

Guide for New Families



BACK TO BASICS



WELCOME TO TROOP 1011

Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy	Obedient
Loyal	Cheerful
Helpful	Thrifty
Friendly	Brave
Courteous	Clean
Kind	Reverent

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God & my country
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all time;
To keep myself physically strong,
Mentally awake and morally straight.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and, in other ways prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law.

Table of Contents

Purpose of the BSA.....	3
Scout Law.....	4
Aims and Methods of the Scouting Program	5
Troop Organization.....	6
Chartered Organization (Sponsor).....	6
Troop Committee Organization & Responsibilities	6
Committee Chair.....	7
Secretary.....	7
Treasurer.....	7
Outdoor/Activities Coordinator.....	7
Advancement Coordinator	8
Chaplain.....	8
Training Coordinator.....	8
Equipment Coordinator	9
Tenure	9
Scoutmaster	9
Assistant Scoutmasters.....	9
Youth Leadership (Patrol Leader's Council)	10
Troop Meetings.....	11
Advancement.....	13
The Boy Scout Learns.....	13
Court of Honor.....	14
Merit Badges	14
Outdoor Program	15
Parent Involvement	16
Communication	17
Fundraisers	17
Behavior and Discipline.....	18

Purpose of the BSA

The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated to provide a program for community organizations that offers effective character, citizenship, and personal fitness training for youth.

Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.

Boy Scout Program Membership

Boy scouting is a year-round program for boys age 11 - 17. Boys who are 10 may join if they have received the Arrow of Light Award or have finished the fifth grade. Boy Scouting is a program of fun outdoor activities, peer group leadership opportunities, and a personal exploration of career, hobby and special interests, all designed to achieve the BSA's objectives of strengthening character, personal fitness and good citizenship.

Volunteer Scouters

Thousands of volunteer leaders, both men and women, are involved in the Boy Scouting program. They serve in a variety of jobs — everything from unit leaders to chairman of troop committees, committee members, merit badge counselors, and chartered organization representatives.

Scout Law

TRUSTWORTHY

A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is part of his code of conduct. People can depend on him.

LOYAL

A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, school, and nation.

HELPFUL

A Scout is concerned about other people. He does things willingly for others without pay or reward.

FRIENDLY

A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs other than his own.

COURTEOUS

A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows good manners and makes it easier for people to get along together.

KIND

A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others, as he wants to be treated. He does not hurt or kill harmless things without reason.

OBEDIENT

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.

CHEERFUL

A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.

THRIFTY

A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for unforeseen needs. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

BRAVE

A Scout can face danger even if he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at or threaten him.

CLEAN

A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He helps keep his home and community clean.

REVERENT

A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.

Scout Oath (or Promise)

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Motto

Be Prepared

Scout Slogan

Do a Good Turn Daily

Aims and Methods of the Scouting Program

The Scouting program has three specific objectives, commonly referred to as the "Aims of Scouting." They are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

The methods by which the aims are achieved are listed below in random order to emphasize the equal importance of each.

Ideals. The ideals of Boy Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan. The Boy Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as he reaches for them, he has some control over what and who he becomes.

Patrols. The patrol method gives Boy Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where members can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through elected representatives.

Outdoor Programs. Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. In the outdoors the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose. The outdoors is the laboratory in which Boy Scouts learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

Advancement. Boy Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps in overcoming them through the advancement method. The Boy Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he meets each challenge. The Boy Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a Boy Scout grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

Associations With Adults. Boys learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves. Scout leaders can be positive role models for the members of the troop. In many cases a Scoutmaster who is willing to listen to boys, encourage them, and take a sincere interest in them can make a profound difference in their lives.

Personal Growth. As Boy Scouts plan their activities and progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Boy Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. Probably no device is as successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn. The religious emblems program also is a large part of the personal growth method. Frequent personal conferences with his Scoutmaster help each Boy Scout to determine his growth toward Scouting's aims.

Leadership Development. The Boy Scout program encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Boy Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership role of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

Uniform. The uniform makes the Boy Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Boy Scouting is an action program, and wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Boy Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Boy Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth who believe in the same ideals. The uniform is practical attire for Boy Scout activities and provides a way for Boy Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.

Troop Organization

Troop 1011 is a participating member of the Catoctin Mountain District of the National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Troop's organization consists of a Chartered Organization, Troop Committee, Patrols, Patrol Leaders, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, & Troop Positions.

