



Dear NCS Participant,

We welcome you to the 2026 National Camping School located at Camp Raven Knob in Mount Airy, North Carolina. This course is scheduled for May 16-22, 2026. We are excited that you have selected to spend your week with us in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Camp Raven Knob is ready to serve you and provide the best possible facility for your NCS experience.

In this document you will find several details to assist you in planning your trip and stay with us. Please make sure to read over all the notes to ensure we are both prepared.

For more information about Camp Raven Knob or the Old Hickory Council & the programs we offer, please visit: ravenknob.com or oldhickorycouncil.org. Any questions, concerns or inquiries, please contact Hunter Day at hunter.day@scouting.org or call us at (336) 352-4307.

We look forward to welcoming you to National Camping School.

Bud Harrelson

NCS Course Director

bud.harrelson@scouting.org

Hunter Day

Local Council Liaison

hunter.day@scouting.org

Address for Camp Raven Knob: *266 Raven Knob Road, Mount Airy, NC 27030*

Enclosed you will find:

- Arrival & Departure Information
- Required Documents
- Specific Training Requirements
- General Information
- Packing List
- Maps

Arrival Information

General Information

We will start check-in at 9:00am-11:00am in the Dining Hall on Saturday, May 16. The first meal for all participants will be lunch beginning at 12:00pm. The last meal will be on Friday, May 24 with breakfast, you can expect to depart after your section's/school graduation. All participants who are enrolled in a retraining section will be able to depart in the afternoon on the fourth day (Tuesday).

Arriving Day Of

Please plan to arrive at Camp Raven Knob on Saturday, May 16th between 9:00am-11:00am unless noted below. Check-in will be in the Dining Hall. The Dining Hall can be found by entering the camp gates and veering right and taking the following road left.

Early Arrivals

If you are planning to arrive before Saturday, May 16th please follow the directions outlined below.

- Please email Hunter Day at hunter.day@scouting.org to confirm plans of early arrival. Early arrivals may arrive no earlier than Friday, May 15th at 9:00am.
- Check-In for early arrivals will be at the Camp Administration Building, which will be open on Friday, May 15th until 9:00pm. If you are arriving past 10:00pm, please add those details to your email to Hunter Day.
- The Administration Building is located by entering the camp gate and veering left, the building is located on the right once you hit the paved portion of the road.
- Early arrivals will be fed Friday dinner & Saturday Breakfast.
- All early arrival participants will be charged a fee of \$55, which will be billed back to your local council.

Airport Shuttle

If you are planning on arriving to a local airport & need to utilize the camp shuttle, please follow the directions outlined below:

- Please email Hunter Day at hunter.day@scouting.org to confirm plans of travel needs/early arrival.
- Camp Raven Knob will pick up from the Greensboro (GSO) & Charlotte (CLT) Airports.
- The shuttle fee is \$60 per person, that cost is round trip.

- ***If you arrive later than 10:00pm, we ask that you get a hotel & stay overnight near the airport. Most hotels have free shuttles to and from the airport. We will pick you up the following morning.***
- Also note that we like to shuttle several participants at one time to reduce trips to the airport. You may be asked to wait at the airport for a few hours to allow for more participants to gather.
- If you arrive on Friday, May 16th, please note that the Early Arrival fee of \$55 will be added in addition to the airport shuttle fee.

Required Documents & Health Information

Annual Medical Form

All participants will need a Scouting America Medical Form completed with Parts A, B & C. Please be aware that Part C of the medical form requires a physician signature. This document will be required to turn in at check-in. Scouting America Medical Forms are valid for one year to the month. Example: If your form is signed on 6/14/25, it will be valid until 6/30/26.

If you do not come prepared with a current medical form, you will be sent to [Surry Rural Health Center](#) for a physical. Insurance can be used, but expect to pay up to \$100 otherwise. It is highly encouraged to have this done prior to your arrival.

You can find the most recent Scouting America Medical Form in the link: [CLICK HERE](#)

Safeguarding Youth Training Certificate

All participants will need to bring a valid copy of your current Safeguarding Youth Training Certificate. This can be turned in with the medical form. Your certification should last through the summer of 2026. You can access your Safeguarding Youth Training Certificate or take the online course by going to my.scouting.org.

Food and Dining

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are provided by CRK and included everyday starting with lunch on your arrival day and concluding with breakfast on your departure day. CRK has the capability to meet certain medical or religious dietary needs. Please contact Hunter Day (hunter.day@scouting.org) at least two weeks in advance if you have a medical or religious dietary need to discuss. Please note that while CRK attempts to provide food that addresses the most common issues (nut allergies, etc.), we cannot address all dietary restrictions. If we are unable to meet your needs, you will need/welcome to bring food with you that meets your needs.

Required Training Prerequisites

Shooting Sports, Aquatics, Climbing, Camp Director and Program Director- Please note that there are 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. Persons who attend without these trainings complete will be sent back to their home councils immediately. All training must be current.

