

CAMP TRES RITOS

A True Mountain Experience



2020 Leader's Guide




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Welcome

To Camp Tres Ritos 2020. Our staff has been working year-round to provide the highest quality experience for your troop. Our camp is continuing to grow in participants and experiences. We offer a variety of fun, engaging, and useful Merit Badges, a great Trail to First Class program, and a cool mountain atmosphere. 2020 will be a great summer at Camp Tres Ritos!

As you prepare for the 2020 camping season, we hope that this information in our guide is useful to you. Along with this information, you can go online to www.southplainscouncil.org to register your troop for camp. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us. We look forward to continue to provide excellent program for your Troop. On behalf of the South Plains Council and Camp Tres Ritos Camp staff, we look forward to seeing you in 2020.

Yours in Scouting,

Nathan Baie
Scout Executive
South Plains Council

CAMP TRES RITOS



Camp Leadership



Camp Director - Trey Smith

Trey Serves as the District Director for the South Plains Council. He oversees district and camp operations for the Council. This will be Trey's 4th summer as Camp Director and his 6th year working for the South Plains Council. Trey enjoys spending time with friends and traveling with his wife.



Program Director - Daniel Garcia

Daniel serves as the District Executive for the South Plains Council. He services the Haynes and Comanche Trail districts for the council. This will be Daniel's 2nd summer as Program Director and his 2nd year working for the South Plains Council. Daniel enjoys spending time with his wife and two dogs, on his spare time he also enjoys riding his motorcycle.



Camp Ranger - Michael Cole

Michael serves as the South Plains Council's Camp Ranger. He currently oversees all Council facilities and assists with camp operations. Michael has been with the Council for 2.5 years and this will be his 2nd summer as Camp Ranger. He enjoys working with his hands, the great outdoors, and spending time with his family.



Our Mission

Camp Tres Ritos will provide an unforgettable experience in the Carson National Forest emphasizing life skills, Scout Skills, and interaction with the nature. All of the experiences at camp are used to grow a Scout and emphasize the Scout Oath and Law.

Program Philosophy

We offer a high-quality merit badge experience that promotes the outdoor experience. Our nature program will allow Scouts to truly experience the outdoors.

Carson National Forest

The mission of the Carson National Forest is 'Caring for the Land and Serving People. This includes making resources available to all our shareholders.

Camp Tres Ritos Policies



Refunds

Refunds for those in attendance at Camp Tres Ritos are not available once final payment has been made. If someone is unexpectedly not able to attend, we encourage you to find a replacement.



Late Fees

Any Scout or adult who is added after your final payment for camp will incur a late fee of \$50 per Scout and \$25 per adult. Make sure to plan early as to avoid these fees!



Vehicles

Vehicles are not allowed to enter Camp past the parking lot. Campsites 1, 2, 9, and 10 border the parking lot. Campers staying in those camp sites may back their trailer into a parking spot to access the trailer from camp. Parking in the lot must allow for the flow of a vehicle through it.



Alcohol and Tobacco

The possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in any Boy Scout Camp. Any person unwilling to abide by this policy will be removed from camp.

Adult leaders should support the attitude that they, as well as youth, are better off without tobacco in any form and may not allow the use of tobacco products at any BSA activity involving youth participants. This includes the use of electronic cigarettes, personal vaporizers, or electronic nicotine delivery systems that simulate smoking tobacco. Smoking at any Scouting function should be conducted in a smoking area away from Scouts. At Camp Tres Ritos the Smoking Area is the North-East side of the parking lot.



Drugs

The illegal use or possession of controlled substances is prohibited in any Boy Scout Camp. Any person unwilling to abide by this policy will be removed from camp and the authorities will be called.

We suggest a head count at each meal and bedtime. We also suggest having a 'sign-out' for Scouts when they leave for the day. If a camper is not in your campsite, please notify the camp administration immediately.

Camp Tres Ritos Policies Cont.

Leaving Camp Early



If you have any Scout that you know will need to leave camp early, please notify camp administration on check-in. If a Scout needs to leave at any time unexpectedly, they need to check out with Camp Administration. The BSA med form has a section in Part A which shows who is allowed to check out a Scout.

Fires and Firewood



Please refrain from bringing firewood into camp. You can acquire firewood at camp through downed wood. The ability to have campfire in camp will be affected by fire bans. Campfires are only allowed in already made fire pits. Fires must be supervised by at least one adult and cannot be left unattended.

Privacy



Participation in South Plains Council activities, unless otherwise noted, is consent to allow the South Plains Council to use your image in camp and council promotional materials.

Pets



No animals are allowed on camp properties except for guide dogs for the visually impaired. Please contact the Camp Director for questions.

Visitors



All visitors must check in and out at the camp office and be approved by camp administration prior to arrival. Visitors are not allowed to be in camp between 9:00 PM and 7:30 AM. All visitors must abide by camp policies.

Checkout



Camp is Closed Saturday Morning at 10:00 AM (MT). Please plan to depart camp prior to this time. Your Troop Guide will check your campsite and give final approval that the property is in satisfactory condition.

