



# 2024 Summer Camp Guide

Great Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America

January 2024



Last year we spent our summer celebrating 100 years of Camp Manatoc history. Now, as we approach our 101<sup>st</sup> season, we look forward to the beginning of our next century of fun, friendship, and memories here at camp. While there are some changes on the horizon, the 2024 summer camp season will build upon the foundation we set last year starting with an exceptional staff that will encourage your Scouts to challenge themselves while serving as examples of leadership and service for the members of your Troop. At Camp Manatoc, the future is now. I look forward to seeing you this summer. As always, please feel free to contact me with questions or comments. See you this summer at camp.

Yours in Scouting,

Christopher J. Noga  
Camp Director

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## **CAMP PROGRAMS**

### **Morning Camp Flag Raising**

Flag-raising is held immediately following breakfast Monday through Friday. Troops line up and report attendance in creative ways. The Program Director will make announcements about the day's activities.

### **Evening Retreat**

For 100 years, Troops attending summer camp at Camp Manatoc have paid respect to our Nation with evening retreat. Since the current camp opened in 1932, Troops line-up on the Parade Field and report in to the Program Director. A bugler plays "Retreat" and then the large American flag is lowered from our 99 1/2-foot flagpole as "To The Colors" is played. Troops then pass in review in front of the Butler Memorial. While marching directly in front of the Memorial, Scouts render a Scout salute paying respect to our camp's founder, H. Karl Butler, who donated or bequeathed most of the camp property to the then Akron Area Council. Retreat starts promptly after dinner at 6:15 PM Sunday through Friday.

### **Retreat Banner**

Since 1923, members of camp staff have chosen one Troop to receive the daily Retreat Banner. The winning Troop is chosen based on their level of esprit de corps, Scout Spirit, presentation, and adherence to our Retreat traditions such as marching in step and saluting sharply at the proper time when passing in front of the Butler Memorial. The Troop holding the Retreat Banner has the honor of raising and lowering the Camp's flags on the following day.

### **Senior Patrol Leaders Meetings**

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is the primary Troop youth leader. Senior Patrol Leader's will meet with the Program Director on Sunday evening and on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Sanders Shelter. The Program Director will brief the SPL's on camp events and activities.

### **Adult Leaders Meetings**

The Camp Director, Program Director, and Camp Commissioner will meet with adult Troop leaders on Wednesday and Friday in the Lewis Family Conference Center immediately after breakfast. These brief meetings are opportunities to exchange information and ask questions.

### **ST21 (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class)**

Camp Manatoc offers a robust program area devoted to teaching many of the skills needed for younger scouts to achieve the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class rank. The ST21 schedule is offered daily throughout the week. Check the ST21 schedule for topics and times.

### **Cairn Awards Program**

The Manatoc Cairns (pronounced "karens") are historical landmarks found throughout the entire Manatoc Reservation. Back in the 1920's and 30's these were marked by heaps of stones the Scouts would leave. Today they are marked with Native-American symbols and there are more than fifty cairns. While a Scout must visit cairns each year they are at summer camp to earn a Good Camper Award, these awards are separate from the Good Camper program and are designed for Scouts who are at least second year campers or all adult leaders. There are four award levels, and the Cairn Awards must be earned in order: Brave, Chief, Spirit, Cairn Master. A booklet defining the requirements for each level and for recording a participant's progress is available at the Administration Building or the Red Oak Nature Center. Booklets are due at 7:00 PM on Thursday night and must be submitted at the Red Oak Nature Center for review. Cairn location maps are available for purchase in the Trading Post.

### **Color Trails and Nature Trail**

There are six color trails found in the Manatoc Scout Reservation. These trails were established beginning in the 1960's and are a challenging and fun way for Scouts to explore the over 600 acres of reservation property. Each trail is blazed with a color (red, white, blue, yellow, green and orange) in both directions. Color trail maps and hiking staff stickers for each color trail are available at the Trading Post. Additionally, campers can learn about modern conservation and sustainability practices by hiking the interactive Natural Trail that was established and dedicated in 2023 through the efforts of a Scouter as part of their Wood Badge ticket in conjunction with the Great Trail Council SCAT (Sustainability, Conservation and Trails) Committee. All trails begin at the kiosk found near Scoutcraft.

### **Cowboy Action Shoot**

Join our Shooting Sports staff at the Rifle Range on Wednesday night for the Cowboy Action Shoot. Participants will have the opportunity to shoot a .22 caliber revolver, a .22 caliber lever action rifle, a double-barreled shotgun, and a black powder musket. There is an added fee for this event and participation is limited to forty campers with Scouts taking priority over adults. Pre-camp signup for this event is available through the Troop's on-line account.

### **Critter Contest NEW CHANGES**

A long-time Camp Manatoc summer camp tradition, in 2024 we are bringing a 21<sup>st</sup> century update to the contest. In the spirit of our commitment to sustainability and conservation, participants in the Critter Contest will use the iNaturalist app to record the animals they observe. Points are awarded to a Troop for observing any mammal, reptile, bird or insect recorded on the iNaturalist app. The winning Troop receives a prize at the end of the week. More details will be available at the April Leaders' meeting.



### **Dutch Oven Cook-Off**

Another long-time Camp Manatoc Summer Camp tradition, on Monday evening, the Scout Leader Dutch oven cook-off pits our Unit leaders and their best Dutch Oven concoctions. You don't have to cook to enjoy this event. Bring a copy of your recipe to share with your fellow leaders and enjoy the fellowship time.

