



**JANUARY 2024 Northampton District Newsletter**

# Northampton District

**MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL, BSA**



## NEWSLETTER... YOU SAY YOU WANT A RESOLUTION!!

The beginning of a new year serves as a moment to reinforce our commitment to the principles of scouting and personal development. Through resolutions reflecting the core values of scouting, emphasizing leadership, self-reliance, and a strong sense of responsibility, we can make a difference in the lives of young women and young men. You can help by submitting articles and/or photos of your unit's activities or events for the District newsletter to Bernie Suess at [newsletter@minsi-northampton.com](mailto:newsletter@minsi-northampton.com). Submit your information by the fifteenth of each month for the following month's newsletter.

### 2024 DATES

Roundtable 7:00pm	as scheduled (council-wide)
OA Chapter 7:00pm	as scheduled
District Committee 7:00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday
Eagle Board & Project Review	[as needed]
District Commissioners	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

OA Family Banquet	January 6, 2024 [13]
Winter Fun Fest	January 13 [2]
Council Recognition Dinner	January 26 [10]
Scout Sunday	February 11
Klondike Derby	February 24 [2]
Winter Webelo Event	February 24 [2]
University of Scouting	TBD
District Pinewood Derby	March 16 [17]
District Bike Hike (Cubs/Troops)	TBD
District First Aid Meet	April 11 [3]
BALOO training	April 12-13 [2]
IOLS training	April 12-13 [2]
Cruise the Gap	May 3-5 [14]
Council Pinewood Derby	May 11 [11]
Council Beaver Weekend	May 17-18 [2]
Northampton District Picnic	May 22 [6*]
Spring OA Weekend	May 31-June 2 [2]
OA Section E-17 Conclave	June 7-9 [4]
District Day Camp	July 26-28 [6]
Fall OA Weekend	September 6-8 [2]
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	September 20-22 & 27-29 [2]
OA OctoberFest Weekend	October 4-6 [2]
Council Fall Family Weekend	October 11-13 [2]
Scouting for Food	November 2 and 9
District Recharter Night	TBD

**PLEASE NOTE:** All dates and locations are tentative and should be confirmed online or at registration.

### MEETING LOCATION KEY

*Some meetings may be online or hybrid (link sent via email or posted on calendar)*

- [1] Minsi Trails Council Office
- [2] Camp Minsi
- [3] Klecknersville Fire Co.
- [4] Camp No-Be-Bo-Sco, Hardwick Township, NJ
- [6] Louise Moore Park, 151 Country Club Rd, Easton, PA 18045
- [7] Jordan Lutheran Church, 5103 Snowdrift Rd, Orefield, PA
- [8] Northampton Community College
- [9] Wind Gap Fire Company Social Hall, 111 North Broadway, Wind Gap
- [10] East Hills Moravian Church, 1830 Butztown Rd, Bethlehem
- [11] Kelly Jeep
- [12] St. Anne Church, 450 E Washington Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18017,
- [13] DeSales University
- [14] Wind Gap Park, 334 S Lehigh Ave, Wind Gap, PA 18091
- [15] Summit Bechtel Reserve, 2550 Jack Furst Dr, Glen Jean, WV 25846
- [16] Becky's Drive-in, 4845 Lehigh Dr, Walnutport, PA 18088-9597
- [17] Kelly Nissan 3830 Easton-Nazareth Highway, Easton
- [18] PPL Center
- [19] East Hills Middle School, Bethlehem
- [20] Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown, PA 18109
- [21] National Canal Museum, 2750 Hugh Moore Park Rd, Easton, PA

**NOTICE:** If you have a question regarding any date or activity, please contact the respective Chair listed on the District Committee Page.



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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:

<http://www.minsitrails.org/districts/northampton-district/60269>

Northampton District Facebook page:

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

Trail to Eagle Resources:

<http://www.minsitrails.org/eagle-rank/trail-to-eagle-resources/60185>

Northampton District school policies (for recruiting Scouts):

<https://www.minsitrails.org/document/2022-northampton-school-policies/210661>

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

<http://www.minsitrails.org/document/cubscoutgoandseeguidecouncil2021q3/207571>

Current district newsletter (permalink):

[http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/current\\_newsletter.php](http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/current_newsletter.php)

District newsletter archive (permalink):

[http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/newsletter\\_archive.htm](http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/newsletter_archive.htm)

Minsi Trails Council Facebook page:

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

## IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP: 2024 NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

**JANUARY 3** - Northampton District Committee meeting

**JANUARY 13** - Winter Fun Fest at Camp Minsi

**JANUARY 17** - Council-wide Roundtable

**JANUARY 26** - Council Recognition Dinner

**FEBRUARY 7** - Northampton District Committee meeting

**FEBRUARY 24** - Northampton Klondike @ Camp Minsi

**FEBRUARY 24** - Northampton District Winter Webelo Event @ Camp Minsi

**MARCH 7** - Northampton District Committee meeting

**MARCH 14** - Council-wide Roundtable

**MARCH 16** - District Pinewood Derby

## COUNCIL-WIDE ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

*Time and location(s) TBA*

DATE	MAIN TOPIC	CUB SCOUTS	SCOUTS, BSA	SCOUTBOOK
Jan. 17	check for information at <a href="https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3019600">https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3019600</a>			
March 14	check for formation at <a href="https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3019603">https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3019603</a>			

**In Northampton District**

**Pack 359 meeting, gift exchange, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Bethlehem, PA  
December 18, 2023**



---

**Troop 311 Community Service  
December 2023**



## **NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIR**

Hello Northampton District Scouters,

Happy New Year to everyone in Northampton District. As we close out 2023 I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and wish you a safe and healthy new year in 2024. We have many activities set for this coming year for our scouts that I truly hope you take advantage of. The key ingredient in making our planned activities a success is you and your units. The more people who attend these events, the more enjoyable and beneficial for both Scouts and leaders. Please refer to the calendar of events both on the website and within this newsletter and please sign up early.

