

Pre-Communication Email or Text

To the parents and leaders of (Pack/Troop/Crew #):

On (DATE of EVENT) at our (TITLE OF EVENT), we will be having our Family Friends of Scouting (FOS) presentation. Family Friends of Scouting is the one time each year when families across the Northeast Illinois Council are asked to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the council.

Family Friends of Scouting dollars go directly toward the Scouting program in our council. FOS helps to support local behind-the-scenes expenses that the Northeast Illinois Council incurs: operating costs for Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout reservation, Camp Sol R. Crown and the Kasperson Center for Scouting at Morrison Park, programs and activities—such as Pinewood Derby, Boo Camp, and Local Adventure Days—professional and camp staff salaries, insurance policies that cover Scouting participants and NEIC property, and adult leader training. FOS donations also help to fund scholarships and camperships for Scouts who are unable to afford the Scouting experience.

At the presentation, you will receive a Family Friends of Scouting pledge card and will learn more about the campaign. If you cannot make the presentation, want to learn more in advance of the presentation or want to give online, please visit neic.org/friendsofscouting. Among other things, that site includes buttons for “FAQs on FOS” and a link to “Donate Now,” if you are inclined to do so. (Here* is a link directly to our unit’s online donation portal.)

Donations to FOS are an important component of funding for NEIC’s operations. As shown in a chart on the webpage linked above, NEIC is counting on its overall FOS campaign to provide about one-eighth of its revenue and support for 2024. Please understand that FOS is voluntary; NEIC does not want to impose a further burden on families operating on tight budgets. NEIC wants to keep the cost of Scouting at an affordable level, and NEIC acknowledges that families, either directly or through participation in unit popcorn sales or other fundraising efforts, are already covering national and local registration fees, as well as camping and activity fees and unit dues.

I believe in Scouting and I believe that supporting our local program is important. Please join me and many other families across the council by giving a gift to the Family Friends of Scouting campaign. Together, we can help to cover the costs of these important resources that our Scouts enjoy each year. I ask that you consider showing that you, too, believe in Scouting’s impact.

(Your Name),
FOS Unit Coordinator
(Pack/Troop/Crew #)

*Note to Unit Coordinator. Please visit www.neic.org/FOS2024 and find your specific units Link to insert here.