June 2020

Scouts-BSA Breakout Handout

Jun-14  Flag Day
Jun-20  Solstice
Jun-24  Program Extravaganza ➔ August 20

Aug-1  SCARF Day
Sep-7  Labor Day
Sep-11  Patriot Day
Sep-11-13  Seaside Heights Camporee
Sep-13  Grandparents Day
Sep-17  Citizenship Day
Sep-18  POW/MIA Day
Sep-22  Equinox (18:31)
Sep-25  Native American Day State Police Camporee moved to October

Covid-19 – What’s cancelled and what’s still a go?

Retrospect: How did Virtual Scouting go for you this year? How was attendance?

Scouts-BSA Program Features / Themes
July – Citizenship  August – Caving

Summer Camp – What are your plans if your chosen Summer Camp is cancelled?
  New Scout Boot Camp – Carson Lee

Webelos to Scout Transition –
July
1. Work Closely with New Scouts and parents during their transition to the Boy Scout Troop ensuring their needs are met and that their move has been natural and fun.

August
1. Get names, addresses and telephone numbers of second year Webelos Scouts. Record the information on the Webelos Scout Tracking Form.
2. Plan to attend the District Webelos Woods in October and get it on your calendar
3. Plan a program of upcoming events to present at a Webelos den meeting visit in November
4. Select a den chief for each Webelos Den.

Every Unit Every Month – June/July/August Commissioner Visitation –

Summer Meetings – Will your unit continue to meet during the summer? Virtual?

Celestial Events - Meteor Showers Summer and Fall + Solstices and Equinox

Hike: Hiking in New Jersey – County by County

ODDS & ENDS – Scouting and Band Aids + First Aid Kit in a Medicine Bottle
  Solar Lights – Q & A + an inexpensive alternative

Popcorn – Can popcorn be sold while observing Social Distancing? What are the best platforms for Online Popcorn sales? Can your unit incorporate payment platforms? i.e. Venmo, Pay Pal etc.?

Upcoming Events: TBD / TBA – watch your email.

Recruiting WEBELOS Scouts – Now that you’ve got them – how do you keep them?

Last Minute! It’s Tick Season Again!! and Don’t Forget the Poison Ivy !!!

Propane Tank Calculations – Two available files – how to measure and calculate remaining propane and a chart for common camping propane equipment.

Fishing for Scouts – Summer 2020 - the most perfect socially distant activity
The Neckerchief as a reminder of the Scout Oath and Law (from uscouts.org)

My first Scoutmaster taught the importance of the Scout Oath and Law using the Neckerchief. He would hold the open neckerchief in his hands and remind the young scouts of what the last item of clothing they put on when they were getting dressed for the meeting was, his neckerchief.

The Scoutmaster then said that it was no coincidence that the neckerchief had 3 sides, just like the three parts of the Scout oath. He would run a side through his fingers and say “On my honor, I'll do my best. To do my duty to God” The first and longest side is to remind you of your long-standing duty to God. This whole side is hidden from view, just as your faith is deep inside you.
   But without that faith, there is no strength for the rest.

Holding on to the neckerchief by the point he would run the next side through his fingers and say, “To help other people at all times....” This shorter side is to remind you of your duty to help others. Remember it is some of this duty that shows to others, just like part of this side of your neckerchief shows. So do your duty to others well so that people might see the good work you do in the name of Scouting.

The last side also shows. He would say “To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.” This last side is your duty to yourself. This shows to others as well. They will know that by seeing your uniform, you are a young man who is physically fit. Has a strong moral foundation and who is not apt to fall into the temptations of drugs and alcohol.

He would then say that this was a means by which we could remember the Scout Oath, every time we got dressed in uniform.

Remember – International Scout Scarf Day = August 1st

The idea of "Scout Scarf Day" on August 1 is that all active and former scouts are requested to wear their scout scarfs in public to make the "spirit of scouting" visible: once a scout - always a scout! In 2011 the day coincided with the World Jamboree in Sweden which was a perfect opportunity to show the close bond to all the scouts attending.