Our society is changing and our youth need the benefit of the example of Scout leaders. My own sons benefited from the fantastic people who surrounded our Pack and Troop. As many of us leaders know, talk to your son or daughter about moving up in rank or earning badges and many times it falls on deaf ears. But have another leader make the same request and your son or daughter suddenly are in full agreement. That is why we rely on you adult leaders to help the youth in our programs. They need your time, talents, and experiences to help them navigate forward and be prepared for life. Thank you for your tireless efforts making that happen as we move forward into 2024.

YIS,

Mike Caffrey  
Northampton District Chair



## Membership News

**Northampton District/National Award** information can be found on the Minsi Trails website under District/ Northampton (<https://www.minsitrails.org/districts/northampton-district/60269>). We ask that each unit review the awards. Please nominate a candidate from your unit for the District Scouting Spirit Award and submit nominations to either Mike Caffrey at [mikecee1062@yahoo.com](mailto:mikecee1062@yahoo.com) or Drew Draper at [acdramer31@rcn.com](mailto:acdramer31@rcn.com).

### Scouting for Food

Don't forget to complete the Scouting for Food document and order your patches. The document can be found on the Minsi Trails Council website at <https://www.minsitrails.org/event/scouting-for-food-data-collection-patch-order/3015382>.

### Pinewood Derby Kits

We are fortunate this year to again have Kelly Automotive sponsoring the Northampton District Pinewood Derby. They have also graciously offered to provide each registered Cub Scout with a Pinewood Derby kit. Please contact the Scout Shop to place your order for the kits. You will be notified when the kits are in and available for pick up. Pinewood Derby rules are on the Minsi Trails Council website and following this article in this newsletter.

### 72 Hour Rule

As you are aware, the 72-hour rule expired on September 1, 2023. What does this mean for your unit? Any adult who attends a **Troop** overnight activity will be required to be a registered adult. That can be as an Assistant Scoutmaster, a member of your unit committee, or an adult program participant; **this applies to Scout BSA units only**. Cub Scout exceptions are listed below.

Volunteers who help at fundraisers, community service and/or Eagle projects do not need to be registered. However there **always** needs to be at least 2 registered adults at these events. See details below:

The following is from the Guide to Safe Scouting under Youth Protections & Adult Leadership section (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/>):

#### **Registration Requirements**

**The chartered organization representative, or in their absence the executive officer of the chartered organization, must approve the registration of the unit's adult leaders.**

Registration includes:

- Completion of application including criminal background check and mandatory Youth Protection training
- Volunteer Screening Database check

**Current Youth Protection training is required for leaders when renewing their registration or at unit charter renewal.**

**Adult program participants must register as adults and follow Youth Protection policies.**

#### **Adult Supervision**

(Effective September 1, 2023) **Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including all meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth or female adult program participants.**

**Notwithstanding the minimum leader requirements, age and program-appropriate supervision must always be provided.**

**All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in.** Registration as a merit badge counselor position does not meet this requirement. See FAQ (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/yp-faqs/>) for list of approved adult registration fee required positions. *Limited exception below for Cub Scout overnight Programs.*

## Membership News

**Cub Scout Programs – Overnight Exception:** Cub Scout parents or legal guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders. All adults must review the *“How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide”* that can be found in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook or online at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/>. In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee required position. *(End Effective September 1, 2023 Update)*

**We strongly recommend that any parent who attends an outing with your unit take Youth Protection Training.**

Keep in mind that any adult who registers in a position will also need to provide all Pennsylvania clearances in addition to the Youth Protection training as well as any requirements associated with your Charter Organization.

### Adventures for Cub Scouts:

Packs check out the Cub Scout Go and See guide on the Minsi Trails Council website under districts/Northampton. A resource of local activities and locations and what Cub Scout requirements they can help fulfill. Lots of opportunities to work on adventures towards rank.

<https://www.minsitrails.org/document/cubscoutgoandseeguidecouncil2021q3/207571>

### Cub Scout Rank Advancement Changes Coming June 2024

National is working on updating requirements for Cub ranks. These changes will take effect in June 2024. We would urge you to make sure that all Cubs complete their current rank requirements and update them on Scoutbook before June. For details see the website below:

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/>

### Scouts BSA Interpreter Strip

With fall comes back to school. Scouts taking a foreign language, this is an excellent opportunity to earn your Interpreter strip. Adults and Scouts BSA are eligible for this strip. Below are the requirements. Thank You Troop 302 for reminding us.

