

Search and Rescue/ Geocaching Weekend



LEADERS GUIDE

February 28 – March 2, 2014

Pipsico Scout Reservation
57 Pipsico Road
Spring Grove, VA 23881



Search and Rescue/ Geocaching Weekend

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Event Information

When February 28- March 2, 2014 (Friday – Sunday)
Be Prepared. There is no rain/snow date for camp. All units should prepare for cold/ foul weather.

What Experience cold weather camping, Advancement, Training and Fun Opportunities

Where Pipsico Scout Reservation
57 Pipsico Road
Spring Grove, VA 23881

Contact Evan Sommerfeld
Camp Director
757-497-2688 ext. 212
Email: esommerf@bsamail.org

Wes Parker
VP of Camping Operations
757-635-2696
Email: wparker@pipsicobsa.com

Register Tidewater Council Service Center
1032 Heatherwood Drive
Virginia Beach, Va. 23455

Cost \$20 per Scout, \$10 per adult If paid in full by February 22, 2014
\$25 per Scout, \$15 per adult If paid in full after February 22, 2014

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER FEBRUARY 25, 2014

THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION. ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE TO REGISTER THRU THE TIDEWATER COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER.

Refunds Units must notify the Scout Office before camp begins if a Scout will not be attending. Refunds of pre-paid Event fees will be made by check from the Scout Service Center following the event only in the case of documented illness or family emergency. No Refunds can be given if the Council is notified **after February 25, 2014** as pre-paid expenses will already have been incurred. No refunds for partial attendance will be granted.

Search and Rescue/ Geocaching Weekend

Introduction

The Tidewater Council, Boy Scouts of America welcomes you to the Search and Rescue/ Geocaching Weekend at Pipsico Scout Reservation (PSR). This weekend event will provide a great opportunity for Scouts to hone their cold weather camping skills, provide a chance to complete advancement requirements, earn merit badges and have lots of fun!! PSR is a Nationally Accredited Camping Facility that follows and enforces all of the policies, rules and regulations of the Boy Scouts of America and the Tidewater Council.

This Special Event Activity Weekend at Pipsico provides the opportunity for scouts to complete either the Search and Rescue Merit Badge **OR** the Geocaching Merit badge. Additionally for Venture scouts, specific program attributes have been worked into the schedule to certain accomplish advancement requirements.

Per National BSA advancement policies, Scouts must have their Scoutmaster's approval before beginning work on a merit badge. Scoutmasters, please provide your youth with a completely filled out and signed blue card that will be handed to the merit badge counselor for signing of the requirements completed. The camp will provide qualified merit badge counselors to present the merit badge material, and lead practical assignments and exercises.

Merit badge counselors will indicate on the Blue Card what each Scout has completed at camp and then return it to the unit upon completion of the weekend.

For updates please refer to the Pipsico website at <http://PipsicoBSA.com> click on the "Special Events" link at the top of the page.

Attendance Requirements

All campers must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America and in either a Boy Scout Troop or Venture Crew. Provisional Campers (those attending without their unit) are welcome to attend and participate! Provisional campers will be assigned to another unit with adult supervision.

Search and Rescue Merit Badge Notes

See Page 13 for more details specific to the Search and Rescue Merit badge. Youth choosing this merit badge need to complete the following prior to the weekend:

- Review requirement 5 and be prepared to discuss this in class
 - Req. 5: Complete the online training for ICS-100 <http://emilms.fema.gov/IS100b/index.htm> and bring your certificate to camp.

Geocaching Merit Badge Notes

See Page 14 for more details and the specific geocaching Merit badge leader's guide. Youth choosing this merit badge need to complete the following prior to the weekend:

- Review requirement 5 and be prepared to discuss this in class.
- Complete requirement 7. Please print the information and bring it with you to the weekend.
- You will be creating a "game" or "course" as part of requirement 9. Please bring a "cache" to hide. The theme for the "game" or "course" will be "be prepared for winter camping". Please be creative with your ideas for your caches

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Schedule & Details

Friday, February 28, 2014

5:30-9:30pm Check-in
9:30 SPL/SM Meeting
10:00-11:00 Wind-down time
11:00 Taps (all quiet and fires out)

6:45 am Reveille
7:00 am - 8:15 am Breakfast in Campsites w/
Units
8:30 am – 11:30 am Morning Class Sessions
(With periodic breaks)
10:00 am Gates open for vehicle
entry for breaking down
camp
11:30 am Units Depart / Check-out

Saturday, March 1, 2014

6:45 am Reveille
7:00 am - 8:15 am Breakfast in Campsites w/
Units
8:30 am – noon Morning Class Sessions
(With periodic breaks)
Noon-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-5:00 pm Afternoon Class Sessions
(With periodic breaks)
5:00 pm Lowering of colors
5:05-6:30 pm Dinner in Campsites w/
Units
6:30-10:00 pm Unit Activities (Free Time)
11:00 pm Taps (all quiet and fires out)

Sunday, March 2, 2014

General Event Information and Polices:

Check In

Check-in will be conducted from **5:30 pm till 9:30 pm** on Friday evening at the Burton Center within Camp Lions. Do not arrive early, there will be no one to check you in, you may **NOT** enter the campsites prior to check-in.