Of course, the scarf is only a symbol but a strong symbol for the scout promise and for our mission to leave the world as a bit better a place than we had found it.

www.scoutscarfday.com
Every Unit Every Month – Unit Visitation Schedule

June/July

Charter Renewal
The unit commissioner should review the unit’s progress toward the Journey to Excellence Award and begin preparing a *Mid-Year Journey to Excellence Status Report* that will be submitted to the ADC or DC (remember, this is mid-year of the unit’s charter year).

Activities/Events
Remind units to record any service projects that were recently done into the Good Turn for America website. As units hold their yearly unit planning meeting over the summer, be sure to remind them of the following activities and trainings

**Activities**
- Fall Cub Scout Camporee
- Fall Boy Scout Camporee
- Webelos Woods
- Klondike Derby

**Training**
- Fall Outdoor Training (ITOLS, BALOO, OWL)
- University of Scouting

Finance

**Popcorn**
Popcorn sale planning is well underway! Things to discuss with the unit committee may include:

1. Who is the coordinator for this year’s popcorn sale? Has the coordinator had an opportunity to speak with the District’s Popcorn Chair?
2. Are they participating in (or aware of) the “Ideal Year of Scouting” program? *This is a program that emphasizes unit calendar & budget planning. Units that have participated in this program have shown dramatic increases in membership, advancements, outdoor activities and trained leaders, while the number of fundraisers they needed decreased.* Are they interested in finding out more about the “Ideal Year” program?
3. Has the unit Popcorn Kernel picked up the unit’s popcorn packet from the Council Service Centers and identified a Show and Sale dates and locations.
4. Reminder- Unit show and sells orders are due by the middle of August

Camp Promotion
Most Troops and Packs have some type of summer camping experience (Day Camp, Discovery Camp or Resident Camp.) If possible, this is a great opportunity to drop by for a visit!

Discussion items should include:

1. How is your camp experience going so far?
2. What percentage of your pack/troop is at camp this summer?
3. What is the best part of camp so far?
4. Have things moved pretty smoothly? If there’s a problem, is there anything we can do to help?
5. Is there anything you would like to see improved? What is your priority?
August

Membership

Plans should already be well underway for Cub Scout Fall Roundup, Troop recruitment, and Venture Crew Open Houses. Discussion items one may wish to review are:

1. Who from the pack/troop/crew is responsible for Fall Recruitment?
2. What is the date, time and location of your unit’s School Night or Open House?
3. Will your unit be doing an in-school “boy talk” presentation? Who will be doing it, at what time, and where?
4. Do you have all the support material you need from District/Council (flyers, Parent Orientation Guides, etc.)? Do you have all the help you need?
5. What kind of program are you going to have that evening? Will it be a straight “sign-up”, or will there be interactive stuff (games, skills) for the kids to do?

Advancement

Most groups are getting ready for the upcoming program year. Discussions with the unit leaders should center on what happened this past summer, and upcoming plans. Discussion items may include:

1. What activities did the group do this past summer?
2. Who is responsible for tracking advancement within your Scout group? Are they new to the job?

Training

The Council Fall Training weekend will be held in November at Citta Scout Reservation. Most of this is adult training, but some is geared for youth. The unit commissioner should be concerned with:

1. Is your unit aware of all the training courses being offered? The unit commissioner should be prepared to promote those training courses that meet the needs of the unit.
2. If Den Chief Training is offered, help identify those boys who are motivated to attend.

Activities/Events

Activities takes place this fall include the Fall Beaver Day at Citta Scout Reservation, Fall Cub Scout Camporee, Webelos Woods, Fall Boy Scout Camporee for each district and OA Fall Fellowship

1. The Scout camporees frequently offer opportunities for patrols to compete and for Scouts to test their skills. Are troop leaders encouraging the patrols to prepare for these activities?
2. While packs can attend Cub events, individual Cubs and their families should be encouraged to attend, as well.
3. Are those members of the OA aware of the dates of events for the year and have they paid their dues?
4. Operation Halloween – Held at Citta Scout Reservation every year, this weekend draws thousands to a fun-filled and spooky haunted hay ride and amusements. Units are invited to sell tickets for this event and earn a commission!