#### Overview

To signify that a youth or adult member speaks a foreign language (one other than English)

French; German; Spanish; signing; Dutch; Italian; Portuguese; Russian; Cantonese (Chinese); Greek; Japanese; Simplified Mandarin (Chinese); Traditional Mandarin (Chinese); Vietnamese;; American Sign Language; Hebrew; Morse Code.

#### Who Can Earn This Award?

Any member who speaks a specific foreign language; demonstrate knowledge by carrying on a five-minute conversation in this language, translating a two-minute speech or address, and writing a letter in the language (does not apply for sign language); or, translating 200 words from the written word.

#### Requirements

Youth and adults may wear this strip if they show their knowledge of a foreign language or sign language by:

1. Carrying on a five-minute conversation in this language.
2. Translating a two-minute speech or address.
3. Writing a letter in the language (does not apply for sign language).
4. Translating 200 words from the written word.

## Membership News

### 2023 Eagle Class - Eagle Scout Scholarship Award

Congratulations to those who have achieved the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. You have just begun your life journey and with the skills and character you've developed in Scouting, you have a solid foundation to build upon. As a future leader, Eagle Scouts like you, are critical to preserving the fabric of our great nation.

As part of the Minsi Trails Council Eagle Scout Class, a Scholarship Award is offered. All Eagle Scouts from their respective Eagle Class Year are invited to submit an application. Awardees are selected based on activities, experiences and accomplishments in Scouting, school and other aspects of their personal life.

Application process closes on March 1, 2024. Awardees are recognized at the Minsi Trails Council Court of Honor and Recognition Dinner in May 2024.

Download Form at <https://www.minsitrails.org/document/2023eagleclass-eaglescholarshipaward/211816>

National Eagle Scout Association & General Financial Scholarships

Scholarships - The National Eagle Scout Association (<https://nesa.org/scholarships/>)

### Eagle Scout Scholarship Award FAQ

Q. When will the 2023 Eagle Scholarships be announced?

A. Awardees will be announced mid April 2024.

Q. What determines my class?

A. Simply, the year date of your Board of Review is your class!

### Trail Notes

To get a copy of Minsi Trails Council's Trail Notes in your in-box sign up at:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/p149DPC/mtcnews>

### Unit Commissioners Needed

Volunteers are needed as Unit Commissioners. If you are interested, contact District Commissioner Bill Brugger at [we.brugger@gmail.com](mailto:we.brugger@gmail.com). This is a great way to continue serving in Scouting after your daughter or son has aged out.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

January 13	Winter Fun Fest	Camp Minsi
January 17	Council-wide Roundtable	TBD
February 24	Northampton Klondike Derby	Camp Minsi
February 24	Northampton District Winter Webelo Event	Camp Minsi
March 14	Council-wide Roundtable	TBD
March 16	District Pinewood Derby	Location TBD
March 23	Markmanship Madness	Camp Minsi
April 6	Trade-O-Ree	Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield
April 11	District First Aid Meet	Klecknersville Fire Company
April 12-13	BALOO training	Camp Minsi
April 12-13	IOLS training	Camp Minsi
May 3-5	Cruise the Gap	Wind Gap Park
May 17-18	Beaver Weekend	Camp Minsi
May 22	District Picnic	Louise Moore Park

*Patti Davis*

*Northampton District Membership Chair*

## 2023-24 MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL PINEWOOD DERBY RULES

**INSPECTION:** Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. The car is to be held by the scout NOT THE PARENT as you prepare for inspection and throughout the race. The inspectors will disqualify those cars which cannot be made to meet these specifications. The race committee will hold cars that pass inspection until the race and inspect the winning cars following the race.

**JUDGES:** The decision of the judges on race day is final. Pinewood cars not meeting rule requirements will be permitted to race but **WILL NOT** be eligible for trophies! Questions and polite discussion will be allowed up to the point of a decision by the judges. Failure to follow this rule may lead to the disqualification of the car involved by the judges. At the discretion of the judges persons may be ejected from the premises of the race for behavior they deem disruptive, un-sportsman-like, or un-scout-like.

**ATTACHMENTS:** The car must be freewheeling with no starting devices.

**AXLE CHANNEL:** The BSA Pinewood Block's pre-cut slots must be used for the axles. The channel or groove designed to hold the axle must not be filled-in. The judge must be able to inspect the axle. If axles are loose secure them with transparent glue.

**AXLES:** Only the nails supplied with the kit are permitted. They must be mounted in the wood grooves only. The axles may be glued in place with transparent glue. They may be polished or lubricated but not machined or narrowed. Full length axles that can be purchased at hobby shops ARE NOT PERMITTED.

**DETAILS:** Details such as Steering Wheels, Driver Decals, Painting, etc. are permitted as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width and weight specifications.

**HEIGHT:** The bottom of the car must clear the guide strip (3/8 ") on the track. The car may not be more than 3" high.

**HUBCAPS:** No type of hubcap is permitted. This includes decals.

**LENGTH:** Overall length shall not exceed 7".

**LUBRICATION:** Dry Lubrication only is permitted. **ABSOLUTELY NO ADDITIONAL LUBRICATION PERMITTED AFTER INSPECTION!**

**NEW CAR:** A new car must be built each year. Pre-cut cars that can be purchased at hobby shops ARE NOT PERMITTED! Scouts must use the Grand Prix Pinewood Derby kit.