We suggest a head count at each meal and bedtime. We also suggest having a 'sign-out' for Scouts when they leave for the day. If a camper is not in your campsite, please notify the camp administration immediately.

Sunday Check In Information and Resources



Please plan to arrive to Camp Tres Ritos between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm MT. Your Tres Ritos Troop Guide will meet you and guide you through the check-in process. The Scoutmaster will go to the camp office to provide all forms needed.

REQUIRED ITEMS AT CHECK IN

Please make sure before your arrival that you have all these forms complete and ready for check-in.

- Roster of Scouts, listed by patrols, including a list of all adults.
- Extra Fees for late registrants.
- All BSA Med Forms for each person at camp.
- Medical insurance card copies need to be attached.
- List of all vehicles and trailers staying in camp.
- Letter from Order of the Arrow Lodge Chief and or Adviser stating the names of Scouts that are to be called out.

Sunday Evening Schedule

6:00 PM – Camp-wide Emergency Drill (meadow)
6:05 PM – Flag Retirement
6:15 PM – Camp-wide Dinner (Troops clean own dishes after)
8:00 PM – Campfire Program in Amphitheater
9:00 PM – Leader and SPL meeting in Program Building
10:00 PM – Lights Out

Preparation Timeline



Right Now

- If you haven't, submit your deposit and reservation to hold your spot for camp. Inform your Scouts, leaders, and any prospective new Scouts about your summer plans.
- Recruit two adult leaders (one at least 21 years old) to be in camp during the entirety of your stay. Recruit more if you have more than 20 Scouts attending. 2 leaders must be present at night during the week. Let us know if you have any adult rotation schedules.
- Double check the payment plan and make sure your committee and treasurer know the schedule



March

(South Plains Council Units Only)

- Turn in your campership applications, if any, to the Council Office by April 15.



April

- Host a parents' meeting for camp promotion. This will allow parents to learn about the camp while also having the opportunity to ask any questions.
- Consider each Scout's advancement needs when planning for camp.
- It's recommended that Scouts who are tenderfoot or lower take Trail to First Class, as well as a few other merit badges.

- Begin signing up Scouts for merit badges in our online system. Take note of any merit badges that have requirements that cannot be met at camp.
- Print off each Scouts' advancement schedule, and keep a copy for the leaders.
- Have Scouts read their merit badge books prior to camp.

Note all merit badge schedules are subject to change



May

- Send out final camp notices to parents, include the Parent's Guide.
- Encourage all Scouts to participate.
- Ensure all Scouts and Leaders have completed all parts of their medical form, including Physical. Make a list of all Scouts and Medications needed.
- Add any campers to your registration for final unit payment



Two Weeks Before Camp

- Collect all Scout and Leader medical forms.
- Check each Scout is set for their schedule. Notify us if any adjustments need to be made.
- Hold a 'shake-down' meeting to make sure all Scouts have the supplies they need for camp. Also check your Troop Supplies.
- Prepare multiple copies of your unit roster for camp and other leaders.

Preparation Timeline Cont.



Several Days Before Camp

- Complete the final check on transportation to ensure everyone has a ride to camp.
- Remind the Scouts of behavior standards necessary for a Scouting Trip.
- Make sure you have plans to eat prior to arrival at camp. The first meal provided is Dinner on Sunday. You will need mess kits and cleaning supplies readily available.
- Plan to arrive between 2:00 and 4:00 PM (MT).



Right Before you Depart

- Make sure you depart with all medical forms, copy of youth protection certificates, and that all Scouts have their medications.
- Make sure families know your return plans from camp the following Saturday.



Preparation Suggestions

- All adults attending camp should have some camping experience. If you are new to Scouting have a 'Preparation Weekend Camp' in June to allow for some experience to be gained.
- All leaders and youth in attendance must be BSA Registered.

- Vehicles cannot operate past our parking lot. We do have some wagons but their availability are not guaranteed. Have a plan to transport your gear.



Camp Facilities



Trading Post

Located on the South side of the Commissary, our Trading Post is open to serve! Our trading post will be stocked with items for programs, snacks, and a large variety of souvenirs. All glass containers must stay on the Commissary Post. We recommend that you do not allow your Scouts to take food into their campsite, as it may end up in tents. A typical Scout spends \$50 at the trading post. You may also go online and purchase care packages from our trading post!



Lost and Found

The lost and found will be maintained at the trading post. Please make sure your name and gear have your troop and name on it.



Food Service

Our commissary will be open during meal time to supply your troop with the food you need for camp. Please come to camp with a plan on how you wish to implement food preparations. We want to make sure all participants receive the food they need!



Dietary Restrictions

Any and all dietary needs should be sent to the Camp Director prior to camp arrival. Check out the Food Guide for the form.



Flag Ceremonies

Camp Tres Ritos has flag ceremonies in the morning and afternoon at camp. We ask that the troops participate in these ceremonies by raising or lowering the flag, reciting the pledge of allegiance, Scout Oath & Law, and the Outdoor Code. We ask that all participants are on time for the ceremonies and wear full uniform to properly promote being an outstanding citizen.



