

2026 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site:	Beaumont Scout Reservation 6480 Beaumont Reservation Drive High Ridge, MO 63049 Phone: (636) 938-5444	Course Director: La Donna Hudson NCS.GSLAC@gmail.com
Dates:	March 21 – March 22, 2026	Host Liaison: Mark Hays Mark.Hays@scouting.org
Course times:	The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 21 st and ends approx. 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 22 nd . Saturday morning arrivals need to check in by 7:30 a.m. to have time to unload to cabins and return to the class by 8:00 a.m.	Theme: Dinos!
Weather:	Temperatures will be high in the 60s with lows in the 30s. Be prepared for cool mornings and warm afternoons, as well as some outdoor activities	
Early arrivals:	For an additional fee of \$55.00*, you may arrive the night before, please make it after 7:00 p.m. and before 11:00 p.m. This fee covers lodging Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday. This fee does NOT cover a meal on Friday night. FYI: No activities are planned for early arrivals as the staff are busy with preparations.	

Before You Arrive at NCS:

- ❖ Fill out the NCS Personal Resource Questionnaire [HERE](#) and bring to camp school or [upload it to your Google Drive \(information for your personal Google Drive will be emailed to you prior to the course\)](#).
- ❖ Take the online NCS course “Foundations of Day Camp” located at <https://my.scouting.org/> (click on Scouting America Learn Center, select Foundations of Cub Scout Day Camp, and Enroll). Step by step instructions are attached to this email. As well please complete the in-person Council led NCS course. Don’t forget the other required pre-requisites: [Safeguarding Youth Training](#) and [Cub Scout Leader Position Specific training](#). – [Upload proof of completions as needed into your online Google Drive folder prior to camp.](#)

What to Bring to Camp or Provide Prior to Camp:

- ❖ Proof of Scouting America registration & prerequisite online training courses (Safeguarding Youth Training, Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Training, Camp School Online Training, and Council-led Camp School Training). – [Upload all of these documents into your online Google Drive folder prior to camp.](#)
- ❖ Your completed [Scouting America health form \(parts A and B\)](#). – [Bring this to camp with you.](#)
- ❖ Samples of your council’s day camp/resident camp promotional materials, staff manuals, or other to the Google Drive (link provided in email) or you may make copies for at least 20 participants and bring them with you (no copying services are available at camp).
- ❖ Interesting crafts or activity ideas if you have any to share.
- ❖ Your camp T-shirt—there will be an opportunity for everyone to wear theirs.
- ❖ Notepad and pencil or pen. A participant binder and learning materials will be provided.
- ❖ NCS Online Trading Post: You can preview and purchase specialty National Camp School items (shirts, sweatshirts, and more!) to be sent directly to your home via [Scouting America Outfitters](#). National does not supply us with an on-site trading post with NCS gear any longer.

Personal Gear:

- ❖ **Official complete Scouting America uniform.** We will wear the Field uniform, the official Scout uniform, on Saturday morning and Sunday morning. You may wear any Day Camp T-shirt/Sweatshirt or Scout activity uniform, at other times.
- ❖ Pillow, Bed Linens, Toiletries, towel, washcloth, soap, shampoo, etc. Warm sleepwear, perhaps “long johns” or sweats may be desired.
- ❖ Coat, jacket, suitable and sturdy footwear/socks, gloves, hat, umbrella
- ❖ Chair cushions are optional but you may find them to be quite valuable after sitting in the camp style metal chairs.

- ❖ Cell phone coverage at this site is spotty (camp phones restricted to emergencies).

What to Expect and What Is Expected:

- ❖ Arrive rested. Be prepared for concentration, participation, and fun! Days last early morning to late at night.
- ❖ Be prepared for camp housing, either staff housing with beds and camp mattresses, or cots. The cabins are up a small hill directly across from the Emerson center, *rolling suit cases are not your friend*. You will not be able to park by the cabins and you will need to tote your gear to the cabin. Plan to pack light.
- ❖ **You must arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. on the first day, and attend all sessions through the last day in order to be certified****
- ❖ In order to focus on the learning, please prepare in advance for your best learning environment as needed.
- ❖ Please understand that if you receive the names and contact information for other participants or for staff, you may not contact them for commercial purposes unless you receive their expressed permission to do so.
- ❖ Be sure to review the **FAQ** attachment for more detailed information.