For the safety of scouts walking through camp, only vehicles pulling Unit trailers or hauling unit gear, will be allowed into the camping area. The trailer must be unhooked and parked in the designated area adjacent to your campsite. No Unit trailers are to be parked past the wooden post located inside the campsites. Tow vehicle are to be **immediately** moved to the front parking lot. All other vehicles are to stay in the parking lots and any addition gear or scouts will have to hike in or can utilize one of the FEW available carts. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

All late arriving adults and Scouts (including adults rotating in and out of camp) must check-in through the Burton Center.

Check Out

Check out procedures on Sunday will be minimal in nature. Please ensure that your camping area is left better than what you found it (Leave No Trace) and that your latrines have been swept clean and toilet lids are down. Following classes on Sunday, all units must depart by 11:30 PM.

ONLY AFTER 10:00 am on Sunday will tow vehicles and gear pickup vehicles be allowed into the camping area. This is to ensure that vehicles do not conflict with the program on Sunday morning.

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Meals

Lunch on Saturday is the only meal provided this weekend. Food will be provided on the front porch of the Dining Hall (hot dogs & hamburgers with sides and condiments). Those with special dietary needs should bring their own food. Please make alternate arrangements for other meals and be prepared to prepare and clean-up what you bring. Please check the program schedule when planning your meals to ensure you have enough time to prepare, eat, and tidy up.

Additionally the “Snack Shack” located at the trading post will have hot food for sale (including breakfast). Please see “Trading Post” for more information.

Medical Information & Medical Services

According to BSA policy, all Scouts and leaders should complete an Annual Health and Medical Record form (parts A&B only) for all scouting activities. This is just the health history form (excluding the physicians portion). IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNIT to obtain and maintain copies of these forms for members of their unit for all activities they conduct. Medical forms will NOT be turned in at check-in. The official BSA form is located here: www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/whole.pdf.

All units should bring a unit first aid kit and treat injuries within their capabilities. Units should report all injuries and other medical situations to the camp staff at the Health Lodge, even those they treat themselves. Qualified medical personnel will be on duty at the Health Lodge. If necessary, the camp staff will contact emergency medical services and ambulance services using 911. Unit leaders are expected to control all medications within their units.

Visitors & Guests

Visitors and Guests are always welcome. They must check in and out of camp through the Burton Center. The Unit Leader in Charge at the event is responsible for the behavior of all guests visiting his/ her unit or its members. The Unit Leader in Charge is also responsible for ensuring that his unit’s visitors and guests are aware of the camp’s health and safety rules and procedures, and that they are followed. Visitors and guests are not permitted to spend the night.

Adult Leaders

All Units must ensure that they meet the BSA two-deep leadership requirement in camp at all times. BSA policy requires at least two adult leaders be in camp at all times; one must be 21 years or older. Leaders may rotate if necessary, but at least two adults must always be with the Unit in camp. See Guide to Safe Scouting for clarification. You may share leadership with another Unit assigned to your campsite. **Units MAY send scout as provisional campers if their Unit cannot attend. Provisional scouts will be incorporated into other Units.** All campers must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.

Camp Rules

The Boy Scout Oath and Law

The Guide to Safe Scouting

Leave No Trace

NO fireworks, pets, firearms, electronic games, radios, walkie-talkies, TV's and CD/DVD/MP3/Ipod players

Scouts are not permitted to roam through campsites during scheduled activities.

Scouts are not permitted to leave the boundaries of the camp ground.

Staff quarters behind the dining hall, archery and rifle ranges and the cliffs at the water front.

Campsites

As in the past, campsites will be assigned on space availability. There is a high probability that another Unit or other Units, could be sharing the same campsite with you.

Campers need to provide their own tents and beddings. All Pipsico tents and cots are in storage for the winter.

Sites will be assigned based on registration date and unit size.

