

Roundtable Hot Topic

Hazardous Weather Training

In Scouting, we do not compromise the safety of our youth, volunteers, and employees. Safety is a value that must be taught and reinforced at every opportunity. We are all responsible and must hold each other accountable to provide a safe environment for all participants.

Effective the week of December 2, 2024 Hazardous Weather training is now required for all “direct contact” leaders and will be reflected in unit training reports. Hazardous Weather training expires every two years and is required to be fully trained in the following positions:

- Cub Scouts – Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, Tiger Den Leader, Webelos Den Leader, Assistant Webelos Den Leader
- Scouts BSA – Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster
- Venturing – Advisor, Associate Advisor
- Sea Scouting – Skipper, Mate
- Exploring – Advisor, Associate Advisor



Hazardous Weather training is available at my.scouting.org. The course focuses on how to identify and respond to dangerous weather conditions like heat, flooding, lightning, and severe storms, ensuring the safety of Scouts during outdoor activities. It is critical for all Scout leaders to be prepared for potentially life-threatening weather situations and take proper precautions when potential hazardous weather is near.

Remember the Scout motto - “Be Prepared”. It is important to “Be Prepared” for any type of weather during a Scout outing. Plan in advance for the possibility of bad weather, knowing tornadoes, lightning, hail, flash flooding and heavy rain can happen at any time. The threat of severe weather doesn’t always mean you need to cancel your weekend camping trip. However, you should take precautions to avoid incidents!

Resources:

Health and Safety Resources

<https://www.scouting.org/training/health-and-safety/>

Hazardous Weather FAQ

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/FAQ-Hazardous-Weather-Training-002.pdf>