



2024 Minsi Trails Council
University of Scouting
Course Catalog

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Course List by Period

Period 1 – 8:30 am – 9:20 am

Being A Merit Badge Counselor

What does it take to be a Merit Badge Counselor? What Merit Badges fit your career and interests? Take a dive into the world of being a Merit Badge Counselor! Discover the variety of Merit Badges that your knowledge can be shared with today's Scouts!

Instructor: Bruce Horton

Camp Minsi: Your Timeshare in the Poconos (CampMasters)

Learn the joy of becoming a Camp master where you will stay in your own cabin for the weekend. You check units in and out for the weekend at camp. On your down time you may hike around the camp, help out the ranger with skilled trades you can offer, or just simply enjoy our camps while sitting by our beautiful lakes. Your duties as a Camp master are to frequently check the units at their sites and ensure our cabins and campsites are all cleaned up, ready to go for the next weekend. Being a Camp master is the ideal way to escape to the Poconos.

Instructor: John Buz

Meet the New Scout Executive

Hey, we have a new Scout Executive! Come meet Kevin McClelland, the new Scout Executive of the Minsi Trails Council. Learn a bit about his vision for Minsi Trails as we look to grow Scouting in the Lehigh Valley!

Instructor: Kevin McClelland

New Cub Scout Program (Overview)

The BSA's New Cub Scout Program is launching on June 1st, 2024. Discover the upcoming changes from an overview of the program.

Instructor: Michael Philipp

Scouting Safely (Incident Reporting)

Instructor: MTC Professional Staff

Stem Nova & Super Nova Awards for Older Scouts

Find out the STEM Nova and Super Nova awards and the great opportunities available for Scouts BSA Scouts and Venture Participants.

Instructor: Irwin Lebo

Period 1-3 – 8:30 am – 11:20 am

Den Chief Training (Youth)

Are you a Scouts BSA youth looking for some leadership opportunities? Become a Den Chief to your local Cub Scout Pack. This is a great opportunity to learn how to lead the future members of your Troop! PS Being a Den Chief covers an Eagle Requirement.

Instructor: Tamie Swain

Geology & Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge

Come out to work towards earning your Geology and Soil & Water Conservation Merit Badges. Merit Badges will NOT be completed at University of Scouting, and there will be requirements to finish afterwards.

Instructor: Alyssa Mierta

Period 2 – 9:30 am – 10:20 pm

How to conduct a Scoutmaster Conference

A Scoutmaster Conference is NOT just for rank advancements. Learn how Scoutmaster Conferences can be a tool to help scouts advance, motivate them, address discipline issues, and provide feedback to scouts.

Instructor: Bruce Horton

Life to Eagle

The final goal of Eagle Scout is in sight to one of your Scouts. Learn the steps in taking a scout from Life to Eagle Court of Honor. A dive into the Eagle Workbook and Application.

Instructor: Herb King

New Cub Scout Program (Deep Dive into Advancement/Adventure)

A lot of new changes are coming to the Cub Scout Program. Join us as we explore into the changes in Electives and Adventures coming to the Cub Scout Program.

Instructor: Michael Philipp

Recognizing your Adult Volunteers

Unit Leaders and Adult Volunteers give up so much time for the benefit of Scouting. Discover the recognition opportunities for the adults in your units.

Instructor: Don Schneck/Drew Draper/Dave Binder

Scoutbook for Advancement Chairs

Scoutbook is a tremendous resource for Unit leaders. Learn about the tools and capabilities of ScoutBook for Advancement Chairs!

Instructor: Paolo Feliciano

Scoutbook for Unit Leaders

Scoutbook can be a challenging place to navigate. Especially for new Unit Leaders. Discover its functions and uses to benefit you and your unit.

Instructor: Brian Dungan/Janet Jungerman

Sea Scout & Venture Officers Association

Join the Sea Scout & Venture Officers Association! Discover the exciting world of Sea Scouts and Venture and the endless opportunities to continue your Scouting Journey.

Instructor: Chris Fluke

Period 2-Lunch – 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Dutch Oven Cooking

Cooking in the great outdoors is one of the pleasures of camping and outdoor activities. Learn a few recipes you can pull out at your next culinary outing. Includes equipment clean up and preservation. Hands on, you will eat your creations!

