

Three Rivers District



2017 / 2018

Leader's Guide

Session 1—November 18, 2017

Session 2—February 24, 2018

Location:

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

4320 Bruce Rd. Chesapeake, VA 23321

I. General Description

A. Merit Badge University (MBU)

Three Rivers District Merit Badge University is an annual educational and advancement opportunity open to registered Boy Scouts. The registration fee covers the costs related to presenting the event. This Leader's Guide contains most of the information concerning this event. Some merit badges (MBs) may require additional cost or materials that aren't covered by the registration costs. Questions from Scouts and parents concerning this event should first go to their Scoutmasters. Scoutmasters with questions should contact or email one of the following members of this year's MBU Committee:

Shelley Drisko

843-425-8024

Leslie Crowder

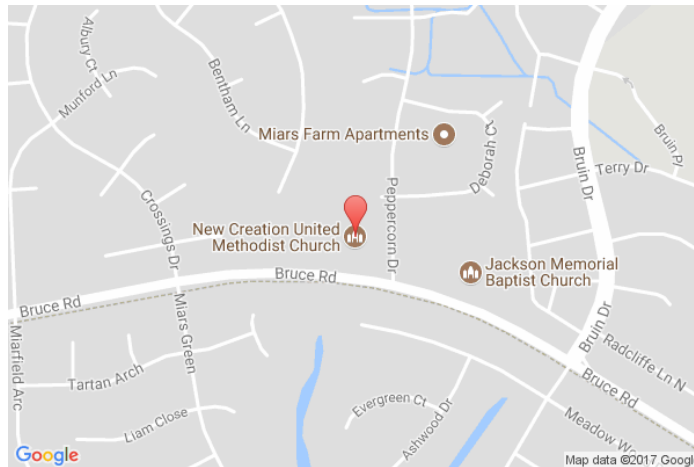
757-303-7877

3rdistrictmbu@gmail.com

Location:

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

4320 Bruce Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321



New Creation UMC is Aldersgate UMC

Please do not contact the church concerning this MBU

B. Dates

Merit Badge University is TWO– Single Day events, separated by several months. To achieve completion of their merit badges, Scouts must attend sessions for which they are registered. Some MBs will only have one session and others will have sessions on both dates.

Session 1: November 18, 2017

Session 2: February 24, 2018

C. Schedule

The Schedule for both days is the same.

6:00 — 7:00 AM	Church Open (Staff Only)
7:00 — 7:30 AM	Participants Arrive / Check In
7:45 AM	Opening Ceremony
8:00 AM	Merit Badge Sessions Begin
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Merit Badge Sessions Begin
5:00 PM	Sessions End—All Assist with Clean up
5:30 PM	Participant Pickup
6:00 PM	Church Closed

D. Abbreviations

MB	Merit Badge
MBU	Merit Badge University
MBC	Merit Badge Counselor
BSA	Boy Scouts of America

II. Administration

A. Registration

Key Dates

October 1, 2017	Registration Begins 3 Rivers District
October 15, 2017	Registration Begins for all others
October 31, 2017	Registration Ends
November 8, 2017	Notice sent to PAPER registered participants via email
November 18, 2017	MBU Part I
February 24, 2018	MBU Part II

Registration

The fee is \$5 per Scout and \$3 per youth MBU staff or adult, whether you plan to attend one or both days. (For the required insurance, ALL adults staying on premises, whether merit badge counselors (MBCs), MBU staff, or adults accompanying their unit's Scouts, will need to register as adults and pay the \$3 fee.) Youth staff need to be registered Scouting youth (Boy Scouts, Venturers, etc...) of at least 16 years of age. Registration is open **October 1, 2017** through **October 31, 2017** or until we reach capacity. Scouts from other Districts and Councils may register starting **October 15, 2017** if space is still available. **Scouts must register in advance through their Unit.**

Two Options to Register

1. (Preferred Method) Units Register & Pay Online
2. Register Online & Pay at Tidewater Council Service Center (Scout Store)

How to Register

1. Units are asked to provide one adult volunteer (Parent/Leader/MBC) for every 5 Scouts attending to assist as needed at MBU.
2. Scoutmasters brief Scouts and parents about MBU and current available MB choices.
3. Scoutmasters should check the online site (Tentaroo - <https://tidewater.tentaroo.com/>) for final MB list on October 1, 2017, then brief Scouts and parents of any additional available MB choices.
4. Scoutmasters should register their Scouts as a unit —See above options
5. Scouts fill out MB Applications (Blue Cards)
6. Scoutmaster reviews and signs MB Applications (Blue Cards)
7. Scouts bring signed MB Applications (Blue Cards), MB pamphlets (optional), and any documentation of requirements previously completed for MB to their MB sessions.