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Uniform

Participants are encouraged to wear the "official Field Uniform" (referred to as a Class A uniform) during Check-in and Check-out. At all other times participants may wear an activity uniform ("Class B"), consisting of a Unit or camp T-shirt with Scout pants or shorts. Be sure to dress for the weather! Participants will spend lots of time outdoors as well as inside for classroom instruction. Leaders must monitor their units to ensure that clothing reflects good taste and Scouting standards.

Trading Post

The trading post and the **"Snack Shack"** will be open during the event. Hot food will be available including hot breakfast sandwiches. Trading Post hours and Snack Shack hours may be different. These hours will be posted at camp. Be sure to sure your scouts and scouters stop in to see what they have and bring money for special camp merchandise which supports your scouting program!

Parking & Vehicles in Camp

Since safety is our number one priority, vehicles will only be allowed in camp Friday night so you can bring in your unit trailer and equipment and on Sunday morning AFTER 10:00 am as to not interfere with the program. There will be no vehicles allowed in the campsite areas or on activity fields. Please unload gear at campsite entrances and return your vehicles to the parking lot. Please make every effort to unload completely prior to setting up. Parking is only permitted in the designated parking areas. All parking for Lions will be either at the Burton Center parking lot, at the overflow lot next to the lake, or at the barn as overflow if required. If overflow parking at the barn is needed, a shuttle service will be instituted.

No other motorized vehicles (golf carts, etc.) will be allowed in camp at any time except for use by designated camp staff. If the need arises for a vehicle to be in camp, approval must first be obtained from the Camp Ranger (Jenny Sommerfeld). Special arrangements will be available for Special Needs Visitors, Scouts and Scouters as requested.

Water and Bath Facilities

Due to wintery conditions, drinking water will only be available at the OA shelter in Camp Lions and at the Gregson Center at the front of the Reservation. Units are encouraged to bring 2 to 5 gallon containers for transporting water.

Primary bathroom facilities are latrines inside of each campsite and limited use "enclosed" toilet facilities are available (both male and female) at the front of the Reservation in the Gregson Center, within the Dining Hall, and at the Burton Center in Camp Lions. (All shower facilities are closed for the winter season)

Taps / Lights Out & Fires

Fires will be authorized depending on the status of the State and City fire prohibitions in effect on the weekend of the event. All ground fires are permitted in the fire rings at each camp site. The camp-master will update units on the current fire policy at check-in. Units must post water buckets or a fire extinguisher in the fire area. Cutting of live trees, shrubs, or vegetation is prohibited.

A Scout is courteous. All scouts should be in their designated campsites at 10:30 p.m. to Wind-down the day's activities. Taps is at 11 p.m. Unit leaders must ensure that fires and lanterns are out and that all their youth have retreated to their tents and are quiet.

Trash Disposal

Participants should practice Leave No Trace principles to the maximum extent practicable. If you packed it in - you pack it out! All units are expected to police their camping area and remove all trash to the dumpsters located at the front of camp near the barn. Dumpsters next to the dining hall are **NOT TO BE USED**. Trash that will not fit in the dumpsters becomes the responsibility of the unit to remove from the campground. Do not pile trash next to the dumpsters. If the dumpsters are full at time of checkout then units **MUST** pack out their trash and make arrangements for proper disposal.

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Photo Release Information-

During the course of the weekend photographs or video footage may be taken for promotional purposes. If a parent does not wish for their child to be photographed, you must notify the Council office prior to your unit's arrival at camp. The parent must provide a signed letter stating that their child is not to be photographed. We will depend on the unit leader to make us aware of and individuals that may not be photographed once they arrive on the property. PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH PARENTS.

*Pipsico Scout Reservation is dedicated to provide you with the best experience scouting experience possible. Therefore, if you see any areas where we can improve, please write them down on the end-of-weekend evaluations. If you have any questions about this guide or program, please do not hesitate to e-mail Wes Parker, at wparker@pipsicobsa.com.



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Event Evaluation Form

Please rate the following on a scale of 1-5 (5 being the best)

Location (site & facilities): 1 2 3 4 5

Leaders Guide (overall): 1 2 3 4 5

 Did it help prepare you for this weekend? 1 2 3 4 5

 Was it available in time? 1 2 3 4 5

(1: Way too Late, 5: Right when I needed it.)

 Was any information missing? Please elaborate: _____

Staff (overall): 1 2 3 4 5

 Was the staff responsive? 1 2 3 4 5

 Were they interesting? 1 2 3 4 5

Ease of registration: 1 2 3 4 5

Demonstrations & Activities (overall): 1 2 3 4 5

Quality of personnel: 1 2 3 4 5

Length of classes: 1 2 3 4 5

Activity difficulty: 1 2 3 4 5

Met advancement requirements: 1 2 3 4 5

Would you like to help plan the next event?