Finance

Council Popcorn Sale – Has the unit Popcorn Kernel picked up the unit’s popcorn packet from the Council Service Centers and identified a Show and Sale dates and locations.

Reminder- Unit show and sells orders are due by the middle of August
Celestial events – Summer / Fall 2020

June 20 – Summer Solstice

This Solstice is the Summer Solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, where it is the longest day of the year. In the Southern Hemisphere, it’s the winter solstice and the shortest day of the year.

July 14 – Jupiter at Opposition

The best time to observe and photograph Jupiter will be around July 14, when the biggest planet in the solar system reaches opposition with the sun. This means that the planet is on the opposite side of Earth as the sun. For distant planets like Jupiter, Earth is a bit closer to the planet during opposition than other times of year, but more importantly, Jupiter will be bright in the sky virtually all night around the time of opposition, reaching its highest point in the sky around midnight local time.

You will be able to see Jupiter with the naked eye, appearing as a white, unblinking star-like object. (Planets do not twinkle like stars, because their light comes from a small disk rather than a single point, so a planet’s light is not as strongly influenced by atmospheric effects.) But with a pair of binoculars or a backyard telescope, you can also spot the four largest moons of Jupiter and perhaps the atmospheric bands of color on the planet.

July 20 – Saturn at Opposition

Less than a week after Jupiter hits opposition, Saturn will take its turn on the opposite side of Earth from the sun, appearing as a yellow-white dot of light. The planet will be bright in the sky for the entire night, providing plenty of opportunity to observe Saturn in the dark skies, which will be even darker thanks to a new moon occurring on the night of July 20.

You can’t see Saturn’s rings with binoculars, but you don’t need a very large telescope, and opposition this year provides a fantastic opportunity to try to resolve the rings around the gas giant planet. Although the rings were at their maximum tilt toward Earth in 2017, they are still tilted at about 21 degrees this year and should be clearly visible for those who want to see them.

October 13 – Mars at Opposition

While Jupiter and Saturn appear brightest in the sky near opposition, Mars, a much closer planet, brightens even more dramatically when it is on the opposite side of Earth from the sun. Mars only reaches opposition with Earth about every two years, and viewing conditions for the Red Planet this October are slated to be spectacular.

For most of the month of October, the light of Mars will grow brighter than even Jupiter, which is generally the second brightest planet in the sky. The brightness of Mars will peak on October 13 when the planet reaches opposition. Earlier in the month, on October 6, Mars will get as close as 38.6 million miles from Earth, its closest approach until 2035, according to EarthSky.

September 22 – Autumnal Equinox

Also known as the Fall Equinox in the Northern Hemisphere; The September Equinox has the day and night of equal length and is unofficially known as the first day of fall.

Source: Smithsonian Magazine
A meteor shower is a celestial event in which a number of meteors are observed to radiate, or originate, from one point in the night sky called Radiant. These meteors are caused by streams of cosmic debris called meteoroids entering Earth's atmosphere at extremely high speeds on parallel trajectories. The Meteor Data Center of the IAU lists over 900 suspected meteor showers of which about 100 are well established.

The meteor showers listed below are the easiest to observe and provide the most activity. Particular attention should be noted to the time and moonlight conditions. All these showers are best seen after midnight. Some are not even visible until after midnight. Showers that peak with the moon's phase greater than one half illuminated (first quarter to last quarter) will be affected by moonlight and difficult to observe.

While the time each shower is best seen remains much the same year after year, the moonlight conditions change considerably from one year to the next. As we approach the date of each shower's maximum, be sure to consult the latest AMS article about Meteor Showers, which will provide in depth information on each shower and how to best view it.

**Alpha Capricornids**
Next period of activity: July 3rd, 2020 to August 15th, 2020

The Alpha Capricornids are active from July 3 through August 15 with a "plateau-like" maximum centered on July 30. This shower is not very strong and rarely produces in excess of five shower members per hour. What is notable about this shower is the number of bright fireballs produced during its activity period. This shower is seen equally well on either side of the equator.

