

2019 Guide to Summer Camp

- Summer Camp is the culmination of the Scout's work on campouts and advancement throughout the year. New Scouts will spend Week 1 at camp working on their trail to First Class. Scouts who have attended Summer Camp before and have reached the rank of First Class will work on Merit Badges. They also have the option of attending Week 2 dependent on adult coordinator availability. Besides working on their First Class trail, Scouts have the opportunity to go to the waterfront for swimming, rowing, canoeing and sailing if qualified. Archery, shotgun, and rifle shooting are also offered. There are evening and camp-wide programs within camp that change annually. Merit Badges and program opportunities for older Scouts are also offered. C.O.P.E./ATV has been adapted this year to be more merit badge schedule friendly. It is extremely important, although not mandatory, for first-year Scouts to attend Summer Camp. It is an opportunity to prepare them for a positive experience in Scouting. Attrition among first-year Scouts not attending Summer Camp is higher than boys who attend Summer Camp. Give your son a fair opportunity to achieve by sending him to Summer Camp.
- In addition to CFL policies, T23 has its own set policies. We ask that all families follow both sets of policies and that they go through the T23 Camp Coordinator for all communication regarding camp rather than going to the camp directly.
- We encourage all families to visit CFL. Anyone who plans to visit the camp needs to inform the Camp Coordinator about who is coming to camp and when they plan to arrive/leave from camp. This information is needed by the Troop's final registration date. Unexpected visitors can be an interruption to the camp program that the T23 leaders provide so we respectfully ask everyone to communicate their plans to visit CFL.
- Parents are welcomed to visit us at camp. If you do plan to visit, please let the Camp Coordinators know. If you are unavailable to visit during the week, you are welcomed to come to camp early on Saturday (around 8am) to participate in our Troop's end-of-camp ceremony before taking your son home from camp.
- Scouts will have plenty of opportunity to work on rank requirements, balanced with free time to enjoy the activities and events that the camp has to offer, and have fun! Scouts who are highly motivated have a good chance of advancing one rank by the end of Summer Camp.
- Our Troop's policy on electronics extends to Summer Camp. Cell phones, iPods, and other electronics are a distraction to our program and are strictly banned from camp. Please have your Scout leave them at home, or they will be confiscated at camp. In case of an emergency, you can contact the camp at 608.586.4312.
- We will host a Summer Camp Parent Meeting during a Monday night Troop meeting (TBA). This is an opportunity for parents to ask questions about Summer Camp and to get valuable insight as to what goes on at camp. We strongly encourage parents to attend this meeting, especially parents of first-year scouts. Please check the Troop Calendar for dates and times.
- We will attend Camp Freeland Leslie (CFL) in Oxford, Wisconsin for Summer Camp. The camp is about 185 miles and 3+ hours away.
- We attend Summer Camp during the camp's first and second weeks. This year's camp dates are:
 - Week 1: Sunday, June 23 to Saturday, June 29
 - Week 2: Sunday, June 30 to Saturday, July 6

