



Program Planning Kick-off & Training



Welcome to the Program Planning Kick-off and Training.

Introduce Self.



Why do families stay in Scouting?

- Scouting is fun
- Scouting is great value for the money
- Scout meetings are a good use of our family's time
- Scouting makes me feel like I am a part of something big



Based on 2022 data.

Top 4 reasons



Why do families leave?

- Unit had poor leadership/problems with leaders
- Scouting wasn't fun and Child is no longer interested
- Our family did not feel welcome
- Scouting was too expensive



These correlate with the reasons they stay.



Additional reasons families leave?

- **To much of a time commitment**
 - 2024 focus groups, #1 reason families don't join Scouting
 - Avg. volunteer spends 4-hours a week, perception is 20-hours+ a week
- **Poor quality control and experiences differ vastly**
- **Expectations on Scouting experience isn't being met**
 - No campouts, No summer-camp, etc.
- **Difficult to join, and easy to leave**
- **Complicated online systems**



Focus groups in 2024, time commitment was the #1 reason families don't join.

Additionally, they found that the average volunteer spends 4 hours a week on Scouting, but the perception is 20 hours a week.

We don't lose families at the big stuff, like summer-camp, camporees, cub world, etc.

We lose them at unit meetings.

Why? - Because it's difficult to keep our unit meetings engaging and fun and bringing value.

This puts a lot of pressure on unit leaders, who are parents, to deliver high quality meetings.



What can we learn from this?

Successful Units that attract and keep Scouts:

- Have leadership that is helpful, friendly, kind, trained, organized, and provide good communication.
- Have a strong annual program plan that is FUN!
- Ensure all Scouts and their families feel welcome.
- Have an easy to explain finance plan that funds the unit expenses AND offers a way for families to subsidize their Scouting journey.



Read slide.

This is what Program Planning is all about. Helping unit leaders plan and schedule your next year of program so that they can attract and keep Scouts and families.



Families want to know 2 things:

What are we going to do?

How much is it going to cost?



As you begin thinking about your annual plan, recognize that families want to know the answer to 2 things:

- What are we going to do & How much is it going to cost?

If the unit can answer these 2 simple questions, families will sign up and stay involved. It always works!



This brings us to Annual Program Planning.

Tonight, we are going to walk you through ideas and best practices to help you improve your unit's program and funding plan.



Before we get to far, we want to start with this. “This is the way we’ve always done it”

CLICK

Scouting has changed and changed a lot. All our programs have been updated in the last few years and this includes Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and Venturing. Our Districts and Council have updated events and made changes to better accommodate and support your efforts. Please take advantage of these things.

The costs associated with Scouting have also increased and will continue to increase and you’ll need to adapt your operations accordingly.

We are going to share some great ideas and recommendations, so please have an open mind.



Annual Program Planning

See Pages 4 – 5 in your Planning Calendar.

Is an Annual Unit Meeting to:

- Plan and Schedule your next year of program
- Create a Calendar
- Develop your Finance Plan

And Then: Share this with your families



Read Slide.

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Offices Closed	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Offices Closed	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Notes: _____

Council Events

Typical Unit Events

District Events

- Cub Scout Event
- Scouts BSA Event
- Venturing Event

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The Guidebook is a tool to help you during the process. Specifically at your meeting. We have a couple available for each unit and the file is online on our website for you to print more as needed. It is also designed to be viewed digitally.

The calendar on the left page is intentionally left blank. This is so that you can write down your unit dates and activities.

Council events are in the top right, followed by typical unit events held that month, followed by District events. There are also labels to help you identify Cub Scout Events, Scouts BSA Events, and Venturing Events.

Program Planning Conference - Steps for Success!

The program planning conference is a unit meeting to plan and schedule your next year of program along with the plan to pay for these activities. Start the meeting by outlining the importance of having a strong annual plan and any rules you will follow during the meeting. While this meeting is similar for all units, please remember that in Troops and Crews the youth are the ones who should be leading this meeting. Training videos are available in my.scouting, and on our council website.