**Next Peak** - The alpha Capricornids will next peak on the Jul 28-29, 2020 night. On this night, the moon will be 66% full.

**Perseids**
Next period of activity: July 17th, 2020 to August 26th, 2020

The Perseids are the most popular meteor shower as they peak on warm August nights as seen from the northern hemisphere. The Perseids are active from July 17 to August 24. They reach a strong maximum on August 12 or 13, depending on the year. Normal rates seen from rural locations range from 50-75 shower members per hour at maximum. The Perseids are particles released from comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle during its numerous returns to the inner solar system. They are called Perseids since the radiant (the area of the sky where the meteors seem to originate) is located near the prominent constellation of Perseus the hero when at maximum activity.

**Next Peak** - The Perseids will next peak on the Aug 11-12, 2020 night. On this night, the moon will be 47% full.

**Orionids**
Next period of activity: October 2nd, 2020 to November 7th, 2020

The Orionids are a medium strength shower that sometimes reaches high strength activity. In a normal year the Orionids produce 10-20 shower members at maximum. In exceptional years, such as 2006-2009, the peak rates were on par with the Perseids (50-75 per hour). Recent displays have produced low to average displays of this shower.

**Next Peak** - The Orionids will next peak on the Oct 20-21, 2020 night. On this night, the moon will be 23% full.

Source: American Meteor Society amsmeteors.org
Atlantic County: Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

The refuge, consisting of more than 47,000 acres of coastal habitat, is located along one of the most popular flight paths for migratory birds. Hikers will find several trails through woodlands, grasslands and upland habitats, as well as over tidal salt marsh. You can also spot the Atlantic City skyline as you explore this sprawling natural wonder. Another great hiking destination in Atlantic County is Estell Manor Park, which offers 20 miles of hiking trails. Of course, we cannot forget the 115,000-acre Wharton State Forest, which spans Atlantic, Burlington and Camden counties and features hundreds of miles of trails. (Aristide Economopoulos | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com)

Bergen County: Ramapo Valley County Reservation

Located in Mahwah, this park offers more than 4,000 acres of outdoor exploration. Visitors can walk around Scarlet Oak Pond, hike up to MacMillan Reservoir and check out several new loop trails that were completed over the summer. Some trails connect explorers to Ringwood State Park and Ramapo Mountain State Forest. Bergen County is also home to Camp Glen Gray, which features trails ranging from 2 to 10 miles.

Burlington County: Crystal Lake Park

The park includes more than 370 acres of upland and lowland forests, a freshwater lake and wetlands. In addition to trails for hiking and mountain biking, visitors will find equestrian trails and a working farm. Another popular hiking destination in Burlington County is Rancocas State Park.

Camden County: Winslow Wildlife Management Area

Hikers will find a variety of trails through hardwood and upland forests, fields, swamps and a section of the Great Egg Harbor River. A popular hiking destination at this 7,600-acre site is an infamous blue hole off Piney Hollow Road. While the view is serene, swimming is prohibited because of dangerous conditions. Newton Lake Park is another popular destination for hiking in Camden County.

Cape May County: Cape May Point State Park

This 244-acre gem along the Jersey Shore allows hikers a chance to explore wetland marsh, coastal dunes and beaches, while viewing all of the wildlife that calls this place home. You’ll also find a World War II-era bunker. If you want to take your hike to new heights, climb the 199 steps to the top of Cape May Lighthouse. Another popular hiking destination is Belleplain State Forest, which straddles the Cape May/Cumberland county border.

Cumberland County: Maurice River Bluffs Preserve

This 525-acre site offers several miles of trails through woodlands and along the Maurice River. You’ll find a 35-foot bridge, a floating dock, and steps and rails to help you along the steeper portions of your trek. The bluffs serve as a rest stop for migrating songbirds, osprey and bald eagles. Another hiking option is Glades Wildlife Refuge in Newport, which features five miles of trails near the Delaware Bay.