Instructor: George Kenyon

Period 3 – 10:30 am – 11:20 am

Eagle + 5

Too many scouts are finishing their Eagle requirements on their 18th birthday. Get ideas to promote 16 - 17 year old Eagles. It is possible to avoid last minute Eagles. Learn about Eagle Palms. Share thoughts and form your troop's game plan.

Instructor: Tom Stalsitz

Go & See Guide (Time to Redevelop)

Have you ever gone on an outing only to find it counted for more adventures and electives than you realized? Look no further!!! Join us for this session where we will look at the guide, understand how it functions, and redevelop with the new Cub Program so that Leaders just like yourself can use these resources to plan exciting trips for their Scouts!

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How to use JTE in planning your Program

Journey to Excellence is an excellent framework for a successful unit. Learn to use the information it shares to plan a quality program for the youth in your unit.

Instructor: Commissioner Staff

Maine High Adventure

Are you looking for a HIGH ADVENTURE experience to retain your senior Scouts and Inspire your junior ones? Then, HAVE A LOOK at MAINE HIGH ADVENTURE B.S.A.! Come to our session and learn more about what you see at www.MaineHighAdventure.org

Instructor: Jim Minnier

Opportunities Outside your Unit

When you think about Scouting and your time volunteering, many will think about their time with their Scout at the Unit Level. Discover the world outside your unit! Learn about the opportunities available to you in the District, Council and beyond!

Instructor: Al Edleman

Pinewood Derby: Plan

It's off to the races! Learn about running your Packs Annual Pinewood Derby. The Do's and Don'ts, best practices, and rules that will be run at District and Council Races. Plenty of time to ask your questions.

Instructor: Chris Van Camp

Scoutbook for Treasurers

Scoutbook is a tremendous resource for Unit leaders. Learn about the tools and capabilities of ScoutBook for Unit Treasurers!

Instructor: Aneysa Feliciano

Lunch – Period 4 – 11:20 am – 1:20 pm

Scouts BSA Girls Troop Summit

5 years ago, the Boy Scouts of America made the decision to invite Girls into the traditional BSA programs! Join us as we gather, share ideas and brainstorm on growing Scouts BSA Girls within the Minsi Trails Council! This is a two period session, where we will eat lunch together to meet other Scouts and learn more about how each unit can grow!

Instructor: Suzan Merrit/NYLT/Tamie Swain

Period 4 – 12:30 pm – 1:20 pm

Building a Budget & Plan

Scouting pulls us in a lot of different directions, whether to attend the District Camporee or preparing for Summer Camp. These events, almost always, have a cost associated with them. Find out some best methods to building your Units Budget & having a plan in place to help navigate those costs.

Instructor:

New Cub Scout Program (Overview)

The BSA's New Cub Scout Program is launching on June 1st, 2024. Discover the upcoming changes from an overview of the program.

Instructor: Michael Philipp

Quartermaster Skills

As a unit in the BSA your Troop or Pack will develop or acquire a lot of materials over the years. Find out some skills to help your unit stay organized amongst the chaos of equipment and supplies.

Instructor: Dan Dopsovic

Resources Available for New Leaders (BALOO/IOLS/Roundtable)

Welcome the world of being an Adult Volunteer. Here are the keys, now run with it! Just kidding! Resources are easily available and they are plentiful! Come and find out about training courses, online resources, people to ask, and about Council resources available to help you be successful.

Instructor: Training Committee/Jim Roberts/Melissa Mohr

Scouting with Special Needs

Scouting is for every youth! Join us to discover some best practices when helping a Scout who may have Special Needs.

Instructor: Stephanie Miller

What can you get out of your NYLT Graduates?

NYLT or National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Find out what these Scouts can do to boost your Troop!

Instructor: NYLT Staff

Period 4 – 5 – 12:30 pm – 2:20 pm

Sustainability Merit Badge

Come out to work towards earning your Sustainability Merit Badge. Merit Badges will NOT be completed at University of Scouting, and there will be requirements to complete after University of Scouting.

Instructor: Alyssa Mierta/Mike Kichline

Period 5 – 1:30 pm – 2:20 pm

Blues & Greens: Opportunities Beyond ScoutsBSA

At a point in many Scouts journey they will come to a crossroads when it comes time to age/advancing out of the program and the desire to continue Scouting. Discover the world of Sea Scouts and Venture to find out the wide range of opportunities still available to you.

