

Tour Plan policy and guidelines 2016

The “Adventure of Scouting” ... Every Cub, Scout and Venturer delights in the adventure of a hike in the woods. They love to explore caves, climb hills, float a new river, and travel to unknown territory. These adventures become positive, memorable experiences for our young members only when a unit holds to the Scout Motto...”Be Prepared.” The Tour and Activity Plan is designed to help ensure that your unit is properly prepared to handle the risk factors of your adventure, that qualified and trained leadership is in place, and that the right equipment is available for the adventure of a lifetime.

To complete your Tour and Activity Plan, it should be filed online at least THREE WEEKS (21 days) in advance of the trip and is required for the following trips:

- Trips of 500 miles or more
- Trips outside of council borders
- Trips to any national high-adventure base, National Scout Jamboree, National Order of the Arrow Conference, the Summit Bechtel Scout Reserve or a regionally sponsored event.
- When conducting any of the following unit activities not associated with a council or district event:
 - Aquatics activities (swimming, boating, floating, scuba, etc.)
 - Climbing and rappelling
 - Orientation flights (process flying plan)
 - Shooting sports
 - Any activities involving motorized vehicles as part of the program (snowmobiles, boating, etc.)
 - At the council’s request
 - To fulfill your chartering partner requests or to satisfy your unit’s bylaws that have been ratified by your chartered organization
- Trips to facilities that require a Tour Plan, such as military bases, state parks, etc.
- When units have pre-registered to attend a Tidewater Council or District event (Camporees, Summer Camp, Day Camp, Webelos Camp, etc.) a Tour Plan is not required.
- Please note that if your tour is inside the Council (whether or not you are going inside your own District) and does not involve activities requiring specialized training (aquatics, climbing, shooting, etc.) your unit does not generally have to file a tour plan unless the facility requires a tour plan (some state parks, military bases, etc.).
- If you are involved in a Council sponsored tour (for example, Council Contingent to Philmont), the Council will file the tour plan on behalf of the contingent.

How to File Your Tour and Activity Plan

All Tour Plans are to be filed electronically through MyScouting.org. The link to the Tour and Activity Plan is found as the last item under "Unit Tools" on the menu on the left hand side of the page. Be sure that your BSA ID number and the council name is in your MyScouting.org account profile. All registered Scouters in a unit can file tour and activity plans on behalf of the unit - EXCEPT Unit Scouter Reserve.

There is a slide show tutorial as well as resource links on this site to assist you in the process to complete your tour plan. You can also view the [Tour Plan Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).

Still have questions? Email Linda Boyce at lboyce@scouting.org

Other Resources

Tours and Expeditions (#618622), [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) (available online from our website) are excellent publications at the BSA, which explain the approved methods for planning and conducting safe Scouting activities.

Other Requirements

All units must carry a copy of the Guide to Safe Scouting and should be familiar with the contents.

Carry the Scout executive's cell phone number in case there is an incident: Bill Deany, Scout executive 757-685-5303. Call this number after all emergencies have been stabilized, proper authorities called.

All vehicles transporting youth must have passed any required vehicle inspections (not always applicable depending on where the car is registered...state of license plate). It is recommended that all vehicles have a quick walk around to determine simple things like: gas level, oil levels, tire inflation, spare tire in working order, headlights working, trailer lights working, horn's working, safety equipment like mirrors and tail lights working, seat belts all work and are worn, doors properly open and close, safety locks taken off for older youth in cars, and there are no obvious safety issues.