Aquatics: Current Lifeguard certification (Scouting America Lifeguard, Red Cross Lifeguard, YMCA Lifeguard, Starfish Aquatics Institute Starguard, Ellis & Associates International Lifeguard Training Program, or equivalent) Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training and proven swimming skills as highlighted on the NCS page [CLICK HERE](#).

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)

Climbing: Climbing Level I Instructor

Resident Camp Director and Program Director: Online NCAP training is available at on the NCS page [CLICK HERE](#) & Unlawful Harassment Prevention Training

General Items

Living Arrangements

All participants, with the exception of the Aquatics Section, will be camping in Adirondack style cabins. Our three side cabins, with a cover flap on the main opening, are equipped with three fixed bunk beds to sleep six people each. Each bed in our adirondacks has a single sized mattress. The Aquatics Section will be camping in Deer Valley Campsite, which is fixed with nylon or canvas wall-tents that sleep two participants on folding camp cot. It should be noted that you should expect to be housed with other participants, should you want to guarantee staying by yourself, please bring a tent with you. There will be a centralized shower house nearby your campsite or your campsite might have two showers located with-in the campsite latrine. Food of any kind should not be left in the campsite.

To view one of the Adirondack Campsites [CLICK HERE](#) (All Sections BUT Aquatics)

To view Deer Valley Campsite [CLICK HERE](#) (Aquatics Section)

Power is located at all Camp Raven Knob Campsites, if you need to operate a CPAP machine at night, please plan to bring at least 100 ft of extension cord to run power from the campsite shelter to your sleeping area. If you would like to bring your own tent to stay in during NCS, you are welcome to do so.

Weather at Camp Raven Knob

The weather in mid to late May at Camp Raven Knob can vary. Typically we see mid to low 70's during the day and mid to low 50's in the nights. Afternoon rain showers are frequent during the summer months. Please be sure to check the weather forecast before you attend and pack accordingly.

Camp Raven Knob Trading Post & NCS Items

Camp Raven Knob will have their Camp Trading Post open for business during your time with NCS. While we will have several snack items at our Snack Bar, our Store Side will host many essentials and gear. Our Trading Post is set up to take cash, all major credit cards, Apple Pay & Samsung Pay.

National Supply will not have a trading post at National Camping School this year. If you are interested in purchasing National Camping School items you can download the flier at [CLICK HERE](#) and have them sent directly to your home.

Uniform

The complete Scouting America or Venturing field uniform is required at all National Camping Schools. The Scouts, BSA Field Uniform (Scout shorts or long trousers, Scout shirts, Venturing shirts, Scout socks) or the Scouting America Activity Uniform (Scout shorts or pants with Scouting golf or tshirts) will be worn at camping school. A complete Field Uniform is required for evening meals, worship services, campfires, and other formal activities.

WIFI & Cell Phone Coverage & Mail

Camp Raven Knob has several internet access points across camp, specifically at the Administration Building, Program Center, Dining Hall & Trading Post. For cell phone coverage, the camp has a cell phone tower that serves the main area of camp from the Dining Hall to the OA Arena. Outside of those areas service can be rather spotty for those individuals with Verizon. AT&T outside of that area gets virtually no signal. Should you need to make a call & cannot use your cell phone, please see at Camp Raven Knob Staff member for assistance.

Mail Call

If you are in need of having a package/mail delivered to Camp Raven Knob, please use the following format to help us get that mail to you. Amazon, UPS, Fedex & USPS deliver packages daily to CRK.

Mailing Template

Your Name

List NCS Section

266 Raven Knob Road

Mount Airy, NC 27030

Auto

For those arriving by car who plan to keep a vehicle on the property, please park only in the designated areas. Personal vehicles should not be used for transportation around the property unless directed or approved by the CRK Staff. Parking areas will be supplied upon arrival. Cars are typically parked less than a half mile away from any campsite at CRK.

Contact Information

Host Council Liaison: Hunter Day, hunter.day@scouting.org

Course Director: Bud Harrelson, bud.harrelson@scouting.org

Camp Office: (336) 352-4307 or registration@ravenknob.com

Camp After Hours Line: (336) 880-4743

Old Hickory Council Office: (336) 760-2900

Camp Raven Knob

266 Raven Knob Road

Mount Airy, NC 27030

Packing List Items

Sleeping

- ☐ Sleeping bag or sheets & blanket
- ☐ Sleeping pillow. if desired
- ☐ Sleeping clothes

Clothing

- ☐ Hiking boots or study shoes for light hiking
- ☐ Camp shoes (close toed)
- ☐ 2 pair heavy hiking socks
- ☐ 5 pairs underwear.
- ☐ 2 pairs Official Scout Pants or Shorts
- ☐ 2 pairs Official Scout Socks
- ☐ 1 Official Scouts, BSA Field Uniform
- ☐ 2 Scouting Activity Shirts
- ☐ 1 sweater or jacket (wool or fleece)
- ☐ 1 stocking cap
- ☐ 1 rain jacket
- ☐ 1 pair of rain pants

