

2021 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site: Camp James Ray
2026 Mill Creek Rd
Pottsboro, TX 75076
Phone: 903-786-2591

Course Director: Jennifer Anderson
jander0526@gmail.com
Host Liaison: Michael Prachar
michael.prachar@scouting.org

Dates: February 6-7, 2021

Theme: Weird Science

Course times: The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 6 and ends approx. 2:00pm on Sunday, February 7, 2021.

Weather: Weather can be cool at this time of year with highs in the 60s and lows in the 40s.

Early arrivals: For an additional fee of \$55.00*, you may arrive the night before, please make it after 7:00 p.m. and before 10:00 p.m. *This fee covers lodging Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday. This fee does NOT cover a meal Friday night. FYI: No activities are planned for early arrivals as the staff are busy with preparations.*

Covid-19 and National Camping School - Local council host sites will continue to practice any locally required COVID-19/communicable disease mitigation strategies. Prior to your arrival, you will receive additional information about what precautions will be in place at your NCS site. If local area restrictions do not allow a course to be held, you will be contacted no less than 14 days in advance and given an alternative training option.

These precautions are important, but these efforts cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while at camp. Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. *If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to attending National Camping School.*

Before You Arrive at NCS:

- ❖ Fill out the NCS Personal Resource Questionnaire [HERE](#) and bring to camp school.
- ❖ Take the online NCS course and the in-person Council led NCS course. Don't forget the other required prerequisites: [Youth Protection Training](#) and [Cub Scout Leader Position Specific training](#).

What to Bring to Camp:

- ❖ Proof of BSA registration & prerequisite online training courses (Youth Protection Training , Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Training, Camp School Online Training, and Council-led Camp School Training).
- ❖ Your completed BSA health form (parts A and B).
- ❖ Samples of your council's day camp/resident camp promotional materials, staff manuals, or other camp literature, registration forms, schedules, etc., for display or giveaway. Make copies for at least 20 participants (no copying services are available at camp).
- ❖ Interesting crafts or activity ideas to share.
- ❖ Your camp T-shirt—there will be an opportunity for everyone to wear theirs.
- ❖ Notepad and pencil or pen. A participant binder and learning materials will be provided.
- ❖ NCS Online Trading Post: You can preview and purchase specialty National Camp School items (shirts, sweatshirts, and more!) to be sent directly to your home via [BSA National Supply](#).

Personal Gear:

- ❖ ***Official complete BSA uniform.*** We will wear the Field uniform, the official Scout uniform, on Saturday morning and Sunday morning. You may wear any Day Camp T-shirt/Sweatshirt or Scout activity uniform, at other times.
- ❖ Pillow, Bed Linens, Toiletries, towel, washcloth, soap, shampoo, etc. Warm sleepwear, perhaps "long johns" or sweats.

- ❖ Coat, jacket, suitable footwear/socks, gloves, hat, umbrella
- ❖ Camera (Shoot the displays and show others back home what can be done!)
- ❖ Cell phone coverage at this site is spotty (camp phones restricted to emergencies)

What to Expect and What Is Expected:

- ❖ Arrive rested. Be prepared for concentration, participation, and fun! Days last early morning to late at night.
- ❖ Be prepared for cabin/indoor housing with mattresses. Please bring your own bedding.
- ❖ **You must arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. on the first day and attend all sessions through the last day in order to be certified.**
- ❖ In order to focus on the learning, please leave the distractions of life behind: family, children, pets, job, etc. Note also, there are no accommodations for anyone but you.
- ❖ Please understand that if you receive the names and contact information for other participants or for staff, you may not contact them for commercial purposes unless you receive their expressed permission to do so.

**The early arrival fee is handled through your local council. You may or may not be expected to cover it personally.*

Directions to Camp James Ray

Directions from Dallas: Take Highway 75 north to Denison, take exit 69 (Highway 120), and turn left at the light. Continue west on Highway 120 to Pottsboro, passing through town (staying in the left lane). At the intersection of Highway 120 and Highway 289, continue on Highway 120 for 5.1 miles. Turn left on Locust Rd (see camp direction sign), travel 1.8 miles to a 4-way stop (Paradise Store on the corner). Turn right on Mill Creek Rd, travel 2.1 miles. Camp James Ray entrance will be on the right (large stone entrance-way).

Directions from Frisco: Travel north on Highway 289. In Pottsboro, turn left onto Highway 120 and travel for 5.1 miles. Turn left on Locust Rd (see camp direction sign), travel 1.8 miles to a 4-way stop (Paradise Store on the corner). Turn right on Mill Creek Rd, travel 2.1 miles. Camp James Ray entrance will be on the right (large stone entrance-way).