**NOSE OF CAR:** The nose must extend beyond the leading edge of the front wheel; however, no portion of the car can extend past the starting gate / peg.

**SPRINGING:** The car shall not ride on any type of springs or suspension.

**WEIGHT:** Weight shall not exceed 5.0 ounces. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in the car. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood or metal -provided that it is securely built into the body. Electronic scales will be used for the weight check.

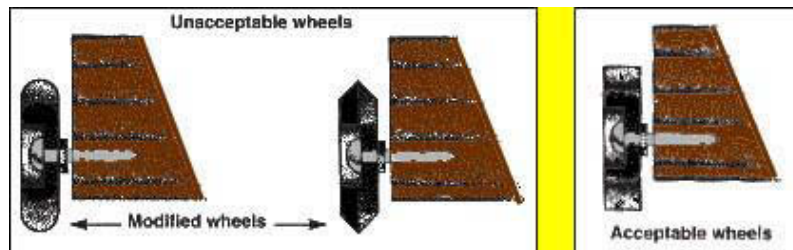
**WHEEL BASE:** (Length) Length of wheel base (front axle to rear axle) must be within the limits of 4 1/2" maximum and 4 1/4" minimum (essentially, the distance provided by the grooves precut into the supplied wood block).

**WHEEL BASE:** (inside) Do not make the distance between the left and right wheels narrower than 1 3/4 " or the car will not run down the track.

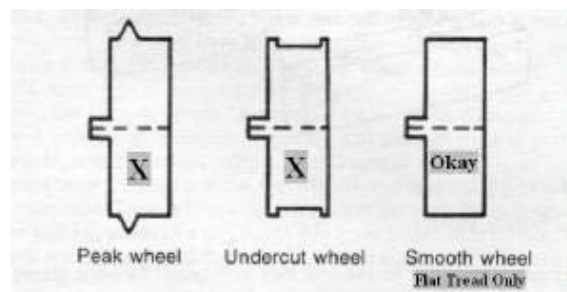
**WHEEL BEARINGS:** Bearings, washers, or other types of bushings are NOT permitted.

**WHEELS:** Only BSA licensed Grand Prix Wheels may be used. Wheels must have "BSA" printed on them from the manufacturer. BSA - Black, Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, Pink, Purple, Orange and Glow-in-the-dark are only wheels permitted. Alterations to the wheels are not permitted - the wheels may not be cut, drilled, beveled or rounded. The shape must remain the same. The plastic flashing may be removed (outside edge). All 4 wheels **must** make contact with the track surface (this is tested by free rolling the car). **Wheel surfaces must remain flat with full tread contact and cannot ride on edges or they WILL NOT pass inspection!**

**WIDTH:** Overall width shall not exceed 2 3/4 ".



Wheel Tread Example



**Wheel surfaces must remain flat with full tread contact and cannot ride on edges or they WILL NOT pass inspection!**



## The Takhone Corner



Hello Everyone!

It's the most wonderful time of the year! It's Unit Election season! Please sign your unit up for a unit election or an OA visit. If you can please sign up to help with an election, that will be great! It counts towards your chapter service award!

See you all at the banquet!

*Upcoming Lodge and Chapter Events:*

January 6th- Lodge Banquet at Desales University

January Meeting TBD



# Northampton-Warren Districts Klondike

## Save the Date

## February 24th 2024

## Gold Rush



12 stations of scout skills

Tie breaker is a scout trivia quiz for leaders– No open book test.

Campsites are available for overnight camping

Patrols of 4 to a max of 8 scouts per sled.

## Location

## Camp Minsi

For overnight camping reservations contact

Brian Dungan at [Brian.dungan@scouting.org](mailto:Brian.dungan@scouting.org)

For registration and event questions contact

Chris Fluke at [ddfluke15@gmail.com](mailto:ddfluke15@gmail.com)

Registration is now open at <https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3012029>

**2024 Northampton-Warren Klondike**

**Day of Event Schedule**

7:30-8:45 am - Registration in the Dining Hall (SPL and Scoutmaster) with two rosters. Sled Inspection will be done right after registration.

8:45 am - Opening on the parade field.

9:00-9:30 am - Station 1

9:30-10:00 am - Station 2

10:00-10:30 am - Station 3

10:30-11:00 am - Station 4

11:00-11:30 am - Station 5

11:30-12:00 pm - Station 6

12:00-12:45 pm - Lunch, Each unit will need to provide their own lunch.

1:00-1:30 pm - Station 7

1:30-2:00 pm - Station 8

2:00-2:30 pm - Station 9

2:30-3:00 pm - Station 10

3:00-3:30 pm - Station 11

3:30-4:00 pm - Station 12

4:00 pm - Drop off score cards at the Dining Hall

4:30 pm - Scores will be announced and trophies will be given out to the top 3 sleds. Depart from camp after closing.

