



**Date:** January 1, 2025  
**To:** National Camping School Participant  
**From:** Dianna Marsh, NCS Course Director ([dianna.marsh@scouting.org](mailto:dianna.marsh@scouting.org))  
Tony Fouts, NCS Local Council Liaison ([anthony.fouts@scouting.org](mailto:anthony.fouts@scouting.org))  
**Subject:** Welcome to National Camping School at S Bar F Scout Ranch

Congratulations, your National Camping School application has been received! On behalf of the faculty, we look forward to serving you at S Bar F Scout Ranch. The following information will help you prepare for NCS, please read carefully.

### **Critical information about your National Camping School participation**

#### **LOCATION:**

S Bar F Scout Ranch  
120 US-67  
Farmington, MO 63640

#### **COURSE DATES:**

May 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

#### **CHECK-IN:**

When you arrive, you will check-in at the Dining Hall. All participants should plan to arrive between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Driving directions and a camp map are linked below. Any registration-related questions may be directed to the Scouting America National Office ([ncs@scouting.org](mailto:ncs@scouting.org)).

#### **EARLY ARRIVALS\*:**

If you need to arrive on Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> due to travel arrangements, please select "Early Arrival" in the online registration system. The early arrival fee of \$55\* includes dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday. Early arrival check-in will be at the Dining Hall.

*Note: For those who are not registered as early arrivals, your first meal will be lunch on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.*

#### **TRANSPORTATION:**

The host council has made arrangements for ground transportation from Lambert International Airport. If you plan to travel by air, you need to land at Lambert International Airport by 6:00 pm Friday or by 7:00 am on Saturday to catch the shuttle to camp. Please contact Tony Fouts





([anthony.fouts@scouting.org](mailto:anthony.fouts@scouting.org)) for all shuttle reservations. The fee is \$40 (roundtrip) and will be billed to your council. It is approximately a 2-hour drive from the airport to the camp property.

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:**

Google Maps driving directions to S Bar F Scout Ranch are linked at the end of this letter.

**ANNUAL HEALTH & MEDICAL RECORD:**

Your camp health screening will take place at check-in. Please make sure Part C of your Annual Health & Medical Record has been signed by a Medical Doctor, Physician's Assistant (master's degree) or a Licensed Nurse Practitioner within 12 months of the last day of this NCS session. Those without a current Annual Health & Medical Record will be required to obtain one at their own expense before being allowed to remain in camp. The Annual Health and Medical Form can be found at: [Annual Health & Medical Record](#).

**DIETARY NEEDS:**

Please note that while S Bar F Scout Ranch attempts to provide food that addresses the most common issues (nut allergies, etc.), we cannot address all dietary restrictions. If we are unable to accommodate your restrictions, you will need to bring food with you that meets your needs. If you have questions about dietary restrictions or menus, please contact Tony Fouts ([anthony.fouts@scouting.org](mailto:anthony.fouts@scouting.org)).

**PREREQUISITES:**

Please note that there are pre-requisite training courses which you **MUST** have before you attend NCS. Please ensure you bring support materials (certificates) with you as proof. Those participants who arrive without their prerequisites completed may not be certified.

- **ALL:** Scouting America Youth Protection Training, Current Scouting America Membership
- **Aquatics Director:** Present evidence of current lifeguard certification (BSA Lifeguard, Red Cross Lifeguard, YMCA Lifeguard, Starfish Aquatics Institute StarGuard, Ellis & Associates International Lifeguard Training Program Lifeguard Certification, or equivalent).
- **Long-term Camp Director and Long-term Camp Program Director:** Online NCAP and Unlawful Harassment Prevention training links are available on the NCS webpage at <https://www.scouting.org/ncs>
- **Range Activities Director:** NRA Rifle Instructor, NRA Shotgun Instructor, USA Archery Level 1 Online Course (practical portion of this course will be completed at NCS)
- **COPE Director:** COPE Level 1 Instructor
- **Climbing Director:** Climbing Level 1 Instructor





**WEATHER:**

Some of the scheduled programming will take place outdoors. While daytime temperatures in May can be in the mid 60's to mid-70's, it will be chilly at night. Please bring suitable warm clothing, warm bedding, rain gear, and a hat.