### **Duty to God**

The Duty to God Promotion Patch is a four-segment "puzzle" type patch. Only one segment is offered in any given year. Participants are encouraged to earn all four segments over a four-year span. The Troop Chaplain Aide is provided with a book of suggested daily devotions and the requirements for each scout and adult in the troop to earn the Duty to God award.

### **Environmentalism Award**

The Manatoc Environmentalism Award is open to all Scouts and Adult leaders in residence at Camp Manatoc for six or more consecutive days. It may take up to two years to complete the requirements for the award. All requirements must be verified. To earn the award, an individual must complete six (6) of the listed requirements. The Camp Manatoc Nature Director shall evaluate all submissions and decide whether they meet the criteria. A list of requirements is available at the Red Oak Nature Center.

### **Flag Retirement Ceremony**

On Tuesday evenings, join our Scoutcraft staff for a formal flag retirement ceremony. Troops are welcome to bring flags for retirement from their own troop or home. Scouts and Adult leaders should be dressed in field uniform for this ceremony. Any scouter who is a veteran or active service member is welcome to attend in their military uniform.

### **Leaders' Lunch**

On Thursday, join the Scout Executive and members of the Great Trail Council Executive Board in the Lewis Family Conference Center for lunch and fellowship. This lunch is a way of thanking those adult volunteers spending the week at camp for supporting youth and the BSA.

### **Leaders' Shootout Challenges**

Adult leaders are invited to take part in friendly shooting competitions at the Rifle, Shotgun, and Archery ranges all week during open program area times. Awards will be given out at the Saturday Morning Awards Presentation. Adult leaders are encouraged to shoot for scores early in the week when range time is more available and the deadline for competing is Thursday at the end of open program time.



### **Life to Eagle Presentation**

The Great Trail Council Advancement Committee hosts an information session Wednesday evening for Star and Life Scouts, and adult leaders interested in learning more about topics related to Eagle Scout advancement and procedures.

### **Medicine Man Adult Engagement Award**

For adult leaders who come to camp, the Medicine Man award is designed with four accomplishments in mind: relaxation, learning, fellowship, and fun. Different tasks earn different points and participants who earn 300 points receive a commemorative patch which is different each year. Task lists/scoresheets are available at the Administration Building

### **Mile Swim NEW**

Swimmers can attempt the ultimate BSA swimming challenge, the Mile Swim, on Thursday night at the Swimming Pool. This year, we have changed our requirements for participation. In order to qualify for the Mile Swim, interested participants will have to attend scheduled practices and show the ability to swim a quarter mile, a half mile, and three quarters of a mile to qualify for the Mile Swim on Thursday night. The event is open to both youth and adult swimmers. More details will be available at the April Leaders' meeting.

### **Morning Nature Walk**

On Tuesday and Thursday morning, interested campers can take part in an early morning nature walk through specific sections of our Color Trails. The focus of the walks is the identification of animals that might be more active in the morning, such as birds. These walks will focus on quiet observations, reflective thought, perhaps some short episodes of "Seton Watching," which is sitting for 20 minutes and observing the world using the five senses to discover the wonder of the natural world around you.

### **Opening Program**

On Sunday evening, our staff presents the Opening Program. Join the Camp Manatoc Players as they present an interactive blend of songs, skits, and short plays.

### **Order of the Arrow Call-Out Ceremony and Ice Cream Social**

On Wednesday night following Retreat, Marnoc Lodge will conduct a call-out ceremony to recognize those who have been elected to the Order of the Arrow in 2024 whether or not those elected have already completed the Ordeal. The ceremony is held in the Manatoc Council Ring. Afterwards, all adult leaders in camp and youth members of the Order of the Arrow (including those just called-out) are invited to the OA Ice Cream Social on Wednesday nights for dessert and fellowship. Members of Marnoc Lodge can pay their annual dues at this event.

### **Orientation Trail**

On Sunday evening, all first-year campers or any Scout units new to Camp Manatoc will attend the Orientation Trail. Staff members will guide the group to each camp program area where an area's director will give the participants a brief overview of the area's activities and merit badge offerings.

### **Patch Trading**

A favorite activity among Scouts and Adult leaders, patch traders can bring their collections to Scoutcraft on Monday afternoon for an opportunity to trade patches with fellow collectors.

### **Pool Party**

Take a dip in the Manatoc Swimming Pool during the Monday night Pool Party.

### **Troop Campsite Gateway Contest**

Campsite gateways have always played a big part in the traditions of Camp Manatoc. Showing Troops from other cities and states what is unique or interesting about your Troop or hometown is a time-honored Scouting tradition and gateways are one of the most visible ways to do that. Leaders and Scouts should allow their imaginations to go wild to create a winning gateway. Site Commissioners will judge Troop gateways on Thursday morning and gateways are judged on appeal, demonstration of Scout skills (knots and lashings are tied correctly, gateway adheres to the Guide to Safe Scouting policies), and creativity. The rules for the Gateway Contest are found in the Troop Orientation Packet.

### **Vespers**

A Scout is reverent. Vespers are held on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday nights in the Rev. Frank Basa Chapel located directly behind the Butler Memorial. These interfaith services are open to Scouts and Adult leaders of all faiths and religions.