Chartered Organization (Sponsor)

Every troop belongs to an organization. The Chartered Organization for Troop 1011 is the American Legion, Woodsboro, Maryland. The chartered organization shares our objectives for the boys and insures that there is adequate, trained leadership. Our troop is "owned" by the chartering organization and receives a national charter yearly to use the Scouting program as part of its youth work. The chartering organization provides a meeting place, selects a Scoutmaster, appoints a troop committee of at least three adults and chooses a chartered organization representative.

Troop Committee Organization & Responsibilities

The troop committee is the troop's board of directors and supports the troop program. The troop committee does the following:

- Ensures that quality adult leadership is recruited and trained. In case the scoutmaster is absent, a qualified assistant scoutmaster is assigned. If the Scoutmaster is unable to serve, a replacement is recruited.
- Provides adequate meeting facilities.
- Advises the Scoutmaster on policies relating to Boy Scouting and the chartered organization.
- Supports leaders in carrying out the program.
- Is responsible for finances, adequate funds, and disbursement in line with the approved budget plan.
- Obtains, maintains, and properly cares for troop property.
- Ensures the troop has an outdoor program (minimum 10 days and nights per year).
- Serves on boards of review and courts of honor.
- Supports the Scoutmaster in working with individual boys and problems that may affect the overall troop program.
- Provides for the special needs an assistance some boys may require.
- Helps with the Friends of Scouting campaign.
- Assist the Scoutmaster with handling boy behavioral problems.

Committee Chair

- Organize the committee to see that all functions are delegated, coordinated, and completed.
- Maintains a close relationship with the chartered organization representative and the Scoutmaster.
- Interpret national and local policies to the troop.
- Prepare troop committee meeting agendas.
- Call, preside over, and promote attendance at monthly troop committee meetings and any special meetings that may be called.
- Ensure troop representation at monthly roundtables.
- Secure top-notch, trained individuals for camp leadership.
- Arrange for charter review and re-charter annually.
- Plan the charter presentation.

Secretary

- Keep minutes of meetings and send out committee meeting notices.
- Conduct the troop resource survey.
- Prepare a family newsletter of troop events and activities.
- At each meeting, report the minutes of the previous meeting.

Treasurer

- Handle all troop funds. Pay bills on recommendation of the Scoutmaster and authorization of the troop committee.
- Supervise money –earning projects, including obtaining proper authorization.
- Lead in the preparation of the annual troop budget.
- Lead the Friends of Scouting campaign.
- Report to the troop committee at each meeting.

Outdoor/Activities Coordinator

- Help in securing permission to use camping sites.
- Serve as transportation coordinator.
- Ensure a monthly outdoor program.
- Promote the National Camping Award.
- Promote, through family meetings, attendance at troop campouts, camporees, and summer camp to reach the goal of an outing per month.
- Secure tour permits for all troop activities.

- Report to the troop committee at each meeting.

Advancement Coordinator

- Encourage Scouts to advance in rank.
- Maintain advancement records.
- Arrange quarterly troop boards of review and courts of honor.
- Develop and maintain a merit badge counselor list.
- Make a prompt report to the council service center when a troop board of review is held. Secure badges and certificates.
- Work with the troop librarian to build and maintain a troop library of merit badges pamphlets and other advancement literature.
- Report to the troop committee at each meeting.

Chaplain

- Provide a spiritual tone for troop meetings and activities.
- Give guidance to the chaplain aide.
- Promote regular participation of each member in the activities of the religious organization of his choice.
- Visit homes of Scouts in time of sickness or need.
- Give spiritual counseling service when needed or requested.
- Encourage Boy Scouts to earn their appropriate religious emblems.
- Report to the troop committee at each meeting.

Training Coordinator

- Ensure troop leaders and committee members have opportunities for training.
- Maintain an inventory of up-to-date training materials, and other training resources.
- Work with the district training team in scheduling Fast Start training for all new leaders.
- Be responsible for BSA Youth Protection training within the troop.
- Encourage periodic junior leader training within the troop and at the council and national levels.
- Report to the troop committee at each meeting.
- Assist in orientation of new parents.
- Be watchful that the troop is taking all steps to ensure the boys' safety.