 _____ Yes, count me in. _____ Don't know, call me when it's time. _____ I might be able to help out in a limited capacity.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Unit: _____

Suggestions: (What did we do wrong? What did we get right? How can we improve for next year?) (Continue on reverse, if required.)

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Unit Roster

Unit: _____

Senior Youth Leader: _____ Adult Leader: _____

Youth:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Adults:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Notes: Computer generated forms with similar content are acceptable.

Turn in at Check-in.

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[Appendix A: Registration Form](#)

SEE OFFICIAL FORM AT <http://www.PipsicoBSA.com>

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Appendix B: Search and Rescue Merit Badge Program Details

Scouts aiming to earn the Search and Rescue merit badge will first learn the important differences between a search and rescue. A search is an emergency situation requiring a team of trained searchers to locate, access, stabilize, and transport a lost person to safety. A rescue is an emergency situation where the person's location is known but he or she must be removed from danger and returned to safety. The term SAR is used together because rescues are often required after the person is found. Scouts will learn the fundamentals of SAR, but the badge will not qualify a young person as a trained searcher.

The Boy Scouts of America's motto is 'Be Prepared'—which sometimes translates to knowing how to respond in an emergency. While we are not encouraging our Scouts to practice these new skills independently, we do want them to be ready to lend a hand to the community, and to each other.

To meet the requirements of the Search and Rescue merit badge, Scouts must complete a series of nine requirements relating to SAR fundamentals such as:

- The process and safety methods of working around specialized teams such as aircraft, canine, and aquatic rescue teams
- Identifying differences between search and rescue environments, such as coastal, wilderness, rural, and urban landscapes
- Determining when Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) and latitude and longitude (Lat/Lon) should be used

Pre-Course Work:

Review requirement 5 and be prepared to discuss this in class:

- Req. 5: Complete the online training for ICS-100 <http://emilms.fema.gov/IS100b/index.htm> and bring your certificate to camp.

Event Activities:

In addition to completing all the requirements for the badge, the highlight of this activity will be the implementation of a full scale hypothetical Search and Rescue scenario which will include the entire group plus the addition of volunteers from around camp. Using specialized equipment, scouts will have to identify the emergency situation, find the victims, evaluate them, and then transport them out for medical evacuation.

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Appendix C: Geocaching Merit Badge Program Details

Scouts choosing this activity will have a fun filled weekend of learning and adventure! Throughout the course you will learn the ins and outs of Geocaching and have the opportunity to put your knowledge and skills to use by locating some of the private geocaches that Pipsico has to offer!

This MBC course of instruction will delve into the theory of the Global Positioning System (GPS) and its various capabilities and uses, as it relates to discovering and hiding caches, and how to develop and enhance your geocaching experience.

You will be expected to know the GPS receivers very basic operation before you attend this program. We will have a few eTrex GPS receivers available for check out at the course, but participants are encouraged to borrow or obtain their own ahead of time for use at this event and in the future.

If you haven't purchased a receiver yet and you are shopping around for one, *please note that the cheapest GPS unit is as accurate as the most expensive one.* There will be fewer 'bells and whistles' on the lesser expensive ones, but this can be good! The accuracy of the GPS system is derived from the satellites and their master timebase, not from the receiver. Select a receiver with a 12 channel 'Rockwell Engine' and low battery consumption; the \$100 Garmin E-Trek, for example, uses a pair of 'AA's and will last a couple of days on one set of batteries. It doesn't have a color screen, text-to-speech or Bluetooth capability, but it does have a serial data port (which is good for downloading data and firmware updates from the Internet). Bells and whistles cost money!

The Scouts are required to create a user account on <http://www.geocaching.com> (Item #7), enter their ZIP code and record at least THREE caches within five miles of your home. Print out and bring to the class. Get your parent's permission beforehand. You can do this for the address for PIPSICO which is (57 Pipsico Road, Spring Grove, VA 23881)

Before you attend, you will be expected to know how to:

1. How to replace batteries in a GPS receiver and how to care for it between uses
2. Operate a non-electronic hand compass and to read a 1:25,000 USGS topographic map
3. Take care of yourself and members of your party while out in the woods
4. Respect property and Leave no trace

During this course, you will be introduced to the following terms and others:

- difficulty and terrain ratings
- attributes
- muggle
- log
- CITO
- Ground zero (GZ)
- virtual cache
- Earth cache
- Cache to Eagle
- longitude
- latitude
- benchmark
- CIPO
- DNF
- FTF
- GC
- Hide
- swag
- travel bug
- TNLNSL
- accuracy
- Waypoint
- tractable
- GPS/GPSr

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Items to Bring:

- Wear the appropriate attire for the season, and possible weather changes.
- Blue Cards filled out with all of your information prior to the class.
- GPS receiver (A few will be available, but first come first serve)
- Notebook, 8½" x 11", spiral-bound, dedicated to the Geocaching MB
- Pens and/or pencils
- A printed [Map of Pipsico](http://www.tidewaterbsa.com/PSR/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Pipsico-Master-File-Camp-Lions.pdf), (<http://www.tidewaterbsa.com/PSR/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Pipsico-Master-File-Camp-Lions.pdf>)
- Copy of the Geocaching MB [Worksheet](http://www.boyscoutstrail.com/external_frame.asp?goto=http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Geocaching.pdf) (http://www.boyscoutstrail.com/external_frame.asp?goto=http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Geocaching.pdf)
- 12" ruler and protractor
- Magnetic Compass
- For **Item 7**, Print out of User name and caches near your zip code from geocaching.com
- For **Item 8**. If accomplished part A, bring in printed logs of found for those caches and a pictures of the cache to the event. Bring a container, log, or travel bug that you would like to use for either part B & C. **Part D can be done at the event**, but it is recommended to try and complete either A, B, or C for the experience.
- For **Item 9**, if you were able to complete this ahead of time, please bring pictures of the event, and signatures from adults that have helped you with supporting this event.
- Canteen or water bottle
- Comfortable shoes or boots
- *Recommend: Obtaining the [Geocaching Merit Badge Book](#) from the Council Store
- (Optional) A camera, walking stick, Geocaching tools if already owned

What you can expect:

There will be a PowerPoint slide discussion beforehand, and a possible map and compass test. The Scouts will fill out the workbook to submit for knowledge content. It would be wise to review the basics of land navigation. You won't complain that this course was too easy. We will cover the basics of land-navigation and hazards before we embark on any cache discovery; we will also discuss outdoor ethics, behavior and property rights. I really hope to make this a fun event, and go for many of the private geocaches on Pipsico.

Pre-Course Work:

- Create Geocaching account with parents' permission, and bring in list of at least three (3) caches near home or PIPSICO.
- Fill in information on Geocaching Merit Badge Worksheet as much as possible, or bring in Worksheet to fill out during the event.
- Item 8, Have all materials and documentation for one of the 4 requirements.

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Event Activities:

- Fundamentals of Geocaching
 - Teaching of Geocaching fundamentals, Scouts will demonstrate same fundamentals to councilors. PowerPoint slide presentation, and discussion by the Scouts
- Satellite Constellation Understanding (Line of sight)
- UTM map coordinate layout and understanding
- GPSr function use and understanding
 - Practice and demonstrate good use of a GPSr (Understanding of strengths and weaknesses)
- Go find Geocaches, log them, replace, and reflection.
 - Demonstrate safe, respectful, and good practices of Geocaching, Scouts will finish with demonstrations of these principles

A question and answer period will be held at the end of the course on Sunday. (Scouts can ask about anything from the course)

Merit Badge blue cards will be passed out for scouts to take home and finish Item 9, and any others not completed.

*Please note: Requirement 9 of this merit badge (Plan a geohunt for a youth group such as your troop or a neighboring pack, at school, or your place of worship), will most likely have to be completed after this event unless the scout has the knowledge to complete this prior to the weekend. The counselor's contact information will be provided so that the youth participant can e-mail information about his geohunt to the counselor so that they can officially complete the requirements of this Merit badge.

Adult Volunteers:

There will need to be an **8:1 Scout to Adult ratio** for exercises and safety when practicing skills for Geocaching during this course. This ratio does not include the course Councilor staff. All Geocaching exercises, in which the boys go off on their own, will include all safety practices, and adult oversight. If adults from your unit are attending the event, please let the staff know if they can volunteer some time to assist in the activities. Remember to practice youth protection at all times.

References:

Geocaching Website: <http://www.geocaching.com/>

Geocaching 2 minute video: <http://www.geocaching.com/videos/default.aspx#cat=cat:newbies&vid=-4VFeYZTTYs>

Geocaching 101: <http://www.geocaching.com/guide/default.aspx>

eTrex GPSr **Basics:** http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_x3Qt3I9EQ

eTrex GPSr **Basics:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d59bJ0070E4>

Geoscouting: <http://geoscouting.com/cache2eagle.html>