PRE-WORK

Before the scheduled face-to-face conference, the committee chair and unit leaders gather the following information:

- Key school and community event dates
- Important chartered organization dates
- Personal dates that may affect your unit's activities
- District and Council dates
- Last year's unit annual plan (if you have one)
- Unit priorities and goals (Journey to Excellence)

To maximize the efficiency of your planning, the following people should attend the conference:

- Chartered Organization Representative
- All unit committee members & unit leaders
- Your unit commissioner (optional)
- Anyone else you think might be helpful
- For Troops & Crews: Youth Leadership

Step 1 - COLLECT

Take the dates you collected prior to the meeting and put them into your master calendar—including meeting dates—either on a hard copy or by plugging the information into an electronic calendar on a computer.

Step 2 - REVIEW

Review what the unit did last year. Ask questions like, what events went well, what events didn't go well? Did we earn the National Summertime Award? The Journey to Excellence Award? How did we do with weekly attendance? Did we participate in day camp, summer camp, high adventure? Did we sell popcorn and camp cards? Feel free to ask as many questions as you want, but don't spend too much time on this, as the key issue is planning the upcoming year. Just use this research to help guide what you might want to keep, replace, or improve.

The process begins with Pre-work, which is setting the meeting date, inviting the right people, collecting information that will be helpful in the planning process, such as key school dates, personal dates, and your last year's annual plan (if you have one).

At the meeting:

Step 1 – Is to take the dates you've collected prior to the meeting and put them into the Calendar

Step 2 – is to review what the unit did last year. What went well, what didn't go well. Don't spend too much time on this step, just use this research to guide what you might want to keep, replace, or improve.

Step 3 - BRAINSTORM

Brainstorm activities your unit might want to do in addition to weekly meetings. Include things such as: Blue and gold banquet, Courts of honor, Pinewood Derby, Scouting for Food, Weekend Campouts, Community service activities, youth recruitment events, District Events, Council Events, etc. Remember the brainstorming rule, which is anybody can suggest anything without critique or criticism. Feedback and analysis come later, after all the ideas have been captured. Once you have a list of things your unit might want to do, start prioritizing the list. Take a vote(s) on which activities to include on the schedule, then add the activities to your calendar.

Step 4 - ASSIGNMENTS

After the dates have been placed into the calendar, the next step is to assign the person who will be responsible for each event (if possible).

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Step 3 – Is Brainstorming. What activities do you want to do. Use the Program Planning Calendar for ideas. Create a list of what you might want to do and then prioritize the list. Take votes on which activities to include on the schedule and make your selections.

Step 4 – After you have the activities selected and placed on the schedule, the next step is to assign a person to be in responsible for the activity. Don't skip this step as it is key to having a successful year.

Step 5 – Finance and Funding

Expense Categories:

Unit Expenses:

- Things that the unit typically pays for
- Advancement, Unit Gear, Pinewood Derby Cars, etc.

Family Expenses:

- Things that the family typically bears the cost of
- Cub Haunted, Uniform, Weekend Campouts, Summer Camp, etc.

IMPORTANT! Your funding plan needs to fund BOTH!

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Step 5 – is Finance and Funding.

We are going to take a second and spend some time on this step.

The costs of Scouting has significantly increased over the past 3 years. From inflation related expenses such as food costs and 3rd party vender costs, to BSA membership fee increases (which we expect will increase again).

Many of our units are finding that they lack the funds to continue providing a high-quality program. This needs to be addressed.

CLICK

Scouting Expenses can be broken into 2 categories: Unit Expenses and Family Expenses.
READ SLIDE.

**Your funding plan needs to fund the unit expenses
AND
offer a way for families to subsidize their Scouting journey.**



Your unit's funding plan needs to fund the unit expenses AND offer a way for families to subsidize their Scouting Journey.