Note 1: The MBU staff recommend using a unit meeting to read and explain the application process. The unit should use a single adult member to manage the registration. This helps ensure that no one is missed.

Note 2: Blue cards are an important record and may be the only record a Scout has of completing a merit badge. Care must be taken to make sure the card is properly completed. Also, the Scout MUST bring the signed blue card with him on the first day of MBU. Scouts should take extra care when filling out their blue cards to make sure they are legible and complete. Blue cards MUST be signed by the Scoutmaster or designated unit leader. MBC's have the right to turn Scouts away with incomplete Blue Cards.

Online Registration

Please go to the Tidewater Tentaroo website to register, see link:

<https://tidewater.tentaroo.com/>

Questions or any technical issues contact the Tidewater Council Service Center at 757-497-2688 for further assistance.

Again, units are asked to please submit all their applications together for ease in processing.

For questions concerning registration in general, please contact the Tidewater Council Service Center or:

Shelley Drisko

Leslie Crowder

843-425-8024

757-303-7877

No calls prior to 9 AM or after 9 PM.

Or 3rdistrictmbu@gmail.com

Refund Policy

Refunds will only be granted in cases of sickness or injury, military transfer, or death of an immediate family member. We will refund all but \$3.00 of fees paid until November 11, 2017 when verified by a physician, military commander, or such official. Reasons such as vacation schedule, school programs, and last minute changes of mind are not acceptable reasons for refunds. Scout deposits are transferrable within a unit, but are not refundable. After November 11, 2017 no refunds are available for any reason.

Calling all MBCs!

Please contact Shelley Drisko or Leslie Crowder at 3rdistrictmbu@gmail.com or fill in the form at the end of this guide to volunteer as a MBC. We hope to offer a full program for our Scouts but we can only be successful with the generous help of our volunteers. Units with a volunteering registered MBC by September 15, 2017 will be given the final MB list before registration opens on October 1, 2017. This will allow those units the ability to be ready to register their youth when the registration opens on October 1, 2017; this also applies to units outside the Three Rivers District and Tidewater Council that have volunteering registered MBCs.

III. Program

A. Badges Available

Listed below are a few MBs for which we currently have MBCs. (Eagle-required are in **Bold**). An updated list will be provided by October 1. Units will be able to select and register for available MBs online. Due to popularity and limited availability of MBC's some will fill up quickly. Units who register early have the best chance of getting the desired MBs for their Scouts.

Please review all the requirements for the MBs for which you are registered, before the MBU.

Requirements not covered: Review these requirements prior to attending MBU, as they will not be covered on the day of MBU. To earn a completed MB at the end of MBU, Scouts are encouraged to complete them and bring the documentation to their MBC on the day of MBU. If you have questions concerning these requirements, please contact Shelley Drisko or Leslie Crowder at 3rdistrictmbu@gmail.com.

Merit Badges at MBU	# of MBU Sessions Needed	Requirements not covered at MBU	Notes or other things to do in advance
American Heritage	1	2, 3c, 5	
Family Life	2		
Collections	1		Bring necessary items or photographs for requirement 5b.
First Aid	2	2(d)	
Fly Fishing	1	6, 10	Encouraged to bring their own fly-rod and reel outfit
Forestry	1	1, 2, 5, 6	
Oceanography	1	7, 8	\$10-15 supply fee (more information to follow)
Pulp and Paper	2		Bring necessary items for requirement 5. Bring work clothes or activity uniform that can get messy.
Radio	1	7	
**List is subject to change			

Partial efforts will result in partial completions

B. Effective Revision of Requirements and Merit Badge Pamphlets

Those Scouts starting and completing any badges at MBU must use the requirements listed in the 2017 Requirement Book.

C. Effective Revision of Requirements and Merit Badge Pamphlets

Several merit badges, such as Personal Management, require at least three months of effort. Scouts are encouraged to begin work on those long-duration requirements immediately; however, the Scout may complete those requirements with a MBC at a later date. For MBU, please review the MB list above.

D. Homework

Scouts may be expected to complete requirements between sessions. The Scout is responsible for completing his requirements for the MB.

E. Field Trips / Off Site instruction

Occasionally, Scouts may need to participate in a scheduled field trip for the completion of a particular merit badge. If that occurs, a special permission slip will be provided, and parents will be responsible for furnishing transportation. Some MBs may be offered at remote sites away from the main campus of MBU. Scouts enrolled in these off-site MBs will be provided with special instructions by their counselor. **Parents responsible for Transportation AND remaining onsite during session.**

F. Extra Fees

Some MBs might require special supplies which might need to be either provided by the Scout or require special fees. We hope to build these fees (if any) into the online registration. Scouts needing to bring any special supplies for a MB will be provided with special instructions by their counselor.