Essex County: South Mountain Reservation

This 2,112-acre nature reserve is located between the first and second ridges of the Watchung Mountains. The site features woodlands, streams, creeks, ponds, a reservoir and a waterfall. Hikers will find trails ranging from half a mile to 6 miles. The 400-acre Eagle Rock Reservation is also popular with hikers.

Gloucester County: Elephant Swamp Nature Trail

This trail runs atop an old railroad bed and takes walkers through open fields, farmland, woods and, of course, swamps. The entire trail runs from Elk Township into Salem County. A section in Elk is designated as the "nature trail" portion, complete with benches and educational signs. The trail also comes with a legend. As the story goes, a circus was traveling through the area in the 1800s when one of the elephants broke loose and disappeared into the swamp, never to be seen again. Travelers are told to listen closely for the footfalls of that errant animal as they explore the area. The newest hiking attraction in Gloucester County is the recently opened Tall Pines State Preserve, which is a former golf course.

Hudson County: Liberty State Park

This 1,200-acre state park offers excellent views of the New York City skyline and miles of trails. The park is also the only New Jersey location offering ferry service to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. The park includes the historic Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal and the dramatic "Empty Sky" 9/11 memorial. (Reena Rose Sibayan | The Jersey Journal)

Hunterdon County: Teetertown Ravine Nature Preserve

This 300-acre site features woodlands, a "ravine section," complete with a stream and rock outcroppings, ponds and large fields. The park includes five trails of varying lengths and difficulty. For a great view of the Delaware River, another local hiking destination is Goat Hill Overlook.

Mercer County: Washington Crossing State Park

As the name indicates, this is the spot where Gen. George Washington and the Continental Army landed after crossing the Delaware in December 1776. The 3,500-acre park features 15 miles of trails for hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking. (Michael Mancuso | For NJ.com)

Middlesex County: Cheesequake State Park

This 1,600-acre park includes open fields, saltwater and freshwater marshes, cedar swamp and forest. Trails range from 1.5 to 3.5 miles in length, with trail difficulty ranging from easy to moderate. Hikers might also enjoy a visit to Davidson's Mill Pond Park.

Monmouth County: Hartshorne Woods

The 794-acre park overlooks the Navesink River and features more than 14 miles of trails, some of which are challenging. The site includes the Navesink Military Reservation Historic District, the 224-acre site of a former military base. Shark River Park is another popular destination in Monmouth County and features more than 8 miles of trails.

Morris County: Stephens State Park

This 805-acre park features 6 miles of marked trails, with surfaces ranging from flat to steep and rocky. Walkers can follow a rocky path along the Musconetcong River, which runs through the park. For another Morris County option, try Hacklebarney State Park, which offers great views of the Black River.

Ocean County: Double Trouble State Park

The 8,400-acre park is located on the eastern edge of the Pine Barrens and offers a 1.5-mile nature trail, as well as many unmarked trails along sandy service roads. Double Tree Village area includes a functioning cranberry farm and visitors are urged to be careful around cranberry bogs and reservoirs. Another popular hiking spot in Ocean County is Wells Mills County Park, which features more than 14 miles of hiking trails.

Passaic County: Garret Mountain Reservation

The 568-acre recreation area offers views of the New York City skyline and 8 miles of hiking trails taking walkers to sites including Lambert Castle and Lambert Observation Tower. Another popular spot is the Apshawa Preserve, which includes a reservoir, waterfalls and miles of hiking trails.

Hiking in New Jersey / NJ.Com

**Salem County**: Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

This refuge is located along the Delaware River estuary and offers trails through grassland and forest habitats. Get a better view of the thousands of preserved acres by climbing to the top of the Finns Point Rear Range Lighthouse. The lighthouse is only open on certain dates between April and October. Salem County is also home to Parvin State Park, which features lakes, forest and several trails of varying lengths.

