

THE SCOUTING TRAIL



June/July 2019

A resource for parents, Scout leaders, district committee members and commissioners.

samhoustonbsa.org
facebook.com/shac.bsa

Family Scouting. We are excited to announce that the Cub Scouting program is now open to boys and girls. By welcoming both girls and boys into the program, even more youth will have access to the character development and values-based leadership that Scouting promises. family.scouting@scouting.org. #scoutmein



Cub Scout Fall Recruiting will focus on recruiting new families to the fun and adventures of Cub Scouting. Begin your recruiting plans now to ensure that your pack has a great recruiting campaign! Then, attend one of the fall recruiting training events scheduled in your district in August. The council will provide support materials to your pack for fall recruiting. shac.org/pack-recruitment-resources



Rocket Days. Girls and boys in kindergarten through fifth grade who join Cub Scouts will receive a rocket patch and a rocket that they can design, build, and launch at a fall rocket day event. Packs will be asked to sponsor an activity (e.g., event or activity similar to a Scout Fair booth) at their district rocket day event. Contact your district activities for more information. shac.org/rocket-days



Popcorn Sales. Selling popcorn is a wonderful opportunity for units to earn funds to support their entire year of Scouting using Trail's End gourmet popcorn. Materials are provided to units at the popcorn kickoff on **August 13**. shac.org/popcorn



Scouting Supports Education. Scouting activities contribute to the academic development of the children who participate. In the elementary grades, the program is built around a series of theme-based explorations. As a Cub Scout advances, the requirements get more challenging, to match the new skills and abilities they have learned. Cub Scout advancement supports over 120 elementary Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), the standards which outline what students are to learn in each grade in the state of Texas.



In the middle and high school grades, service, community engagement and leadership development become increasingly important parts of the program as youth lead their own activities. Youth also have the opportunity to explore other areas of interest such as the arts, STEM, business, and outings within the community. More than 85% of merit badges include requirements that meet National Science Education Standards, giving Scouts a foundation in everything from nuclear science to robotics. Learn more at shac.org/education.

Summer Checklist:

- Attend roundtable
- Sign up for popcorn
- Packs: Attend day camp and resident camp
- Plan fall recruiting.
- Packs: Hold 3 summertime activities
- Troops: Attend long-term camp
- Crews: Attend super activity

The Scouting Trail is a monthly newsletter produced by volunteers that conveniently summarizes upcoming council events. This newsletter is a great resource to share with leaders and parents. Copies distributed at roundtable and the Scout Shops are made possible through the generosity of Friends of Scouting donors. www.shac.org/toolkit



- July 2019**
- varies Cub Scout resident camp
 - varies Scouts BSA summer camp
 - 22-9 World Scout Jamboree
 - 31 Fall recruiting chair, Train-the-Trainer

- August 2019**
- Fall recruiting night trainings (see district websites)
 - 1 Popcorn online sales begin
 - 1 Popcorn show-n-sell orders due
 - 10 Venturing Banquet
 - 11 Order of the Arrow LEC / Unit Representative Summit
 - 13 Popcorn Kickoff
 - 15 Council Coordinated
 - 17 Popcorn show-n-sell distribution / sales begin

- September 2019**
- 6-8 Sea Scouts Minto Rendezvous
 - 13-15 Wood Badge 19-2A
 - 20-22 Order of the Arrow Fall PowWow
 - 27-29 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
 - 28 Shooting Sports Merit Badge Fulfillment Day
 - 28 Popcorn Blitz Day #1

- October 2019**
- 4-6 Wood Badge 19-2B
 - 11-13 Fun with Family
 - 12 Popcorn blitz day #2
 - 15 Venturing Forum
 - 17 Council Coordinated
 - 19 Jamboree on the Internet
 - 26 Popcorn blitz day #3

