400 | Tear down and Camp Clean up. |

*** Schedule is only an estimation, times and activities subject to change. ***



KLECKNERSVILLE RANGERS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

SCOUTS BSA, WEEKEND JUNE 6 – 8, 2025

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. If the Fire Siren goes off, all Scouts and Scout Leaders must report back to their campsites. SPL will take a head count and report back to the Scoutmaster. Everyone will remain in their campsites and wait for further instruction.
2. All Scouts and Scoutmasters MUST remain on Fire Company property at all times throughout the weekend. NO ONE is allowed to leave the property unless permission is given from their Scoutmaster.
3. The Old Church parking lot and building are OFF LIMITS.
4. No one is allowed in the Fire House, Fire Bays or Fire Apparatus unless accompanied by a member of the Fire Company or as part of a Merit Badge.
5. All vehicles MUST be removed from campsites by 2000 on Friday night. Small Troop trailers will be allowed to remain in site.
6. All Troops must provide their own food, cooking and camping supplies. KRVFC will not provide items for you.
7. There is no electricity available for use unless medically necessary and no generators are allowed. Please see Fire Chief or one of the event organizers if needed.
8. Fresh water is available on the side of the building by the parking lot.
9. Port-o-potties MUST be used by all participants. Fire House bathrooms are OFF LIMITS to all non- members.
10. SAFETY is of the utmost importance. The tools and the fire equipment are sharp and heavy. DO NOT pick them up or play with them unless given permission by KRVFC personnel.
11. Campfires in the sites will be allowed, providing they are placed into a fire pit. A fire extinguisher or water bucket must be within easy reach. (Unless a burn ban is in effect)
12. Any accidents or injuries, no matter how small MUST be reported. The injured person and a buddy MUST report to the FIRST AID station to be evaluated. If medical treatment is needed, the scoutmaster must be notified.
13. Due to the closeness of neighbors, TAPS will be at 2300. ALL scouts MUST be in their campsites. No load noises, music, horse play will be allowed after this.



KLECKNERSVILLE RANGERS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

SCOUTS BSA, WEEKEND JUNE 6 – 8, 2025

EVALUATION SHEET

Thank you for attending this years' Klecknersville Rangers Vol. Fire Company Scout Weekend. We look forward to this event each and every year. Your feed back on how we did will help us make this event even better. Please take a minute and fill out the event evaluation and let us know what we did right, what we did wrong, and what areas we can improve. If one of our members did an outstanding job, please let us know. Thank you for attending, and hope to see you back next year.

1. The camping area.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

2. The instructor's knowledge on topics covered.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

3. The instructor's ability to explain the topics covered.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

4. The use of visuals or hands on demonstrations.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

5. How did you like the Patrol activities.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

6. How did you like the Firefighter Demonstrations.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

7. The check in and registration process.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

8. The overall camping / merit badge weeknd.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

Please list and suggestions or ideas of how we can improve our weekend. Use the back of the page if necessary.

Troop # _____ Name : _____ City : _____

The Takhone Corner



Upcoming Order of the Arrow Unit Events

May 16 to 18 - Beaver Day Weekend (Chapter gathering at 3:00 pm during Beaver Day at Camp Minsi on May 17th.
We will meet at the pavilion by the parking lot/Ad Pad)
May 30 to June 1 - OA Lodge Spring Weekend
August 6 to 10 - Section E-17 Conclave



YOUR HOMETOWN TEAM

2025 SCOUT NIGHT

SIGN-UP IS BY SCOUT UNIT ONLY FOR GROUPS OF 20+.
NO INDIVIDUAL TICKET ORDERS PLEASE.

**FRIDAY
JUNE 20**

7:05PM

VS



**FRIDAY
AUGUST 8**

7:05PM

VS



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- 2025 IRONPIGS SCOUT SLEEPOVER PATCH
- TROOPS CAN SEND IN A TROOP PHOTO TO BE SHOWN ON THE VIDEO BOARD BEFORE THE GAME
- PREGAME PARADE ON THE FIELD
- IRONPIGS GAME
- POST-GAME FIREWORKS!
- OVERNIGHT CAMPOUT ON THE FIELD
- MOVIE SHOWN ON THE VIDEOBOARD
- CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST IN THE MORNING

Scout uniforms or activity uniforms are permitted. Be sure to sign up early.
If camping, please use free-standing tents only; no cots and no tent pegs allowed.

**PINEWOOD DERBY RACING
IN THE TD BANK PLAZA!**



TICKET OPTIONS:

SLEEPOVER \$20 Field Level Ticket,
+ \$2 Ballpark Credit

\$17 GA Ticket,
+ \$2 Ballpark Credit

GAME-ONLY \$13 Field Level Ticket
+ \$2 Ballpark Credit

\$10 GA Ticket,
+ \$2 Ballpark Credit

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT GROUP SALES
AT INFO@IRONPIGSBASEBALL.COM
OR TEXT 833-495-0033



610-841-7447 ext. 2