### **Out Trips NEW**

This year Camp Manatoc is offering not one, but two half-day, off-property out trips for Scouts who are third year campers or above and adult leaders. Returning in 2024 is the kayaking trip on the Cuyahoga River through our partners from 2023, [Burning River Adventures](#). We are also adding a second out trip, an opportunity to cycle the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail by partnering with [Century Cycles](#) which is located in Peninsula. The cost of each out trip is in addition to the summer camp fees and registration for these events is through your GTC registration portal.

### **Pre-Camp Service Opportunities NEW**

Help us prepare our council camps for your next adventure and earn your service credits for the Good Camper program in advance of your summer camp stay by attending one or more of our Camp Service Days at the Manatoc Scout Reservation and Camp Stambaugh this spring. Our camps are our pride and joy, and it takes the dedication of our staff along with the efforts of our volunteers to keep our camps beautiful and operating well. We will have projects for all levels of skill for both Scouts and Scouters. Lunch is provided for all six service days courtesy of the Outdoor Program Staff. Click [HERE](#) for the dates and to register.

## **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **BSA Aquatics Supervision**

This course provides leaders with information and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to swimming emergencies during unit swimming activities. This course is designed for leaders age 16 and older and will take approximately 8 hours to complete. This course is the prerequisite for units that wish to conduct swim tests before summer camp. Successful completion of Safe Swim Defense is required to take this course. Certification is valid for three years.

### **BSA Lifeguard**

To be trained as a BSA Lifeguard, participants must successfully complete the course and show the ability to perform each item specified in the requirements.

### **BSA Paddlecraft Safety**

This course provides leaders with information and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to swimming emergencies during unit boating trips and activities. It expands on the BSA Safety Afloat training which must be successfully completed before taking this course.

### **Chaplain Aide Training**

The Chaplain Aide Training program is offered on Sunday evenings at the Bosa Chapel. Scouts will learn how a Chaplain Aide serves a Troop.

### **Den Chief Training**

More than ever, Scouting needs enthusiastic, well-trained den chiefs to encourage Cub Scouts to continue their Scouting journey by joining a Scouts BSA unit. Den chiefs are Scouts who aid a Cub Scout den leader or Webelos den leader. They are selected by the senior patrol leader and Scoutmaster and approved by the cubmaster and the pack committee for recommendation to the den leader. Den chiefs help Cub Scouts advance through Cub Scout ranks and encourage Cub Scouts to join a troop upon graduation. This training will help new Den Chiefs in understanding their role and responsibilities.

### **Introduction to Outdoor Skills (IOLS) Training**

This hands-on course provides adult leaders with the practical skills they need to lead Scouts out-of-doors. Upon completion, leaders should feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First Class rank. Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters who complete this course plus Leader Position Specific Training, Hazardous Weather Training (on-line) and Youth Protection Training are considered fully trained.

### **Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training**

The course will provide Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters with the basic information and tools they need to lead successful troops. Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters who complete this course, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, Hazardous

Weather Training (on-line) and Youth Protection Training are considered trained for those positions.

### **Shooting Sports Trainings**

As in 2023, we will offer shooting sports certifications. Range Safety Officer training allows the successful candidate to assist on a range with a certified shooting sports instructor in any of the shooting sport disciplines, except for archery.

### **Council Commissioner Led Seminars**

Piloted in 2023, we are pleased to host another round of seminars led by members of the Great Trail Council Commissioner Corps. These seminars, designed not only for new adult leaders but veteran Scouters as well, are opportunities to learn new skills and techniques to improve and strengthen units as well as a great way to exchange information and practical, real-world experiences. The topics will be announced at the Leaders' Meeting in April 2024.

## NEW MANATOC CAMPER CEREMONIES

In 2021, the Great Trail Council Ceremony Advisory Committee (formerly Traditions Committee) met to discuss the use of Native American regalia in BSA ceremonies. This meeting was called in response to changes initiated by the Order of the Arrow which had used Native American clothing and symbols as a part of the organization's programming since its inception. Out of respect, the Order of the Arrow has strongly encouraged its lodges to end the use of Native American regalia. Marnoc Lodge, our council's OA lodge, made the decision to drop the use of Native American regalia in lodge ceremonies beginning in 2023. Based on this, the committee recommended that changes were necessary for the Manatoc Good Camper Ceremonies, most of which were written in the beginning and middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when attitudes towards Native Americans and their multitude of cultures was extremely different. While the committee felt that the content of our Good Camper ceremonies honored our native peoples, the presentation of each ceremony was not aligned with modern society's views and decided to make necessary changes to remove sensitive, inappropriate, and stereotypical Native American references and to cut any potentially insensitive use of costuming and rituals. This also reinforces the Great Trail Council's commitment to follow the BSA's Youth Protection policies.

For 2023, as an initial approach to this, our Fifth Year Camper ceremony was revised to remove Native American references and artifacts, and the updated ceremony was well-received. We also decided that 2023 would be the final year we presented the other four ceremonies as they currently existed. As Summer Camp Director, I created a multigenerational focus group consisting of members of the Ceremonies Advisory Committee and other veteran camp staffers and Adult leaders to plot a course for our next generation of ceremonies. After several discussions, we realized that changing the current ceremonies was an impossible task as the Scouts of today are not the same as the Scouts of the past. We decided that new ceremonies created with the ages of our Scouts in mind and that honor our camp's past and traditions was the best course of action. Within this new five-year cycle of ceremonies, we will still feature David Atwater's poem, "The Spell of Marnoc." Each ceremony will have a specific site and ceremonial fire as well as having a unique patch for each year.