Camp Facilities Cont.



Campsites and expectations

Each Campsite has a latrine, fire ring, and wooden picnic tables. Campsites vary in size. Campsites are assigned upon arrival unless you request one. Requests are honored by a first come basis. All youth protection policies must be followed in camp. You must bring your own tents. Please do not dig in the ground and use only pre-made campfire rings.



Commissary Building

The commissary building is where you pick-up your food for meal time. It will also be where you grab your food for the camp-wide meals on Sunday and Friday. If there is anything you need, please come back to the commissary and ask!



Youth Showers

Youth showers are located on the South Side of the program building. A schedule of times will be posted and enforced for male and female youth. **All cell phones / cameras are prohibited from entering this building to help enforce Youth Protection guidelines.** All showers are individual, but the changing areas are communal.



Program Building

Our program building is available for some merit badges as well as adult leader training. This building serves as a rain-out building for many activities. In the morning, our camp commissioner will have a fire, coffee, and hot chocolate available for those who wish to participate. During meal time, peanut butter and jelly supplies will also be available for Scouts who wish to take part.



Adult Showers

We have separate adult facilities for male and female. These are located in our Med Lodge. We ask that you be courteous and quick as there is a limited amount of showers. Also, please do your best to keep use of these facilities to between 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM, as members of the camp staff reside in the building.



Medical Lodge

Our med lodge is located just South-west of the parking lot, on the west side of the building. Our camp medical officer will have a radio on them at all time and will be available to help administer any first aid needed. All medications are to be kept in a lock box that troops will use to issue medication to Scouts.

General Information



Summer Camp Payment Schedule

Date Payment Due	Per Youth Amount	Per Adult Amount
April 5, 2020	\$75	\$50
May 5, 2020	\$100	\$50
June 5, 2020	\$100	\$50
Late Fees	\$50	\$25



Campsite Reservation

Camp Tres Ritos has 10 Campsites available. Most troops stay in Campsites 1-5, or 8-10. These campsites can sleep 10-15 tents. This year we will be offering a unique opportunity for Troops who wish to experience what it's like to sleep in a Tipi. As this program develops, we will have more information available. A fee will be associated with Tipi reservation. If you wish to reserve a campsite, indicate which one it is on your registration. Campsites are reserved based on when a deposit is received.



Camp Director Award

The 'Camp Director's Award' will give each troop the opportunity to select one scout as their 'Top Camper' for the week. This award should go to the Scout who has displayed the most Scouting Spirit during the week, living up to and demonstrating the ideals of Scouting. This award is presented at the end of the closing campfire by the Camp Director.



Daily Themes

Get your entire troop involved with these fun theme days!

Monday – Crazy Sock Day – wear your favorite crazy socks!

Tuesday – Crazy Hat Day – wear a crazy hat!

Wednesday – Camp T-Shirt Day – wear your favorite Camp Tres Ritos t-shirt

Thursday – Tie-dye Thursday – Wear a tie-dye shirt!

Friday – OA Day – Wear your OA Sash today!



Troop Photos

Please plan to arrive in full field uniform to camp. We will take a photo of your Troop. Photos will be made available, free of charge, via e-mail.



Flag Retirement

We collect flags to be retired from the community year-round and this allows us to present your troop with an opportunity to conduct a flag retirement ceremony in your site during your troop time. You do not need to sign up for this program' just ask your Troop Guide for a flag for retirement

General Information Cont.

Driving Directions



Camp Tres Ritos is located on the Southwest side of Highway 518 and FR 89 in the Carson National Forest in New Mexico. We are next to the Loma Linda neighborhood, 3 miles east of Sipapu Ski Resort, and 17 miles west of Mora, New Mexico. When traveling to Tres Ritos, go to Google Maps and search 'Tres Ritos Scout Camp Parking Lot' or 'Tres Ritos Scout Camp'. If you are traveling from the East, if you reach the town of Tres Ritos you have gone too far. If you are traveling from the West, if you start descending down the mountain out of Carson National Forest, you have gone too far.

Emergencies



All illnesses and injuries need to be reported to the Health Officer. A camp-wide emergency situation will consist of any severe weather, wildfire, lost or missing campers, and any possible severe medical emergency. If there is an emergency situation, please notify the nearest camp staff member who will notify camp administration. The camp staff undergoes training for response in emergency situations.



Emergency Procedures

An emergency siren will sound continuous for 5 minutes. Except for the emergency drill at the beginning of the week, if this siren is heard, all individuals on camp must report to the commissary.

All leaders and Scouts need to move purposefully to the commissary. If that area is compromised, the back-up emergency gathering point is in the parking lot. Here Scouts and leaders should split by troop and take attendance.

A camp roster should be brought to this meeting to ensure all Scouts are present. Any missing Scouts need to be reported to camp administration.

Leaders will then standby for any necessary actions.



Patrol Cooking

Camp Tres Ritos is a Patrol Cooking Camp. We only provide food, so it is imperative that you bring your own supplies to prepare food. A full list of what to bring and what to expect can be found in our Food Guide. Food Allergies must be notified to the camp director 2 weeks prior to camp attendance.