Nearly all our units have a plan to fund the unit expenses, but they often don't offer a way for families to subsidize their personal expenses.

So let's talk about Scoutbook and Scoutbook's Payment Log Function.

CLICK

This function is built right into Scoutbook and allows you to track payments and expenses. It allows each Scout to have a "Scout Account" where Scouts can credit a reasonable amount of funds earned toward their Scouting expenses.

The image on the left is what it looks like when you log in from your phone. You can see the payment log with a balance of \$1,419. If you were to click that link it would open up the image on the right that shows credits and debits. The Unit treasurer or other committee member or members can update and use this feature.

Typically, units track this via a spreadsheet with a tab for each Scout and then update Scoutbook quarterly or as needed.

Scout Accounts

The Unit only has 1 bank account. Scout accounts are just a tool to help families fully participate in Scouting. They are normally tracked via a unit spreadsheet or in Scoutbook.

Scout Accounts are typically funding by:

- Proceeds from unit fundraising such as popcorn sales.
- Contributions of money from parents, family, and friends.
 - Often in small amounts, to gradually pay for large expenses.
- Grandfathered funds. Funds from an older sibling's account who has left the unit.



	A	B
	Value of Scout Account:	\$662.00
1		
2	Popcorn Sale Commission	\$1,200.00
3	Membership Dues	(\$168.00)
4	Oct Campout	(\$45.00)
5	Camp Card Sales	\$300.00
6	April Campout	(\$75.00)
7	Summer Camp	(\$550.00)
8		
9		

< > John | Sam | Ben | David | +

Example Spreadsheet, tracking Scout Accounts

Scout Accounts

Funds can **ONLY** be used for Scouting related purchases such as:

- Unit Dues
- Annual Membership Dues
- Summer Camp Registration
- Winter Camp Registration
- High Adventure & National Jamboree
- Weekend Campout expenses: (*Whitewater, Climbing, Caving, etc.*)
- Eagle Scout Project Materials
- Scouting Uniform
- Council Events like Camporee,
- Day Camp, Cub Summer Camp, Webelos Camp, etc.
- To replace a lost Merit Badge Sash



Step 6 - PUBLISH YOUR PLAN

Review your plan to ensure you have captured everything your unit wants to do in the upcoming year. Include your unit's funding plan with the expectations of each Scout/family. Publish your plan and get it to each family. Sharing the annual plan with your families could be the most important step in retaining your Scouts and building tenure. Create a printable flyer that can be given to new and prospective families.

Annual program planning is an ongoing process.

Review the plan regularly to make sure you are still on track

Additional resources including examples can be found at www.lbsa.org.



For Scouts BSA & Venturing Units:

The process of this meeting is the same but please remember that in Troops and Crews the youth are the ones who are holding and leading this meeting.

There are training videos on our website www.awbsa.org

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Step 6 – Now that you have your calendar and finance plan completed, review it to make sure you have captured everything your units wants to do in the upcoming year.

Publish your plan and get it to each family. This can be done via a website, a printable flyer, through Scoutbook, or however your unit likes to communicate.

Program planning is an ongoing process. Review the plan regularly and make sure you are still on track.

For Scouts BSA and Venturing Units. READ SLIDE



We are going to quickly go through the key events, activities, and trainings for 2023-2024. We have a lot of new and exciting things to share with you!

We are just going to go in the same order of the planning book, so feel free to follow along.

POPCORNSALE

WHY SELL POPCORN?

- Easy way to fund your Unit's program
- Helps families subsidize their Scouting Adventures.
- Scouts learn life lessons by "earning their own way".
- Amazon Gift Card Prizes!
- Sell online to friends and family out of town.
- App allows ALL Scouts to accept Credit Cards.
- Show-n-sell locations secured by Trails-End and available for sign-up directly from the app!



