



October 24–26, 2025

Camp Saffran

Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation (BCMSR)

1929 Susquehanna Hall Rd, Whiteford, MD 21160

TROOP/CREW LEADERS GUIDE

Event Information Snapshot

★ Date: October 24–26, 2025

★ Place: **Camp Saffran, Broad Creek Scout Reservation**

○ 1929 Susquehanna Hall Rd, Whiteford, MD 21160

★ Theme: HALLOWEEN (please decorate!!)

★ **Please plan to carpool as limited parking is available.**

★ Who: Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts and their adult guardian. Each scout must be accompanied by their adult guardian unless otherwise approved by Unit Leadership.

★ Cost: \$50 per unit. This includes adult leaders and up to 10 scouts. Additional scouts are \$5 each. Registration on the number of Scouts and Adults can be amended leading up to the event.

★ Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/220-spookoree>

★ Additional info: <https://spookoree.riverhawkbac.org/>

★ Pre-registration is required.

★ Registration is open until October 4, 2025

★ The event is Rain or Shine!! There are no refunds!

★ Questions? Email spookoree@riverhawkbac.org

Spook-O-Ree Leadership

Spook-O-Ree Chairperson	Chris Lauer	410-514-3146	spookoree@riverhawkbac.org
Co-Chairperson/Registrar	Debi Hayes	301-741-1105	riverhawkdistrictregistrar@gmail.com
Co-Chairperson/Administration	Jenn Martin		chair@riverhawkbac.org
Co-Chairperson/Logistics	Eric Hostetler		program@riverhawkbac.org



Welcome to the 3rd Annual River Hawk District Spook-O-Ree

Unit Leaders,

Thank you for bringing your Webelos and Arrow of Light scouts to the Annual River Hawk District Spook-O-Ree, the only River Hawk District event dedicated solely to our 4th and 5th grade scouts!

We will be running two adventure trails this year, one for Webelos' and one for AOL's. Your unit will be assigned to one of the adventure trails.

We've planned quite a weekend including:

- Two nights of Fall camping
- Lots of hands-on activities and chances to meet with area cub parents (RECRUITING!)
- Meet over 200 scouts from other Troops
- Big Saturday evening Campfire (wear your costumes!)
- ...and the chance to enjoy the Autumn weather!

Both Adventure trails have 9 stations, with most run by Scouts BSA Troops under adult supervision. All scouts will get to take part in the Archery station and talk by radio around the nation (and sometimes world) at the Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) station sponsored by our local amateur radio community.

The Scout Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code apply throughout the event. Some of our stations offer activities that may be potentially hazardous if safety instructions of the staff aren't

carefully followed. We want your scouts to have a great time – but cannot allow misbehavior. All adult staff members have the responsibility to report youth not following safety instructions, misbehaving, or being destructive to the grounds and its environment.

Arrival

Upon arrival Friday evening, participants will be directed to a parking spot. **Please follow all instructions from the parking staff.** There is no parking at unit campsites and all belongings and equipment must be carried to your campsite. You will be directed to your campsite location upon arrival by Spook-O-Ree Staff.

Friday Evening Leaders Meeting

- All Troops/Crews/Ships should send the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and Scoutmaster to the leaders meeting at 9 PM at the Dining Hall. The leader will need to bring and show the following:
 - Final Unit Roster of all Scouts and Adults attending (minimum two BSA registered adults with each unit)
 - Medical Forms (Parts A and B) for ALL scouts and adults
 - Campfire Participation Form (needs to be completed by noon on Saturday and provided to admin)
- At that meeting the leader will receive:
 - Final instructions for the weekend
 - Final schedule of activities
 - Patches for each paid and registered scout and adult

Motor Vehicles and Trailers

Each unit may bring ONE trailer to carry all unit equipment. There is limited vehicular or trailer access to campsites. Each unit will be permitted 1 vehicle at a time at the campsite. Trailers may be left at or near most campsites. Individual gear will need to be carried to the unit site or taken one vehicle at a time to the site. For this reason, we encourage packing the unit's main gear in 1 vehicle.

Saturday Activities

Scouts should carry at least one full bottle of water and rain gear. Scouts will need sturdy shoes, preferably hiking boots. Please monitor the weather and be prepared!