Instructor: Chris Fluke/ Walt Witucki

Failing Safely: Scoutmasters Guide to letting your Scouts Fail

As a Scoutmaster it can be difficult not to stop our Scouts before they are make a mistake, mess up a meal or fail on a task. Join us as we share situations and discuss the best ways to let your Scouts Fail, in a safe manner, and learn from the mistakes that they made. Plenty of time for open discussion will be included.

Instructor: Jeff Murphy

New Cub Scout Program (Deep Dive into Advancement/Adventure)

A lot of new changes are coming to the Cub Scout Program. Join us as we explore into the changes in Electives and Adventures coming to the Cub Scout Program.

Instructor: Michael Philipp

Recruiting in 2024

Recruiting can be one of the hardest things to do in today's day in age. Competing with sports, band, and other activities can make it virtually impossible. We will take a deep dive into growing membership, share ideas amongst leaders and lay a blueprint for a successful 2024.

Instructor: Brennan Malenovitch

Shooting Sports: Arranging an Event

One of the most exciting things that our Scouts get to do is visit approved shooting ranges. Spend a session with our Shooting Sports Committee and learn about the best practices in organizing your next Shooting Sports Event.

Instructor: Shooting Sports Committee

What is the Witauchsoman Lodge?

The Order of the Arrow is the Boy Scouts of America's National Honor Society. Come and find out what your OA Lodge does right here in Minsi Trails Council and how they can support your Scouts within your unit.

Instructor: OA

Period 5 – 6 – 1:30 pm – 3:20 pm

New Commissioner Workshop

This course is the final training for a new commissioner, where we talk about MTC resources and making connections with unit leaders. If you are not a commissioner and are interested in learning more, please sign up as well! Learn more about the next person to help you and your unit be successful.

Instructor: Tamie Swain

Period 6 – 2:30 pm – 3:20 pm

Funding your Ideal Year in Scouting

Life can be expensive for a family with kids. Being pulled every way from school to sports to scouts. Explore some options available for of fundraising for your Scouts' Ideal year!

Instructor: Trails End

How to conduct a Board of Review

This class will train committee members and others in the purpose and methods of the board of review. We will offer suggestions for the types of questions that can and should be asked for each rank.

Instructor: Linda Roth

MTC Historical Trails

Minsi Trails Council's Historic Trails program first debuted in 1969 with 5 trails that Scouts could hike and learn about our region's history. They were the Colonial Trail, the Uncas Trail, the Durham Trail, the Moravian Trail, and the Sullivan Wilderness Trail. In the early 1990's 2 more hikes were added – the Nazareth Trail and the Industrial Heritage Trail, followed by 3 more in the late 1990's – the Towpath Trail, the Quarries Trail, and the Gateway to the Poconos Trail. Come learn about the trails and the exciting recognition possibilities for you and your Scouts.

Instructor: Matt Woodruff

Safety Merit Badge

This badge is an important one, as we ALWAYS want to make safe choices. Start the work towards earning your Safety Merit Badge. Merit Badges will NOT be completed at University of Scouting, and there will be requirements to finish afterwards.

Instructor: Alyssa Mierta

Scouting Safely (Incident Reporting)

Instructor: MTC Professional Staff

Tips for Backpacking & Outdoor Adventure for Men and Women

Take a dive into the gear needed for all while adventuring outdoors. It can be taken by both leaders and scouts a like. The great outdoors is different for everyone, let's be prepared. There will be gear available to look at and try. Nifty tricks for venturing into the great outdoors.

Instructor: Jim Swain/Kaitelyn Butsavage

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Instructor: Training Committee/Jim Roberts/Melissa Mohr

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Scoutbook is a tremendous resource for Unit leaders. Learn about the tools and capabilities of ScoutBook for Advancement Chairs!

Instructor: Paolo Feliciano

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Instructor: MTC Professional Staff

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Tips for Backpacking & Outdoor Adventure for Men and Women

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Period 4 - 12:30 pm – 1:20 pm

What is the Witauchsoman Lodge?

The Order of the Arrow is the Boy Scouts of America's National Honor Society. Come and find out what your OA Lodge does right here in Minsi Trails Council and how they can support your Scouts within your unit.

Instructor: OA

Period 5 - 1:30 pm – 2:20 pm