

Boy Scout Handbook

This is the primary source for information about the scouting program including the uniform, insignia, camping, backpacking, outdoor activities, safety, citizenship, advancement requirements and the core of Scouting - the Oath and Law. It is also a permanent record of your progress and should be brought to every troop meeting, camping weekend and summer camp; it is also required at each Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review. We recommend that you purchase a cover for this book.

Boy Scout Uniform - The specific items you will need include:

- ☞ Boy Scout shirt (short sleeve recommended)
- ☞ Chester County Council shoulder patch
- ☞ '22' numerals (Kelly's has it as one patch)
- ☞ Shoulder loops
- ☞ Arrow of Light emblem (if earned as a Webelos Cub Scout)
- ☞ BSA trousers and/or shorts
- ☞ BSA belt (web or leather)
- ☞ BSA socks
- ☞ BSA hat (optional)
- ☞ Troop 22 Neckerchief (this will be presented by Troop 22 at our Crossing-the-Bridge ceremony in April, or when your son joins)

Outdoor gear - The Boy Scout program is an outdoor-oriented program. Troop 22 has tents, stoves, cooking kits, etc. Scouts only need to have their own personal gear for camping. We suggest that each boy be equipped with these items. There is no need to purchase upscale or expensive equipment, however. Target, Sports Authority and Dick's Sporting Goods are good sources for economical camping supplies.

- ☞ Appropriate clothing for the weather - layers & extras are recommended
- ☞ Sleeping bag and waterproof ground pad
- ☞ Hiking shoes
- ☞ Poncho
- ☞ Mess kit - a reusable cup, plate, knife, fork and spoon
- ☞ Water bottle
- ☞ Duffel or pack, preferably water resistant
- ☞ Personal care items such as soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, tissues, toilet paper
- ☞ Flashlight with extra batteries and bulbs
- ☞ Small notepad and pen or pencil
- ☞ Compass
- ☞ First Aid Kit
- ☞ Scout knife (but may be used only after earning the Totin' Chip card)

Note: The following types of knives are NOT ALLOWED AT ANY TIME: sheath knives, fish cleaning knives, switchblades, fixed-blade knives. They will be confiscated by the leaders and returned directly to parents.

Where to purchase BSA uniforms & other items

Uniforms, handbooks, merit badge books and other scouting equipment are available at a number of local stores including:

- ☞ Chester County Council Store 504 S. Concord St., West Chester. 610-696-2900
- ☞ Kelly's Sports on Route 202 in West Chester
- ☞ Mitchell's Hobbies in the Fairfax Shopping Center on Route 202 in Wilmington
- ☞ Valley Forge Scout Shop on Route 252 north (Devon exit of Route 202).

One Troop neckerchief and Troop T-shirt will be provided when you join the troop.