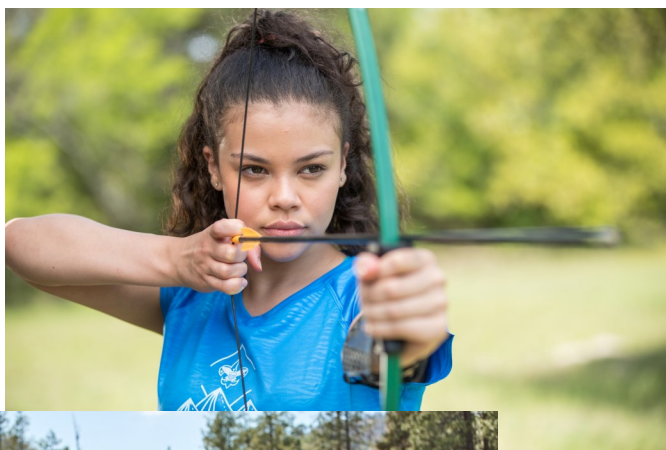

Scouts BSA

Boys & Girls Grades 6-12

New Family Information Guide



Samoset.org



715.355.1450

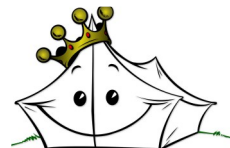
Scouts, BSA

The positive impact of the Scouting program lasts a lifetime. Your decision is an important one. Talk it over with your child! With just a little homework, you can offer your son or daughter a distinct advantage in life: a great Scout troop!



Samoset Council - Boy Scouts of America

3511 Camp Phillips Road
Weston, WI 54476
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Why Scouts, BSA?

For more than 100 years, Scouting programs have instilled in youth the values found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Today, these values are just as relevant in helping youth grow to their full potential as they were in 1910. Scouting helps youth develop academic skills, self-confidence, ethics, leadership skills, and citizenship skills that influence their adult lives.

The Boy Scouts of America provides youth with programs and activities that allow them to:

- Try new things.
- Provide service to others.
- Build self-confidence.
- Reinforce ethical standards.

While various activities and youth groups teach basic skills and promote teamwork, Scouting goes beyond that and encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation for service to others in their community.

Methods of Scouting

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

- **Ideals** – Great troops regularly use and demonstrate the Scout Oath, Law, motto (Be Prepared), and slogan (Do a Good turn Daily) in meetings, ceremonies, and personal behavior.
- **Patrols** – The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. Scouts work in groups of 6-8 with an elected leader for the group. These small groups determine troop activities through elected representation to the Patrol Leaders Council.
- **Outdoor Programs** – Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. Being close to nature helps Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handy work and humankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Scouts to learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.
- **Advancement** - Badges encourage learning, personal development, and self-confidence. Great troops award them within a week of being earned and have three or more formal ceremonies (Court of Honor) which include families each year.
- **Adult Association** – Youth learn a great deal by watching adult interaction. Great troops have leaders that model positive behaviors, and actively listen, encourage, and take a sincere interest in Scouts. Adult association can make a profound difference in your Scouts life.
- **Personal Growth** – Scouting helps young people grow, physically, emotionally and spiritually. And the Scoutmaster will help move this process along with personal encouragement.
- **Leadership Development** – Mentors help Scouts learn and practice leadership skills. Great units have the Scouts front and center of the action (the adults are in the background coaching).

How Can I Help?

Successful Scouts, BSA Troops rely on active parent volunteers. Volunteer leaders help guide the Scouting adventure for their child and others. What could be more valuable than quality time spent with your Scout? Volunteers do not need all the answers, just enthusiasm for working with curious young minds. We'll provide all the training.

There are many ways you can help, here are just a few:

Working Directly with Scouts...

Assistant Scoutmasters - Help the Scoutmaster deliver the promise of Scouting. You can serve the troop by guiding a particular patrol, advise certain Scouts who've assumed a position, or fill in as necessary to assure the junior leaders have what they need to run things.

Member of Committee - The **troop committee** is responsible for conducting the business of the **troop**, setting policy, and helping the Scoutmaster and **Scouts** with the units program.

Parent Helpers...

There are many opportunities for parents to help by taking on "one-shot" projects, such as coordinating service projects or field trips. If your educational or professional background is a match, you can help by instructing Merit Badges. Your willingness to help when you can makes all the difference in your child's experience.

Training for Volunteers - Online at [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)

Scouts leader training is available in the BSA Learn Center online at [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org).

Youth Protection Training, also available online, is required for all volunteers and must be completed before submitting your volunteer application. Email support@samoset.org with questions.

Unit Activities

Service Projects

Troops may participate in food drives, conservation projects, river clean up, or other community service activities. Service projects can be a great supplement to regular meetings.

Field Trips and Special Outings

Field trips are a great way to learn more about people and places in your community. Popular field trip destinations include: museums, parks, planetariums, zoo, businesses, and factory tours.



Unit Activities

Tesomas Scout Camp

The best way to immerse your child in the Scouting program is to spend a week at camp. Located approximately 10 miles from Rhinelander, Tesomas has been providing an outdoor program second to none since 1935. With approximately 1,200 acres, Tesomas is the place "Where camping is KING!" More information available at our council website: www.Samoset.org.