Fire Extinguishers

If you do not have a fire extinguisher with your troop supplies, please ask camp administration to be supplied one. If a fire extinguisher is discharged, please notify camp administration. Please do not discharge a fire extinguisher unless it is necessary.



Logo usage

Camp Tres Ritos logos and designs are intended solely for Camp Tres Ritos use. Please do not copy or use logos or designs on any personal, unit clothing, or equipment.

General Information Cont.

Campsite Safety



- Use axe yards and store equipment safely.
- Keep the latrine clean.
- No food is allowed in tents.
- Liquid and LP fueled appliances must comply with all BSA policies governing their use and should be properly stored. These appliances are to be fueled by adults only. Please turn any empty containers in to the Ranger, as these containers can be explosive. Do not put in the Trash.
- No flames are allowed in tents. Lanterns and stoves are to be used under adult supervision.
- Vehicles are to remain in the parking lot.
- Do not use liquid fuels for fire starting.
- No fireworks are permitted at any BSA Camp.
- Dishwashing should be monitored as it is key to proper healthy. Please use the triple bucket system, and keep wash water hot.

Shower Accommodations



Separate shower accommodations are available for males, females, youth, and adults. The youth showers will have a schedule for female and male youth usage. Please store shower products in either your trailer or storage bin outside your tent, as they can cause animals to wonder into your tent.

Camp Services



Commissioner / Troop Guide

Troop Guides are ambassadors to your troop. They will be eating breakfast and dinner with your troop.

Feel free to visit with the Camp Commissioner anytime.

Both the Camp Commissioner and Troop Guide are present to help your troop have the experience you desire.



Senior Patrol Leader Meetings

We have SPL Meetings Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights. These are to help make sure that all operations are going smoothly, and to help pass information to all participants. One youth and Adult should plan to attend these meetings, take notes, and pass on information to their Troops.



Trash Removal

Camp Tres Ritos has a trailer to store all trash during your stay at camp. If the trailer is full, we will have it emptied. Please make sure you tie all your trash bags and load the trailer by going inside the trailer to deposit the bags. This will allow the trailer to be able to fill to its maximum capacity. Please make sure the trailer is closed tightly when you leave.



Wireless Internet

Wireless internet is available to adults who wish to use it. The internet is very slow, so if serious work needs to be done (sometimes even just checking e-mail) we recommend you head over to Sipapu Ski Resort as they have open wi-fi.

General Information Cont.



Phone

There is no cell service at Camp Tres Ritos. We do have a landline, and the number is 575-587-2888. As there is only the one landline, we ask that it be reserved for emergency use only. If you need to make calls, you can also drive to Sipapu Ski Resort, as there is cell coverage there



Mail

If you wish to have any mail sent to camp, Please address as shown below. Please do not send any mail after Tuesday of your week, as it may not arrive at camp.

A great alternative to sending mail is buying a camp Care Package!

Scout (Name), Troop (Number)
Camp Tres Ritos Boy Scout Camp
HCR Box 39
Vadito, NM 87579



Food Service

Our commissary will be open during meal time to supply your troop with the food you need for camp. Please come to camp with a plan on how you wish to implement food preparations. We want to make sure all participants receive the food they need!



Dietary Restriction

Any and all dietary needs to should sent to the Camp Director prior to camp arrival. Check out the Food Guide for the form.



Flag Ceremonies

Camp Tres Ritos has flag ceremonies in the morning and afternoon at camp. We ask that the troops participate in these ceremonies by raising or lowering the flag, reciting the pledge of allegiance, Scout Oath & Law, and the Outdoor Code. We ask that all participants are on time for the ceremonies and wear full uniform to properly promote being an outstanding citizen.



Facebook

Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/camptresritos



Health and Safety



Insurance

The South Plains Council does not carry insurance for out of council participants. Please make sure all Scouts or your Troop has insurance to cover incase of incidents.



Health Officer and Lodge

Our Med Lodge is equipped to handle most injuries. A health officer is on site 24/7 to assist with any injuries. If needed, emergency services will be called to assist.



Medications

Troop lock boxes are issued to each Troop when they arrive at camp. Please keep all prescription drugs in these lock boxes, and issue them as needed. Over the counter medications can be issued by the Med Lodge if needed.



Personal Health and Safety

- Wear Close-toes shoes at all times. No running in Camp.
- Use flashlight or headlamp at night.
- Please limit knives to 4 inches in length. Folding knives are encouraged.
- No guns are allowed on camp property
- Scouts and Leaders must shower daily
- The use of a full-time buddy system for youth and adults is enforced at camp.
- Drink lots of water. Soda and juice are not substitutes for water



3 Bucket System

When cleaning dishes, please use and implement the three bucket system. If you are not familiar with this system, please refer to our Food Guide. Soap and sanitizer will be issued out by the commissary.



Sunburn

At high altitude, sunburn can occur at a much faster rate than at sea level due to less UV protection from the atmosphere. SPF 30 or above is recommended for use. Hats and sunglasses are recommended as well.