Equipment Coordinator

- Supervise and help the troop procure camping equipment.
- Work with the quartermaster on inventory and proper storage and maintenance of all troop equipment.
- Make periodic safety checks on all troop camping gear, and encourage troops in the safe use of all outdoor equipment.
- Report to the troop committee at each meeting.

Tenure

Troop committee members serve for a year at a time. At charter renewal time, a manpower inventory should be conducted to identify leadership needs. The troop committee chair should fill each committee position. Every committee member will be asked to serve in a specific capacity (as outlined above).

Scoutmaster

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the troop. The Scoutmaster & Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of the guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in the troop. The Scoutmaster is selected and recruited by the troop committee and approved by the chartered organization representative.

The Scoutmaster's general duties include:

- Train & guide boy leaders.
- Work with other responsible adults to bring Scouting to boys.
- Use methods of Scouting to achieve the aims of Scouting.

Assistant Scoutmasters

To fulfill obligations to the troop, the Scoutmaster, with the assistance of the troop committee, recruits, assistant Scoutmasters to help operate the troop. Each Assistant Scoutmaster is assigned specific program duties and reports to the Scoutmaster. The Assistant Scoutmasters can also serve in the Scoutmaster's absence.

Youth Leadership (Patrol Leader's Council)

The patrol leaders' council, not the adult leaders, is responsible for planning and conducting the troop's activities. The patrol leaders' council is composed of the following voting members: senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, and patrol leaders.

At its monthly meetings, the patrol leaders' council organizes and assigns activity responsibilities for the weekly troop meetings. The troop committee interacts with the patrol leaders' council through the Scoutmaster.

The following is an outline of the duties of the key leaders within the Troop:

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)

He is the top junior leader in the troop. He leads the patrol leaders' council and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed. The senior patrol leader is elected by troop members, usually for a six month-term.

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL)

He fills in for the senior patrol leader in his absence. He also is responsible for training and giving direction to the historian, librarian, chaplain aide, quartermaster, scribe, and order of the arrow troop representative.

Junior Assistant Scoutmasters

These are young men ages 16&17 that supervise and support other boy leaders as assigned and help the troop achieve its goals.

Historian

Collects and maintains troop memorabilia and information on former troop members.

Librarian

Keeps the troop's books, pamphlets, magazines, audiovisuals, and merit badge counselor list available for use by troop members.

Chaplain Aide

Assists in troop religious services and promotes the religious emblems programs.

Quartermaster

Responsible for troop supplies and equipment.

Scribe

The troop secretary.

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative

Keeps the troop informed on all Order of the Arrow activities.

Patrol Leader

Gives leadership to members of his patrol and represents them on the patrol leaders' council.

Assistant Patrol Leader

Fills in for the patrol leader in his absence.

Troop Meetings

Troop Meetings are held at the Woodsboro, American Legion. Troop Meetings are usually scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted on the calendar. There often will be games that improve his Scouting know how. Patrol demonstrations and contests between patrols will help him learn new skills. There will be fun and good fellowship, too, and perhaps songs, games, and ceremonies. Your Scout is expected to wear his Class A Uniform to all Troop Meetings. Any changes to the meeting schedule will be announced as early as possible to allow for proper planning.

Together, all the patrols make up a troop. Scout troops have the size and leadership to take on projects and adventures larger than those that can be done by a single patrol.

Your son can help keep his troop exciting and lively by coming to meetings on time. Join in every activity with cheerful enthusiasm. Set his sights on becoming one of his troop's best all-around Scouts. The more of himself that your son gives to Scouting, the more Scouting will give to him.

Patrols

A patrol is a team of good friends working together to make things happen. Several patrols make up a troop, the community of scouts you can call your own.

Patrols are the building blocks of Scouting. Your son's patrol is a team of six to eight scouts who make things happen. With the help of a patrol leader, they plan together, learn together, and all of them pitch into turn exciting plans into action. Together, members of your son's patrol can achieve much more than each of them could on their own.

Because all of us are different, each member of a patrol will have much to share. They can teach each other the skills that they know. As friends, they can look out for one another. Friendship, fun, and adventure – that's what a Scout patrol is all about.

Patrols are fueled by real adventures. Some happen indoors, such as planning trips; making camp equipment; and practicing first aid, knots and lashings, and other Scouting skills. Your son's patrol will go hiking and camping with other patrols in the troop. With the permission of the Scoutmaster and parent or guardian, your son's patrol may go on its own to camp or hike, and conduct special projects. Hikes and campouts give our son's patrol the opportunity to put its knowledge to good use. Away from home and school, they also have time to focus on their friendships with other Scouts and on their enjoyment of the outdoors.