Download the Klondike Leaders Guide at:

<https://www.minsitrails.org/document/northampton-warren-2024-klondike-leaders-guide/213132>

# ATTENTION WEBELOS!

PUT YOUR SKILLS TO THE TEST DURING  
NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT'S  
WINTER WEBELOS EVENT.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024  
CAMP MINSI  
8 AM TO 4:30 PM

KNOT  
TYING

GENERAL  
KNOWLEDGE

FIRST  
AID

SHELTER  
BUILDING

FLAG

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

SIGN UP AS PATROLS (4-6 SCOUTS PER)  
BY JANUARY 31ST TO SECURE EVENT PATCH.

REGISTRATION CLOSSES  
FEBRUARY 16TH, 2024

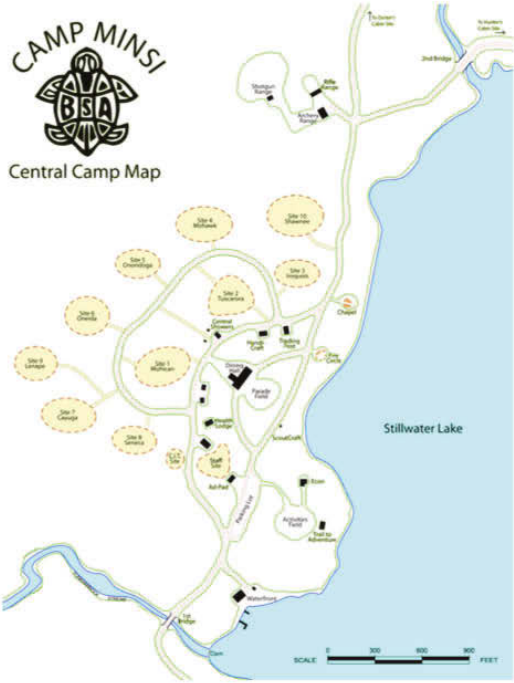
\$15  
PER SCOUT

QUESTIONS?  
CALL 610-264-8551  
EMAIL: [ASHLEY.LEEPER@SCOUTING.ORG](mailto:ASHLEY.LEEPER@SCOUTING.ORG)

# **Camp Minsi WinterFest**

**Saturday, January 13, 2024 (9AM-4PM) at Camp Minsi**

Come out for a fun winter day at Camp Minsi! With a variety of fun activities whether the weather is snowy and cold or a bright winter's day! All activities are included, but Cabins & Tabins should be rented separately using our facility reservation system. Email questions to [campminsi@minsitrails.org](mailto:campminsi@minsitrails.org)



The map shows the layout of Camp Minsi, including Stillwater Lake, various cabins (Cabin 1 through Cabin 12), a dining hall, a playground, and other facilities. A scale bar at the bottom indicates distances up to 300 feet.

## Camp Minsi WINTERFEST

9:00 Arrival, Check-in & Gathering  
10:00 Program starts - if there is ice, everyone must get a safety briefing at the Dining Hall before venturing on Lake Stillwater

Programs include:  
Fireplace & Hot Beverages in the Dining Hall  
Orienteering/Geocaching  
Hikes - see posted times at check-in  
Ice Safety Demonstrations  
Ice Hockey/Skating - Bring your Own Skates (If ice is safe)  
Ice Bowling & other games - (If Ice is safe)  
Ice Fishing demos & fun (If Ice is safe - otherwise it will be a demonstration only)  
Snow Shoeing (If there is snow)  
And more!

4:00 Programs end

Please note that Lunch is on your own!

Check out all of our Summer Programs at [Campminsi.org](http://Campminsi.org)!

**To register, visit:**

**<https://www.minsitrails.org/event/2986099>**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL

# SAVE THE DATE

## “Cruise the Gap” Camporee

May 3-5, 2024 | Northampton District | Wind Gap Park

Wind Gap Borough, is joining the Northampton District of Minsi Trails Council to host the Cruise the Gap Camporee. The weekend will offer cub adventures and merit badges connected to the “Cruise the Gap” theme. Cub leaders will have the opportunity to complete Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation Training (Baloo).

### Cub Adventure Program

**Tiger** - My Tiger Jungle; Tigers in the Wild; Rolling Tigers

**Wolf** - Call of the Wild; Paws on the Path; Finding Your Way

**Bear** - Bear Necessities; Fur, Feathers, and Ferns; Baloo the Builder

**Webelos/AOL** - Cast Iron Chef; Webelos Walkabout; Build It; Into the Woods; Outdoor Adventurer; Scouting Adventurer

**Cub Scout Leaders** - Baloo Training

### Scout Program

**Tenderfoot** - Camping & Outdoor Ethics; Tools; Hiking

**Second Class** - Camping & Outdoor Ethics; Navigation; Nature

**First Class** - Camping & Outdoor Ethics; Navigation; Tools; Nature

**Merit Badges** - Cycling, Orienteering

### Registration

Online registration will open December 1, 2023 through the Minsi Trails website. Units who register before March 1, 2024 will be guaranteed a patch for their participants and a full registration refund if they check-in to the Camporee. Registration is \$5 per participant.