Health and Safety Cont.



Altitude Sickness

Camp Tres Ritos is at an elevation just shy of 9,000 feet above sea level. It may take several days to acclimate to the higher altitude. All Scouts and Scout leaders should be physically prepared for the elevation change. Symptoms of altitude sickness can become evident within two hours of arrival. These symptoms include headache, dizziness, excessive fatigue, and nausea. Any of these symptoms should be reported to the camp medic as soon as possible. It usually takes a few days to get over altitude sickness. We recommend drinking 2-4 liters of water a day, including the week prior to attending camp.



Dehydration

Dehydration is a serious health concern that is easily prevented. All campers are encouraged to drink water frequently. Soda and juice are not effective substitutes. Everyone is required to carry a personal water bottle and consume no less than 4 bottles per day.



Wildlife

All residents at camp are fortunate to share camp with local wildlife. Chipmunks are the primary animal seen at camp, but there have been sightings of Elk, Deer, and Black Bears. Bears are not a major problem for our area, but do occasionally appear in the area. If a bear is spotted, please notify camp administration. Review proper procedure on how to deal with bears before you head up to camp. Keeping all 'smellable' out of your tent will help avoid any unwanted animals from entering your tent. Bear bags are not necessary at Camp Tres Ritos.



Lightening

Summer storms are a norm for Camp Tres Ritos. During a thunderstorm head for cover, stay away from tall trees, wires, and plumbing. Get away from open spaces like the meadows and stay away from the flagpoles.



Troop and Scout Checklist



Troop Checklist

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| o Pliers | 3 pails for washing dishes |
| o Tents for all Scouts and Leaders | Patrol cooking kit (pots and pans) |
| o Sharpening Stone | Propane Stove |
| o Ball of Twine | Full Propane Tank |
| o Lanterns | Spatulas |
| o Troop Flag | Large Spoons |
| o American Flag | Dutch Oven |
| o Hammer | 3-4 Mesh Bags for drying dishes |
| o Shovel | Pot Holders |
| o Ice Chest | Oven Mitts |
| o File | 2 Kitchen Knives |
| o Supply of Light Rope | Can Opener |
| o Scout Library | Sponges |
| o Troop First Aid Kit | Patrol First Aid Kit |
| o Patrol Cooking Gear | Notebooks |
| 2 large frying pans or a large griddle | Patrol Flag |

Scout Checklist

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| o Sneakers / Hiking Shoes | o Pocket Knife | o Label Clothes and valuables with name and unit number. It can be cool and rainy, so please allow for extra clothing and footwear. It can be cool, some mornings will be in the 30's. Please make sure to bring cold weather gear to have a positive experience. |
| o T-Shirts | o Hat | |
| o Underwear & Socks | o Sunglasses | |
| o Jeans & Shorts | o Sunscreen | |
| o Pajamas | o Insect Repellent | |
| o Sweatshirt or Jacket | o Flashlight | |
| o Official Scout Uniform | o \$50+ Spending Money | |
| o Scout Handbook | o Camera | |
| o Rain Gear | o Compass | |
| o Towel | o Sleeping Bag (must 30F or lower) | |
| o Personal Hygiene Items | o Foam pad or Cot | |
| o Pillow | o Notebook | |
| o Extra Blanket | o Pencils / Pens | |
| o Backpack | o Merit Badge Handbook / Worksheets | |
| o Watch | o Mess Kit | |
| o First Aid Kit | o Water Bottle | |

Program Descripton and Policies



Program Features & Philosophy

We recommend that Scouts sign up for merit badges so that where they are is known by adults. Also, we recommend that Scouts focus on merit badges they are interested in, not solely Eagle-required merit badges. We use the outdoors to maximize our Scouts' experience. Our nature program is one-of-a-kind featuring a signed nature trail. Evening programs will be available to all Scouts.



First Year Camper Ideas:

Trail to First Class, Basketry and Leatherworking, Woodcarving, First Aid, and Photography and Movie Making Merit Badges.



Second Year Camper Ideas:

Anything not earned on the first year camper list, Camping, Fish & Wildlife Management, Fly Fishing, Geology, Indian Lore, Reptile and Mammal Study, and Archery merit badges.



Third Year Camper Ideas:

Anything not earned on the first or second year camper lists, Astronomy, Geo-caching, Environmental Science, Nature, Orienteering, Pioneering, Weather, Wilderness Survival, Search and Rescue, Signs, Signals, and Codes, Emergency Preparedness, and Metalsmithing.



Merit Badge Registration

Merit Badge Registration will be made available during the month of April. A schedule will be made available to all troops by January 1, 2020. If your troop does not meet the payment schedule, your Scouts will not have a reserved spot for merit badges until payments are made. Some merit badges cannot be completed at camp. If Scouts can complete the requirements prior to camp, this will be noted.



Resources for Successful Merit Badge Completion

Merit Badge Workbooks are not required but are tools that can help Scouts organize notes, listen actively, and document their work. Workbooks allow Merit Badge Counselors to offer group instruction but still allow for individual performance. Workbooks can be found at www.meritbadge.org or via Google. We encourage this, and the inclusion of a spiral notebook and several pencils for every Scout.