CALENDAR

Virtual Leader Training:	9:30am Saturday, July 12th
Scout Kick-off Party:	Saturday, Aug 9th
Order #1 Due:	Monday, Aug 4
Order #1 Pickup:	Aug 14-15
Amnesty Return Days:	Sept 8-10
Order #2 Due:	Monday, Sept 8
Order #2 Pickup:	Friday, Sept 19
Storefront End Date:	Sunday, Nov 2
Order #3 Due:	Monday, Nov 4
Order #3 Pickup:	Friday, Nov 14
BIG SPIN PARTY	Saturday, Mar 7

NEW COMMISSION STRUCTURE!
 35% - Flat Rate on both Traditional & Online sales.
Flat Rate will help families easily know how much they are raising to subsidize their Scouting adventures.
Example: sell \$1,000 = \$350 in your Scout's Account

INCENTIVES!

- Scouts will receive a patch for selling at least one item!
- Scouts will earn Gift Card Prizes based on their sales!
- Scouts will earn 4% of their sale toward their scholarship account! (*Min of \$3,000+ in sales to qualify*)
- All Sales must be recorded in the Trail's End App to count toward incentives.

CHAMPIONSHIP SELLERS!

\$5,000 = Championship Ring &
 Free Cub World for Scout & Parent
 or \$250 off Summer Camp/High Adventure
 (*In-Council camps only*)

\$10,000 = Championship WWE BELT
 \$20,000 = Championship Experience




BIG SPIN PARTY!

Mar 7 - Our top 50 selling Scouts will be invited to the BIG SPIN Party!



- Food, Fun & Recognition!
- A "Top 50" Sellers Club T-shirt!
- Spin the PRIZE WHEEL for fabulous prizes! (for every \$2,000 of product sold, a Scout will earn a spin.)

Council Popcorn Sale.

1st – Thank you to all of the units that actively participate in the popcorn sale each year. Your participation is vital to the Scouting mission. Participating in the popcorn sale is important because it helps keep costs down and it is one of the easiest ways to fund your unit expenses and to offer your families a way to subsidize their Scouting Journey.

We have made some significant changes to our popcorn sale with the goal to simplify and streamline the process. We want it to be as easy as possible for our Unit Leaders to participate in the sale, so we have removed many layers and past systems that caused a lot of confusion which resulted in very poor customer service on our part.

Reminder that Trails End will secure many of the storefront locations for us and you can schedule those through the app. This makes the sale extremely easy.



POPCORN SALE

Aug 9th

FUN! GAMES!
PRIZES! LIVE DJ!

SCOUT POPCORN KICK-OFF!
Attention all Scouts! Start your popcorn sale off in a BLAST! by attending our NEW in-person Scout kick-off! For all Scouts and Family members participating in the Fall Popcorn Sale!



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Council Popcorn Sale.

Our Scout focused, in-person kick-off / PARTY on Aug 9th in the Fort Collins Area! (Location selected because 90% of Scouts that sell live withing a 1-hour drive of Fort Collins)

These are going to be a blast with games, music, prizes and fun. Scouts will visit stations where they will get their app set up, practice their sales pitch, taste the new product offerings. They'll be a live DJ, with Music, Games, and all around FUN! It's going to be awesome!

For Adults:

Wood Badge



Wood Badge is the ultimate leadership training program for adult leaders. The course delivers the latest in 12 leadership skills that will help you be the best leader possible. These are skills that will become part of your everyday life. You will use these skills at home, church, and anywhere leadership is needed. We promise you friendship, camaraderie, knowledge, personal awareness, and most of all fun! The 5-day course is split over two weekends.

2026 Course: Aug 7th - 9th and 16th - 17th @ Camp Laramie Peak
www.awbsa.org/woodbadge/



University of Scouting & College of Commissioner Science

Attention Adults! Whether you are new to Scouting or a veteran, the University of Scouting and College of Commissioner Science has something for you! This annual one-day supplemental training event offers classes that emphasize programs, skills, and resources to help you deliver high quality opportunities your Scouting youth. Come and learn practical skills and gain valuable knowledge in a fun and festive atmosphere. Be the best leader you can be!