The patrol meets twice a month, on the off week from the troop meeting, the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month.

Scout Uniform

Scouts in uniform are conscious of their rank and make a greater effort to advance. Only the uniform provides a place for display of badges - important symbols of achievement.

Official Troop uniform:

Provided by the Scout:

Shirt (official tan w/green shoulder tabs)
Rank & Badge of Office
Neckerchief
Neckerchief slide
Belt
Pants/Shorts (official)
Socks (official green)
Replacement Beret

Provided by the troop:

Council & Troop 1011 Patches
Beret – initial one only

Official placement of insignia may be found on the inside front and back cover of the Scout Handbook.

How the uniform can help a boy:

It is not the purpose of the Scout uniform to hide the differences between the boys or make them feel that they are all the same.

However, there is one way in which all scouts are alike. Whenever a Scout sees another person in a Scout uniform he knows he is like that person because both have committed themselves to the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. The Scout Oath and Law bind all Scouts of the world together in a common purpose. By wearing the uniform, Scouts give each other strength and support.

Beyond accenting the common bond between Scouts, by wearing the uniform, Scouts are declaring their faith and commitment to some important beliefs that bond them to all people. It is a way of making visible their belief in God, their loyalty to our country and their commitment to helping other people who need them.

How the uniform can help the troop:

When smartly worn, the uniform can help build good troop spirit.

By investing in a uniform, a Scout and his parents are really making a commitment to take Scouting seriously.

The uniform makes the troop visible as a force for good in the community and can attract new members.

Scouts in uniform create a strong, positive youth image in the community.

Advancement

Advancement is the process by which Scouts progress through the ranks in the scouting program by the gradual mastery of Scouting skills. There are seven ranks to the trail of Eagle – Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle.

The first step to advancement is to complete your joining requirements, but you may begin requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class as soon as you become a Scout. See your Scout Handbook.

Once you have completed all the requirements for a rank, (be it Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class or First Class (you need to see the Scoutmaster for a Scoutmaster conference). You must call the Scoutmaster in advance to arrange a Scoutmaster conference. This is a time for the Scoutmaster to get to know you and find out how you like scouting.

After the Scoutmaster Conference you will need to make an appointment with the Advancement Coordinator for a Board of Review. This is a time for other adults to see how you are doing and evaluate how well the Troop is functioning. Call the Advancement Coordinator to make an appointment for a board of Review. See your Scout Handbook to read about how a Board of Review works.

The Boy Scout Learns

A Scout learns by doing. As he learns, he grows in ability to do his part as a member of the patrol and the troop. As he develops knowledge and skill he is asked to teach others. In this way, he begins to develop leadership.

The Boy Scout is tested

His Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster or a troop committee member may test a Scout on requirements. The Committee Chair maintains a list of those qualified to test and pass candidates.

The Boy Scout is reviewed.

After a Scout has completed all requirements for a rank, he has a board of review. For Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle Palms, Members of the troop committee conducts the review. Members of the district advancement committee conduct the Eagle board of review.

The Boy Scout is recognized.

When the board of review has certified a boy's advancement, he deserves to receive recognition as soon as possible. This should be done at a ceremony at the next troop meeting. The certificate for his next rank will be presented to him at the next troop court of honor.

Scouts are ultimately responsible for keeping records of their accomplishments and advancements. The Troop has appointed an Advancement Coordinator to help process, review, and account for advancements. The official record for each Scout is his Official Boy Scout manual and the official rank and merit badge cards that are issued and signed by the committee, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters and or merit badge counselors.

Advancement in ranks or accomplishments in merit badges are signed by adult leaders. Tenderfoot, second class and first class rank accomplishments can be witnessed by Junior leaders or by Scouts who are at least two Ranks higher than the scout being witnessed however the ultimate signature or initial for each accomplishment must be an adult leader.

Court of Honor

As stated above, when a Scout advances, he should be recognized as soon as possible, preferably at the next troop meeting. He is recognized a second time at a public ceremony called a court of honor. The main purposes of the court of honor are to finish the formal recognition for achievement and to provide incentive for other scouts to advance.