To facilitate this, beginning in 2024, we will roll out one new ceremony each year over the next four years starting with a new First-Year ceremony, but retain the traditional ceremonies for second through fifth year. This will allow any camper who was a first-year camper in 2023 and attended the first-year ceremony to continue through the traditional ceremonies and earn all five Good Camper patches, thus becoming the final group to experience the traditional five-year Good Camper Award ceremonies. This also means that the first-year campers of 2024 are the inaugural group to experience all five new ceremonies when they attend their Fifth-Year ceremony in 2028. More details will be available at the April Leaders' meeting including announcing the requirements for each level. – Chris Noga, Summer Camp Director

## MERIT BADGES

Camp Manatoc offers over 40 merit badges during our resident camp program. Our focus this year is ensuring that our participants leave camp with all of their merit badges complete with few or no partials for the week. As such, the staff has chosen merit badges that are best offered in a summer camp setting and can be completed during the week **IF** a Scout prepares for the badge before arrival. Leaders should guide Scouts in reviewing the merit badges available at camp and communicating the requirements that must be completed before arrival to successfully complete the badge at camp. The list of requirements that a Scout should complete before camp will be released in March 2024.

Click on the merit badge title to take you to the [BSA Merit Badge Hub](#). The requirements posted there are the most current, accurate, and official. The Merit Badge Hub will always be the best place to find the most up-to-date requirements.



[Archery](#)



[Art](#)



[Basketry](#)



[Bird Study](#)



[Canoeing](#)



[Chess](#)



[Climbing](#)



[Collections](#)



[Emergency Prep](#)



[Envir. Science](#)



[Fingerprinting](#)



[First Aid](#)



[Fish & Wildlife](#)



[Fishing](#)



[Forestry](#)



[Geology](#)



[Insect Study](#)



[Kayaking](#)



[Leatherwork](#)



[Lifesaving](#)





[Mammal Study](#)



[Metalwork](#)



[Motorboating](#)



[Moviemaking](#)



[Nature](#)



[Orienteering](#)



[Photography](#)



[Pioneering](#)



[Plant Science](#)



[Pulp & Paper](#)



[Rifle Shooting](#)



[Rowing](#)



[Scouting Heritage](#)



[Sculpture](#)



[Shotgun Shooting](#)



[Signs Signals Codes](#)



[Small Boat Sailing](#)



[Soil & Water](#)



[Space Exploration](#)



[Swimming](#)



[Textile](#)



[Weather](#)



[Wilderness Surviv.](#)



[Wood Carving](#)

The U.S. Scouting Service Project has online worksheets for each merit badge. These worksheets are helpful resources for Scouts as they work towards completing merit badges. Click [here](#) to access the worksheets.

The program staff reserves the right to set limits on the number of Scouts in any class or place age restrictions on specific merit badges.

## CAMP FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

### Manatoc Now

In this digital age, the best way to keep up on the daily activities at Camp Manatoc is by visiting [Manatoc Now](#), our online place for all things related to summer camp. At Manatoc Now, leaders will be able to find all the documentation normally distributed at the Ten-Day Meetings and at Sunday Check-In as well as weekly schedules, a digital version of the *Gizmo Gazette* (our daily camp newsletter), and other resources by using a smart phone or other digital device. The color flag which flies outside of the Health Lodge is also updated in real time on [now.manatoc.org](http://now.manatoc.org). Click [here](#) to bookmark the site.

### Remind

During Summer Camp, we use the Remind app to send out informational text messages about programming changes, severe weather alerts, and other information for unit leaders. At check-in on Sunday, leaders will receive a number to text and join the current week's group. We encourage all adult leaders to enroll so that information can be distributed quickly and efficiently.

### Basa Chapel

The Father Frank Basa Chapel is a place for worship and prayer. Named after the Senior Parochial Vicar (Retired) of Akron's St. Bernard Parish and long-time supporter of the Great Trail Council, campers are encouraged to use the Chapel at any time to be alone with God. Hats are always removed, unless it is a camper's faith tradition to keep their head covered. The Chapel is not to be used for general purposes or as a place to play.

### Camp Manatoc Council Ring

The Council Ring is reserved for dignified and purposeful events. Cutting through or playing in the Pines or the Council Ring is discouraged.

### The Dining Hall

The Dining Hall is a place for meals, special programs and fellowship. Many years of tradition are stored in this historical building and many of the tables and chairs date back to 1932. Backpacks and rain gear must remain outside the Dining Hall.

Breakfast and dinner are served "family-style." This requires a Troop to send one Scout per assigned table to serve as a waiter both before and after those meals. Lunch is "grab and go." Campers may choose to eat their lunch in the Dining Hall or elsewhere in camp. Table manners are expected, and nothing is usually passed unless the word "Please" is used. Troops who are new to Camp Manatoc are invited to create a Troop Totem for display in the Dining Hall.

### **Health Lodge**

A Health Officer is available 24 hours a day. All injuries or illnesses at camp, regardless of how minor, must be reported to the Health Lodge. The Health Lodge cannot administer any over-the-counter medications.