**There are many more exciting activities being planned for this weekend of scouting adventure.**

**Save the date and prepare to sign-up when registration opens on **December 1, 2023.****

# **NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT**

## **1st AID MEET**

### **SAVE-THE-DATE**



**THURSDAY APRIL 11, 2024**  
**Check-in starts at 6:15pm**  
**Event starts at 7:00pm**



**Klecknersville Rangers**  
**Fire Station**  
**2718 Mountain View Drive**  
**Bath, PA 18014**

#### **SOME THINGS TO KNOW:**

- The theme for the event will be a super heroes
- The 1st Aid Meet will consist of a written test and 3-4 scenarios
- Awards will be given to the top finishers
- Patrol sizes will be 4-8 scouts
- Patrol Flag Competition will take place (start working on them now!!)
- Each patrol must provide an adult judge
- Webelos may serve as victims for the patrol, but may not be a “rescuer”
- The event will be completed by 9:15pm
- Sample tests and problems can be found at Venturing Crew #77’s website, [www.BSACrew77.org](http://www.BSACrew77.org)

**MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT OUT IN FEBRUARY**

Any questions or concerns, please contact the First Aid Meet Committee at:

[VentureCrew77@aol.com](mailto:VentureCrew77@aol.com)

First Aid Meet Committee Chairperson: Chris Lubenetski



## **Breaking 2024 Summer Camp News!**

**SAVE THE DATE for 2024!**

**Camp Minsi 2024 Summer Camp**

**Sign Up Today!**

**[www.campminsi.org](http://www.campminsi.org)**

## **Overnight camping for Cub Scouts & Scouts, BSA**

**Week 1 June 23:** Cub Scout Resident Camp (At capacity, registration is closed)

**Week 2 June 30:** Cub Scout Resident Camp & Specialty Camps

**Week 3 July 7:** Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

**Week 4 July 14:** Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

**Week 5 July 21:** Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

**Week 6 July 28:** Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

**Week 7 August 4:** Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp



## New Campership Announcement

We are happy to announce the creation of a new campership that will be given automatically to the first 1000 Minsi Trails Council Scouts going to Camp Minsi Cub Scout, Scouts BSA or Venturing/Sea Scouting Summer Camp in 2024. The new "**General Trexler Campership**" is funded by a portion of the proceeds of the sale of Trexler Scout Reservation, and is intended to directly benefit our council's scouts. \$75 per scout youth will be taken off the 2024 Camper Fee at Camp Minsi for Minsi Trails Council Scouts, so instead of \$455 for a full week of camp the camp fee will be \$380. Scouts can also apply for our other camperships to further reduce the cost of attendance. More info about those camperships is in this email.

Weeks at Camp Minsi are filling up fast. If your Pack or Troop has not signed up for Camp Minsi yet, please do so as soon as possible as some weeks are close to capacity and two are filled. Sign up at [www.campminsi.org](http://www.campminsi.org)

### Cub Scout Resident Camp

Week 1 June 23-28 **Registration is Closed**

Week 2 June 30-July 5 **Limited space available**

### Scouts, BSA and Webelos Pioneer Camp

Week 3 July 7-13 **Limited space available**

Week 4 July 14-20 **Registration is Closed**

Week 5 July 21-27 **Open for Registration**

Week 6 July 28- August 3 **Open for Registration** Also Venturing/Sea Scout Week

Week 7 August 4-10 – **Online Registration is closed, call for more information.**

## Join the Camp Minsi Team

Earlier this month we announced our management team. Foof, Kasey, Matt and Trey have been busy interviewing staff and filling up the staff roster. While most of the staff positions have been filled, we are still accepting applications, especially for lifeguards.

Please fill out the camp staff application if interested in joining the team.

<https://www.minsitrails.org/summer-camps/summer-camp-staff-application/>

## 2024 Minsi Trails Council Campership Information

While the pinnacle of any Scouting experience is attending Summer Camp, the leadership of the Minsi Trails Council realizes the cost of providing this experience can be a lot for some families to pay. Funds are available to assist those families who request help so that the Scout may have camping experience. These funds are made possible by individuals and organizations who understand the lifelong impact Summer Camp has on youth. This assistance is provided in the form of a "Campership" through the application and review process.

*All applications are due by April 1, 2024 in the Minsi Trails Council office.* All applications and FAQ are available on [www.minsitrails.org/camperships](http://www.minsitrails.org/camperships)

### Camperships Available

**Minsi Trails Council Campership** - Approximately \$15,000 will be available in 2024. This campership is available to any Minsi Trails Council Scout going to Camp Minsi Cub Scout or Scouts, BSA Summer Camp or a Minsi Trails Council Cub Scout Day Camp.

**Ed Hughes Foundation Camp Scholarship Fund** - Over \$15,000 available in 2024 The Ed Hughes Foundation Camp Scholarship Fund was established to assist in making the council's vision a reality by providing financial assistance to BSA registered youth of the old Anthracite District footprint to attend camp. Scouts in these zip codes 18201, 18202, 18211, 18216, 18219, 18221, 18222, 18223, 18224, 18225, 18227, 18230, 18231, 18234, 18237, 18239, 18241, 18242, 18243, 18246, 18247, 18248, 18249, 18251, 18254, 18255, 18256, 18661, and 18985 are qualified to apply.

**Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church Camp Scholarship** - \$1,500 is available in 2024. The Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church Camp Scholarship Fund was established to assist in making the council's vision a reality by providing financial assistance to BSA registered youth of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church to attend camp. Applicants must be a member of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church 4102 S. Main St, Whitehall, PA and a BSA registered youth within Minsi Trails Council. There is \$1500 available in 2024 for this campership.