The campfire on Saturday night will have time for contributions from the participating units (Packs, Troops, Crews, Ships). Each unit wanting to participate should turn in their Campfire Participation Form no later than noon on Saturday to admin.

Spook-O-Ree General Guidelines

- **Conduct:** Everyone follows the GUIDE TO SAFE SCOUTING, Scout Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code at all times. We are guests of the property owner.
 - Scouts are not to roam through the campsites at any time
 - Cutting or otherwise damaging live trees is NOT permitted
 - No Scout will enter another unit's campsite without permission
 - Defacing, destroying, or otherwise damaging the property of others or property of the Baltimore Area Council or River Hawk District is strictly forbidden.
 - Rough housing and horseplay are strictly forbidden. Anyone wrestling or fighting will be immediately dismissed from the event.
 - NO RUNNING in camp.
 - Scouts are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will bring credit to their unit and the BSA.
 - No dogs/pets are allowed. (other than service animals)
- **Parking:** To avoid traffic jams, and in the spirit of Scouting, we urge Troops to carpool! Parking is extremely limited. Upon arrival Friday evening, participants will be directed to a parking spot. Please follow all instructions from the parking staff. There is no parking at unit campsites and all belongings and equipment must be carried to your campsite. You will be directed to your campsite location upon arrival by Spook-O-Ree Staff.
- **Stay Together:** All Troops will use two-deep adult supervision during the entire event. Use the Buddy System. Stay on time, stay together. Please walk, don't run – stations aren't far apart.
- **Uniforms:** The scout uniform will be the Utility (Class B) uniform for all scouts (i.e. pants, Pack t-shirt, jacket) and is the uniform for Saturday activities. The Official (Class A) Scout Uniform is encouraged for Sunday morning. We encourage Halloween costumes for our Saturday campfire.
- **Outdoor Gear:** Mid-October temperatures can get wet and chilly. Dress in layers for the conditions. Carry at least one full liter bottle of water each, and bring rain gear and a flashlight. Wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots. Keep shoes laced. No open toed shoes including crocs, sandals or "flip-flops."

- **Camping:** Troops must bring their own camping and cooking gear. Campsites will be pre-assigned by unit upon registration. Most units will be camping at Spook-O-Ree. We encourage low impact camping with clean, compact campsites. **Troops are asked to keep individual tent sizes to a reasonable minimum.**
- **Cooking:** Patrols will eat all meals family-style at their campsite, to include the Saturday Lunch rotation. Safely dispose of ashes in designated fire rings ensuring there is no trash or partially burnt wood left in the ring. Ground fires are only permitted in designated fire rings. Remember to keep cold things cold in coolers and eat hot food while it is hot.
- **Water:** Water will be available for use during the event but each attendee should bring their own water bottle and units should bring jugs to hold water for cooking along with water coolers for their campsite.
- **Restrooms:** Rented portable toilets and water-free handwashing stations are located at the campgrounds. Certain toilets will be reserved for women only and others ADA-compliant for the disabled. All units are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the facilities. It is recommended that units bring extra toilet paper, hand sanitizer, and other toiletries.
- **Showers and Flushing Toilets:** Due to construction at Camp Saffran, the pool shower house is not available. If a shower is needed, the pool house at Camp Spencer is available. Flushing toilets for adults are available at the Saffran Trading Post and behind RHQ.
- **Fires:** No smoking except in parking areas. (Smoking is discouraged entirely during the event.) Each unit may build one small campfire. Unless contained in a designated fire ring, fires must be built on a fireproof base off the ground at least to prevent ground scorching, kept small, and attended to at all times. Leave No Trace or have no fire! Each campfire must have a water bucket. Fires must be extinguished with water until the ashes are cold. We'll have a large "evening campfire" on Saturday.
 - NOTE: Depending on weather conditions, there may be a ban on having any fires except cooking stoves.
- **Leave No Trace!** Keep campsites neat, clean, and safe. Take care of your own trash. Do not burn or bury any trash. Trash should be disposed of in the dumpster.
- **Emergencies:** If you get lost or have an emergency, find any adult Staff member. All stations will have two-way radios. The District will have a 24 hour First Aid Station on site, manned by radio-equipped qualified first responders for minor issues. Medical emergencies will be handled by Harford County Fire/EMS. (see *Emergency*

Procedures) If you need assistance please text or call event staff at 410-514-3146.