### **George Missig Administration Building**

Named after a longtime chairperson of the Council Camping Committee, the George Missig Administration Building is the location of the camp administration, the Leaders' Lounge, and the Manatoc Museum. Leaders will find their camp mailboxes in the Leaders' Lounge, and these should be checked every day while in camp. Visitors to the camp must register at the Administration Building upon arrival and check-out when leaving camp property. The camp's lost and found is located in the Administration Building.

### **Trading Post**

The Trading Post is a well-stocked store that has supplies for merit badges, uniform parts, camp, and Scouting themed clothing, as well as snack foods and the always popular Slushies. Operating hours vary throughout the week.

### **Lodges & Cabins**

Our rustic lodges and cabins are available during a Unit's week of camp for an added fee. Rented lodges or cabins are still designated emergency shelters for other units in the vicinity. Units not renting a building must refrain from using it unless there is an emergency warning requiring Units to shelter in that building. Leaders may bring a small refrigerator for the lodge or cabin to store medications, but air conditioning units are prohibited.

### **Showers**

Shower facilities are found at the Pool. There are separate facilities for male youth under 18, female youth under 18, male leaders over 18, and female leaders over 18. The under 18 showers are closed from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM (camp curfew) but the leaders' showers are open 24 hours with the exception that all showers are closed daily from 6:45 AM to 8:00 AM for cleaning. Leaders shall discourage Scouts from taking any money or valuables to the pool. Lockers are available at the pool. All locks must be removed after use, or they will be cut off. The four Family Restrooms and Showers are reserved for adults only.

### **Gaga Ball Pits**

There are two gaga ball pits located near the Administration Building. Due to behavior issues during earlier summer camp seasons, Scouts may not use the Gaga Ball pits without direct adult unit leader supervision following Youth Protection Guidelines. The use of non-camp owned balls in the pits is prohibited. Only adult leaders are allowed to check out camp balls from the Administration Building Office. The gaga ball pits are closed during meals and from 9:00 PM to 9:00 AM every day. The Camp Director may close the gaga ball pits at his discretion.

## Program Areas

There are nine program areas at Camp Manatoc. Most merit badge classes and other training courses are held at these areas. Each program area is led by an area director and has open hours each day for Scouts and adult leaders to learn about and develop new skills. The program areas are:

### *Shooting Sports*

The camp has archery, rifle, and shotgun ranges where Scouts can not only earn shooting sports merit badges but compete in friendly shootout competitions and earn marksmanship awards.

### *Forge*

Camp Manatoc operates a working forge where campers can learn the art of shaping metal by heating and hammering.

### *Aquatics Center (Swimming Pool)*

Swimming has always been a central part of summer camp at Camp Manatoc. In addition to offering both the Swimming and Lifesaving merit badges, Scouts and adult leaders can take part in the BSA Aquatics Supervision and BSA Lifeguard courses. Staff members are also available to help Scouts develop their swimming skills.

### *Handicraft*

Our Handicraft staff are skilled in working with the newest and youngest Scouts as they learn to work with their hands in areas such as wood carving, sculpture, and basketry.

### *Scoutcraft*

Outdoor skills are the foundation of the Scouting experience. The Scoutcraft staff challenges Scouts to develop and hone their outdoor skills like camping, wilderness survival, and pioneering.

### *Climbing Tower*

Scouts learn how to climb and rappel on our climbing tower. Not only do Campers learn the physical skills of climbing, but they develop confidence in themselves through the climbing experience.

### *ST21 (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class)*

ST21 is a comprehensive introduction to basic Scouting skills for Scouts who are new to Scouts BSA.

### *Red Oak Nature Center*

Opened in 2022, the Red Oak Nature Center is the hub for the camp's sustainability, conservation, and ecology programs, and for nature-themed merit badges.

### *Lakefront*

Lake Litchfield is the location of our lakefront where campers can learn and practice their watercraft skills in canoes, kayaks, small sailboats, and motorboats.

## **CAMP POLICIES**

### **Severe Weather Emergencies**

Designated members of the Camp Manatoc staff are responsible for monitoring weather conditions. When the National Weather Service (NWS) issues a severe thunderstorm warning or tornado warning, a member of the Camp Management Team or a designee will immediately notify the camp, first by activating the camp warning siren system then via Remind, camp's text messaging system. In any event, when the siren sounds, adult unit leaders shall take action to shelter their units. A list of shelters is provided in the Troop Orientation Packet.

### **Other Emergencies**

Anyone coming upon an unreported incident should report the information to the nearest staff member or unit leader. The camp office phone number is 330-657-2592. Upon activation of the emergency siren, all campers are to proceed to the nearest shelter, remain there, and wait for instructions.

If a fire is threatening tents and, if practical and safe, troops should drop tents that are away from the fire and evacuate the campsite at once. Notify the camp office immediately.

### **Medication Administration**

Each Troop handles the distribution of medications to their Scouts. Medications are to be kept in a locked box in the Troop's campsite. Lock boxes are available at the Health Lodge if needed. Medications requiring refrigeration may be stored at the Health Lodge. Leaders will need to summarize the medication for each Scout to aid in tracking the dosage.

