

Ranchoree 2009



October 16th –18th at the TFC Adventure Camp / Ranch

Planning & Participation Guide – Ver 2.1 10/14/09

What's Happening?

Once again Potawatomi Trails and Thunderbird districts are joining together to put together this high level, challenging and fun adventure for Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts.

With your support, the Ranch-O-Ree will offer a strong program and a memorable experience to all Scouts. So that Scouts may participate, the activities will be run by adults. So we need volunteers to help and lead activities in order to succeed.

We need staff, event leadership and help

The activity areas are put on by the adults from units. We need YOUR help and great ideas to make this a great event. We also need help in other areas of the event. We also have event planning and leadership positions available, now's your chance to step up to the plate to help in that area as well. Please contact one of us today!

Tim Ford
tmfordy@aol.com
630-675-5885

Fred Turek
Tureks@Ameritech.net
630-717-0437

Please Read This Guide!

This is the main and most complete information source to plan for participating in and getting the most out of this event. But as the program develops, this will be revised to reflect important additions and changes.

This guide contains event-specific information. All other BSA regulations and procedures apply.

Ranchoree Web Site

The latest information will be available at www.fyrfox.com/ranchoree. ("ranchoree" is case-sensitive) Ranchoree information is also available through district media (websites, newsletters etc.) and district Ranchoree personnel.

When Is It?

It starts on the evening of Friday, October 16th 2009, and runs through the morning of Sunday, October 18th. A tentative schedule is included later in this guide.

Who is invited?

Boy Scout troops, and older Scouts such as Venture crews.

Where is it? How Do We Get There?

At the TFC Adventure Camp / Ranch, our 500+ acre beautiful Scout Camp on the shores of the mighty Kyte River. From the intersection of Route 59 and the Reagan Toll way (I-88):

- Go about 48 miles west on the Reagan Toll way (I-88) to Route 251
- Go north (right) on 251 for approximately 4.2 miles to Hemstock Rd.
- Go west (turn left) on Hemstock and go approx. 5.3 miles until it ends at the entrance to the ranch. Jog about 10 feet and keep going west on the entrance road (There may be entrance changes due to camp construction)

Registration and Cost

The cost is \$14 for all registrations after September 15th

If your unit "over-reserved" but mostly attends, you will get a refund.

Please see the registration form for registration details and to register.

Organize by Patrols

Organize your unit by patrols for this event. (even if your whole unit is one patrol just for this event). Every patrol should have a name.

Check In

Check-in is required at the main Registration/Information area. A Class 1 medical form is required. (Class 1 is the most basic version) A listing of attendees will be required. A pre-made list may be used to speed up the process.

Event Chairs

There is an event chair from each of the districts, and this team chairs the overall event:

Potawatomi Trails Tim Ford
tmfordy@aol.com
630-675-5885

Thunderbird Fred Turek
Tureks@Ameritech.net
630-717-0437

Camping Style & Fires

Traditional camping is invited, as are modern devices (stoves etc.) This includes traditional ground campfires and traditional wood tools, all used safely per the Scout Manual. Bring water buckets, and keep them full and

nearby. **Do not leave any rocks in / by the campfire area.** Fire grates are not provided.

Firewood may be gathered from wood on the ground or carried from that supplied at the lower barn. Plan on it requiring a little work, safely cutting it up and carrying it. No live or standing trees may be cut.

Picnic Tables?

A limited amount of picnic tables are available in the camp but not necessarily in the campsites. It's OK for units energetic boys to haul them from wherever they are available which will probably be the upper barn / registration check-in area, except a few allocated for other uses.

Skits for the Evening Campfire

A certain number of spots are available for skits, songs or stories put on by units. See schedule on where and when to do the required sign up. Think of your best job that your unit can do on your best skit, song or story, and get it ready for the Saturday evening campfire. All should be scout appropriate, not too long, and submitted for inclusion during the event.

Campsites

We'll have 3 types of campsites available.

Main Ship-Shape Midway Camping Area

This section is for elite camping units with ship-shape camping style, tents in rows, and gateways, arranged along the midway. Units in this section (and all sections) will have *plenty* of room. A special elite inspection competition and prize will be available for units in this area.

Regular Unit Sites in the Main Camping Area

Regular unit sites in the main camping area will be available

Backpacker Sites

If your unit (or a portion of it with adult leadership) is willing and able to backpack about a mile to a site (about 1/3 of a mile from water) this option is available.

Vehicles & Trailers

The general idea is that (if they have a confirmed pre-assigned site) troops who use a gear trailer can spot and leave it (gear trailer, no vehicle) in or very near their site, prior to the event. Details will be available as time progresses. Entry by other vehicles will be restricted to a quick **5 minute-maximum** drop-off by one vehicle per unit at a time, and so carrying in of gear (other than the main trailer) is recommended. Other than 1 detachable gear trailer per troop, **NO VEHICLES MAY BE LEFT IN CAMPING AREAS.** This is accordance with BSA National and Council policies which are for safety,

logistics and to enhance the camping experience, and we will enforce this 100%. **Please follow this rule closely; we don't have to remind you about it!** See next section regarding vehicles on Sunday.

Circulating Activity Areas on Saturday

Watch fyrfox.com/eanchoree for the next rev of this guide which will have more information on circulating Saturday activities.