Saturday, November 15, 2025 @ Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne
www.awbsa.org/university-of-scouting/
www.awbsa.org/college-of-commissioner-science/

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WoodBadge

- This is an amazing training for unit leaders
- Adults that attend return and complete 5 Goals specifically designed to make your Scout Unit better.
- It is highly advantageous to your unit to have adults attend WoodBadge.
- We highly recommend that your unit budget funds to offer full or partial Scholarships to attend and send at least 2 adults to every course.

University of Scouting

- This is a fun day and a great training opportunity in November that covers all sorts of things.
- Look for more information to come out including the course list.

Additionally, our District's offer multiple Leader Specific Trainings and Outdoor Leader Trainings throughout the years. These dates are found on the calendar pages.



Experience the rugged beauty, rich history, and true spirit of the Wild West at BDSR — a real working mountain cattle ranch where adventure, tradition, and Scouting come together for the ride of a lifetime! Saddle up, dig in, and experience the new and updated programs offered at BDSR!

<u>2025 Dates</u>	<u>2026 Dates</u>
June 15th - 21st	June 14th - 20th
June 22nd - 28th	June 21st - 27th
July 6th - 12th	July 5th - 11th
July 13th - 19th	July 12th - 18th

**Horsemanship
Merit Badge
& Horseback
Riding!**



The Spirit of the Old West, Comes to Life!



- Canoeing & Kayaking!
- Low & High COPE!
- Natural Rock Climbing!
- Sporting Archery!
- Awesome Hiking!
- Cowboy Action Shooting!



- BDSR Rodeo Olympics!
- Trail to 1st Class!
- Scouting Museum!
- 2 Western Wear Days!
- Premier Target Sports!
- Fishing!



**Conquer the
Thumb!**

**Cycling
Merit Badge
& Mountain
Biking**



**Famous Chuck
Wagon Dinner &
Hoedown!**

**Amazing ATV
Program!**



Scouts BSA Summer Camp at Ben Delatour Scout Ranch



There's a first time for everything—like exploring the first national park, Yellowstone, and camping in the first national forest, Shoshone, all while making unforgettable firsts at Camp Buffalo Bill! Whether it's your first time fishing in mountain streams, earning a new Merit Badge, or hiking through breathtaking wilderness, your week at Camp Buffalo Bill will be an adventure full of firsts that you'll always remember.

2025 Dates

June 8th - 14th
 June 15th - 21st
 June 22nd - 28th
 July 6th - 12th
 July 13th - 19th
 July 20th - 26th

2026 Dates

June 7th - 13th
 June 14th - 20th
 June 21st - 27th
 July 5th - 11th
 July 12th - 18th
 July 19th - 25th



Famous Shoshone Stampede!

TROOP ADVENTURE DAY!



Wednesday is Adventure Day! This is your day to take advantage of the amazing activities and once-in-a-lifetime opportunities located in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

- Visit Yellowstone
- Attend the Cody Nite Rodeo
- Visit Buffalo Bill Center of the West
- Go Whitewater Rafting!



Recycle Regatta Race!



- World Class Fishing!
- Evening Free Time Fun!
- Branding & Metalwork!
- Trail to 1st Class!
- Learn to Fly Fish!
- Polar Bear Plunge!
- Make new friends!

Scouts BSA Summer Camp Buffalo Bill

Winter Camp!

Dec 27-31 at Camp Laramie Peak



This is a 5-day, 4-night camping adventure that offers over **20 merit badges**. Trail to First Class and more! Think "summer-camp" experience, held during the winter holiday!

FREE TIME & EVENING ACTIVITIES!

