

JUNE NORCROSS WEBSTER SCOUT RESERVATION

FIRST CLASS PATH



This program is designed for first year Boy Scouts who have yet to complete many of the requirements to First Class and to immerse them in scouting beyond the scope of their own rank advancement. Participants will be divided into small patrols along with boys from other units and will spend four hours a day in the program area working on rank related skills or merit badges. Program hours run from **9AM – 12 noon** and then continue from **2PM – 3PM**. Although each patrol will cover the same concepts over the course of the week, they will each be in different classes during set program hours. The exact material covered may vary slightly based on the experience level and

interest of each group. In the morning scouts will convene at the First Class Path Area and from there begin working on skills for the first hour. From **10AM – 12 noon** the scouts will work on merit badges at the Handicraft Lodge (**leatherwork, basketry, art, or nature**) and at the waterfront earning **swimming merit badge** or participating in an instructional swim course (depending on swimming ability). Half the patrols will be at one of these stations while the other half is at the other and switch for the second hour. From **2PM – 3PM** the Scouts will return to First Class Path and continue working in their patrols.

Although we cover a large number of requirements, we do not sign off on any of them. Scouts should both review the skills that their Scouts have learned and then test them on it and sign off when appropriate. It is our firm belief that these fundamental skills are the basis for solid scouting knowledge. We want to ensure that Scouts do not just repeat things that we have taught them; rather, they should retain that information and be able to perform the given task at a later time. This is the only proof of effective learning and cannot be measured in the short time we have together at camp. The nature of some requirements also means that although we may be able to teach the associated skill, the Scouts cannot complete the requirement as written during camp.

We urge Scout leaders to become involved both during program hours and after, repeating and expanding on these skills. Participants may also, at any time, return after program hours to review skills or to work on different requirements that we may not have covered. We are very flexible!

We realize that many Scouts in camp may have certain requirements signed off already and therefore will try to modify our curriculum within the patrol to ensure that everyone is constantly learning. We take attendance at every class and will provide you with a listing of all your Scouts and the skills they have covered throughout the week.

We do not recommend that Scouts who have taken the course last year repeat it this year (in the even that they have not yet earned First Class), due to the fact that the content of the program remains largely the same. Nor do we feel that the course effectively caters to an older boy who may have just entered scouting as most of the boys are between 10 and 12 years of age. However we leave it up to the Scoutmaster to decide.

The goals of the program are to provide newly crossed over Scouts with a foundation to outdoor skills along with an awareness, appreciation and sense of responsibility in the outdoors, their summer camp and the scouting community beyond their troop.

Note: Scouts should try to arrive at First Class Path before **9:00AM** on Monday to have extra time to divide them into patrols.

Sample Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 AM – 10 AM				
Patrol Assignment Fire Building	Knots II Weather Prediction I Plant Identification I	Knots III Weather Prediction II EDGE Method I	Outdoor Ethics II Plant Identification II Animal Identificaiton	Sports
2 PM – 3 PM				
Woods Tools Knots I	Outdoor Ethics I Camp History I	Weather Prediction III Branding EDGE Method II Knots IV	Conservation	Council Fires Graduation