

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL CUB SCOUT CAMPING POLICIES

Cub Scout Day Camp

Day camp is an organized five-day program for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts conducted by the council under certified leadership at an approved site. Day camps are conducted during daylight hours. Day camps do not include any overnight activities. Certification of the day camp director and program director is provided through the National Camping School. All day camps shall be conducted in accordance with established standards as provided in the National Standards for Local Council Accreditation of Cub Scout/ Webelos Scout Day Camps.

Cub Scout /Webelos Resident Camp

Cub Scout and Webelos Scout resident camping is a council-organized, theme-oriented overnight camping program. It operates for four nights and is conducted under certified leadership at Baiting Hollow Scout Camp. Certification of the resident camp director and program director is provided through the National Camping School. All Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Resident camps shall be conducted in accordance with established standards.

Council Organized Family Camp

Council organized family camps are overnight events involving more than one pack. The council provides all of the elements of the outdoor experience such as staffing, housing and program. Council organized family camps should be conducted by trained leaders. The council must approve overnight activities involving more than one pack. Council organized family camps must be conducted in accordance with established standards.

Pack Overnights

These are pack-organized overnight events involving more than one family from a single pack, focused on age-appropriate Cub Scout activities and conducted at council approved locations. If non-members (siblings) participate, the event must be structured accordingly to accommodate them. BSA health and safety and youth protection guidelines apply. In most cases each youth member will be under the supervision of a parent or guardian. In all cases, each youth participant is responsible to a specific adult.



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Adults giving leadership to a pack overnighiter must complete Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) training to properly understand the importance of program intent, youth protection guidelines, health and safety, site selection, age-appropriate activities, and sufficient adult participation. Permits for campouts will be issued at the council office. Packs must use **Tour and Activity Plans**.

The BALOO trained leader must be in attendance for the entire campout.

Overnighiters organized by the pack are supplemental to participation in council and district-organized camping opportunities. Some packs choose to organize one or two overnight opportunities during the year, once in the spring and once in the fall. Because every effort should be made to make these first campouts positive for the participants, wintertime camping activities or planning outings during potentially inclement weather are discouraged. **Cub Scout Camping and Webelos tent camping outdoors at Baiting Hollow will not be approved for the period November 1 - March 31 of each year.**

If a parent cannot attend, the boy's family must make arrangements for one of the other parents attending, or for another adult relative or friend, to be a substitute at the overnighiter. Each boy **should** have someone he knows watching out for him. It is important that each Cub Scout be under the supervision of an adult and that every adult have a share of the responsibility for the overnighiter. If necessary to accommodate a special circumstance, an adult may be responsible for more than one child. **In no case shall one adult be responsible for more than three youth other than his or her own children. Youth protection guidelines are in effect regarding that the only adult that can sleep in a tent with a youth is the youth's parent or legal guardian.**

Webelos Camping

Webelos den overnight campouts provide opportunities for Webelos Scouts to enjoy the increasing camping challenges offered by BSA's progressive outdoor program, but still within the family environment of Cub Scouting. Webelos camping experiences should help prepare Webelos Scouts for the camping adventures of Boy Scouting without taking away from the type of camping they will experience as a member of a Boy Scout troop.

Webelos dens are encouraged to have several overnight campouts each year during the spring and fall months. **Webelos dens shall not tent camp outdoors during the period November 1 - March 31 each year.** The Webelos den overnight campouts are parent-son events, under the direction of the Webelos den leader. In most cases, each Webelos scout is under the supervision of his own father, mother, or guardian. If a parent or guardian cannot attend, the boy's family should make arrangements for one of the other parents or another adult relative or friend to be a substitute at the campout. It is essential that each Webelos Scout is under the supervision of an adult and that every adult has a share of the responsibility for the campout. Webelos dens are encouraged to participate in joint overnight campouts with a Boy Scout troop; however, a parent or guardian of each Webelos Scout must still attend. These campouts are especially encouraged during the fifth-grade year. These

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campouts, conducted with an individual troop for the purpose of strengthening ties between the pack and troop, are to be held separate from any district or council Boy Scout activities. The Webelos Den Leader should discuss these guidelines with the host troop for coordination.

No leader should be responsible for more than two Webelos scouts on a campout other than his or her own children. Youth protection guidelines that the only adult that can sleep in a tent with a scout is his parent or legal guardian are in effect. Webelos den campouts are not open to siblings .

Webelos scouts should be experiencing family-type camping, as opposed to the more challenging type of camping that they will be experiencing as Boy Scouts. A location that has a tested water supply, toilets, cooking facilities, space for pitching tents, and an indoor activity area would be appropriate for a Webelos den overnight campout.

If you use Baiting Hollow, be sure that the Webelos campsite is away from regular Boy Scout camping areas. The campsite should be located near a parking area because the family-type equipment that will be used probably will be heavy and difficult to carry any distance. In selecting the location for a Webelos overnight campout, remember that Webelos Scouts should not experience Boy Scout-type camping on the overnight. Webelos overnights do not include backpacking. Webelos overnight camping at Boy Scout camporees and/or events is not a BSA-approved activity.

When tents are used, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his parent or legal guardian. When housing other than tents is used, separate housing must be provided for male and female participants. Permits for campouts are issued at the Council Service Center. Webelos dens use the Local Tour Permit Application.

Cub Scout Trips and Excursions

Trips or excursions by Cub Scout Packs under chartered organization leadership are a recognized part of the Cub Scout program. Trips should be conducted in accordance with established procedures. **Tour and Activity Plans** for such tours shall be filed and available **for the facility** or as required depending on the distance traveled. The National Council has established the following guidelines: trips normally will be one day excursions; Although overnight stays are permitted, they are not encouraged; When overnight stays are necessary, participants will stay in private homes, hotels, or motels; Lock-ins or overnight programming at local museums may be approved by the council; Den leaders, pack leaders and parents are expected to accompany the boys on approved trips; Tiger Cubs are limited to boy-parent excursions, day camps, pack overnights, or council managed family camping.

Approved by the Council Camping Committee as of June 1, 2015



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