Program Description and Policies Cont.



Program Supplies

With registration, prices of some merit badges will be indicated. These are to pay for direct kit supplies for the merit badges. This will allow Scouts to not need to purchase supplies at the Trading Post. Additional kits will be available there if a Scout wishes to purchase them.



Adult Leader Activities

Adult leader's will have the ability to participate in training and fellowship activities. Training will be implemented on an 'as desired' basis for the adults. Adult activities include:

- Tuesday – 8:30 PM Chilli Cook-Off
- Thursday – 8:30 PM Cobbler Cook-off
- Friday – 2:00 PM Scoutmaster Golf



Campfires

Camp Tres Ritos has two camp-wide campfire programs. Sunday Night the program is provided by our camp staff, which will include fun songs, skits, as well as some serious moments mixed in. On Friday night, we ask our Campers to perform songs and skits, as well as having a Call Out Ceremony performed by the Order of the Arrow.



Skits and Song Standards

The South Plains Council and the Boy Scouts of America believe that Scouting is a character building organization, and that this concept should permeate our program at all levels, including skits and songs.

- All acts (skits, songs, run-ons, etc.) must be screened by the unit leader and the Program Director prior to performance in front of a group.
- Campfire programs are the place where the positive example is set.
- No toilet humor.
- No embarrassing an audience member without their prior knowledge and agreement to participate.
- No racial put-downs, making fun of mental or physical abilities, religious groups, and others.
- No portrayal of violent behavior.
- Avoid anything that is not in keeping with the ideals of the Boy Scouts Of America.
- No performances with sexual overtones.



Merit Badges

First Year Camper



The Trail to First Class program is designed primarily for Scouts who are new to Scouting and are coming to camp for the first time. The purpose behind the program is to give new Scouts a jump start by teaching them the basic outdoor skills needed for their Scouting career. Such skills include camping, fire building, wood tools, knots, lashings, first aid, map and compass, and nature study. Troop leadership will receive a list of all requirements covered during the week. It is up to the Scoutmaster to determine whether they have met the requirements to the Troop's satisfaction. We encourage Scouts who are Tenderfoot and under to participate in this program

Handicraft



Leatherwork

Learn how to tool leather, plait, and lace leather pieces together to make useful items such as wallets and more. A merit badge recommended for first year Scouts.

Art

This badge is great for first year Scouts. Draw and paint your own logo and create stories through designs. It is recommended that requirement 4 (visit an Art exhibit) is completed prior to camp. (You can visit a Gallery in Taos on Wednesday.)

Basketry

Instruction will be given on methods to create and identify different types of baskets. This is a good badge for first year Scouts.

Wood Carving

Learn the proper techniques to carve your hiking stick and create useful camp gadgets. Campers should have their Totin' Chip prior to attending camp.

Indian Lore

Learn about Native American heritage through clothing, song, and games. This is great for a first year Scout. Scouts are required to make an Indian Lore kit for this merit badge.

Finger Printing

In this short merit badge session, Scouts will learn about and use an important technique that is used by law enforcement officers.

Fishing



Fly Fishing

Learn to fly fish in the best area to do so. Scouts will learn to cast, tie flies, and hopefully catch their very own fish!

Fishing

As part of fly fishing, you will also earn the fishing merit badge! Gather an understanding of Leave no Trace and how it applies to fishing.

Merit Badges Cont.

Rules and Regulations

Fishing equipment can be supplied for up to 10 Scouts. If you have your own fly fishing equipment you are more than welcome to bring them. Scouts who are participating in fishing must obtain a fishing license with the State of New Mexico. Licenses can be purchased and some Texas based Academy Sports and Outdoors. They can also be obtained at Wal-Mart in Las Vegas, New Mexico or at Sipapu Ski Resort.



Shooting Sports

Archery

Learn to properly handle and fire a bow. Archery is a physically demanding and difficult merit badge. Participants must shoot a qualifying round to earn this badge.

Rifle

Learn techniques to properly handle and fire a rifle. Camp Tres Ritos operates Air Rifles for the rifle merit badge. Participants must shoot a qualifying round to earn this badge.



Outdoor Skills

First Aid

Caring for injured or ill persons until they can receive professional medical care is an important skill to learn for every Scout. With some knowledge of first aid, a Scout can provide immediate care and help to someone who is hurt or who becomes ill.

Search and Rescue

Scouts aiming to earn this merit badge will first learn the important difference between a search and a rescue. Learn about how these are conducted and operated.

Emergency Preparedness

Scouts are often called upon to help because they know first aid and have learned how to react in an emergency. Earning this merit badge will help your Scout know how to plan and respond to emergencies.

Orienteering

Learn how to navigate without electricity with a compass and map. Learn to read topographical maps and how to set up a cross-country course.

Pioneering

Gain knowledge in ropemaking and lashing to create your favorite camp gadgets.

Camping

This merit badge is an introduction to the essentials of outdoor planning. This merit badge cannot be completed at camp.

Merit Badges Cont.



