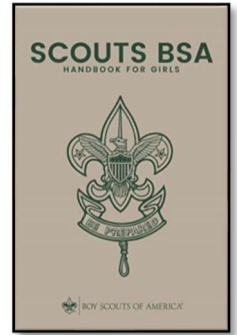


# SCOUTS BSA

**Boys and Girls in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade or Ages 11-17**

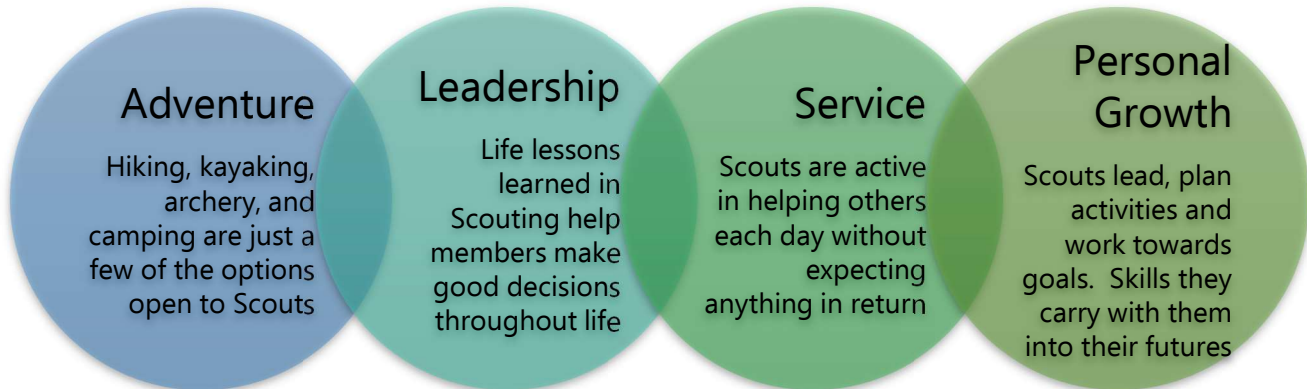
Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America! Scouts BSA provides youth fun, adventure, learning, challenge and responsibility to help them become the best version of themselves.



For the first time in its 100+ year history, the iconic program of Boy Scouts of America is open to young women as well as young men, all of whom will have the chance to earn Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout.

This document is designed to give you a closer glimpse into the Scouts BSA program and handbook. For more information please visit [www.scouting.org/scoutsbsa/](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsbsa/).

## Why Scouts BSA! Scouts builds character and instills values for a lifetime.



## Your Scout is a Member of a Patrol...

- A Patrol is a group of approximately eight Scouts. The Troop may build Patrols of Scouts of similar age and experience level or they may mix older Scouts into a Patrol with younger Scouts.
- Patrol members work together and learn basic skills and merit badges.
- A Patrol may meet outside of regular Troop meetings to focus on specific advancement activities or community service projects.

## Your Scout is a Member of a Scouts BSA Troop...

- Troops are not co-ed, they are either an all-boy or all-girl Troop.
- Troops typically meet once a week and are planned and conducted by Scouts. Adult leaders step in when asked for help and model good behavior.
- Parents are expected to assist the Troop by supporting the Scouts and participating in tasks the Scouts cannot do, such as helping with transportation to an activity.



# SCOUTS BSA UNIFORM

Merit Badge  
Sash



- **Shirt and Neckwear:** Official long- or short-sleeve uniform shirt with green shoulder loops on epaulets. The troop may vote to wear a neckerchief, bolo tie, or no neckwear. In any case, the collar should be unbuttoned.
- **Belt:** Official Scouts BSA web belt with BSA insignia on buckle; or official leather belt with buckle of your choice, worn only if voted by the troop/team. Members wear one of the belts chosen by vote of the troop.
- **Pants/Shorts:** Official, olive, no cuffs.
- **Socks:** Official socks with official shorts or pants. (Long socks are optional with shorts.)
- **Headgear:** Optional - All troop members must wear the headgear chosen by vote of the troop.

Uniforms can be purchased at the Bay-Lakes Council Scout Shop.

**Bay-Lakes Scout Shop**  
2555 Northern Road  
Appleton, WI 54914  
Phone: (920) 831-9504

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Email: baylakesscoutshop@scouting.org

# SCOUT BSA ADVANCEMENT

Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps in overcoming them through the advancement method. Advancement is based on the Experiential Learning – designed to expand knowledge and broaden horizons.

Scouts plan their own advancement and progress with mentorship offered from adult leaders. Scouts are recognized for their achievements and encouraged throughout their journey to help them gain self-confidence, self-reliance and the ability to help others along the way.

## MERIT BADGES AND RANK REQUIREMENTS

Scouts have 137 merit badges to choose from topics like: Aviation, canoeing, entrepreneurship, game design, first aid, lifesaving, personal management, robotics, snow sports, and wilderness survival.

Scouts work with a Merit Badge Counselor, who is a trained adult leader in their local area with expertise in the merit badge subject. As badges are earned they are added to the Scout's sash and help a Scout move to their next Rank.

## EAGLE RANK

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Scouts BSA Program. To earn Eagle a Scout must demonstrate citizenship and caring for his community, leadership qualities, outdoor skills, show self-sufficiency and motivation to overcome obstacles. For many, "Eagle Scout = Greater Success In Life."