Freezing Zip-Line! (with special patch!)
Glow in the dark range activities!
Movie Nights with Snacks!
Board Games & Competitions!
GaGa Ball
Winter ATV's for 14+!
Winter Geocaching!
Mountain Biking!
Mountain Boarding!

Winter Camp Schedule

Time	Saturday 12/27	Sunday 12/28	Monday 12/29	Tuesday 12/30	Wednesday 12/31
6:30 AM			Sunrise Scout Service		
7:00 AM			Morning Assembly		
7:15 AM			Breakfast		
8:30 AM		WB Session 1	WB Session 1	WB Session 1	WB Session 1
9:30 AM	Camp Check-In	WB Session 2	WB Session 2	WB Session 2	WB Session 2
10:30 AM		WB Session 3	WB Session 3	WB Session 3	WB Session 3
12:00 PM		Lunch			
12:45 PM		Sr. Patrol Leader Meeting & A-frame			Pick-up/Advancement
1:30 PM	WB Session 4	WB Session 4	WB Session 4	WB Session 4	Depart
2:30 PM	WB Session 5	WB Session 5	WB Session 5	WB Session 5	
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Open Program Activities (Archery & Rifle, Board Games, GaGa Ball, Hawk & Knife Throwing, Mountain Biking, Mountain Boarding, Black Mountain Hike, Extra Merit Badges, and more!)				Happy New Year!!! Drive Home Safe!
5:45 PM	Evening Assembly				
6:00 PM	Dinner				
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	8:00pm Opening Camp-fire	The PEAK Winter Competition @ Dining Hall 8:30pm Movie with snacks @ Dining Hall	Glow in the Dark Range Activities @ Ranges Board Games @ A-frame 8:30pm Movie with snacks @ Dining Hall	8:00pm Closing Camp-fire	
10:00 PM	Scoutmaster Minute - Quiet Time				

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New This Year and going forward!

Wintercamp at Camp Laramie Peak!

Wintercamp is a 5-day, 4-night camping adventure that offers over 20 merit badges, adventures, program and evening activities. It is going to be a blast!

- Special patch for conquering the zip-line in freezing weather!
- Glow in the dark airsoft and clay shooting!
- Over 20 merit badges and a trail to 1st class program
- This is like Summercamp, but in the winter! (it's not a klondike, it's a merit badge camp)

You can see the schedule. Camp begins on the 27th and ends on the 31st of December, giving you plenty of time to get home for new-year's eve.

We do expect to sell out due to limited capacity, so please get your reservations in early if you want your troop to attend.



Elkhorn High Adventure Base provides a 5-day, 4-night backpacking adventure in the backcountry of Roosevelt National Forest and Rawah Wilderness with additional activities like natural rock climbing, repelling, & black powder shooting.

2026 Dates

July 5th - 11th

July 12th - 18th

July 19th - 25th



- 5-day 4-Night Trek
- High-Alpine Backpacking!
- Lightly Used Trails
- No Campsites
- No other people
- 50-Miler Option!
- Whitewater Option!

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For our Older Scouts we have 2 High Adventure Opportunities

Elkhorn High Adventure Base at Ben Delatour Scout Ranch.

Scouts will plan their week of High-Adventure when they arrive. There are a lot of options to choose from. Read the list above



Yellowstone High Adventure Outpost

Pick from 5 AMAZING Adventures!

- YHAO Climbing! - Full Week of Amazing Rock-Climbing!
- YHAO Whitewater! - Full Week of Whitewater Rafting!
- YHAO Kayak! - 5-Day Kayak Trek Adventure in Yellowstone!
- YHAO Backpacking! - 5-Day Backcountry Backpacking Adventure!
- YHAO Rock & River! - Combo Climbing and Whitewater Adventure!

Dates

Adventures are weekly
from May 31st through
July 25th

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CALLING ALL CUB SCOUTS!