Communications

Signs, Signals, and Codes

American Sign Language is the third most used language in the United States. This merit badge will cover Morse code, ASL, Braille, signaling, trail marking, and other nonverbal communications.

Communication

Learn about communications and how to effectively communicate with others. Requirement 8 requires a campfire program planning, this can be completed in the campsite.

Public Speaking

Public Speaking is the number one fear for most people, even more so than death. Learn to conquer that fear and be the best public speaker you can be.

Law

This merit badge will not be completed at camp. Earning this merit badge enables a Scout to learn about the history and kinds of laws, the purpose and methods of law enforcement, and careers in the legal profession.

Chess

Expand your mind and learn how to conquer your opponent in the Chess Merit Badge! Scouts will learn about concentration, critical thinking, problem solving, and many other skills necessary to be successful in chess and life.

Citizenship in the Nation

Learn about the documents that found our country. Scouts cannot complete this merit badge at camp, unless they do requirements 2 and 3 prior to attendance.

Citizenship in the World

Scouts will learn about diplomacy, international trade, and foreign relationships.

Scouting Heritage

This merit badges will teach Scouts about the great history and tradition of Scouting. They will learn about Scouting's founders while also playing old Scouting games. Scouts need to bring a collection of patches / memorabilia, no matter how big or small. Scouts should also research the history of their Troop.

Hiking

This merit badge will not be completed at camp. Scouts will learn about hiking precautions and planning. Scouts will have opportunities to complete some hikes during the Troop Day.

Wilderness Survival

Ever get lost? Find the basic skills to survive and signal for help in the wilderness. Participants will build and stay in a shelter towards the end of the week. Building this shelter may take extra time to do. Camp Tres Ritos is the perfect setting to earn this merit badge.

Geocaching

Discover the treasure hunting fun of Geocaching. Learn how to use a GPS unit to help find caches at camp!

Merit Badges Cont.

Cooking

Scouts will not be able to complete this merit badge at camp. This merit badge introduces principles of cooking that can be used both at home and indoors. Get ready for some yummy food!



Career Interest

Metalwork

Scouts will begin their work on this merit badge by learning about the properties of metal, how to use simple metalworking tools, and the basic metalworking techniques. Then they will practice using these tools and techniques before concentrating on the more intricate skills of one of four metalworking options.

Photography

Scouts will be using a high quality camera to take pictures of Scouts in action at Camp Tres Ritos! Pictures could be potentially used to help promote camp operations. Scouts are encouraged to bring their own camera.

Wood Working

Wood is an amazingly versatile, practical, yet beautiful material. A skilled craftsman can use wood to fashion just about anything. As a woodworker or carpenter, you will find no end of useful, valuable, and fun items you can make yourself, from wood.

Movie Making

Scouts will learn how to make movies/short films with this merit badge! Scouts are encouraged to bring their own camera / recording device for this class. Videos made in this course could be utilized to help promote Camp Tres Ritos!

Painting

This merit badge provides an opportunity for Scouts to learn more about painting, including both the artistic and practical aspects.

Automotive Maintenance

Vehicles are a part of everyday life for most people. Learn how to maintain your own vehicle, to help keep it operating for a long time, or to help perform your own maintenance.



Nature and Ecology

Sustainability

Sustainability and Scouting go hand in hand. Learn how to promote environmental conservation to help continue to have the great natural resources that we have.

Nuclear Science

The goal of this merit badge is to find out if there is one fundamental rule that explains how matter and forces interact. This merit badge can spark a Scouts scientific intrigue.

Astronomy

Take in the stars and gain knowledge in constellation and planet identification. Night sessions are required for this merit badge.

Merit Badges Cont.

Nature

Learn about the natural world that surrounds us. Discover animals and plants in camp's back yard.

Mammal Study

Learn a vast array of wildlife and habitats that camp has to offer. Learn about the different animal kingdoms and classification of different mammals.

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Snakes, turtles, lizards, gators, frogs, and salamanders. Developing knowledge about these creatures lead to an appreciation for all native wildlife. Scouts will not be able to complete this merit badge at camp.

Plant Science

Explore three of the most important plant science specialties; agronomy, horticulture, and field botany.

Soil & Water Conservation

Water plays an important role in our environment. Scouts will do an in-depth study on the conservation of soil and the role it plays in environmental protections. Scouts will also participate in a conservation project.

Fish & Wildlife Management

Participants will learn about methods used to manage wildlife to balance habitats. They will also work with fish identification and estimates per lake size or fish age.

Environmental Science

This merit badge is a two hour session. Scouts will learn about the environment and how our actions effect it.

Forestry

Carson National Forrest boasts a wide variety of plants, shrubs, and trees. Learn about the ones that are present at Camp Tres Ritos. Scouts will learn how to identify different species of trees and gain knowledge on forest management.

Geology

Discuss rock formation and how they impact our planet. Participants will also learn about energy, mineral resources and earth history. On Troop Day Scouts taking the Geology merit badge are encouraged to take a trip to the Harding Mine. The trip is free, transportation is provided by the Troop.