- Camp Freeland Leslie is in the Central Time Zone (same as our local time).
- You can explore the many exciting features of Camp Freeland Leslie at the camp's website, www.freelandleslie.com. Check out and explore the website.
- On the weekend before camp, some Scouts and Leaders may get together to pre-pack the Troop trailer. More information will be sent as the date approaches.
- On Sunday, June 23, we will meet at in the Wheaton Bowl parking lot on Gary Avenue and Geneva Road to load the bus to camp. Time to be announced, but typically between 7-8 a.m. Please come dressed in Class A with all camp bags packed.
- Scouts are expected to behave respectfully on the bus and not leave trash behind. One Leader will ride the bus with the Scouts to ensure that the Scouts follow the rules and do not distract the driver. The same is expected of Scouts riding in cars. We suggest that Scouts who are riding with Leaders contribute to the cost of gas.
- On the way to camp, we will stop for lunch. Please pack a lunch or money to buy lunch.
- It's a good idea for your Scout to carry a drawstring day bag to camp. This bag can carry his lunch for the bus ride to camp. It should also carry his swimsuit, water shoes and towel!!! Immediately upon arriving at camp, any Scouts who have not done so at the Troop Swims will go to the pool for the BSA swim test. It is important for his swimsuit to be easily accessible when he first arrives to camp.
- You can send a care package to your son at camp. Mail a package by the Saturday before his week of camp. Suggestions: consider sending only one package for the week; you can send letters, photos and a snack for your son or his Patrol to share (food should not be kept at camp, so send a small treat). Please address the package as follows:
 - Scout's name
 - Troop 23, Bunker Hill Campsite
 - Week #1 (or Week #2)
 - Camp Freeland Leslie
 - 105 Fawn Drive
 - Oxford, WI 53952
- Scouts will sleep 2 to a tent. The camp provides us with tents that are different from our Troop tents. They have canvas flaps on all four sides and a wooden platform bottom. CFL does not provide cots, so scouts need to bring their own. Boys will need a 6 x 8 waterproof tarp to put underneath their half of the tent. Boys will also need mosquito netting and a frame that can be built out of PVC pipes (or a "Sansbug" type equipment. There are instructions for the mosquito netting frame in the paperwork towers at the Troop meetings and on the Troop's website under Summer Camp.
- You may send money with your son to spend at camp. Talk to your son about budgeting his money during his week at camp and encourage Scouts to not borrow or lend money. He may want to budget for shot gun shells for open range time at camp (about .50/shot), Scout craft supplies (\$8-\$32), a camp t-shirt (about \$15-\$20), a cold drink or slushie at the Trading Post (\$2), and other random souvenirs. Scouts will find plenty of ways to spend their money at camp, so Scouts will need to budget to have enough to get through the week. We suggest about \$40-50 for the week at camp. Some Merit Badges have fees that will be paid with registration, while some require program kits that must be purchased at the camp's Trading Post. Please be warned...the Trading Post has a huge candy display intended to get every dollar out of your son's pocket. If he does not budget in his first days at camp, he will run out of money and may miss fun events later in the week! Please talk to your son about this before camp.

- The guiding principles that Troop 23 follows to ensure the safety of all Scouts during regular Troop activities are also followed at summer camp. The principles of Youth Protection and the two-on-one rule are strictly followed. Leaders and camp staff will not have one-on-one contact with Scouts.
- Scouts will need to get in and out of their uniform often, for meals and flag ceremonies. To help keep uniforms clean and easy to find, boys can use an "S hook" or something similar to hang their Class A uniform in their tent. Another good suggestion is for Scouts to wear plain white t-shirts under their Class A to keep their uniform cleaner and less sweaty by the end of the week.
- Scouts will prepare all meals using their typical Patrol Method. They will use camp stoves provided by CFL to prepare meals with food that will be delivered to them in coolers three times a day. The only exceptions are Sunday and Friday dinners which are prepared for us in the camp's dining hall.
- A scout is helpful. With 60 to 80 Scouts and leaders attending summer camp, a campsite can look pretty bad, pretty fast. In order for a Patrol to function well at camp each patrol member must help with keeping their personal gear, patrol gear and the campsite in order. In addition to meal prep and clean-up duties, each Scout will be assigned other camp duties on a rotating basis by his Patrol Leader. Each Scout is expected to perform these duties to the best of his ability and without complaint.
- A Scout is loyal. Each Scout must read and pledge to follow the Patrol Members Rights and Responsibilities that is available on our website and at Troop Meetings.
- A scout is cheerful. A week in a tent can be a long time. When camping for a week in the woods in June, weather can be rainy or dry, hot days and cool nights or absolutely beautiful. When communing with nature there are bugs, spiders, frogs, raccoons and squirrels. Those that will get the most out of the Summer Camp experience will roll with the punches. CFL is not the family room with the A/C on, video games on the TV and the fridge filled with snacks nearby. Encourage your son to try new things and smile. Staying hydrated and getting good sleep nightly are keys to a healthy mental attitude.
- The safety and health of all Scouts during Summer Camp is of the utmost importance to our Leaders. It is extremely important that you indicate all health concerns, medication, and allergies on the health form and bring all health concerns to the Scoutmaster and the Chief Medical Officer.
- There is a Shooting Sports Area at camp that offers lots of open shoot times. There is a small fee for rifle and shotgun shooting. Archery is free.
- For programs that cost money, such as open shoot and crafts, Scouts may need to pay for these costs ahead of time at the Trading Post or at the Wheeler Office. We'll direct Scouts on these things once we arrive at camp.
- Scouts who are First Class and above can take up to 4 Merit Badge classes. It's important to choose Merit Badges that will give the Scouts a balanced but busy schedule at camp. We do not want Scouts to have too much idle time—their time at camp should be productive. Read Merit Badge requirements and prerequisites carefully. Make sure to bring all necessary supplies to camp. All prerequisites need to be completed before camp with a Merit Badge Counselor. If they are not completed before camp, the MB will be sent home as a partial and Scouts will have the opportunity to finish them after camp.
- Scouts who are working on Tenderfoot, 2nd Class and 1st Class (T21) will spend a lot of their time at camp working on advancement requirements with Troop 23 Leaders. Before your son comes to camp, it's a good idea for him to read through the requirements for these ranks to see if there are some that he should complete before camp. There are some requirements that cannot be done at camp. Boys who complete these before camp have a better chance of advancing in rank. If these requirements are not completed before camp, a Scout's advancement may be delayed. For example:

- Scout #9—Complete Safety Pamphlet with parents
 - Tenderfoot #10A—Athletic Requirement—begin 30 days before camp
 - Second Class #10—Earn Money/Budgeting Requirement—do before camp
- For the first few days at camp, T21 Scouts will attend semi-formal classes with Troop 23 leaders where they will receive support and practice in skills needed for rank advancement for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class. These classes will include First Aid, Orienteering/Map and Compass, Nature/Wildlife, Knots, Flag Ceremonies, Fire Building, Hiking, etc. These classes will be held at our campsite while older Scouts attend Merit Badge classes. Later in the week, Scouts will demonstrate proficiency in these skills, get requirements signed off, and attend Scoutmaster Conferences and Board of Reviews. There is plenty of time for Scouts to work on advancement at camp, and Scouts are encouraged to make good use of their time while at camp. There is also plenty of free time every afternoon and evening for Scouts to enjoy the waterfront, trading post and other camp activities.
 - Some older Scouts will stay for both weeks of Summer Camp. For these Scouts, the routine on Saturday at the end of Week 1 includes a trip into town. These Scouts and Leaders will visit a laundromat to wash their clothes in preparation for Week 2. They will catch a movie, go out to dinner, and enjoy some much needed air conditioning! They will then return to camp and prepare for the second week. Be sure to pack enough money for these Transition Day costs.
 - While at camp, Scouts are expected to live by the Scout Law and Oath. Boys who exhibit behavior that is not Scout-like will receive a warning from the Troop Leaders. If the behavior continues, or if the first infraction is severe enough, parents may be contacted to pick up their Scouts and take them home at the parents' expense. The Scoutmaster's decision in these matters is final.
 - A Scout is clean. Summer heat, activity and sweat make for an interesting combination on a young man. Leaders will expect that each Scout take a shower at least every other day. Please make sure your son understands this expectation. Modern shower facilities with individual stalls are just a short walk from the campsite. A bottle of baby powder or Gold Bond goes a long way to help curb groin chafing.
 - Daily camp routine
 - Sunday: arrive at camp, check in, Troop photo, set up camp, swim tests, dinner at dining hall, camp meeting, vespers service, opening campfire
 - Monday-Friday sample daily schedule:
 - 6:30am Reveille
 - 7:00am Breakfast and KP
 - 8:30am Flag ceremony, announcements
 - 9am-12pm: Merit Badge classes for First Class and above
T21 Scouts work on requirements in camp
 - 12-2pm Lunch and KP, announcements, time to rest
 - 2-3pm Merit Badge classes
T21 Scouts—requirements in camp, pioneering project, trading post, etc.
 - 3-4:30pm Open program areas
 - 4:30-6:30pm Prepare dinner, clean up Patrol campsite, dinner, and KP
 - 6:30pm Flag ceremony, announcements
 - 7:00-9pm Open activities and nightly special events
Campfire, lakefront, open program areas, shower, crafts, etc.
 - 9:30pm Back in camp
 - 10:00pm Quiet time starts
 - Saturday: pack and take down camp, parents arrive between 8-9am for slide presentation and pick-up, slide presentations, leave camp between 9-10am

- Other camp activities:
 - There are a handful of extra programs that are offered at camp, such as Polar Bear Swim, Mile Swim, cooking competitions, and more. More information will be available at camp for scouts who are interested in participating.
 - Private Troop Activities that we'll sign up for once we arrive at camp.
 - Sleeping under the stars: On Friday night, many Scouts begin taking down camp. They take their cots and mosquito netting and sleep outside of their tents, under the stars.
 - OA Social: There will be an OA Cracker Barrel for new Ordeal members and current Lodge members after the Ordeal is completed on Thursday.
 - Campfires and skits: There is an opening campfire on Sunday. The closing campfire on Friday night includes skits, awards, and a video of photos taken during our week at camp.