Special Challenging Stations

We are striving to have some special and ambitious stations this year. There can be ones that take particular expertise to run. Please contact Fred Turek or Tim Ford if you are interested in running one of these.

Checkout is Required

When your gear is 90% packed you can get a card that will allow one vehicle (from your unit) in at a time for a 5 minute stop to load up gear. This is intended for one or two vehicles with heavy gear; most gear should be just carried to the parking lot.

When your site is empty and policed (all trash, rocks and firewood cleared out) have us check it out (while some boys are still there) and get your final site check card, and check out at the registration area to get your medical forms back and get on the list to receive patches.

Schedule (version 2.1 10/14/09)

Friday, October 16th

6:00 P.M. Camp opens and is available for arrivals.
10:00 P.M.ish Meeting and information for Adult Leaders and SPL's. Units are encouraged to plan their own for Friday night.
10:30 Patrol Skill Challenge registration forms due
10:30-ish Ranch-O-Ree staff meeting.
Midnight Star / night hike (sign up by 11:00 P.M. required*.)

Saturday, October 17th

8:30 Flag Ceremony & Announcements by the flag pole near central camping area (by site #6)
9:00 AM – 11:45 Circulating Activity Areas
12:00 Evening campfire Skit/Song/Story forms are due*
12:00 – 12:55 Lunch
1:00 – 1:45 Patrol Skill Challenge.
2:20 – 5:00 Circulating Activity Areas
5:00 – 5:30 Activity Area Score Sheet turn-in*
5:30 Flag Ceremony (low key, attendance optional)
5:15 – 8:15 dinner, cleanup & rest
6:00 – 7:30 Golden Skillet cooking competition turn-in*
8:15 Big Tug of War at campfire area
8:30-10:00 Main Camp-wide Campfire
10:00 Late night festivities / post campfire .
11:00 night/ star hike (sign up by 8:00 P.M. required*)

* At registration / information area

Sunday October 18th

Units who wish to pack up, have their site checked, and leave quickly may do so.
Units who wish to stay a few hours are welcome to do so and also to sign up for the University of Camperology session.
8:00 Checkout available*
11:30 Noon All units must be out

Star / Night Hikes

Star/ Night hikes will be offered Friday night at midnight, and Saturday night at 11:00 PM. (If there are no stars, it will be a night hike). Advanced registration (see schedule) is required. You will be told where to meet when you register for this hike.

Required Materials for the Activities.

Patrols and Units will need to bring certain items for the activities. Please read the Scout Skills Challenge event description and bring all items to accomplish the described activities except that we will supply the soapy water to be boiled. Patrols should also bring paper, pen compass, their handbook and Scout Spirit. If you own an off-road suitable GPS, bring it, but it's not required.

Special Lunar Phase Ordered For Evening Events

We made special arrangements for a new moon. We will have the darkest of dark nights with no moon for the ultimate in star nights. .

Special Cooking Competition to win the Golden Skillet

This is a special cooking competition that will occur Saturday evening. The first, second and third place awards will be the Golden Skillet, the Silver Skillet and the Bronze Skillet respectively. To enter, bring one large serving (which the judges will divide up into small samples) of the dish that you wish to enter to the information/registration area anytime between 6:00 PM and 7:30 PM. To be eligible, the dish must be:

- Fully prepared in camp from very basic or raw ingredients
- Part of your own menu for that evening
- Cooked by the boys.

The judges will ask the delivery person about the preparation details. Judging will be based on numerous factors including taste and degree of outdoor cooking skill represented.

Patrol Skill Challenge

This is a race for Boy Scout Patrols or Venture Crews or a team from a troop, consisting of quickly accomplishing three activity areas and a race to travel between them. Without adult help. Except where noted, teams must bring all supplies to accomplish each event!

Tent Pitching. Tent must be either the main type of tent that your troop uses or a Eureka Timberline. Pitch it fully, properly and ship-shape TWICE. No axes for stake pounding.

Fire Building Build a fire to boil a few inches of soapy water in a pot, large juice can or a coffee can. Other than small amounts of tinder, only wood may be burned. So, bring the pot /can, tinder & wood, a way to support it above the fire, and water to put the fire out.

Knots Relay – At the 11th hour we will pick 4 of the following 6 knots for the event:

- Square Knot
- Bowline
- Two Half Hitches
- Clove Hitch
- Sheet Bend
- Taught Line Hitch

This will be an 8 stage relay race to correctly tie (per BSA manual) and untie each of the 4 selected knots. Pick a "specialist" for each knot. If your patrol has 4 or more boys, you must use a different person for each of the 4 knots. Bring a pieces of rope, at least 1/8" thick and at least 5' long and a small pole or piece of wood to tie the "pole" type knots around.

When each is done, see the judge in that area to OK it and release your patrol for travel farther into the triathlon.

To assure that we have sufficient staff available, signup for the Patrol Skill Challenge is required by 10:30 Friday night.

All units that complete the Patrol Skill Challenge can consider themselves to be in the elite class of participants from this event.

Preparation for the Evening Campfire & Festivities

Dress WARM and bring something to sit on the ground with. On all outdoor activities, in cool weather, you need much warmer clothes when you are sitting (stationary)

We need volunteers and staff!

Contact Tom Ford tmfordy@aol.com 630-675-5885

Be There, and Have a Great Time!

Sincerely,

Tim & Fred
Event Chairs