

## **NEW SCOUT PARENT ORIENTATION GUIDE**





www.baylakesbsa.org I (800) 3SCOUTS I (920) 734-5705

JOIN CUB SCOUTS TODAY AT BEASCOUT.ORG





## Thank you for joining us at the start of your child's Scouting journey and adventure!

## **TOP REASONS TO SIGN UP YOUR CHILD FOR CUB SCOUTS**

Trying New Things! As life is varied, so is Cub Scouts. Scouting provides opportunities for kids to experience activities they might not ever receive the opportunity to explore.

Learning New Skills! As Cub Scouts play and explore, they are actually learning valuable skills that will be with them throughout life. Skills like:

- Public speaking is honed through the sharing of fun skits and songs presented by Cub Scout members.
- The values of good citizenship are learned through service projects where Cub Scouts give back to their communities. Annually, Scouts in the USA complete over 13 million hours of community service each year!
- Development of social skills and teamwork.

*Cub Scouting is a family program!* For kindergarten and first grade boys and girls, it's a "parent and me" program. You get to jump in with your child. You get to be silly. The two of you will get to work together, going on adventures and playing together. As your child grows up and moves through the Cub Scout program, parents can continue to be involved in their journey and serve as volunteer leaders with their Cub Scout unit.

Cub Scouting is Safe! The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. To maintain this standard, the BSA has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides many online resources to assist in educating leaders and parents about the best ways to keep kids safe. Additionally, all Scouting leaders are required to complete Youth Protection Training every two years. The training is available to everyone and can be completed online at My.Scouting.org.

Please visit www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection to learn more.



## **CUB SCOUTING IS FUN!**



## **BAY-LAKES COUNCIL**

The Bay-Lakes Council serves 35 counties across Eastern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Over 13,000 youth participate in Scouting in over 400 Scouting units. The counties of our council are broken into 8 districts: Gathering Waters, Hiawathaland, Kettle Country, Lakeshore, Ledge to Lakes, Northern Lites, Twin Lakes, and Voyageur.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Nearly 4,000 adult volunteers are currently committed to providing a quality Scouting experience that will make lifelong memories for you and your child.



# Why Scouting?



Scouting encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation of others, including peers, parents and community members. Early in their Scouting journey, your child will learn the value of helping others through service projects completed in their local community.

Scouting provides kids with a sense that they are important individuals. Scouts learn to respect and get-along with one another and in doing so learn about the value of working as a team. Kids learn that their Scouting family cares about what happens to them.

Scouting activities and award programs teach personal responsibility and build self-confidence. As a result, kids build the tools needed to be proud of their work and to trust in themselves when faced with hard decisions.

Parents, your child will learn all of these skills and more, but we know that isn't why they want to join Cub Scouts. Kids join Cub Scouts because first and foremost, it is FUN!

**SLION** 

LION: KIDS IN KINDERGARTEN

TIGER: KIDS IN 1ST GRADE OR

WOLF: KIDS IN 2ND GRADE OR

**BEAR: KIDS IN 3RD GRADE OR** 

OR 5-6 YEARS OLD.

7 YEARS OLD.

8 YEARS OLD.

9 YEARS OLD.

#### HOW DOES CUB SCOUTING WORK?

The Cub Scout program is designed to involve your child in a small group of boys or girls of the same age, where together they will earn recognition for their completed activities. These small groups are called dens and your child will be placed in the den appropriate for their age and grade.

### YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A DEN...

- A den is made up of no more than eight boys or girls who are the same age and/or grade level.
- The den meets 1-3 times a month. Some meetings may be field trips. •
- The den has a den leader, but the den leader shares the planning of den • meetings with parents.

### YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A PACK...

- A pack consists of several dens and typically meets as a big group • once a month.
- The Cubmaster leads the monthly pack meeting but each den will have a • part in the pack meeting.
- Some months, the pack meeting will have special themes such as • a Pinewood Derby, a Blue and Gold Banquet or guest speakers. Other months may be devoted to recognizing the Scouts for the projects they have completed by the presentation of beads, belt loops, activity pins, or rank advancements.