As a member of your council's day camp leadership team, you will be providing Scouts with an experience that they will remember the rest of their lives. Thank you for making the decision to attend National Camping School.

Yours in Scouting,

La Donna Hudson
NCS Course Director 2026

**The early arrival fee is handled through your local council. You may or may not be expected to cover it personally.*

BEAUMONT SCOUT RESERVATION

MAP IS NOT IN SCALE

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CAMP GRIZZLY
CUB WORLD

CAMP MAY

NAGEL BASE

EMERSON
CENTER



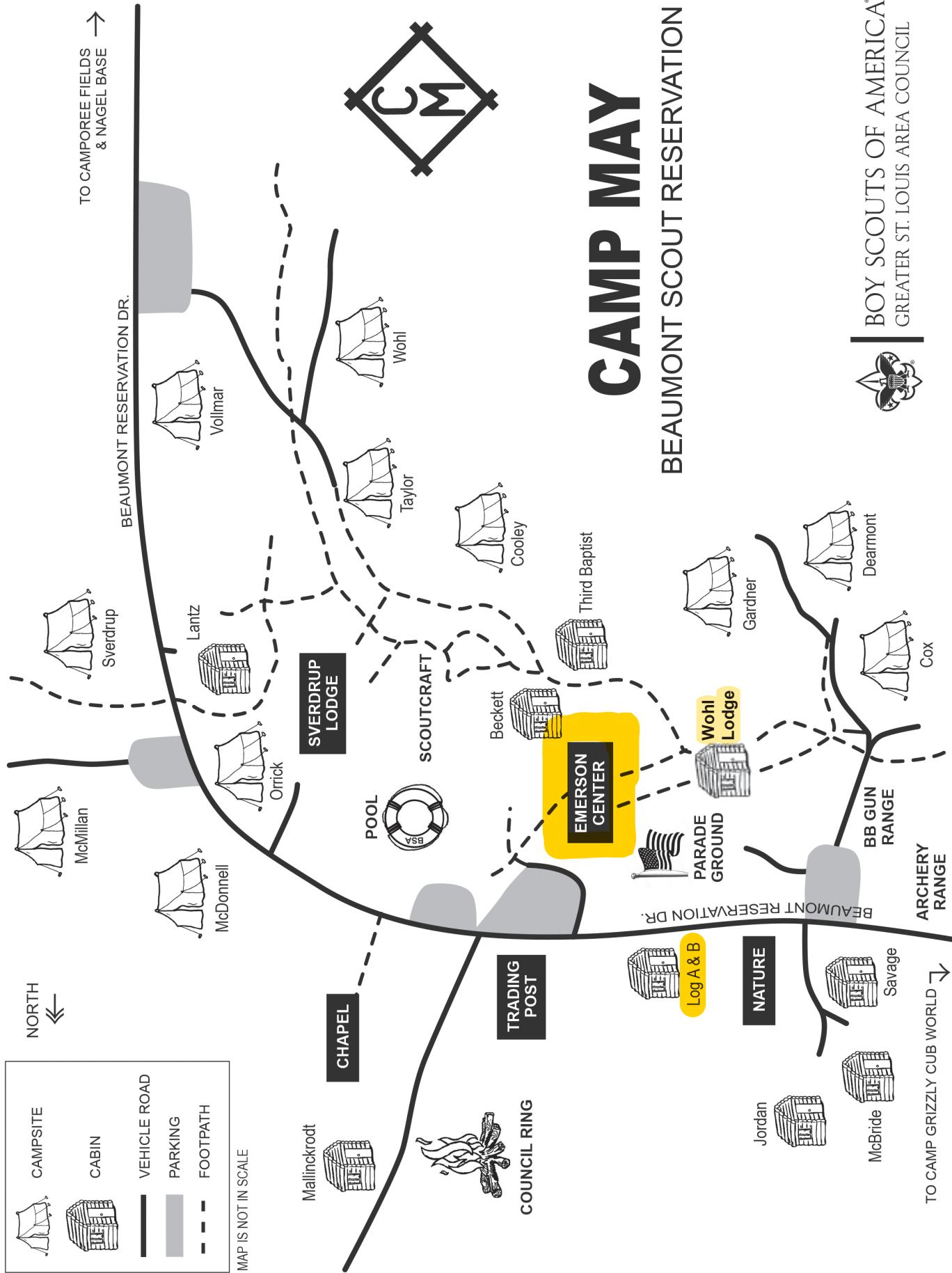
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL

