Dear NCS Participant,

We welcome you to the 2023 National Camping School located at Camp Raven Knob in Mount Airy, North Carolina. This course is scheduled for May 20-26, 2023. We are excited that you have selected to spend your week with us in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Camp Raven Knob is ready to serve you and provide the best possible facility for your NCS experience.

In this document you will find several details to assist you in planning your trip and stay with us. Please make sure to read over all the notes to ensure we are both prepared.

For more information about Camp Raven Knob or the Old Hickory Council & the programs we offer, please visit: ravenknob.com or oldhickorycouncil.org. Any questions, concerns or inquiries, please contact Hunter Day at hunter.day@scouting.org or call us at (336) 352-4307.

We look forward to welcoming you to National Camping School.

**Bud Harrelson**  
NCS Course Director  
bud.harrelson@scouting.org

**Hunter Day**  
Local Council Liaison  
hunter.day@scouting.org

Address for Camp Raven Knob: 266 Raven Knob Road, Mount Airy, NC 27030

**Enclosed you will find:**
- Arrival & Departure Information
- Required Documents
- Specific Training Requirements
- General Information
- Packing List
- Maps
Arrival Information

General Information
We will start check-in at 9:00am-11:00am in the Dining Hall on Saturday, May 20. The first meal for all participants will be lunch beginning at 12:00pm. The last meal will be on Friday, May 26 with breakfast, you can expect to depart after your section's graduation. All participants who are enrolled in a retraining section will be able to depart in the afternoon on the fourth day.

Arriving Day Of
Please plan to arrive at Camp Raven Knob on Saturday, May 20th between 9:00am-11:00am unless noted below. Check-in will be in the Dining Hall. The Dining Hall can be found by entering the camp gates and veering right and taking the following road left.

Early Arrivals
If you are planning to arrive before Saturday, May 20 please follow the directions outlined below.

- Please email Hunter Day at hunter.day@scouting.org to confirm plans of early arrival.
- Check-In for early arrivals will be at the Camp Administration Building, which will be open on Friday, May 19 until 9:00pm. If you are arriving past 10:00pm, please add those details to your email to Hunter Day.
- The Administration Building is located by entering the camp gate and veering left, the building is located on the right once you hit the paved portion of the road.
- Early arrivals will be fed Friday dinner & Saturday Breakfast.
- All early arrival participants will be charged a fee of $55, which will be billed back to your local council.

Airport Shuttle
If you are planning on arriving to a local airport & need to utilize the camp shuttle, please follow the directions outlined below:

- Please email Hunter Day at hunter.day@scouting.org to confirm plans of travel needs/early arrival.
- Camp Raven Knob will pick up from the Greensboro (GSO) & Charlotte (CLT) Airports.
- The shuttle fee is $55 per person, that cost is round trip.
• If you arrive later than 10:00pm, we ask that you get a hotel & stay overnight near the airport. Most hotels have free shuttles to and from the airport. We will pick you up the following morning.
• Also note that we like to shuttle several participants at one time to reduce trips to the airport. You may be asked to wait at the airport for a few hours to allow for more participants to gather.
• If you arrive on Friday, May 19, please note that the Early Arrival fee of $55 will be added in addition to the airport shuttle fee.

Required Documents & Health Information

Annual Medical Form
All participants will need a BSA Medical Form completed with Parts A, B & C. Please be aware that Part C of the medical form requires a physician signature. This document will be required to turn in at check-in. BSA Medical Forms are valid for one year to the month. Example: If your form is signed on 6/14/22, it will be valid until 6/30/23.

If you do not come prepared with a current medical form, you will be sent to Surry Rural Health Center for a physical. Insurance can be used, but expect to pay up to $100 otherwise. It is highly encouraged to have this done prior to your arrival.

You can find the most recent BSA Medical Form in the link: CLICK HERE

Youth Protection Certificate
All participants will need to bring a valid copy of your current Youth Protection Certificate. This can be turned in with the medical form. Your certification should last through the summer of 2023. You can access your Youth Protection Certificate or take the online course by going to my.scouting.org.

Food and Dining
Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are provided by CRK and included everyday starting with lunch on your arrival day and concluding with breakfast on your departure day. CRK has the capability to meet certain medical or religious dietary needs. Please contact Hunter Day (hunter.day@scouting.org) at least two weeks in advance if you have a medical or religious dietary need to discuss. Please note that while CRK attempts to provide food that addresses the most common issues (nut allergies, etc.), we cannot address all dietary restrictions. If we are unable to meet your needs, you will need/wELCOME to bring food with you that meets your needs.
COVID-19 & 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 may 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 healthcare provider prior to attending National Camping School.

