



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA® NATIONAL COUNCIL

**TO:** National Camping School Participant

**FROM:** John Bickel, Course Director  
Scott Dellosso, Host Council Liaison

**RE:** National Camping School at Ten Mile River Scout Camps  
June 1-7, 2024

Hello and Welcome to the BSA's National Camping School at Ten Mile River!

On behalf of the entire faculty, we eagerly look forward to meeting you at Ten Mile River Scout Camps for National Camping School. We look forward to offering an experience that sets an example for what should be expected from your home camp, and want to make it a great learning experience for each of you. Please read each section of this letter carefully, as there is important information you will not want to miss.

- Please visit [tenmileriver.org/ncs](https://tenmileriver.org/ncs) for an easy and quick way to view everything you need.
- Questions about the program, certifications, or requirements can be directed to:  
Course Director John Bickel at [John.Bickel@scouting.org](mailto:John.Bickel@scouting.org).
- Questions about the facilities, travel arrangements, food service, or BSA Medical can be directed to:  
Host Council Liaison Scott Dellosso at [sdellosso@tenmileriver.org](mailto:sdellosso@tenmileriver.org).

### BSA Registration

All participants and staff at National Camping School are required to be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America. Please bring with you a print-out of your my.scouting proof of registration, or be ready to show your my.scouting profile online on your smartphone. **Failure to show your my.scouting registration will result in your not being admitted into camp.**

### BSA Medical

An annual medical examination and health record, completed within the past 12 months, is required and must be completed prior to your arrival. Only the official [Scouts BSA Medical Form \(Parts A, B, and C\)](#) will be accepted; no other types of physical will qualify. Please bring the completed form with you.

#### *Important Note:*

- ★ NY State/county regulations require Ten Mile River to collect the **original** medical form signed by your physician and **retain it**. We will **NOT be able to return your medical** at the conclusion of the course. If you wish to use your medical for other purposes, be sure to **make a copy of it BEFORE** you come to NCS.

### Getting to Camp/Directions

The course will take place at Camp Keowa, Ten Mile River Scout Camps. Search Google Maps for "Camp Keowa Office", or use **240 Crystal Lake Rd, Narrowsburg, NY** for the approximate address of the Camp Keowa entrance. (The mailing address, 1481 Crystal Lake Rd, will take you to TMR Headquarters a few miles away from Keowa). When you arrive at Keowa, park in the main parking lot on your left about ½ mile past the entrance.

### Check-in

You will check in at the camp office, which is next to the parking lot. Be sure you have easy-access to your BSA Medical as it will be needed immediately. Have your my.scouting profile print-out or online version available ready as well so we can confirm your BSA registration at check-in.

## Ten Mile River NCS Welcome Video

To *be prepared* as possible, be sure to check out the [Welcome Video](#) for visual directions on what to do when you arrive, a brief tour of the facilities, and more.

## Arrival

Please plan to arrive between **9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** (EST) on **Saturday, June 1st**. Arriving after this time may result in not completing your certification.

Early Arrival: If your travel distance would prevent you from arriving before 11am, you should make plans to report to camp on **Friday, May 31st**. The early arrival fee is \$55, which includes dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday. Your council will be billed if you arrive early, so be sure to consult with them for approval.

## Arrival via Airplane

The closest airport to Ten Mile River is Newark Liberty International Airport, located 120 miles south of camp. Pickup and drop off from the airport is available for a **\$100** fee.

- Available only for “early arrival” participants - your flight must be scheduled to land before 7:00 pm on **Friday, May 31st**. No shuttles will be available Saturday due to our distance from the airport.
- Your flight must be flying into Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR). Shuttle service to TMR will occur at **3pm** and again at **7pm**.
- Registration for a shuttle must be made at least one week prior to arrival. Requests for a shuttle to TMR **after May 24, 2024 may not be filled**.

Register for a shuttle: <https://tenmileriver.org/ncs-shuttle/>

You will be asked to provide your flight number, arrival time, and a clear photo of yourself to aid your shuttle driver.

## Departure

Departure will be after the graduation ceremony on **Friday June 7th around 11am**.

(All participants enrolled in *retraining* sections will be able to depart after 1pm on June 4th.)