Get ready for a week of ADVENTURE like you've never experienced!
 Cub World is a 3-day, 2-night camping experience where imaginations come alive!
 2025 Sessions: June 20-22, June 27-29, July 18-20
 2026 Sessions: June 19-21, June 26-28, July 24-26





Medieval Castle
 Experience a Medieval Castle with juggling and jousting, making heroic shields, forge a knight sword, and even be knighted by royalty!



Wild West Frontier Fort
 Experience a Wild West Frontier Fort with Pioneer Activities, BB Guns, Archery, Learn to throw a Lariat, Horse program, and more!



Lighthouse at Dunn Point
 Experience STEM programs, Crafts and more at one of the highest lighthouses in the world! Climb to the top and catch the vista!



Rocky Mountain Nature Outpost
 Experience nature at 7,000 ft! Learn about the Forest and the local animals that are your weekend neighbors. Take an amazing nature hike! Learn conservation and Leave no Trace. Smell that amazing mountain air as you experience the Rocky Mountains!







Accommodations:





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Cub World dat Camp Jack Nicol!

We have a CUB WORLD! This is the absolute BEST Cub Scout Experience out their! This is a 3-day, 2-night overnight camping experience.

Cub will visit 4 uniquely themed program areas where they will have immersive experiences based on that program.

- A Medieval Castle where they'll make heroic shields, forge a sword and become royalty!
- A Wild West Frontier Fort where they'll learn about horses, do archery and shoot bb's, Throw a lariat and more!
- A Lighthouse on a lake with a giant boat! Stem programs crafts and more
- Rocky Mountain Nature Outpost where they'll learn about the Forest and the local animals. Take an amazing nature hike! Learn conservation and Leave no Trace.

Camp Jack Nicol has great accommodations including:

- *All meals are included and served in the Dining Hall 3 times a day with plenty of delicious options including a salad & breakfast bar. All dietary needs are accommodated.*
- *Housing is 7x9 Cabin Tents with 2 army cots on a wood platform.*
- *Individual Showers & Restrooms with flushing toilets.*
- *Charging stations for phones and devices (Take lots of pictures)*

Cub Scout Day Camps & Activity Days

Chock-full of adventures, attend Day Camp or Cub Activity Day! Activities vary but most include BB guns & Archery, STEM & Scout Crafts, Field Sports, Nature hikes and more! Scouts will complete program adventures and work on advancement!



2026 Theme is Dinotopia



June 6 - Cub Activity Day @ Tri-Trails District
June 6 - Cub Activity Day Bighorn District
June 10 & 12 - Cub Activity Days @ Frontier District
June 12 - Cub Activity Day @ Wapiti District
June 13 - Cub Activity Day @ Golden Plains District
June 13 - Cub Activity Day @ Shoshone District

Arrow Of Light Camp @ Camp Jack Nicol



Adventure is calling! Get ready for an unforgettable journey at Arrow of Light Camp – a special 4-day, 3-night camping experience designed just for Arrow of Light Scouts (typically Scouts entering 5th grade). Experience action-packed days filled with archery, boating, BB guns, climbing, and so much more! Our enthusiastic, highly trained staff are ready to deliver an exciting, high-quality program – all you need to do is bring your sense of adventure!

July 10th - 13th, 2025
July 9th - 12th, 2026



Family Camping @ Camp Buffalo Bill

Camp Buffalo Bill is available for family camping June 29 – July 5th, 2025. Explore the National Parks, Shoshone National Forest, Cody, and more!

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Top Rights – Webelos & AOL Camp at Camp Jack Nicol is a 4-day, 3-night adventure that helps prepare Scouts for long-term Scouts BSA Camping.

- Scouts will complete Webelos and AOL Advancement

We have multiple Cub Activity Day's and Day Camps that are held locally. These are great events for your Pack to participate in.

Lastly, WE have Cub Family Camp at Camp Buffalo Bill.