Required Training Prerequisites

Shooting Sports, Aquatics, Climbing, Camp Director and Program Director- Please note that there are prerequisite trainings which you MUST have before you attend your sections of NCS. Please ensure you have these trainings and bring support materials with you as proof. Persons who attend without these trainings complete will be sent back to their home councils immediately. All training must be current.

Aquatics: BSA Lifeguard Certification
Shooting Sports: NRA Rifle and Shotgun Instructor Certification
Climbing: Climbing Level I Instructor
Resident Camp Director and Program Director: Online NCAP training and Unlawful Harassment Prevention training are available at on the NCS page @ https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/

General Items

Living Arrangements
All participants, with the exception of the Aquatics Section, will be camping in Adirondack style cabins. Our three side cabins, with a cover flap on the main opening, are equipped
with three fixed bunk beds to sleep six people each. Each bed in our adirondacks has a single sized mattress. The Aquatics Section will be camping in Deer Valley Campsite, which is fixed with nylon wall-tents that sleep two participants on folding camp cot. There will be a centralized shower house nearby your campsite or your campsite might have two showers located with-in the campsite latrine. Food of any kind should not be left in the campsite.

Weather at Camp Raven Knob
The weather in mid to late May at Camp Raven Knob can vary. Typically we see mid to low 70’s during the day and mid to low 50’s in the nights. Afternoon rain showers are frequent during the summer months. Please be sure to check the weather forecast before you attend and pack accordingly.

Camp Raven Knob Trading Post & NCS Items
Camp Raven Knob will have their Camp Trading Post open for business during your time with NCS. While we will have several snack items at our Snack Bar, our Store Side will host many essentials and gear. Our Trading Post is set up to take cash, all major credit cards, Apple Pay & Samsung Pay.

Uniform
The complete Boy Scouts of America or Venturing field uniform is required at all National Camping Schools. The BSA Field Uniform (Scout shorts or long trousers, Scout shirts, Venturing shirts, Scout socks) or the BSA Activity Uniform (Scout shorts or pants with Scouting golf or tshirts) will be worn at camping school. A complete Field Uniform is required for evening meals, worship services, campfires, and other formal activities.

WIFI & Cell Phone Coverage & Mail
Camp Raven Knob has several internet access points across camp, specifically at the Administration Building, Program Center, Dining Hall & Trading Post. For cell phone coverage, Verizon has weak to medium service around camp, while AT&T gets virtually
no signal throughout most of the property. Should you need to make a call & cannot use your cell phone, please see at Camp Raven Knob Staff member for assistance.

Mail Call
If you are in need of having a package/mail delivered to Camp Raven Knob, please use the following format to help us get that mail to you. Amazon, UPS, Fedex & USPS deliver packages daily to CRK.

Mailing Template
Your Name
List NCS Section
266 Raven Knob Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030

Auto
For those arriving by car who plan to keep a vehicle on the property, please park only in the designated areas. Personal vehicles should not be used for transportation around the property unless directed or approved by the CRK Staff. Parking areas will be supplied upon arrival. Cars are typically parked less than a half mile away from any campsite at CRK.

Contact Information

Host Council Liaison: Hunter Day, hunter.day@scouting.org
Course Director: Bud Harrelson, bud.harrelson@scouting.org
Camp Office: (336) 352-4307 or registration@ravenknob.com
Camp After Hours Line: (336) 880-4743
Old Hickory Council Office: (336) 760-2900

Camp Raven Knob
266 Raven Knob Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
**Packing List Items**

### Sleeping
- ☐ Sleeping bag or sheets & blanket
- ☐ Sleeping pillow, if desired
- ☐ Sleeping clothes

### Clothing
- ☐ Hiking boots or study shoes for light hiking
- ☐ Camp shoes (close toed)
- ☐ 2 pair heavy hiking socks
- ☐ 5 pairs underwear
- ☐ 2 pairs Official BSA Scout Pants or Shorts
- ☐ 2 pairs Official BSA Scout Socks
- ☐ 1 Official BSA Field Uniform
- ☐ 2 BSA Activity Shirts
- ☐ 1 sweater or jacket (wool or fleece)
- ☐ 1 stocking cap
- ☐ 1 rain jacket
- ☐ 1 pair of rain pants

### Eating and Personal
- ☐ Water bottles
- ☐ Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- ☐ Bandana or neckerchief
- ☐ ChapStick
- ☐ Bath towel
- ☐ Washcloth
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Toothbrush / toothpaste
- ☐ Required medications
- ☐ Watch
- ☐ Personal first aid kit

### Optional
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Money for trading post
- ☐ Insect repellent
- ☐ Hiking or trekking poles
Camp Raven Knob Map (Higher quality map can be found HERE)