Troop 1011 has formal courts of honor 3-4 times a year, usually at the end of each quarter. All families are asked to attend and guests are certainly welcome. Every Scout who advances deserves to be recognized in front of his family. The court of honor is the boy's special night.

Merit Badges

To advance to Star, Life, or Eagle, you must earn a specified number of merit badges for each rank. An Eagle Scout must have at least 21-merit badges. Merit badges are fun to do, plus they will introduce you to new activities.

To earn a merit badge:

- Find a Scout buddy who is interested in working on the merit badge with you and contact the appropriate merit badge Counselor
- Get a signed/approved blue card from the Scoutmaster
- Get a merit badge book for the subject. You can purchase most merit badge books at Sunny's or you can try to borrow one from our Troops library or another Scout
- Work with your Merit Badge counselor to complete the requirements found in the merit badge book.

- When finished your counselor will spend time reviewing your requirements if the counselor is satisfied, he or she will sign the blue card or tell you what more should be done to complete the merit badge.
- Give the signed blue card to the Advancement Coordinator. Remember to keep a portion of the blue card. Merit badges are awarded at the Court of Honor.

Outdoor Program

Scouting is effective whenever we take advantage of its truth; the place where Scouting works best is also the place that boys want the most. The outdoors. There are a number of good reasons why the outdoor program is important:

The outdoors is the best place for learning outdoor skills. How could it be otherwise? A scout who tries to boil a potato on the gymnasium floor would be in a hot water for sure – not to mention the boy who tried learning to swim by reading a book.

1. The outdoors is a great place for learning something about living with others. When Scouts walk on the same trail, cook and eat together, and share triumphs and troubles together, they are going to find out some important things about, say patience, respect for others points of view, doing their fair share, making a friend more easily, and saying no without losing one. Skills like these are about the personal growth skills we want from every scout.
2. On the trail or in a camp, the boys' leaders will be challenged by the real thing- getting their patrols fed and sheltered, keeping them warm and safe, solving the problems they can solve, and knowing how to get help for those that can't. It's a time when leadership skills can deepen, patrols grow closer, and the troop grows stronger.
3. The outdoor is also a place where a Scout can get closer to the natural world around him- the land, the forests and their wildlife, the lakes, rivers, the mountains and the seas. Here in the outdoors, he will learn of the "land ethic" - the understanding and respect for the environment we all share, and he will develop an active concern for its health and willingness to work to keep it healthy.

Troop 1011 has a very active outdoor program and all boys are encouraged to participate. Our program includes monthly weekend campouts, annual long-term summer camp, day hikes and other outdoor activities.

There is usually a fee associated with scouting activities. The fee will cover such items as food, accommodations and event activities for the scouts. The fee is dependent upon how many scouts attend and the nature of the activity. Financial hardships should NEVER be a reason that a Scout does not attend an activity. Should your family have a concern, please do not hesitate to contact the Scoutmaster or Committee Chair.

This is a Basic List of what to bring on a campout:

Sleeping bag	Rain Gear	Silverware	Boy Scout Handbook
Foam Pad	Scout Knife	Canteen	
Toothbrush	Mess Kit	Compass	<u>DO NOT BRING:</u>
Sewing Kit	Watch	Washcloth	Radios, Electronic
Clothes	Pen/Pencil	Notebook	Games, Firearms, Sling
Cup	Toothpaste	Towel	Shots, Drugs, Alcohol,
Flashlight	Extra Batteries	Personal ID	or Tobacco Products
Soap	Sweater	Comb	

Parent Involvement

Our goal is to ensure that each and every boy gets as much out of scouting as possible. To accomplish this goal we **MUST** have parent support. Troop 1011 is a volunteer organization however, in order for the Annual Plan or the activities to be successfully executed; uniform and consistent support from parents is absolutely vital. Scouting must be kept interesting, challenging in and above all fun. Without assistance and input from parents our program suffers, the scouts become disinterested and the goal of raising future citizens within the ethics of Scouting is not accomplished. Scouting is based partly on the enjoyment of learning new experiences and sharing/giving of your self to service those less fortunate. What better way to set an example for your child than to assist in the service and benefit of other children? Troop 1011 **NEEDS YOU!**

The role of parents within Troop 1011 is to be supportive of the Troop's efforts and to provide the atmosphere Scouts need to learn and excel. Parents are expected to:

- Read their Scout's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting.
- Actively follow their Scout's progress and offer encouragement and a gentle push when needed.
- Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Court of Honor ceremonies.
- Assist as requested, in all Troop fund-raisers and other such activities. All such assistance lowers the cost of the program we offer to the Scouts and, therefore, lowers each family's cash outlay for their Scout(s).
- Review the Troop Newsletter & Calendar monthly and be aware of the troop programs.
- Volunteer to assist with Troop Activities. See the Activities Coordinator for more details.

