



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
NORTHEAST REGION



NORTHEAST REGION, BSA

OUTDOOR PROGRAM SEMINAR

October 12-14, 2018 - Alpine Scout Camp

Dear Scouter:

You are invited to attend the 2018 Northeast Region Outdoor Program Seminar [NEROPS] to be held from Friday evening October 12 through Sunday noon October 14, at Alpine Scout Camp. Located at exit 3 on the Palisades Parkway in Alpine, New Jersey, Alpine Scout Camp provides the Northeast Region with an excellent training facility in a truly historic Scout Camp setting.

The NER Outdoor Program Seminar is a long standing tradition. Although this conference is sponsored by the NER, Scouters from all Regions and Areas of the BSA are invited and most welcome to attend. The program is designed for Council volunteer and professional Scouters with responsibilities for providing quality Council and District year-round outdoor programs, including the full venue of summer possibilities. Our presenters will share the “latest and greatest” in program developments and you will have ample opportunity for personal networking to enhance the leadership ‘toolbox’ for your Council.

Whatever your role in the outdoor program, there are many helpful sessions to assist you in your efforts.

- 1) The **nine outdoor specialty core areas** will be represented with gatherings in: Aquatics; Camping – Year-Round Opportunities; COPE/Climbing; Outdoor Ethics; Properties & Rangers; Shooting Sports; Cub Scout Family Outdoor Program; Conservation, including a special Hornaday Advisor Course (limited capacity); and Reeves Conversations. The Reeves Conversations, always enlightening sessions, are designed for experienced volunteers and professionals with responsibilities for our camps and outdoor programs. These sessions will continue to engage you, responding to your issues in seminar style.
- 2) As part of the continuous quality year-round improvement of program, every Council is urged to have a standing committee or a team dedicated to each of the above specialties. Whether you are presently involved in these roles or an interested Scouter wishing to expand your support, you are welcome. Saturday morning there will be three core sessions to assist those who are responsible for the above listed areas. Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning will provide the opportunity to attend three elective sessions in each field for all who are interested in what the other core groups have been discovering. The specialty areas flow through every level and style of outdoor program.
- 3) We want to especially encourage volunteers and professionals who work with outdoor programs on **District committees**. The National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP)

emphasis on the quest for quality year-round programs highlights the very important roles of those who directly support the work of units at the district level. For the seminar, those with district responsibilities are important attendees.

- 4) The seminar is always a great value to the volunteers and professionals who are responsible at a Council level: directors of camping (or outdoor program), Council program directors, chairs for outdoor programs, camping, or program, camp directors & their supportive team members, along with Outdoor Ethics advocates.
- 5) The programs of the movement are ever growing and responding to the needs of our membership. You will be hearing from those volunteers at the National level who are involved in implementing the new Cub Scout Family Programs.
- 6) There will be “Keynote” presentations by noted **BSA National Level Volunteers** as well as presentations by **the Assistant Chief Scout Executive, and the Northeast Region Director**.
- 7) Representatives of all four of the BSA National High Adventure bases will also be on hand with displays and promotional materials as well as conducting one of the Saturday afternoon elective sessions.
- 8) An extremely popular part of the weekend is always the “**Vendor Fair**” where you will be provided the opportunity to meet with several BSA licensed quality vendors along with National Supply and find new and interesting items to support your outdoor programs.

The first step for you is to register. To do so please click on the link below:

<https://reservations.scouting.org/profile/103494>

As you register – you will be able to indicate your choice of core area. In the coming weeks, those registered will receive via E-mail a complete list of the electives and the schedules.

Next in the registration process you will be prompted to select housing for your stay. You may select from a list that includes a stay in cabins, tents, local hotels, or commuting from home. **As a special note, the fees for 2018 represent a \$15 reduction from the 2016 fees.** This year, for those staying in cabins the fee will be \$110.00; for those staying in their own tent or in camp tents (on platforms with electricity) \$100; those staying in hotels or commuting locally \$95; Saturday visitors and other supporters \$85; and for those registering for the Hornaday Advisor Course \$150. The meals include cracker barrels on Friday and Saturday nights; breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday along with grab and go items for your trip on the way home after the closing session at noon. (the Hornaday fee includes Friday evening dinner along with special training materials associated with that program). If you have special dietary or health needs there is a place to indicate them as you register. A list of hotels in the area can be supplied on request. Those staying in cabins will be using bunk beds. Bring your own bedding, along with personal items including towels, etc. Shower facilities will be available at the pool and in Reeves Lodge.

Uniforms are appropriate wear. Scout activity uniform or business casual are also appropriate.

The emergency contact number at Camp Alpine is 201-768-1910.

If you have specific questions about the 2018 Northeast Region Outdoor Program Seminar please address them to the Conference Chairman Barry Simays at barry.simays@gmail.com. For registration questions please contact conference registrars Robert Dealaman r.dealaman@stny.rr.com, or Randy DeFrank rrpd@twc.com.

We look forward to greeting you personally at Camp Alpine on October 12. Please feel free to share this invitation with other Scouters in your Council. There is a great deal of benefit to be gained from carpooling and sharing best practices learned at the seminar on your drive home.

Yours in Scouting,

Barry

Barry J. Simays

Chair, 2018 NER OPS

If you need program specific information these specialists are also available to respond to your questions:

Aquatics:	Trey Shupert	whshupert@comcast.net
Camping – Year-Round Opportunities:	Msgr. James P. Lang	JPLANG@aol.com
COPE/Climbing:	Chris Moon	usagymct@aol.com
Outdoor Ethics:	Marshall Berger	srteleman@gmail.com
Properties and Rangers:	Sal Ciampo	Salvatore.ciampo@einstein.yu.edu
Shooting Sports:	Dick Bielefield	dbx@roadrunner.com
Cub Scout Family Outdoor Program:	Dan Albert	dalbert@snet.net
Hornaday Advisor course:	Mike Huneke	mhuneke@fs.fed.us
Conservation:	Mike Huneke	mhuneke@fs.fed.us
Reeves Conversations:	Mike L'Abbe	mjl24@georgetown.edu