**Somerset County**: Sourland Mountain Preserve

The 4,000-acre preserve features several miles of trails over varying terrain, including boulder fields. Check out the 5-mile Ridge Trail, 2.1-mile Roaring Brook Trail, 1.4-mile Maple Flats or the half-mile Pondside Trail. Somerset County's Lord Stirling Park offers more than 8 miles of trails for all ages and abilities. (Ed Murray | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com)

**Sussex County**: Kittatinny Valley State Park

This 5,600-acre park features trails of varying difficulty around glacial lakes, limestone outcappings and past a small airport operated by the New Jersey Forest Fire Service. The park includes two former railroad lines converted for use as trails. The county is also home to Stokes State Forest, a popular destination featuring a portion of the Appalachian Trail, cliffs, Tillman Ravine and miles of great hiking. (Jerry McCrea | The Star-Ledger)

**Union County**: Watchung Reservation

The 2,000-acred wooded site features about a dozen miles of trails taking hikers to spots such as Lake Surprise, Blue Brook and to the deserted village of Feltville.

**Warren County**: Mt. Tammany

Mt. Tammany is 1,526 feet high and provides an excellent view of the Delaware Water Gap. In order to find that view, you’ll make a steep climb through forest over wooden and stone steps to enjoy several panoramic views. The county is also home to Jenny Jump State Forest, which offers 11 miles of dedicated hiking trails and another three miles of hiking/mountain bike trails. (Robert Sciarrino | For NJ.com)

Without the Boy Scouts, Band-Aids might not have stuck around

January 18, 2018 Bryan Wendell History of Scouting,

Sales of Band-Aids were flagging until Johnson & Johnson made an ingenious marketing move.

In the 1920s, the company began distributing, for free, an unlimited supply of Band-Aids to Boy Scout troops across the country, according to this lesson from TED-Ed. [https://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-the-band-aid-was-invented-moments-of-vision-3-jessica-oreck#watch]

Band-Aids also were included in the custom first-aid kits Johnson & Johnson produced for the Boy Scouts of America. The kits were designed to help Boy Scouts earn merit badges like First Aid.

The original 1925 “Boy Scout First-Aid Packet” contained a triangular bandage for a sling, a compress and two safety pins. It came in a simple cardboard container.

In 1926, Johnson & Johnson and the BSA asked silent film cowboy Fred Thomson to show Scouts how to use the kits. He bandaged the leg of his horse, Silver King, for the demo. [https://www.jnj.com/our-heritage/the-story-behind-boy-scout-first-aid-kits]

A few years later, Johnson & Johnson debuted an upgraded BSA first-aid kit in a tin box. Inside, Scouts found burn and antibiotic creams, first-aid instructions, and several kinds of bandages, including Band-Aids.

Appealing to families

The collaboration with the BSA proved fruitful. Johnson & Johnson effectively made Band-Aids a default part of every Scout’s camping gear — a tradition that continues today in many packs, troops, ships and crews.

“This was the beginning of marketing to children and families that helped familiarize the public with the Johnson & Johnson name and their new product,” according to this article in Smithsonian magazine. [https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/get-stuck-band-aid-history-180965157/]

Boy Scouts, with Band-Aids handy inside the tin box attached to their belt loops, were ready to deal with any cut, scrape or burn they might pick up on the trail.

After all, as one Johnson & Johnson ad from the March 1934 issue of Scouting magazine put it, “a Scout with a first-aid kit is a better Scout.”

https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2018/01/18/band-aids-and-the-boy-scouts/
How long do solar lights last?
Generally speaking, the batteries in outdoor solar lights can be expected to last about 3-4 years before they will need to be replaced. The LEDs themselves can last ten years or more. You will know that it is time to change parts when the lights are unable to maintain charge to illuminate the area during the night.

How long do solar lights stay on at night?
How long do solar lights stay lit? If your outdoor solar lights receive enough sunlight for a full charge (usually about eight hours), they will be able to illuminate all evening, starting when the light gets low, around sunset.

Do solar lights need direct sunlight?
No, solar lights do not need direct sunlight to charge. They do require light in some form to power them on, however. This may be produced through indirect sunlight – think cloudy days – or via artificial light sources like incandescent bulbs or LED lamps.