### **Non-Standard Medical Treatment**

If, due to religious or other beliefs, the process of medical attention that a parent/guardian or a Scout wishes to receive differs from what is commonly accepted, the parent/guardian must supply a signed letter detailing the proper instructions during check-in. This letter will remain on file with the Health Officer and shared with the medical staff.

### **Camper and Staff Identification**

Each camper (youth and adult) will be issued an identification wristband to wear during the week. All visitors are required to stop at the Administration Building upon arrival to camp, sign in, and receive a visitor's identification wristband. All staff will wear an ID badge. Report persons not wearing a wristband or ID badge to a staff member.

### **Curfew**

Quiet hours begin at 10:00 PM unless a staff-run activity is held. All campers must be in their campsites from 10:00 PM until 6:00 AM. Special requests for Troop events beyond curfew must be approved by the Camp Director.

### **Swimwear Policy**

Swimwear must be modest. For males, any type of tight-fitting swim briefs or pants or swim bottoms short enough to allow exposure are not allowed. For females, bikinis or two-piece swimwear are not allowed. Modest tankinis or one-piece swimsuits that are not cut high on the sides or cut low on the front or back are appropriate. Shorts over the swimwear for males or females are also appropriate.

### **BSA Tenting Policy**

The Guide to Safe Scouting states: "Separate tenting arrangements must be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. Youth sharing tents must be no more than two years apart in age. In Cub Scouting, parents and guardians may share a tent with their family. In all other programs, youth and adults tent separately. Spouses may share tents."

### **BSA Hammock Policy**

Campers must follow the manufacturer's instructions for maximum and minimum hanging distances (the distances between solid supports such as trees). Hammocks must be hung in secure locations, such as large trees or solid posts, and securely fastened with proper knots. If using solid, living trees, special care must be taken not to damage the outer bark.

Hammocks may not be stacked. The lowest point of a hammock cannot exceed three feet. Hammocks may not be hung above water. Swinging or standing on a hammock is prohibited.

Hammocks that have frayed or damaged ropes must not be used. Use only the manufacturer's replacement ropes. Do not put more weight into a hammock than recommended by the manufacturer.

Use tree straps, padding, or material to prevent damage to trees. Do NOT use thin rope, as it cuts into the tree bark and causes damage. Please keep our trees healthy!

### **Trash Disposal**

Troops are expected to keep their campsites free from trash. Senior Patrol Leaders should conduct daily site inspections using the camp supplied Daily Site Inspection Sheet. Trash shall be bagged and placed in the provided campsite trash receptacle. Units should not allow the trash receptacles to overflow.

Maintenance staff will pick up campsite trash on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Troops that are patrol cooking will have their trash picked up every day. Dumpsters are found at the Dining Hall and the Maintenance Area should Troops need to dispose of trash at other times.

The Boy Scouts of America follows the principles of Leave No Trace. LNT is dedicated to promoting and inspiring responsible outdoor behavior through education, research, and



partnerships. It applies to all BSA youth and adult leaders. Please help us keep our camp clean by picking up and disposing of garbage properly.

### **Smoking & Use of Tobacco Products**

Smoking or use of other tobacco products is not allowed in any building on the Manatoc Scout Reservation. Leaders may not smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of Scouts.

### **Discipline & Hazing**

Unit Leaders are responsible for the conduct of their Scouts. Discipline must be in accordance with applicable rules and policies of the BSA, state and federal laws, and accepted practice. Abuse will not be tolerated. If you need help from the camp administration, please ask, however unit leaders are expected to file incident reports or “near miss” reports for incidents or “near miss” events per BSA and Great Trail Council policies. Unit leaders **MUST IMMEDIATELY** report any threats of, or incidents of physical violence, or threats of/attempts of self-harm to the Camp Director.

Hazing has no place in Scouting and will not be tolerated by the Great Trail Council. Report any suspected hazing issues to the Camp Director. Hazing in the State of Ohio is a felony charge for each instance and individual involved.

### **Liquid Fuel Use & Storage**

Adult leaders should supervise any use of liquid fuels in your campsite. Refer to the policies in the most current Guide to Safe Scouting. Using liquid fuels for starting any type of fire, including lighting damp wood, charcoal, and ceremonial campfires or displays is prohibited.

### **Health Lodge Flag System**

Camp Manatoc uses a colored flag system to advise campers on the current heat conditions. The colored flags at the Health Lodge are flown from a flagpole in front of the building and on your mobile device at [now.manatoc.org](http://now.manatoc.org). The colors are as follows:

Green - Temperature is cool, make sure to drink water.

Yellow - Temperature is on the rise, drink water more often.

Red - Temperature feels like 95-103. Drink plenty of water. Retreat will be shortened so that scouts are not standing on the parade field for a long time.

Black - Temperature feels greater than 103. Drink water every 15 minutes. Seek shade. Areas such as the tower are closed due to the extreme exertion required. Retreat is not held.

## General Policies

The Scout Oath and Law are the basis of all that we do as Scouts and Adult leaders. The Camp Director and the Director of Camping are responsible for the interpretation of camp policy.

All campers must be registered Boy Scouts or Unit Leaders.

The use of bicycles is restricted to staff members and unit leaders. Helmets are required, and bikers must remain on the roads.

Fires shall be restricted to the designated fire rings in the campsites, fireplaces or stoves in buildings, the camp Council Ring, and ceremony locations. Report any fire out of control promptly. All campsite or building fires shall be monitored or extinguished.