## **Sea Scout Ship 940 and Maritime Club 940**

**Sea Scouts** are for young people ages 14-20 who have an interest in water based adventures. Many Sea Scouts are also in a Scouts BSA troop working toward their Eagle rank. Ship 940 is now recruiting new members!

**Maritime Explorer Clubs** are for girls and boys, ages 10-14 and do many of the activities of a Sea Scout Ship, plus insights into maritime careers. Club 940 is just forming, and new members are welcome. Come visit us.

**For 2023**, Ship 940 and Club 940 will be engaged in a small boat sailing program that will lead to the Sea Scout Apprentice Rank and the Scouts BSA Small Boat Sailing merit badge.

Contact us at: [www.Ship940.org](http://www.Ship940.org); [www.Club940.org](http://www.Club940.org); or, mailto:  
[Contact@Ship940.org](mailto:Contact@Ship940.org)

## Cub Scout Program Updates Announced

Get more information at: <https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/>



### BOBCAT

- One set of requirements is ineffective
- What to do with returning Cub Scouts
- Rank or not a rank?



### ADVENTURES

- Disjointed required adventure topics
- Inconsistent number of adventures for each rank
- Volunteers want more elective adventures



### WEBELOS (4<sup>TH</sup>/5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)

- Length of Webeles program
- Does not follow the pattern of other ranks
- Purpose of the program



### AWARDS

- Awards are not in the direct line of sight of Den Leaders
- Average attachment rate of 1.5%
- Awards do not drive behavior

### 2024-2025 Cub Scout Badges of Rank Requirements

The Bobcat Adventure is designed to be the first required Adventure. Each badge of rank is earned by completing six required and two elective Adventures. The six required Adventures are focused on the aims and focus areas of the BSA.

LION Kindergarten	TIGER 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	WOLF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	BEAR 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	WEBELOS 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	ARROW OF LIGHT 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership
MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors	TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors	PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors	BEAR HABITAT Outdoors	WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors	OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors
FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness	TIGER BITES Personal Fitness	RUNNING WITH THE PACK Personal Fitness	BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness	STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness	PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness
KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship	TEAM TIGER Citizenship	COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship	PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship	MY COMMUNITY Citizenship	CITIZENSHIP Citizenship
LION ROAR Personal Safety	TIGER ROAR Personal Safety	SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety	STANDING TALL Personal Safety	MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid	FIRST AID Safety/First Aid
LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	DUTY TO GOD Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures



### CUB SCOUT PROGRAM UPDATES ROLLOUT

NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Cub Chat Live! 11-10-23 General Announcement	Cub Chat Live! 12-1-23 Rank Advancements and Bobcat	Cub Chat Live! 1-12-24 New and Improved Adventures	Cub Chat Live! 2-2-24 Webeles and Arrow of Light	Cub Chat Live! 3-1-24 Handbooks and Leader Resources	Cub Chat Live! 4-5-24 Den and Pack Meetings	Cub Chat Live! 5-10-24 Top 10 Most Common Questions	Cub Chat Live! 6-7-24 Safety Integration
Council Programs Resources for councils and districts to plan for programs for the summer of 2024	Presenters Trained December 18 Team of experts trained and available to present to local councils and districts. Commissioners Resources for Commissioners	Prime Time Episodes of Cub Chat Live! January 16 <sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. Central January 23 <sup>rd</sup> @ 7 p.m. Central January 30 <sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. Central	Scouts BSA Resources for Scouts BSA Leaders	Scout Shops Spring of 2024 New Cub Scout Handbooks New Cub Scout Adventures Loops and Pins	Training Position Specific Training Updated Updated Cub Scout Roundtable Videos	On-line Tools Scoutbook Updated Online Reports Updated	June 1 New Program Takes Effect

# Support Local Scouting

Support local Scouting by visiting [Minsitrails.org/give](https://Minsitrails.org/give) and making a contribution

• **MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL** •

---

## THE BENEFITS OF DONATING TO SCOUTS

---

		
<b>BUILDING CHARACTER</b>	<b>HEALTHY LIVING</b>	<b>MENTORING</b>
<p>Scouting allows youth to build more confidence, responsibility and a broader set of friends. Donations allow entry fees to remain low.</p>	<p>Scouting's outdoor programs such as hiking, swimming, and other physical wellness programs can be offered to mainly due to donations.</p>	<p>The many volunteers would not be able to help these Scouts without the valuable resources, some of which are funded through donations.</p>
		
<b>CAMPING RETREATS</b>	<b>SERVING OTHERS</b>	<b>LIFELONG LEARNING</b>
<p>Donations allow camping costs to be low and even allow no-cost camping trips to those who may not normally be able to afford it.</p>	<p>Boy Scouts prides its focus on helping the community. By giving to Boy Scouts, in turn you're giving to the community!</p>	<p>Donations provide structured settings where young people can learn new skills that will help them succeed.</p>

## Taking Your Scouts To A Civil War Battlefield?

I am a Civil War reenactor with the 153rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and an Eagle Scout. I would be happy to come to your meeting to explain the battlefield you are going to, or just Civil War history in general. I do all presentations in full period uniform.