- This is held near the 4th of July and gives families an opportunity to camp and experience Yellowstone and the neighboring areas.
- Formal programming is limited to BB-guns, Archery, and some crafts.
- Meals are provided.
- Most families use our camp as their base and they travel off site to visit Yellowstone or utilize activities sold by local vendors such as rafting or horseback riding.

Cub Haunted Weekend

Take your family camping and have a spooktacular time at camp! **This is a fun fall festival and overnight camping adventure** for the whole family! Meals are provided and activities include range & target sports, hayrides, and so much more!



Oct 10-12
Oct 17-19



Haunted Hayrides!
BB Guns & Archery!
Haunted Castle!
Costume Contests!
Nature Hikes!
Pumpkin Carving
Campfire Programs!
Face-painting!
Games & Crafts!

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Cub Haunted Weekend is an MUST for all of our Cub Scout Packs.

- Held at Camp Jack Nicol
- Scouts will do all sorts of fun activities including (read slide)

Council Events - September

ADVENTURE WEST COUNCIL
Annual

CAMPORALL!!!

**Sept 12th - 14th
at Camp Laramie Peak**

Arrow of Light Scouts and parent!
Scouts BSA! Venturing! Adults!
Registered Alumni!



Tons of activities from:

- Completely Open Program!
- Party Central!
- Range & Target Activities!
- Imagination Station!
- Adventure Programs!
- Frontier Village!
- Leadership Heights!



Popcorn:

Sept 8-10 - Amnesty Return Days
Sept 8 - Order #2 Due
Sept 19 - Order #2 Pick-up

Order of the Arrow



Fall Service & Induction Weekends
Sept 19-21@Ben Delatour Scout Ranch
Sept 26-28@Camp Buffalo Bill

Make sure to attend our 1st EVER Council Camporee!

- This is for EVERYONE!
- It will be a blast!



BACK TO THE PACK events!



JOIN TODAY @ BEASCOUT.ORG

Hold a “Back to the Pack” event in July or early August to beginning your new program year and your recruitment efforts.

The purpose is to help your Pack get ready for the fall by re-engaging your current members and recruiting needed leadership before the school year starts. Many Packs will hold a picnic or similar event to draw in existing families and start the new program year off right.

Research shows many families will not continue in Scouting without being personally contacted. In other words, in their minds, they have only taken a vacation during the summer and are waiting to be contacted about when to start attending the meetings again.



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Research shows many families will not continue in Scouting without being personally contacted. In other words, in their minds, they have only taken a vacation during the summer and are waiting to be contacted about when to start attending the meetings again. The goal of the “Back to the Pack” event is to help your families re-join their Pack after the summer break, giving all Cub Scouts a better chance of continuing their Scouting journey.

Packs that recruit the most youth have a coordinated recruitment plan that all current families participate in. These efforts are set up in advance, often at the Back to the Pack event. As part of the meeting we encourage you to engage your families in sharing their Cub Scout experience with others and help with the packs fall recruitment efforts.

Council Events - April



Council Recognition Banquet!
April 11th, LCCC, Cheyenne WY

Help us recognize our 2025 Eagle Scouts, Silver Beaver Award Recipients, District Award of Merit Recipients, James E. West Fellows, and all those who have made an impact through Scouting during the past year.



Eagle Scouts that attend will be recognized with a special commemorative Council patch that can be worn on their uniform.



Key District Events



Update for Area/District

Visit awbsa.org

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
ADVENTURE WEST COUNCIL

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Welcome to the Adventure West Council

The Adventure West Council, BSA delivers the promise of Scouting to youth in Northern Colorado, Western Nebraska, and Wyoming. Our programs provide families with fun and adventure, friendship, education, service, and leadership! We operate 5 camping properties and have 3 service centers.

[Learn More](#)

Events & Announcements

The Council website is the best place for up-to-date information. Check it often.



Program Planning Kick-off & Training



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