



January 1, 2024

June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation

231 Ashford Center Road
Ashford, Connecticut 06278

Dear NCS Participant,

We are excited to welcome you to the **New England Campus** of the **National Camping School** located at the **June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation** in Ashford, Connecticut. Our course is scheduled for two Spring weekends. Full attendance at both weekends, unless a recertification student, is required to gain NCS credentials.

You could not have picked a better location to attend your National Camping School (NCS) experience in the heart of New England. Our goal is to prepare you to be a dynamic Camp Staff Leader at your local Council Camp this Summer. The teaching Faculty is composed of experienced Camp Pros from all over the BSA, and top-notch support services are provided by the **Connecticut Rivers Council**.

Covid-19 and National Camping School - Proper 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 with 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 before attending National Camping School. The bottom line is if you are sick, stay home.

We strive to answer any questions you may have before you arrive on-site. To learn more about the host camp J.N. Webster, and all of the fun and exciting programs, please check our website (www.GoToWebster.org). If you have any remaining concerns or questions about our facilities or the NCS program, please email the Course Director at pat.boyd@scouting.org

We aim to meet and exceed your expectations by providing opportunities to network among like-minded colleagues, friends to make, things to learn, and adventures all around. We look forward to spending time with you at National Camping School in 2024.

Yours in Scouting,

Pat Boyd

Course Director
pat.boyd@scouting.org

Sean Fogle

Staff Advisor – Host Council Liaison
Sean.Fogle@scouting.org

Enclosures:

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|------------------------------------|----------------|
| ✓ Arrival & Departure Information | ✓ Packing List |
| ✓ Contact Information & Directions | ✓ Map of Site |

Early Arrival

If you are arriving early due to travel arrangements, you may come on Thursday. The early arrival fee is **\$55**, which includes dinner on Thursday and breakfast on Friday. Your council will be billed if you arrive early, so consult with them before arriving early. As a Convenience, the Connecticut Rivers Council can assist with Airport or Train Station pickup for a nominal fee that will be billed to your sending Council. **\$25-\$100**, depending on the distance from Camp (Ashford, CT)



Onsite Registration

Participant Check-in and registration for *all* is **between 8:45 AM and 9:45 AM** on the first Friday, April 29. Registration will have three components. First, a Medical Pre-Screening with the Camp Physician and Health Officer. Second, assignments to your cohort and cohort housing areas; and Third, a conversation with your program-specific Section Director. Registration will be in the **Pavilion** located at the **Main Parking Lot** of the Scout Reservation. Please arrive on time.

Annual Medical Form

An **Annual medical examination and health record, completed within the past 12 months, must be completed before your arrival.** Please bring the completed form with you. If you do not have this required form with a medical examination, you will not be allowed to attend National Camping School or stay onsite unless you obtain an examination at your own expense prior to beginning class. The cost will likely be a MINIMUM of \$100.

Required Prerequisites

Shooting Sports, COPE, Climbing, Camp Director, and Program Director - Please note that there is pre-requisite training that you **MUST** have before you attend your sections of NCS. Ensure you have these trainings and bring support materials with you as proof. Persons who attend without this training complete will be sent back to their home councils.

Aquatics: Lifeguard, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, and proven swimming skills.

Shooting Sports: NRA Rifle and Shotgun Instructor Certification

COPE: COPE Level I Instructor **or** have a working knowledge of the council COPE course.

Climbing: Climbing Level I Instructor **or** have a working knowledge of climbing.

Resident Camp Director and Program Director: Online NCAP training is available on the NCS page @ <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/>

Departure

Please plan to depart around 3 PM on Sunday of both Weekends.

Airport & Train Stations

**** Bradley International Airport (BDL) – Windsor Locks, CT – 1 Hour from JNW**

T.F. Green International Airport (PVD) – Providence, RI – 1 Hour from JNW

Logan International Airport (BOS) – Boston, MA – 1 Hour and 30 Minutes from JNW

Amtrak Union Station – Hartford, CT – 34 Minutes from JNW

Amtrak Union Station – New London, CT – 54 Minutes from JNW

*A member of the Host Council Team will pick you up at the Airport or Train Station and shuttle you to camp for a round-trip convenience fee. **** Bradley is our preferred airport as it is the most convenient to JNW.***

Auto

For those arriving by an automobile who plan to keep an automobile on the property, please park only in designated areas.