David Burgermeister  
610-694-9520



# **SAVE THE DATE**

## **National Youth Leadership Training Two weekend course**

**September 20-22 and 27-29, 2024**

### **Camp Minsi**

**Registration starts after New Year**



**Venturers and Scouts BSA,  
Get ready for your next step  
in Leadership Training!**

# Training opportunities...

*...make you a better leader!*

**MAR  
16**

## **NRA Basic Rifle**

NRA Basic Rifle Date - Saturday Dec. 16th 2023 Location- Camp Minsi - Weytrex side A - 8am to 5pm This course is at least 8-hours long and...

**APR  
12**

## **Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course - SAVE THE DATE**

SAVE THE DATE MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL, BSA LEAVE NO TRACE LEVEL 1 INSTRUCTOR COURSE (Formally Leave No Trace Trainer Course) WHEN: April 12-14,...

**APR  
12**

## **BALOO Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation**

Minsi Trails Council Spring 2024 Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) This course is open to all registered Adult...

**APR  
12**

## **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills IOLS**

Minsi Trails Council Spring 2024 Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) This course is open to all registered Adult...

**SEP  
20**

## **National Youth Leadership Training Save the Date**

**NOTE: BALOO Training is planned for during the "Cruise the Gap" Camporee, May 3 to 5.**



**Our BARF Campaign Continues! A reminder that any Scout who signs up a friend to join our program will receive a BARF patch for them and their friend. If you need the paperwork to complete the application contact your District Executive**

## NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT COMMITTEE

District Chair	Mike Caffery	610-295-8816	<a href="mailto:mikecee1062@yahoo.com">mikecee1062@yahoo.com</a>
District Commissioner	Bill Brugger		<a href="mailto:we.brugger@gmail.com">we.brugger@gmail.com</a>
Senior District Executive	Mike Borgman	610-762-8959	<a href="mailto:mike.borgman@scouting.org">mike.borgman@scouting.org</a>
District Executive	Melissa Mohr	610-465-8565	<a href="mailto:melissa.mohr@scouting.org">melissa.mohr@scouting.org</a>
Roundtable Commissioner—Cub Scout			
Roundtable Commissioner—Scouts BSA	Jim Swain	610-974-9150	<a href="mailto:jim.swain@rcn.com">jim.swain@rcn.com</a>
	Melanie Hunt		
Nominating Committee Chair			
Executive Board Liaison	Ed Cool		
Webmaster	Greta Bergstresser		
Finance Chair			
Family FOS Chair	Bob Obermeyer		<a href="mailto:obie1949@gmail.com">obie1949@gmail.com</a>
	Bill Brugger		
Popcorn Chair			
Membership Chair	Patti Davis	610-597-5587	<a href="mailto:Davispr91@outlook.com">Davispr91@outlook.com</a>
Exploring Chair			
Marketing Chair			
Cub Scout Day Camp Chair	Barbara Emert		
Activities Chair	Chris Fluke		<a href="mailto:ddflluke15@gmail.com">ddflluke15@gmail.com</a>
Cub Scout Activities Chair	Juila Varsamas		
Scouts BSA Activities Chair			
Scouting For Food Chair			
Pinewood Derby	John Van Camp		
Advancement Chair	Jim Daley	610-759-7169	<a href="mailto:j.daley@rcn.com">j.daley@rcn.com</a>
Cub Scout Advancement Chair	Lucy Martin		
Eagle Scout Chair	Jim Daley	610-759-7169	<a href="mailto:j.daley@rcn.com">j.daley@rcn.com</a>
Backup Eagle Scout Chair	Bernie Marth		
Merit Badge Counselor Chair	Bruce Horton	484-281-3441	<a href="mailto:bhworks@bellatlantic.net">bhworks@bellatlantic.net</a>
Scouts BSA Advancement Chair	Bill Gade	610-762-9396	<a href="mailto:wagade@yahoo.com">wagade@yahoo.com</a>
Training Chair			
Cub Scout Leader Training Chair			
Scouts BSA Leader Training Chair			
OA Chapter Adviser	Anthony Garguilo	484-554-5815	<a href="mailto:garguiloanthony@gmail.com">garguiloanthony@gmail.com</a>
Associate OA Chapter Advisers	Dave Hay	610-861-4494	<a href="mailto:sayhay@ptd.net">sayhay@ptd.net</a>
	Chris Fluke		<a href="mailto:ddflluke15@gmail.com">ddflluke15@gmail.com</a>
	Chris Martin		
District Committee Members at Large	Bernie Marth		
	Bernie Suess		
	Charles Chase		
	Chris Martin		
	Daniel Dopsovic		
	Drew Draper		
	Ed Cool		
	John Van Camp		
	Melanie Hunt		
	Sheryl Padgett		
Newsletter Editor	Bernie Suess	484-330-6915	<a href="mailto:newsletter@minsi-northampton.com">newsletter@minsi-northampton.com</a>

*Any Scouter interested in serving on the District Committee, contact Mike Caffrey  
or if interested in serving as a Commissioner, contact District Commissioner Bill Brugger.*