- November 2019**
- 1 Popcorn orders due
 - 1-3 Order of the Arrow Ordeal Weekend
 - 2 University of Scouting
 - 7 Celebrating Cultures Event
 - 8-10 Webelos Coyote Trail Extreme
 - 16 Popcorn distribution
 - 16 Order of the Arrow Service Weekend
 - 16-18 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
 - 19 Council Recognition Reception



[instagram.com/samhoustonbsa](https://www.instagram.com/samhoustonbsa)



[pinterest.com/samhoustonbsa](https://www.pinterest.com/samhoustonbsa)



[flickr.com/samhoustonbsa](https://www.flickr.com/samhoustonbsa)



fb.com/shac.bsa



[youtube.com/samhoustonbsa](https://www.youtube.com/samhoustonbsa)

Cub Scouts

Day Camp is a council camp run by districts for Cub Scouts entering 1st – 5th grade and focuses on earning rank advancements, learning new skills, playing sports and games, crafts, BB guns, archery and making new friends. www.shac.org/daycamp



Resident Camp is a three-night summer camping program for Cubs entering 1st – 5th grade at Bovay Scout Ranch. Cub Scouts will enjoy BB guns, archery, sling shots, crafts, sports, games, campfire, and lots more. www.shac.org/resident-camp

Passports. Passports are a supplemental resource to help Cub Scouts keep track of advancements completed. The summer passports contain activities for families to work on over the summer to give them a taste of their next rank. The passports contain electives with some fun, outdoor activities (e.g., biking, swimming). The passports also include some electives that contain time requirements that are easier to complete over summer break or require family involvement (e.g., Duty to God). A list of field trips that families may already be taking as part of their summer plans is also included. Additional passports such as the Outdoor Activity Award can be used year around. More passports will be added soon. shac.org/passports.



Pack Meeting Ideas. Cubmasters: A good pack meeting is well planned and well organized and full of fun (e.g., opening ceremonies, cheers, songs, skits). Now is the time to start planning your pack meetings for next year. Check out our newly developed resources to help you plan fun meetings. More ideas will be added soon. shac.org/pack-meetings.



Webelos-to-Scouts BSA Transition Plan

One of the goals of the Webelos program is to prepare youth for their transition into a troop. Packs and troops should work together to ensure that every Webelos Scout has the opportunity to join a troop. Troops can provide opportunities for Webelos Scouts and their parents to become familiar with their program through special open houses or outdoor activities. Webelos dens may also have opportunity to observe troops in action at Webelos Woods, or other district events. The cooperative effort of troop and pack gives Webelos Scouts and their families an awareness of the troop program, troop leadership, and advancement – as well as an appreciation for troop organization and relationships.



While Webelos dens will visit troops as a group, the selection of a troop is up to the Webelos Scout and their family. Every troop has a different personality and is different in the type of activities scheduled. Families must choose the troop that best meets the needs of the Scout. shac.org/webelos



Scouts BSA

OA Unit Representative Summit is a training for the OA unit representatives and their adult adviser. The summit focuses on building leadership skills and providing service to the unit. **August 11.** oa.shac.org/summit



Training

Wood Badge is a six-day advanced leadership course for Scout Leaders involved in all program levels to learn techniques to become better leaders. **Sept 13-15 and Oct 4-6**
www.shac.org/wood-badge



Training. Every Scout deserves a trained leader. Every leader deserves to be trained. The council offers a variety of training courses for all levels of leaders in all Scouting program. Scouters can attend training in any district.
www.shac.org/training-schedule



Older Scouts Programs

Venturing Leadership Awards are due **June 1**. The Venturing Banquet is an opportunity to recognize the Venturing leadership and their advisers. The new Venturing Officer Association leadership is announced. **August 10.** Venturing Forums are held three times a year and are a great resource and fun opportunity for crews. **October 15.** shac.org/venturing



Exploring is program that provides experiences to help youth mature and prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.
exploring.shac.org



Sea Scouts: Minto Rendezvous is an annual regional event where Sea Scouts test their knowledge and skills. **September 7-8.** shac.org/sea-scouts