TO BSR 2016/02



CAMP MAY

BEAUMONT SCOUT RESERVATION



FAQs for NCS Pre-Course Arrival:

- 1. What if my family has an emergency and needs to reach me – but I have no cell reception?**
 - a. Please share my email and phone number with your emergency contact individual. While you may not have reception at the venue, my cell will receive a text message while on property and I will regularly check email while on location.
 - i. Please be sure that your emergency contact knows to label their communications in caps and with your name (here is an example):
 1. EMERGENCY: JOHN SCOUTER
 - ii. My information:
 1. NCS.GSLAC@gmail.com
 2. 636.288.9180
- 2. Do we have to print 20 copies of items that we may want to bring as an example to share with others?**
 - a. No, please do not go to that effort and expense. While the pre-formatted letter from National mentions the availability to bring copies of items, I have set up a Google Drive to make life much easier! Please feel free to add any examples of items or ideas that you would like to share to the Google Drive. This is a great place to find resources after the course as well as more items are uploaded.
- 3. What if I have not uploaded all of my pre-course paperwork? What can I do?**
 - a. No worries! If you have not sent in all of your paperwork, there is still time to do so. Remember, anything that you send in advance will be printed off and filed with your registration for you – no printing required on your end! You can always print and bring along anything that you do not get submitted in time, but I will take care of anything that is uploaded into your Google Drive Folder. If you have already emailed your documents then I will have them there when you check in. **PLEASE do not email your health form – that is one item that you must carry in for check in.**
 - b. Here is a list of what you can send via email:
 - i. Foundations Online Training completion verification (certificate or screenshot)
 - ii. Leader Specific Training verification – a screen shot works great!
 - iii. Personal Resource Questionnaire – sent in the first email, please Save As and add your name to the file name
 - iv. YPT Online Training completion verification
- 4. Where do we go when we arrive?**
 - a. Please check in at the Emerson Center inside the dining hall (main hall). Please check in here first before going to your cabin. Some lodging arrangements may have changed or been updated. Men will be in Cabin B and ladies will be in Cabin A.
- 5. I am arriving early – what about supper?**
 - a. We love to see you early, but please be sure to grab supper on the way. Thanks!
- 6. Once I arrive early, can I leave the property?**

- a. Yes of course! Please feel free to run out and pick up anything you need from the surrounding area. Just be sure to hustle back before 10:00 pm as the property gates will close shortly thereafter. (Locked out? Text me)

7. Do I need my immunization record with my health form?

- a. Nope, that is not needed. Please just bring your health form filled out (parts A & B) and a copy of your insurance card. These items will all be returned to you at the close of the weekend.

8. What about the schedule?

- a. Please find a copy of the schedule for the weekend in your Google Drive folder for your reference (there is no need to print one).