→ *Airport Shuttle*: The airport shuttle service back to Newark Liberty International Airport will leave TMR around 11:00 am and will likely arrive at Newark Airport between 1:00 and 1:30pm. Schedule your departure flight appropriately.

## Section Prerequisites

Please note that some sections require prerequisite trainings which you **MUST** have before you attend your sections of NCS. Please ensure you have these trainings completed and bring support materials with you as proof.

Participants who attend without these trainings complete may be sent back to their home councils without a camp card. Review the prerequisites for your specific section at [ncsbsa.org](https://ncsbsa.org) and come prepared with the appropriate pre-requisites for your section.

## BSA Uniform

Complete, correct BSA uniforms are required. The BSA Field Uniform is required for evening meals, worship services, campfires, and other formal activities. The Scouts BSA Field Uniform consists of:

- Scouts BSA pants OR Scouts BSA shorts and scout socks OR Venturing pants or Shorts and Venturing socks
- Scouts BSA uniform shirt or Venturing shirt
- Scouting belts and hats (optional)

When participants are not in the Field Uniform, the Activity uniform will be required. This is the same as above, except the Scouts BSA uniform shirt can be replaced with any Scouting t-shirt.

If you are new to Scouting or do not have the required uniform parts listed above, make sure to purchase prior to NCS. You can find them on <https://www.scoutshop.org/uniforms-and-apparel> or contact your local council.

## **Sleeping Accommodations**

You will stay in two person tents with canvas or nylon cots. Bedding and linens are not provided. Expect to share a tent with an adult of the same gender. Flush toilets are available in each campsite, and single-stall showers are located behind the camp office.

No electricity is available in the campsites. Participants who require the use of a CPAP machine must bring a machine that runs off rechargeable batteries. It can be charged in many locations around camp including the office, dining hall, or most of the Section Classrooms.

## **Dining Services**

Meals will be served in the Keowa Dining Hall, offering a variety of meals approved by a dietician. A salad bar will be available for lunch and dinner. Our fantastic food service staff can provide for any type of dietary needs or allergies (except Kosher meals). If you have any special dietary restrictions, please be sure to indicate this on your registration. If you would like further clarification, please contact Scott Dellosso at [sdelloso@tenmileriver.org](mailto:sdelloso@tenmileriver.org).

## **What to Bring**

- Check the [NCS Equipment Needed](#) document for important items to bring depending on your section.
- Complete, print off, and bring the [NCS Personal Resource Questionnaire](#)
- Camp Keowa is located in the Catskill Mountains. This time of year we can generally expect lows in the 40's at night and highs in the 70's during the day. Please pack accordingly.

## **Camp Keowa information**

Maps: [Camp Keowa map](#) [Camp Keowa map with NCS locations](#)

Phone: 845-252-2027 (not available prior to start of the NCS course)

Cellular: ATT customers can expect full service at camp. Verizon customers unfortunately should expect little to no service.

Wifi: Open access high speed internet can be used in the office, dining hall, and trading post.

## **NCS Ten Mile River Website**

All of the linked documents in this letter and more can be found at [tenmileriver.org/ncs](http://tenmileriver.org/ncs).

## **Looking forward to NCS!**

Be prepared for learning, fellowship, and fun! Days start early in the morning and extend late at night. National Camping School is a great place to learn from one another, so be sure to bring an open mind, a cooperative attitude, a willing smile, and a lot of enthusiasm – and we'll have a great course! Please let us know if you have any questions. We can't wait to see you at TMR!



John Bickel  
Course Director  
(484) 614-2370

[John.Bickel@scouting.org](mailto:John.Bickel@scouting.org)



Scott Dellosso  
Host Council Liaison

[sdelloso@tenmileriver.org](mailto:sdelloso@tenmileriver.org)

**Course start dates by section:**

Camp Director (Full Course) – June 1  
Program Director (Full Course) – June 1  
Aquatics Director (Full Course) – June 1  
Aquatics Director (Recertification Only) – June 1  
COPE Director (Full Course) – June 1  
COPE Director (Recertification Only) – June 1  
Climbing Director (Full Course) – June 1  
Climbing Director (Recertification Only) – June 1  
Ecology/Conservation (Full Course) – June 1  
Outdoor Skills (Full Course) – June 1  
Shooting Sports Director (Full Course) – June 1  
Shooting Sports Director (Recertification Only) – **June 4**