IMPORTANT

When traveling, especially by plane or train, it is important to update us on any expected delays to your arrival. This impacts our ability to maintain shuttle schedules as well as ensure the safe arrival of all participants. Ranger's cell Phone (Austin Deschamps Jr.) is **(860) 710-5136**

General Information

Housing, Camp Living & Weather

Each participant has housing options at JNW based on their comfort and experience level.

- **Option # 1** – *Standard BSA 9X9 Canvas Wall Tent with cots*
- **Option # 2** – *Military Style Bungalow with Bunk Beds (unheated)*
- **Option # 3** – *Bring your own tent*
- **Option # 4** – *Stay in a Hotel Off-Site (At your own expense)*

You will spend much of your time outdoors and should be prepared for various types of inclement weather. Typically, in late April-Early May, it is cool at night (the Upper 30s – Lower 40s) and warm during the day (50s-60s). Please plan accordingly. Aquatics will be using an indoor swimming pool but outdoor lake boating.

JNW has cell service and Wi-Fi. Internet connectivity can sometimes be difficult as we are in a rural area. However, your experience will be enhanced if you limit distractions and put away cell phones during your training and activities.

Uniform

All National Camping Schools require the complete Boy Scouts of America or Venturing field uniform. 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 t-shirts) will be worn at camping school. A complete Field Uniform is required for evening meals, worship services, campfires, and other formal activities.

Food and Dining

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are provided by JNW and are included every day, starting with lunch on your arrival day and concluding with lunch on your departure day. JNW can meet certain medical or religious dietary needs. If you have medical or religious dietary needs, please email sean.fogle@scouting.org so that we can do our best to accommodate you. Please note that while CRC-JNW attempts to provide food that addresses the most common issues (nut allergies, etc.), we cannot address all dietary restrictions. If we cannot meet your needs, you will need to bring food with you that meets your needs. Let's Talk!

Trading Post for NCS items

National Supply will **not** have a trading post at National Camping School this year. If you want to purchase National Camping School items, you can visit www.ScoutShop.org and send the items directly to your home.

The Connecticut Rivers Council will have the Trading Post "Clam Shack" available during the course.

Course Dates

Weekend # 1	Friday, April 26, 2024, through Sunday, April 28, 2024
Weekend # 2	Friday, May 3, 2024, through Sunday, May 5, 2024

Course start dates by section:

Camp Director (Full Course) - April 26
Program Director (Full Course) - April 26
Aquatics Director (Full Course) - April 26
Aquatics Director (Recertification Only) - April 26
COPE Director (Full Course) - April 26
COPE Director (Recertification Only) - April 26
Climbing Director (Full Course) - April 26
Climbing Director (Recertification Only) - April 26
Ecology/Conservation (Full Course) - April 26
Outdoor Skills (Full Course) - April 26
Shooting Sports Director (Full Course) - April 26
Shooting Sports Director (Recertification Only) - May 3

Packing List *(suggested)*

Sleeping

*Each participant who opts for the canvas tent or Bungalow will be provided an Army Cot or Bed with camp mattress.

- ☐ Sleeping bag
- ☐ Sleeping pad, if desired
- ☐ Camp Chair, if desired
- ☐ Sleeping clothes

Clothing

- ☐ Hiking boots or study shoes for light hiking
- ☐ Camp shoes (close toed)
- ☐ 2 pair heavy hiking socks
- ☐ 5 pair's 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
- ☐ Warm Jacket

Other required documents

- [BSA Medical Form – bring to NCS](#)
- [All participants must agree to the Scouter Code of Conduct to attend.](#)
- [Section Specific Equipment Needed by Students](#)

Eating and Personal

- ☐ Face Mask (For indoor use)
- ☐ Water bottles
- ☐ Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- ☐ Bandana or neckerchief
- ☐ Chap Stick
- ☐ Bath towel
- ☐ Washcloth
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Toothbrush / toothpaste
- ☐ Required medications (sealed in waterproof bags)
- ☐ Watch
- ☐ Personal first aid kit

Optional

- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Money for trading post
- ☐ Insect repellent (non-aerosol)
- ☐ Hiking or trekking pole
- ☐ Business Cards, Patches, Program Guides or other local materials to share with other participants as part of the Networking process.