**ACCOMODATIONS:**

Housing will be in canvas wall tents on wooden frames with electricity. A bunk and mattress pad are provided. Bedding and linens will not be provided so you will need to provide your own sleeping bag/pillow etc. Laundry facilities are available on site. The nearest town with stores such as Walmart is 20 minutes away in Farmington, MO.

Internet/WiFi will be available in the Dining Hall and some of the classroom areas. Cellular coverage is available throughout the camp property. The S bar F website is <https://stlbsa.org/properties/s-bar-f-scout-ranch/>. The telephone number at S Bar F is (573) 756-5738 in case of an emergency.

**DAY ONE CAMP-WIDE SCHEDULE (Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025):**

7:15 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast ( <i>for early arrivals and staff only</i> )
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Staff Preparation in Section Areas
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Check-in, Registration, Section Interviews and Campsite Check-in
12:00 pm – 1:00pm	Lunch & Mealtime Presentation
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Course Instruction
5:00 pm - 5:45 pm	Personal Time
5:45 pm - 6:00 pm	Assembly & Retreat
6:00 pm - 6:45 pm	Dinner
6:45 pm – 7:00 pm	Mealtime Presentation
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Course Instruction
8:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Welcome Campfire
9:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Cracker Barrel
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Personal Time/Study Time

**DRESS CODE:**

National Camping School graduates set the example when it comes to wearing the right uniform at the right time in camp. Scouting America Field Uniform will be required for meals, formations and campfire. Scouting America Activity Uniform will be worn at all other times. Please be sure to bring enough activity uniform polos and T-shirts to get you through the week. You do not need to arrive in Field Uniform, but you will need it for the opening lunch on Saturday.

**EQUIPMENT/GEAR NEEDED BY PARTICIPANTS:**

Please see a list of equipment and gear required for your week at National Camping at the following link: [Equipment Needed for NCS.pdf](#). Many sections require that you bring program items or copies of Council documents in addition to your personal camping gear.





**VISITORS:**

Please do not plan to have visitors or additional attendees such as spouses or children. Only participants and faculty are permitted on property while the course is in session.

**DEPARTURE:**

Departure will be after graduation on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Participants who are enrolled in a recertification section will be able to depart after lunch on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**TRADING POST**

National Supply will not have a trading post on-site at National Camping School. If you are interested in purchasing National Camping School branded items you may view them at:

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/>. All items purchased online will be shipped to your home. Camp Strake will also provide time to shop at their local trading post during the week.

If you have any questions before you arrive, please feel free to reach out to me at [dianna.marsh@scouting.org](mailto:dianna.marsh@scouting.org). As a member of your council's long-term camping leadership team, you will be providing Scouts with an experience they will remember for a lifetime. Thank you for making the decision to attend National Camping School. I look forward to seeing you at S Bar F Scout Ranch!

Yours in Scouting,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianna Marsh".

Dianna Marsh  
NCS Course Director

*\* The early arrival fee is handled through the event registration system. Do not pay the early arrival fee to the host camp. You may or may not be expected to cover it personally (discuss with your local council). The fee includes lodging the night prior to the start of the course, dinner Friday night and breakfast Saturday morning. No activities are planned for early arrivals as the staff is busy with preparations.*

**Links:**

[S Bar F Scout Ranch Camp Map](#)

[Link to S Bar F Scout Ranch Google Maps Driving Directions](#)

Annual Health & Medical Record: [AH&MR](#)

Unlawful Harassment Prevention Training: <https://www.scouting.org/ncs>

Equipment Needs List: [Equipment Needed for NCS.pdf](#)

