2022 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site: Camp Thunderbird  
11740 Summit Lake Rd NW  
Olympia, WA 98502  
Phone: (360) 866-0916 (emergencies only)

Course Director: Cheri Pepka, CheriScout@aol.com  
Staff Advisor: Scott Smith, Scott.Smith@Scouting.org

Dates: March 26 - 27, 2022  
Theme: Wild Wild West

Course times: The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 26th and ends approx. 2:00pm on Sunday, March 27th.

Weather: It may be cool (particularly in the morning) or warm and there is always the possibility of rain. Average temperatures are mid-50’s in the daytime with lows in the high 30’s to low 40’s. Limited outdoor activities will be a part of National Camping School

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.

The safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees, and communities continues to be our top priority. We must continue our vigilance to assure that youth and their families are safe while they enjoy the many benefits of Scouting. We encourage everyone to consult with their physician and get vaccinated. It is our best hope for returning to normalcy in our Scouting family.

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 Dorm style - 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 to be certified.**
- 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 Thunderbird, BSA

1. Traveling North or South on Interstate-5.
2. Take exit 104 to merge onto US-101 North toward Aberdeen, Port Angeles.
3. In 6 miles, keep left onto State Highway 8 toward Montesano, Aberdeen.
4. In 4.7 miles, turn right onto Summit Lake Road NW.
5. In 2 miles, The destination will be on your right.