Specifically, support for troop activities is needed in the following areas:

- Patrol Parents
- Service Projects
- Activities (Adult POC's, Transportation, etc.)
- Merit Badge Counselors
- Committee
- Assistant Scoutmasters

As many of the adult leaders have volunteered time and time again, it has become necessary to recruit new volunteers. We understand that many of you have very hectic daily schedules,

however, please remember that the scouts will benefit and any time that you can volunteer or help out will be greatly appreciated. Please take a moment and consider how you can support your son's troop.

Communication

Communication is essential for the success of Troop 1011. The Troop is committed to making sure that all are informed as to the activities and concerns of the Troop. To ensure that we have good communication, the Troop has developed the following:

- A calendar will be distributed detailing the year's activities and events.
- Troop Roster to include names, numbers, and email addresses for all members of that troop.
- A newsletter will be distributed monthly.
- Emails and/or Flyers will be distributed for special items such as Court of Honor Ceremonies, Parent Meetings, Fundraiser information, Troop Camp Outs, Hikes, etc.

Additionally, comments, feedback and suggestions are always welcome. If anyone has concerns that they would like to see addressed at an upcoming committee meeting, or if anyone is interested in becoming a committee member, please contact the Troop Committee Chair. Good communication will allow for the success of Troop 1011.

Fundraisers

While the Troop plans and operates on a minimal budget and is sensitive to the potential costs involved in any outdoor activity that includes camping equipment; the fact remains that even the "Basics" have a cost. It is our belief and goal however that Troop 1011 gives each scout more enjoyment, opportunity and memories per dollar than the competition. From canoeing, fishing, camping and hiking to the latest High Adventure activity; Troop 1011 strives to main a focus on the bottom line. Our adult leaders give generously of their time and provide personal support to help defray costs. However, having said that, we also need the help of each parent to assist in our fundraising efforts so we can buy equipment and help the troop offset the cost. By providing assistance in and support for fundraising events, each parent helps the Troop to hold the line on costs, and improve the "Back to Basics" program. Fundraising should not be the responsibility of a few dedicated scouts and parents.

Past fundraising events have included candy bar sales, horse show events, the Big Sweep, etc. The search is still on to find events that appeal to more adults and scouts and yet provide a good return on your time investment. Your suggestions are welcomed in our search to find the ideal fundraisers that are efficient and promote the scouting ethics. As we search however, we need your HELP. When a Scouter calls for assistance, please consider that our most valuable resource is your time. Provide what you can as often as you can and through our combined efforts we can produce the best Scouts in Maryland.

Parents should expect a minimum of two significant fund raising events throughout the year. Additionally, any and all donations are welcome with open arms. Donations are fully tax

deductible. This is a very worthwhile cause. Your son and other scouts within the troop will benefit.

Behavior and Discipline

A Scout is responsible and accountable for his behavior during Troop 1011 meetings and activities. Smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or participating in illegal activities will be grounds for dismissal as a member of the Troop and quite possibly BSA.

Cursing toward, fighting with or indirectly causing physical pain/emotional distress with or against other Scouts is considered unacceptable. Since Scouting activities are almost always conducted in the presence of adult leaders, it will be the leader's responsibility to correct and stop the behavior. In extreme or repeated cases the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster may call the parents or guardian to have the Scout or Scouts removed from the Scouting activity. It is the Scoutmasters responsibility to determine the circumstances surrounding each occurrence and discipline the individuals involved through counseling and penalties. The troop committee will be informed and then briefed on all discipline incidents. Penalties may include but are not limited to extra service projects for no credit, oral and written apologies removal from participation in troop activities for a specified period. The primary goal of any behavior/discipline action is to reinforce correct behavior that emphasizes the Scout Oath, Law and Promise. Scouts must be willing to accept that their behavior will not be permitted to violate the rights of other Scouts to enjoy and participate in the Scouting program and that their rewards of good behavior far outweigh the consequences of behavior detrimental to the ethics of Scouting.