9. What about bringing our uniforms? Can we wear other items besides the Scouter's uniform?

- a. Glad you asked! Here are the details for what to expect for uniforms and attire at NCS:
 - i. Please bring your "Class A" or Field uniform (tan shirt and green pants for those wondering) for opening ceremonies on both days, as well as graduation.
 - ii. Please bring a comfortable "Class B" or Activity uniform for all other times during NCS. What qualifies as an Activity uniform you ask? Any of the following will do!
 - 1. Camp shirt
 - 2. Scouting shirt
 - 3. Cub shirt (from your pack etc.)
 - 4. Camp polos
 - 5. BSA polos
 - 6. Any shirt that has BSA insignia or logos is essentially an Activity uniform
 - iii. Wait – you said green pants. Can't I wear jeans? This is a common question from attendees and one I am glad to answer. We encourage all attendees to wear your green Scouting pants with your Activity uniform. As a Camp Director or Program Director, your staff and participants will look up to you to guide and lead the way – and it all starts with your presentation. If you do not have a scouting uniform, now is a great time to look into getting one (you will be glad you did!). That being said, if you show up without one we will not send you packing. ☺

10. Do I need camping gear?

- a. You will need your bedding and any overnight supplies. Everyone is camping in assigned cabins so you do not need a tent. We are, however, camping so please let me know if you are not familiar with rustic camping in a cabin. Cabins are not like hotels so feel free to bring your own linens, towels etc. as needed. Confused? Give me a call – I am happy to help!

11. Do I need to prepare to hike?

- a. While you will not have to hike a long distance at any time, we will have several opportunities to get outdoors, and you will need to make your way to your cabins which are uphill, so plan ahead. Here are a few pointers:
 - i. Wear sturdy shoes – hiking boots are best but tennis shoes will work in a pinch.

- ii. Bring rain gear. "If it's not raining, you're not training." It always seems to rain at Beaumont, so be prepared.
- iii. We will have Round Robin rotations that will take you outdoors. Check the weather forecast and plan accordingly.
- iv. You will park your vehicle in the main parking lot outside of Emerson and then carry your belongings to your cabin (once again, uphill) so think ahead when you are packing. Simple to carry and easy to load is the best plan. Rolling suitcases are not your friend. ☺

12. Can I bring my own comfortable camp chair?

- a. Sure! If you will be more comfortable in your own folding camp chair then you are certainly welcome to it! We will be providing tables and chairs at our event for training, but you can always bring yours if you prefer. One thing to think about is whether or not it is tall enough to reach the table as you will be writing a lot and interacting across your table. If your personal chair is too low to the ground then you may want to leave it at home.
 - i. Side note – some people have asked if they can bring a cushion for their chair (they know the chairs are folding metal chairs at Emerson). This is an awesome idea!

13. Can I bring my own food, snacks, drinks, etc. etc.

- a. Of course! You are more than welcome to bring your favorites with you if you would like to have a light snack or just need your special cup of joe to get you going in the morning (I know I do!). We will be providing all meals for the course from Saturday morning through Sunday noon, but you may have that special snack you really want to enjoy, and that is just fine. Please remember these key points when you are considering any additions:
 - i. Meals are camping style meals with a flare (which means that our fantastic *volunteer team* of kitchen staff will be doing their best to provide you with the best camp food ever!). Meals won't parallel dining at the Hilton, but they won't be foil packs either. *grin*
 - ii. We have multiple attendees with **NUT ALLERGIES**, and they can be pretty serious. Given this important point, please leave your snacks with nuts (or peanut butter) at home. Thanks!
 - iii. We will provide coffee, tea, and other drinks (water, juice etc.) during meal times and throughout the day. If you have specialty additions (your favorite creamer etc.) those items will be left to your care and attention.

14. Will there be other people at Beaumont this weekend?

- a. Yes! Beaumont is one of our premier local properties and it is always teaming with activity! This weekend will not be an exception, and you will surely see lots of Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA scouts out enjoying the adventures of scouting. The Council sponsored Shoot-o-ree will be taking place this weekend, along with numerous districts and units moving about the property for camping outings and camporees. There will also be units showing up for horseback rides and other adventures. It will be a great weekend to see Scouting alive and well, and in action!