Fireworks are prohibited. Violators will be removed from camp.

Pets are not permitted.

Possession of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs is not permitted by Scouts, leaders, or staff and may result in removal from the Manatoc Scout Reservation.

The cutting of standing timber, alive or dead, is prohibited.

Scouts, leaders, and staff should not enter another unit's campsite without asking permission of the unit in the site.

During the week, vehicle traffic will be restricted to official camp use. When driving in camp, the speed limit is 10 MPH. Pedestrians should be alert for vehicle, bicycle or tractor traffic and give way.

In accordance with the policy of the Boy Scouts of America, no one will be transported in the bed of a truck.

Each unit is responsible for any unit-caused damage to camp equipment, including tents and tarps, at the discretion of the Director of Camping or the Camp Ranger.

## Driving in Camp

Safety in camp is our most important focus. To ensure the safety of our campers throughout the week there are two gates that control traffic inside of camp, one by the Administration Building and one by the Dining Hall. Except for camp vehicles, motor vehicles are prohibited between the Administration Building and Dining Hall gates during camp. Vehicles must be parked in the Dining Hall parking lot from 9:00 PM on Sunday night through approximately 10:00 PM on Friday night. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS unless a camper has a qualified disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the use of a motor vehicle for mobility. You must request a waiver from the Camp Director in writing at or prior to your unit's arrival on Sunday.

## **PRE-CAMP INFORMATION**

### **Summer Camp Fee Schedule**

Our fee schedule allows for payment of youth or adult fees beginning January 29, 2024. The registration system **REQUIRES** payment of youth fees beginning April 19, 2024 and adult fees 9 days prior to camp. Troops who mail or drop off payments at the Great Trail Council Service Center should adjust their camper counts prior to April 14th to avoid the requirement to make on-line payments prior to the Troop's major payment (or if a Troop plans to pay by check at the Service Center). When making payments to the GTC office, Troops should indicate their current counts to avoid the automatic addition of late fees.

### **Troop Summer Camp Orientation Meeting**

One of the most important roles of youth and adult leaders is to set the expectation for a week at summer camp. Veteran youth and adult Manatoc campers are the best salespeople for creating excitement about our summer camp program.

We highly recommend that all Troops hold a Summer Camp Orientation Meeting in the spring for the parents whose Scouts have recently joined the Troop. This is a great opportunity to explain the benefits of attending summer camp, talk about the program areas and activities, and describe the fun their Scouts will have during their week at Camp Manatoc. Topics to cover include:

- Why the Troop chooses Camp Manatoc
- Photos and Troop achievements from previous years
- Dates, times, and camp fees
- BSA Annual Health and Medical Form requirements
- Summer camp packing list

In May, the Camp Manatoc Senior Staff will host a parent meeting for parents sending their Scout to summer camp at Camp Manatoc for the first time.

### **Uniform**

The Scouts BSA uniform makes all Scouts equal; regardless of home, background, or anything else. Pride in the uniform and its history is shown when it is worn properly. The proper uniform includes a khaki shirt, olive green shorts or pants, Scouting belt, green socks, and an optional Troop approved hat and/or neckerchief. The full uniform is worn for Retreat, Dinner, Vespers, and the Good Camper Ceremonies.

### **Daily Wear**

At other times, a Scouting "activity uniform" is appropriate. This is a scouting T-shirt, shorts, socks, and shoes. Shoes are required at all times except at the swimming pool or in one's own tent. No open-toed shoes are permitted to be worn. T-shirts must be in good taste, not having sexual innuendo, alcohol promotion, or double entendre.

## What Not to Bring

Camp Manatoc provides refuge in the outdoors. For that reason, we ask for your cooperation and discretion in leaving items such as televisions, gaming systems, generators, or anything else that could detract others around your campsite from enjoying their week at camp.

For the safety of all participants, sheath knives, firearms (unless approved rifles and shotguns for use at the Rifle Range, and Shotgun Range), fireworks, alcohol, and drugs are not allowed on the camp property. Please consult the Guide to Safe Scouting for more information.

## Camp Provided Equipment

Each campsite has tents set up for the maximum number of campers for which that campsite is rated. The tents are 7' x 10' canvas wall tents with wooden platforms. Traditional dining tarps are available in campsites. Troops may bring tents, tarps, and tables to fit their needs. Scouts and adult leaders must bring their own cots.

## Swimming Tests

Troops that have access to swimming facilities and would like to conduct swimming tests on their own may do so provided they meet the following requirements:

- Swimming tests must be conducted in the current calendar year.
- The swimming classification test performed at a unit level must be conducted by one of the following council-approved resource people: Aquatics Instructor, BSA; BSA Lifeguard; BSA Swimming & Water Rescue; or other lifeguard, swimming instructor, etc.
- Swimming test administrators should use Chapter 5 of the [BSA Aquatics Supervision Guide](#).
- Results of the tests conducted by a Troop must be documented on the BSA [Swimming Classification Form](#). A printed copy of the form must be given to the Aquatics Staff on the afternoon of the first day of camp.

Questions about this procedure may be addressed to [aquatics@manatoc.org](mailto:aquatics@manatoc.org). Please note: The Aquatics staff reserves the right to retest campers.