- It's important to balance packing what Scouts absolutely need with what Scouts might need for camp. Tents are small and do not have much space for extra gear. In addition, your son will be responsible for carrying all of his gear from the parking lot to the campsite, which is a solid 15-minute walk. It is important that he be able to carry all of his gear on his own without too much difficulty. It is also important that Scouts pack their own bags so that they know where to find all of their gear. A backpack or duffle bag with shoulder strap is helpful to carry gear to camp. No rolling luggage, please. Most scouts wear the same t-shirt for several days, so remember that he is a boy and don't over pack.

- The recommended Summer Camp packing list is as follows. **Please label every item!**
 - Pack these items in an easily accessible day bag:
 - Lunch for the ride to camp or money to buy lunch
 - Swimsuit
 - Water shoes (can also use close-toed sandals or old gym shoes)
 - Beach towel
 - Swim goggles (optional)

 - Pack these items in your backpack or duffle bag:
 - Complete Class A Scout Uniform (for meals, flag ceremonies, and traveling)
 - Scout shorts for Class B
 - Scout t-shirts (only Troop t-shirts, plain white t-shirts, or other Scout shirts)
 - Scout socks with extra pairs (or white socks)
 - Underwear
 - 2 pairs shoes (NO OPEN-TOED SHOES ALLOWED)
 - Troop sweatshirt or jacket
 - Rain gear
 - Scout mess kit (plate, bowl, cup, silverware)
 - Canteen, water bottle, or hydration pack
 - Cot
 - Headlamp or flashlight
 - Toiletry kit: soap, shampoo, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, washcloths
 - Gold Bond Medicated Powder or Baby Powder (travel-sized bottle)
 - Bath towel

- Personal first aid kit
- Bug repellent (NO SPRAY—only wipes or pump)
- Sunscreen (NO SPRAY)
- Matches in waterproof container
- Pocketknife (preferably with locking blade)
- Firem'n Chit and Totin' Chip cards
- Scout Handbook with Scout's name (in Ziploc bag)
- Merit Badge books, blue cards, and prerequisite badge work (as needed—in Ziploc bag)
- Pen/pencil and notebook
- Sleeping bag or blanket
- Pillow
- Mosquito netting with a frame (instructions in paperwork tower and on Troop website)
- Ground tarp for under cot (6 x 8 for each Scout or one 8 x 12 to share with tent mate)
- 25 ft of 1/8 in. rope with clothespins
- Extra S clips, hooks and carabiner clips
- Laundry bag
- Extra batteries
- Spending money (\$40-\$50 suggested) and a wallet or safe place to store money
- Gallon-sized Ziploc bags to keep clothing items dry (for underwear, socks, etc.) (Consider packing each full day's worth of clothing in a Ziploc so all items remain clean and together.)

▪ **Optional items:**

- OA Sash for OA members
- Compass (Orienteering MB)
- Camera
- Sunglasses
- Scout hat with brim or bandanna (each Scout will receive a hat at camp)
- Camp chair
- Fishing pole and tackle box
- Pre-posted and addressed envelope (to send a letter home from camp; postcards are also available at trading post)
- Leather boots (Welding MB)
- Jeans (Welding MB, Challenge Adventure)
- Athletic clothing (Personal Fitness MB)
- Digital camera (Photography MB)
- GPS (optional—Geocaching MB)
- Envelope and stamp (optional—Citizenship in the Nation MB and Communication MB)

▪ **Do not pack these items:**

- Do not pack medicine—send in original bottles in Ziploc bag with Scout's name and dosage information, and give to Chief Medical Officer at Wheaton Bowl
- Do not send electronics or cell phones to camp
- Items that camp absolutely bans: fireworks, sheath knives, water balloons, slingshots, water guns