Weather

Find out what causes rain, wind, hail, and lightening. Scouts will make a rain gauge and keep a log.



Camp Schedule



Sunday

2:00pm-4:00pm - Camp Opens, Troop Check-in

3:00pm-5:00pm - Campsite Setup

6:00pm - Emergency Drill at the Flag Pole

6:05pm - Formal Flag Ceremony (Full Uniform)

6:15pm - Dinner (Troops will need to wash own dishes after campfire)

8:00pm - Opening Camp Fire

9:00pm - Scoutmasters and Senior Patrol Leaders meet with Camp and Program Director (immediately after Camp Fire)

10:00pm - Camp Lights Out

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

7:00am- Food Pickup

7:10-8:30am - Breakfast

8:45am - Assembly and Flag Ceremony (Mail Call & Announcements)

9:00am-12:00pm - Merit Badge Programs begin

12:15pm - Food Pickup

12:15-1:45pm - Lunch

2:00-5:00pm - Afternoon Merit Badges

5:00-5:45pm - Open Activities

6:00pm - Formal Flag Ceremony (Full Uniform)

6:10pm - Food Pickup

6:15pm-7:45pm - Dinner

8:00pm - Evening Events Begin and Evening Merit Badges Begin

10:00pm - Camp Lights Out

Camp Schedule Cont.



Saturday

7:15am - Continental Breakfast (light breakfast - Fruit, Cereal, Pastries.)

8:00am - Campsite breakdown, cleanup for final inspection

10:00am - Camp is officially closed



Wednesday - Troop Program Day



Wednesday is your Troop Program Day. We provide several activities and adventures for your Scouts to choose from,

- A hike to Angostura Meadow (5 mile round-trip)
- Trip to the Harding Mine to excavate minerals and bring home a souvenir.
- Visit Los Alamos which is an Indian Reservation rich with Scouting History and Indian Relics.
- Or your Troop can go off site and plan an amazing trip with your Scouts to Whitewater Raft, Fly Fish, Horseback Ride, Mountain Bike, or visit Philmont.



Special Program Schedule



Sunday

6:00pm - Camp Emergency Drill

8:00pm - Opening Campfire (Put on by Camp Staff)

9:00pm - Patrol Leaders Council (For SPL's & Scoutmasters)

Monday

8:00pm - Backyard Ball

9:00pm - SPL Meeting

Tuesday

8:00pm - Capture the Staff

9:00pm - Hotter N' Hades Chili Cook-Off (Please bring materials to participate)

Wednesday

9:00pm - SPL Meeting

Thursday

2:00pm - Scoutmaster Golf

8:00pm - Yards Game Tournament

9:00pm - Belt-Bustin' Cobbler Cook-off (Please bring materials to participate)

Friday

All Day - Order of the Arrow Day (Members are encouraged to wear sashes)

8:00pm - Closing Campfire (Put on by Campers)

8:45pm - Order of the Arrow Call Out Ceremony

9:00pm - SPL Meeting

What is the Order of the Arrow?



“For over 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well. Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others. OA service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich and help to extend Scouting to America's youth.”

In short, the Order of the Arrow is known as Scouting's National Honor Society. More information on the mission, purpose, strategic plan, and organizational structure can be found at oa-bsa.org/about



Our Mission

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.



Our Purpose

As Scouting's National Honor Society, our purpose is to:

Recognize

Those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.

Promote

Camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.

Develop

Leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.

Crystallize

The Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.



OA Day

Friday is Order of the Arrow day at Camp Tres Ritos. All Order of the Arrow members are encouraged to wear their sash and any other culturally and Scouting appropriate Order of the Arrow gear. This is their opportunity to show that they are members of Scouting's National Honor Society.

Call Out Ceremony



Nakona Lodge will conduct a callout ceremony for all in-council and out-of-council units at the closing campfire. In order for your Scouts to be eligible, our Camp Chief must receive a letter from your Lodge Chief or Lodge Adviser indicating the names of those youth who have been elected, and are to be called out.

Nakona Lodge and the South Plains Council Camp Staff will not conduct unit elections at camp. These elections should take place prior to arriving at camp, and with sufficient time for your Lodge leadership to generate the required documentation.



Care Packages



Care packages are a great way to surprise your Scout while they are away at Camp Tres Ritos! We even have packages for adults! Care packages will be available to order starting in April. We ask that all orders for care packages be completed by at least 2 weeks prior to camp. If an item you have ordered is out of Stock, we will supplement with another Camp Tres Ritos Item of equal value. All orders made by May 15 are guaranteed.



Camp Tres Ritos Epic Package - \$45

Camp Tres Ritos Hat
Camp Tres Ritos T-Shirt
Brandable Mug with Lid
Candy Voucher

Survival Package - \$35

Pocket Knife
Water Bottle
Knife Sharpener
Fire Starter



Birthday Package- \$30

Brandable Mug
Camp Tres Ritos Hat
Candy voucher
Soda voucher
Birthday card signed by Camp Staff

Scoutmaster Package - \$30

Brandable mug and Lid
Camp Tres Ritos Hat
Soda Voucher