You may also get your swimming test done early at camp before the season begins. The Manatoc pool will be available for swim tests provided by our staff on June 9, 2024, from 1-4pm. Please bring each Scout's medical form. The staff will stay until all swimming tests are completed. Online registration for the event is required. Click [here](#) to register.

## BSA Annual Health and Medical Forms

A CURRENT BSA Annual Health and Medical Form ("Med Form") ([Form 680-001, 2019](#)) is the only medical record form accepted by Camp Manatoc. Campers staying 72 hours or longer at camp must submit Parts A, B1, B2 and C of the Med Form. The Med Form must be

complete, including insurance information, medications, known allergies, vaccinations, and proper signatures. Vaccination dates must be indicated on the Med Form. Individuals taking medications must bring their medications to camp in the original containers. A Troop leader must sort the Troop's Med Forms alphabetically. **DO NOT SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL MED FORM TO CAMP MANATOC. PLEASE ONLY SUBMIT COPIES OF THE MED FORM.**

### **Troop Roster and Scout Advancement Registration**

The name of each camper, both adult and youth, must be uploaded to create a Troop Roster. This allows the Troop to register Scouts for merit badges. Complete the Troop roster and pre-plan Scouts' advancement program during camp by logging into your account ([click here](#)). Leaders should review any prerequisites and/or work that may be completed on merit badges prior to attending camp. All Troop online accounts will be locked out at 8:00 on the Sunday morning of your arrival.

### **Youth Protection**

All Troops must have "two-deep" levels of adult leadership for the entire week per BSA National policy. Please ensure that all Scouts and Leaders are currently registered with the BSA. Any adult staying at camp must have a valid Youth Protection Training certificate regardless of the number of days spent at camp.

### **Spring Leaders' Meeting**

The camp will host a Spring leaders' meeting at 9:00 AM on Saturday, April 20, 2024, in the Dining Hall. This is an opportunity for leaders to learn about the summer ahead, meet the camp staff, and ask questions. We encourage at least one leader from each unit attending summer camp to attend this important meeting since we are not holding Ten Day Meetings this year. All items normally distributed at a Ten Day Meeting will be available digitally. A preliminary daily schedule and list of pre-camp merit badge requirements will be released during the meeting.

### **Provisional and Repeat Campers**

A Provisional Camper is a Scout who attends camp without his troop. Provisional campers may choose either Week 3 or Week 5 for their week, and the Camp will supply leadership for those Scouts. A Repeater is a camper who returns for another week of camp after a week of camp with their Troop. Repeaters are not considered provisional campers and must make their own arrangements to camp with another troop.

### **Arrival Instructions**

On Sundays during resident camp, the Camp Manatoc gates will open at 11:00 AM. Troops may not arrive before 11:00 AM. Troops are encouraged to drop off their Troop trailers on the Saturday before their first day of camp between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM. Traffic on the main camp road is limited to one way on Sundays. Vehicles may only enter through the main gate and must exit out the Service Road when leaving. All vehicles should proceed to

the parking areas nearest to the Troop's campsite. Vehicles may not be driven directly into campsites. Procedures for unit check-in, unit photos, swim tests and new Scout orientation will be released at the Leaders' Meeting in April.

An adult leader must drop off the Troop's BSA Annual Health and Medical Forms to the Health Lodge no later than 2:00 PM. The Chief Health Officer and health staff will review all forms to ensure completeness and for all required signatures. If the Chief Health Officer finds any issues with health forms, he or she will contact the leader of record for the Troop for clarifications and to discuss corrective measures needed.

## 2024 Summer Camp Fees

### **Early Bird Price – Dining Hall Plan**

Great Trail Council Units	\$415.00
Out-of-Council Units	\$425.00
Adult Leaders	\$120.00

### **Early Bird Price– Patrol Cooking**

Great Trail Council Units	\$ 320.00
Out-of-Council Units	\$ 330.00
Adult Leaders	\$ 70.00

*Early Bird payment in full is due April 19, 2024.*

### **Regular Price – Dining Hall Plan**

Great Trail Council Units	\$ 425.00
Out-of-Council Units	\$ 435.00
Adult Leaders	\$ 120.00

### **Regular Price – Patrol Cooking**

Great Trail Council Units	\$ 330.00
Out-of-Council Units	\$ 340.00
Adult Leaders	\$ 70.00

*Regular price payment is due no later than 14 days before your first day of camp.*

### **Late Price – Dining Hall Plan**

Great Trail Council Units	\$ 435.00
Out-of-Council Units	\$ 445.00
Adult Leaders	\$ 130.00

### **Late Price – Patrol Cooking**

Great Trail Council Units	\$ 340.00
Out-of-Council Units	\$ 350.00
Adult Leaders	\$ 80.00

*Late price payment applies if fees are not paid until the day of check-in at camp.  
Other fees may apply. See fee schedule when registering your unit for summer camp.*





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National Camp Accreditation Program

For more information, contact:

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Summer Camp Director/Properties Superintendent  
Great Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America  
(330) 348-4582  
[camp.director@gtcbsa.org](mailto:camp.director@gtcbsa.org)

Manatoc Scout Reservation  
1075 Truxell Rd.  
Peninsula, OH 44264  
(330) 657-2592  
[manatoc.org](http://manatoc.org)

Great Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America  
4500 Hudson Drive  
Stow, OH 44224  
(330) 773-0415  
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[Click here for pricing information and to register your unit](#)