## WEBELOS: KIDS IN 4TH & 5TH GRADE OR 10 YEARS OLD. **CUB SCOUT MOTTO: DO YOUR BEST**

Doing your best is one of the most important things a Cub Scout learns. When kids compare themselves to other people, they can become complacent (if they're a high achiever) or discouraged (if they have to work harder to accomplish the same goals). Focusing on doing their personal best helps them feel good about themselves and see their potential for doing even better. This helps children see that no one can find fault with them as long as they always Do Their Best.



## **ACTIVITIES FOR CUB SCOUTS**

#### **PINEWOOD DERBY:**

Cub Scouts work with a parent or guardian to build their own custom race car! The Pinewood Derby event is often the highlight of the Cub Scout year for many kids and is typically held in early Spring.

#### FAMILY CAMPING EVENTS:

Every year, Bay-Lakes Council hosts a series of family camping events at Camp Rokilio in Kiel, WI. Camp Rokilio is home to our themed program buildings: Kohler Castle, Oertle Train Station, Fort JJ Keller, and Gunderson Viking Ship. Outdoor activities for those attending camp include swimming, archery, BB guns, and exploring the natural world of Camp Rokilio.

#### **BLUE AND GOLD BANQUETS:**

Blue and Gold Banquets are a tradition in Cub Scout packs. They are a celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the BSA on February 8, 1910, and therefore usually take the place of the February pack meeting. It's a night of fun and cheer as families gather to celebrate the Pack's accomplishments. Often, badges of rank are awarded. The Arrow of Light ceremony may even be included as 5<sup>th</sup> graders cross over to a troop. Sometimes community leaders or special guests are invited to attend.

#### CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP:

Day Camp is a one-day, themed opportunity, to have fun and "Build Your Adventure!". These fun-filled days offer opportunities to make new friends, earn new adventures, and are a great way to get outdoors. Day camps typically occur during the summer and are held throughout the Bay-Lakes Council.

#### **SERVICE PROJECTS:**

Doing service projects together is one way that Cub Scouts keep their promise "to help other people." While a Scout should do their best to help other people every day, a group service project is a bigger way to help people. While you're giving service, you're learning to work together with others to do something that's good for your community.

Visit www.baylakesbsa.org/program-calendar for a list of additional activities and events.



## **ADVENTURE** BEYOND THE EXPECTED What will your next adventure be?





Bay-Lakes Council Camps are operated by the Bay-Lakes Council, Boy Scouts of America headquartered in Appleton, WI. Our camps host over 5,000 campers during the summer months and even more in the fall, winter, and spring.

## **OUR CAUSE**



#### THE MISSION AND PILLARS OF BAY-LAKES COUNCIL CAMPS

Our mission is to engage our guests by delivering quality, innovative, and 'Life on the Edge" experiences that support the mission of the Bay-Lakes Council.

#### LEADERSHIP OUTDOOR SKILLS ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY

New Scout Parent Orientation Guide

## **VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP**

Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Volunteer leaders are an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. Naturally, parents are the primary source of leaders in the Scouting program. As a volunteer, parents are part of the adventure their children experience and get to be a positive influence on the youth in their community. Ample training and resources are available to help all leaders succeed in their roles.

Cub Scout Pack Leadership can include:

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Conducts monthly pack leader/parent meetings to help plan the program. Ensures that adequate support to run the program is given to the Cubmaster and Den Leaders by committee members. Helps recruit additional leaders as needed.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Attends monthly pack leaders' meeting to help plan the program and take care of records, finances, advancement, activities and membership.

#### **PACK TRAINER**

Conducts an orientation for new families and pack leaders. Trains new leaders for their specific leadership positions and encourages participation in training events. Keeps track of pack training records.

#### **NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR**

Serves as a welcoming ambassador for new families joining the unit. Coordinates unit recruitment and membership efforts with the pack committee.

#### **CUBMASTER**

Conducts monthly pack meeting. Aids Den Leaders by coordinating monthly program for all leaders. Attends monthly pack leaders' meeting.

#### LION AND TIGER DEN LEADER

Coordinates shared leadership among the Lion and Tiger adult partners. This ensures den meetings and outings are planned and prepared for and conducted by adult partners on a rotating basis. Den activities provide advancement opportunities for the boys and girls in the den. Serves as den host for family members at pack meetings. Attends monthly pack leaders/ meetings.

