Volunteering by the Numbers

- More than 1.2 million adult volunteers contribute their time and skills to the development of youth through the Boy Scouts of America.

- Ninety-six percent of Scout volunteers would strongly encourage family, friends, and coworkers to volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America.

- Volunteers believe their time invested with the Boy Scouts of America helps them be

❏ a better citizen (90 percent),

❏ a better parent (88 percent),

❏ a better manager (73 percent),

❏ a better employee (66 percent),

❏ more patient and tolerant of others (69 percent),

❏ more open to new ideas (65 percent) and opinions (52 percent).

Build a Better Future for Yourself and Your Community's Youth . . .

Become a Scout Volunteer!

The Boy Scouts of America relies on volunteers to provide leadership and support to Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Venturing crews.

Scouting volunteers come to Scouting from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. Plumbers, lawyers, housewives, teachers, doctors, janitors, and scientists—people from just about every occupation imaginable—are involved in leading youth to become responsible, caring, and competent citizens. They also quickly discover that Scout volunteering enables them to learn new skills and build lifelong friendships while having fun.

You Benefit, Too

Whether you wish to volunteer your time with elementary school–age boys or middle and high school–age youth, the Boy Scouts of America has a volunteer opportunity that is right for you. In addition to the reward of working with youth, through volunteering for Scouts you will

- Develop a greater level of pride in your community,
- Have the opportunity to demonstrate moral and ethical decisions,
- Build a closer bond with your children and other children in the community,
- Become a better role model image for youth in your community,
- Develop a more personal relationship with God.

Volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America enables you to work with youth to build a better future for everyone.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. If I don't know much about camping and the outdoors, how could I be a good Scout leader?

**A.** Being a good Scout leader requires more than knowing how to camp. However, the Scouting program does provide outdoor training classes for leaders with beginning, intermediate, and advanced outdoor skills.

Q. My family is very busy; how would I have time to be an effective leader?

A. You will not have to carry the responsibilities alone. Other leaders and parents in your unit will lend a hand by using their skills to teach the youth or assist with special projects, enabling you to be an effective leader and parent.

Q. Can women be Boy Scout leaders?

A. Yes. Every leadership position is open to women. In fact, more than one-third of Scout volunteers are women.
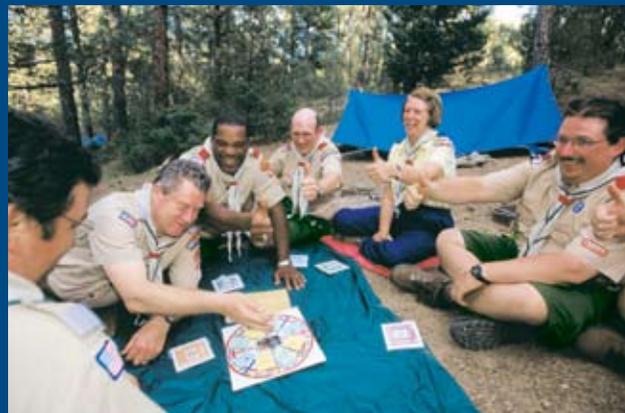
Q. Is training available?

A. There are a variety of training sessions available, specific to the leadership position you hold. For example, as a new leader, training is available immediately to enable you to run your first meeting successfully. More in-depth training is provided throughout the year, and monthly roundtable meetings enable you and other leaders to share ideas on how to organize fun and exciting activities for youth.

Q. How do I know what activities are age-appropriate for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers?

A. Scout handbooks list a variety of advancement activities appropriate for the age of the youth in each program. You can also find other books at your local Scout shop with ideas to make your meetings and events more interesting.

Q. How do I know what to do with the Scouts?

A. The *Cub Scout Program Helps* book, available through your local Scout shop, provides a theme for each month and ideas for games, skits, crafts, experiments, and activities. For Boy Scouts and Venturers, the leaders/Advisors guide and the handbooks provide activities and ideas. There are also other resources available through the local Scout shop and online that provide ideas and activities.

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