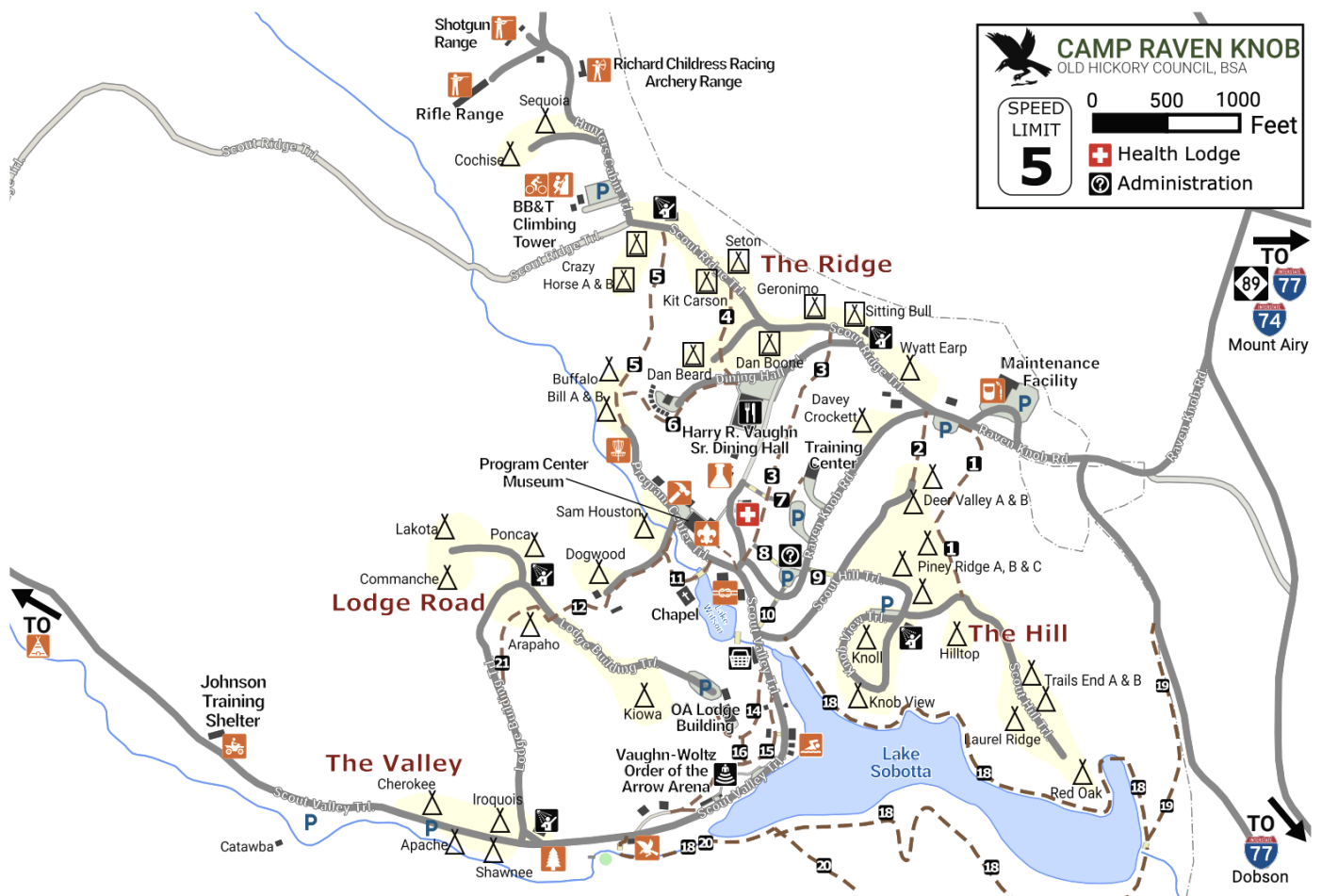
Eating and Personal

- ☐ Water bottles
- ☐ Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- ☐ Bandana or neckerchief
- ☐ ChapStick
- ☐ Bath towel
- ☐ Washcloth
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Toothbrush / toothpaste
- ☐ Required medications
- ☐ Watch
- ☐ Personal first aid kit

Optional

- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Money for trading post
- ☐ Insect repellent
- ☐ Hiking or trekking poles

Camp Raven Knob Map (Higher quality map can be found [HERE](#))



Program Areas

Aquatics	Climbing	Mountain Biking	Raven Scouts	Technology
Archery	Disc Golf	Mountain Man	Rifle/ Shotgun	Trail to Eagle
ATV	Handicrafts	Nature	Scoutcraft	Welding