G. Partial Completion

If a Scout is unable to complete his merit badge, the "PARTIAL" completion will be noted on his blue card. Please review the above merit badge chart for MB requirements. ***Partial efforts will result in partial completions* Consult with your MBC for ways to earn a completed MB after MBU is over.**

IV. Conduct and Discipline

As a participant of the MBU, I will:

- Observe the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- Wear my official field uniform over my activity shirt
- Attend the classes to which I am assigned
- Be personally responsible for breakage, damage, or loss of property
- Be courteous to other Scouts, counselors, and staff
- Not run or participate in horse playing inside the building
- Clean up my classroom at the end of each session
- Clean up my trash after eating a snack or lunch

V. Uniforms

Scouts are encouraged to wear the official field uniform for MBU. Some units call this a “Class A” uniform. Please wear your official field uniform over your activity shirt. Some units call the activity shirt a “Class B” uniform.

VI. Snacks and Lunch

Lunch is not included in the registration payment. Food may be purchased on site at a cost of \$5 per session. Lunch will be two slices of pizza (cheese or pepperoni) and a drink (canned soda or bottled water, scouts choice) Scouts may plan to purchase food & drink from this offering or they should bring their own lunch. Scouts should bring a water bottle, to stay hydrated during MB sessions. All food must be consumed in the designated area. No food or drink is permitted inside the church building unless an exception is made by the MBU staff for reasons such as inclement weather. ****Scouts are expected to clean up after themselves.****

Money for Lunch will be collected at sign in on each day and a lunch ticket issued. If the Troop leader is going to check in his/her troop they will also check in at the lunch table and revive lunch tickets.

VII. Health, Safety, and First Aid

- Participants are responsible for their own medications during the event
- No running inside or outside the building
- No roller blades, roller shoes, roller skates, Heelys, or Skateboards are allowed
- No alcohol, illegal drugs, fireworks, firearms, slingshots, or anything else that might distract from the learning environment. No tobacco products are permitted
- The Buddy System is mandatory during sessions. Bathroom breaks during sessions must be with a buddy

HOW DO YOU STEM?



The Boy Scouts of America's (BSA's) NOVA Awards program incorporates learning with cool activities and exposure to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. The hope is that the requirements and activities for earning these awards stimulates interest in STEM-related fields and shows how science, technology, engineering and mathematics apply to everyday living and the world around them. Counselors and mentors help bring this engaging, contemporary, and fun program to life for youth members.

The Nova Awards

There are four Nova awards for Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. Each award covers one component of STEM—science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

The Supernova Awards

The Supernova awards have more rigorous requirements than the Nova awards. The requirements and activities were designed to motivate youth and recognize more in-depth, advanced achievement in STEM-related activities.

For Boy Scouts: Dr. Bernard Harris Supernova Bronze Award
 Thomas Edison Supernova Silver Award

All requirements may be found in the Nova awards guidebooks, available through local Scout shops—one for Cub Scouts, one for Boy Scouts, and one for Venturers. The requirements can be completed with a parent or an adult leader as the counselor (for the Nova awards) or mentor (for the Supernova awards). Each guidebook includes a section for the counselor and mentor.

So, how do you do it? It's as easy as getting in touch with a mentor and taking off from there. I am offering Scouts the opportunity to take not one but TWO STEM Topics. Taking these two topics puts you a couple steps forward to earning the NOVA Award.

I will be offering Personal Management and Nuclear Science. Personal Management will cover the Design to Crunch and the Nuclear Science will cover the Start Your Engines Modules. When you are done taking these sessions you are eligible to earn the NOVA awards and a step closer to a Supernova Award.

Merit Badge University—Merit Badge Counselor Form

Please complete 1 form per Merit Badge. Online version: <https://goo.gl/forms/Pdfm7nylAUFgkLgE2>

Email: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Merit Badge: _____

Are you available for the following dates and times: (Circle all that apply)

November 18, 2017 (8 AM—12 PM)

February 24, 2017 (8 AM—12PM)

November 18, 2017 (1 PM—5 PM)

February 24, 2017 (1 PM—5 PM)

Number of sessions needed for potential completion: (Circle selection)

1—4 hour session

2—4 hour sessions

3—4 hour sessions

4—4 hour sessions

1—4 hour session + off-site activity

2—4 hour sessions + off-site activity

Other: _____

Maximum number of youth: _____

Ideal number of youth: _____

Requirements you are not able to cover at MBU: _____

Would you be willing to complete 2 sessions (AM / PM same Merit Badge) to accommodate more youth? Yes / No

Cost or supplies needed: _____

Additional Information: _____