#### WOLF OR BEAR DEN LEADER

Meets den of 6-8 kids. Den meeting is held in den leader's home, a church or other suitable place. The den leader determines time, day and location of den meeting. Attends monthly pack leaders' meeting.

#### WEBELOS DEN LEADER

Same as a Wolf or Bear Den Leader, but works with older Webelos Scouts. Encourages periodic parent/child overnight campouts. Attends monthly pack leaders' meeting.

#### **LEADER TRAINING**

A trained leader is better prepared to make the Scouting program all it can be! Our leader training programs have been designed to be easily accessible and quickly completed via our online Scouting U at my.scouting.org.

Bay-Lakes Council also offers in-person training opportunities throughout the year. If you are signing up to be a new Scouting leader, please know that you are not alone – we are here to help you succeed!

Every Scout deserves a trained leader. Check with your pack leadership or visit the Council website at www.baylakesbsa.org for additional training resources.









## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA YOUTH PROTECTION STATEMENT

True youth protection can be achieved only through the focused commitment of everyone in Scouting. It is the mission of the Youth Protection volunteers and professional to work within the Boy Scouts of America to maintain a culture of Youth Protection awareness and safety at the national, regional, area, council, district and unit levels.

#### **LEADERSHIP SELECTION:**

The BSA takes great pride in the quality of our adult leadership. Being a leader in the BSA is a privilege, not a right. The quality of the program and the safety of youth members call for high-quality leaders.

The BSA has a multilayered adult leader selection process that includes:

- 1. A comprehensive application, reviewed by the unit's charter organization.
- 2. A criminal background check administered by a nationally recognized third party.
- 3. Mandatory completion of Youth Protection Training courses before any volunteer leader is registered. Youth Protection Training must be re-taken every 2 years in order to continue membership in the BSA.

We know that no current screening techniques exist that can identify every potential abuser, but we can reduce the risk of accepting an abuser by learning all we can about an applicant before they can be approved as a BSA adult leader.

All people involved in Scouting must follow Mandatory Reporting Guidelines of Child Abuse. No one may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.

The overall safety of your child is of greatest importance to us. If you have any concerns about the safety of your child or the actions of leaders or parents, please contact the Bay-Lakes Council Scout Executive immediately at (920) 734-5705.

In an emergency, when you are unable to reach the Scout Executive, the BSA provides a 24-hour Scouts First Helpine: 1-844-SCOUTS1 (1-844-726-8871). The Scouts First Helpline is a resource for incidents involving child abuse or serious risk of harm to children only.

Additional Youth Protection Resources are available at:

#### www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection

## **QUESTIONS?**

The Bay-Lakes Council is divided into 8 Districts with full time professional staff members assigned to provide service to your unit. These staff members are available to assist all current and potential members of their district with questions about the program.

To contact your District professional, please visit www.baylakesbsa.org/about-us/staff-directory.

Additional support is available via the Bay-Lakes Council Office at:

 Telephone:
 (920) 734-5705

 Toll Free:
 (800) 372-6887

 Website:
 www.baylakesbsa.org

## SCOUT SHOP

All uniform items and program supplies can be purchased through the Scout Shop located in Appleton, WI.

Orders can be submitted online at:

2555 Northern Rd.

2555 Northern Rd. Appleton, WI 54914 Phone: (920) 831-9504

**BAY-LAKES SCOUT SHOP** 

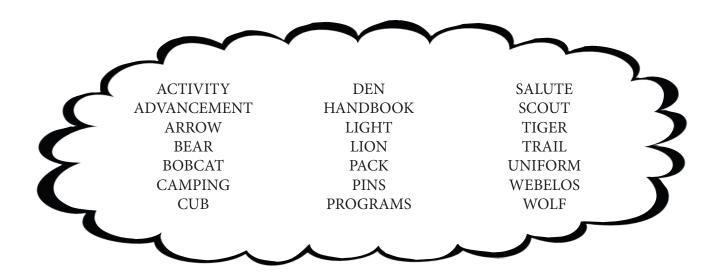
www.baylakesbsa.org/scout-shop-online-order

#### **ADDITIONAL NOTES & CONTACT INFORMATION**



## **CUB SCOUT WORD SEARCH**

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## For more information visit www.baylakesbsa.org.







## CUB SCOUT MOTTO: **DO YOUR BEST**



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