Do solar lights charge on cloudy days?
The fact is that while cloudy and rainy days certainly block the sun, your solar lights are still receiving a charge. The clouds are diffusing the strength of the sunlight but the panels will still charge on cloudy days. … Therefore your lights will only operate on that fraction of time as well.

How long do solar lights take to charge up?
4 to 12 hours
Solar lights work best if they are placed in direct sunlight away from shadows to get a full charge, which usually takes between 4 to 12 hours. The batteries in solar lights provide enough energy to allow lighting all evening.

Can I replace the batteries in my solar lights?
Yes, you can replace the batteries in solar lights. You can easily replace weak or old batteries of solar lights with better quality batteries. Keep in mind that the new cells would not make your solar lights as bright as they originally were. Homeowners replace the batteries of their solar lights for many reasons.
Poison ivy is a common plant on the North American continent, noted for its ability to create an itchy rash on contact with skin. It is an extremely adaptable, persistent type of vegetation and as a result, it can be easy to accidentally become affected. Fortunately, it is not all that difficult to identify with a little practice. This article can help.

Poison ivy (Toxicodendron radicans) can be identified as follows:

- Poison ivy has leaves that grow in groups of three.
- Poison ivy leaves are pointed at the tip.
- Poison ivy is usually green in the spring and reddish-orange in the fall.
- Poison ivy grows as both a vine and as a shrub.
- Poison ivy flowers with small clusters of white berries in the spring that last throughout the winter.

Features of Poison Ivy

**Pointy tips:** The three closely-connected leaflets should all have pointy tips.

**Bigger middle leaf:** The 2 lateral (side) leaflets are smaller than the terminal (end or middle) leaf.

**Stem vs. no stem:** The center leaf almost always has a small stem, whereas the 2 side leaflets grow directly from the vine and don't have small stems.

**Waxy on top, fuzzy on bottom:** The leaves can appear in a variety of shades of green, but they tend to be a darker, waxy green on top. The underside of the leaves typically looks lighter in color and fuzzier.

**Seasonal color changes:** In the spring, the leaves are usually a bright green color, whereas in the fall, they turn red (poison ivy) or bright red/orange (poison oak).

**Sometimes shiny:** The leaves will often have a shiny appearance to them, but don’t rely on shininess alone as an indicator -- especially if it has rained recently.

Source: https://www.wikihow.com/Identify-Poison-Ivy
Fishing for Scouts summer 2020

Fishing the most perfect socially distant activity for scouts of all ages.

Who: Any scout and any parent can fish the waters of NJ. Any scout, sibling or friend 16 or older must have a license to legally fish in freshwater in NJ outside of privately owned land. Saltwater fishing you must be registered with the State fish and wildlife department. The freshwater license has a cost that varies according to person and the saltwater registry is free. The link to the NJ state fishing regulations is listed below. If you choose to fish outside of the state of Nj, please check with state and local authorities because all states differ in their wildlife management.


When: There is no real bad time to fish during the summer. Check the fishing regulations and hours of operation for the places you are fishing.

What: Fishing is fun for any kid age 4 to 90 and beyond. Spending a sunny afternoon fishing with family and friends causes relaxation and comradery. Remember it is called fishing not catching for a reason, do not get frustrated. If nothing else, you may catch a little inner peace. In today’s tough times fishing allows anyone a low cost get away from the troubles of daily life.

Where: If you are having trouble finding a spot to fish check the NJ fish and wildlife website. The links are listed below. Please do not fish on private property with out obtaining the permission of the own of the land.

https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/fishplc.htm

How: If you don’t know how to fish, don’t worry there are multiple multiple resources for the first time angler. The easiest is search online. The BSA has information on fishing tailored to youth. You can watch hours of how to videos on youtube that cover all topics. You can visit the NJ fish and wildlife or takemefishing.org for hints, tips and general how to’s. The best advise is given by local tackle shops. Any good local bait shop is a wealth of information and supporting a local business helps everyone.