- **Instructions and Questions:** You'll get final instructions, map and rotation schedule at Friday's 9 PM Adult Leader Meeting. If you have questions or something to bring to the Staff's attention, please visit admin.
- **Check Out:** Each unit should send two Scouts to admin to request a site checkout inspection once they have fully patrolled their campsite, prior to departure from camp on Sunday. Your request will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Prohibited Items:** Fireworks, Firearms, Weapons, Televisions, Video Games, CD Players, iPods/MP3 Players, electronic game players, illegal drugs, tobacco products, alcohol.

Suggested Gear List

Pack light and smart for and BE PREPARED for chilly rain and wind in the worst case.

Personal Gear (carry in a backpack, suitcase, duffle bag, or clean garbage bag)

- **Travel and arrive in your CLASS A!**

- Halloween Costume for Saturday campfire!
- Pants and Unit T-Shirt(s) (Friday night and Saturday day)
- Fleece sweater or pullover (Note: cotton “hoodies” rob body heat if they get wet)
- Jacket or light coat – dress in layers: If you get warm, pull a layer off...if you get cold – put a layer on.
- Rain jacket/parka or poncho – outermost layer if rainy
- Scout Hat or knit cap
- Underwear: two changes
- Socks: one pair on your feet and two extra pair of socks in case your feet get wet
- Hiking boots (if you have them) or sturdy shoes (**no crocs, sandals, flip-flops, or open toed shoes!**)
- Sleeping bag with light blanket
- Sleeping pad (solid or inflatable)
- Tent (2-3 person tent for one scout and a parent)
- A tarp or ground cover for under the tent
- Pillow (optional – you can roll your jacket as a pillow)
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, hand soap, hand towel
- Medicine (kept with Parent, Adult Guardian, or Unit Leader)
- Liter water bottle, filled with fresh water
- Small flashlight or headlamp with fresh batteries
- Folding pocket knife (only if the scout has earned their Totin’ Chip)
- Mess kit or unbreakable plate, cup, and fork
- Bug spray

Unit Gear (consolidated together in the Unit Equipment Vehicle/Trailer)

- Final Unit Roster and Health Forms for ALL youth and adults (with Adult Leader at check-in)
- Scouts BSA, Venturing, or Ship Handbook (one can be shared among Unit members)

- Water jugs/water cooler
- Lanterns (fresh batteries) or Propane Lanterns (adult operator only)
- Cooler with ice (keep cold food cold)
- Propane Stove or Charcoal Grill on stand (adult operator only)
- Wash basin, detergent, paper towels, trash bags, spare toilet paper, hand sanitizer
- Cooking equipment: pots, skillet, spatula, tongs, serving spoons
- Spare paper plates, plastic ware, cups
- Unit First Aid Kit
- Trash bags, pack in/pack out camping
- Dining Fly/Tarp (optional)
- Camp Chairs (optional)

Meal Planning (Be sure to include your scouts in the planning and let them cook under adult supervision!)

- Friday night: bring snacks or eat supper before arrival at Spook-O-Ree
- Saturday Breakfast
- Saturday Lunch: something pre-prepared or relatively fast (your Unit will have 1 hour and 20 minutes for lunch)
- Saturday Dinner: make this the Fun Feast for the weekend and be sure the scouts help cook
- Sunday Breakfast: simple and fast

Spook-O-Ree Weekend Schedule

[CLICK HERE FOR MOST UP TO DATE SCHEDULE.](#)

The Scout Oath

On my honor, I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To
help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

The Scout Law

A Scout is:

- ✿ Trustworthy,
- ✿ Loyal,
- ✿ Helpful,
- ✿ Friendly,
- ✿ Courteous,
- ✿ Kind,
- ✿ Obedient,
- ✿ Cheerful,
- ✿ Thrifty,
- ✿ Brave,
- ✿ Clean,
- ✿ and Reverent.



The Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to...

- Be clean in my outdoor manners
- Be careful with fire
- Be considerate in the outdoors, and
- Be conservation minded.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency the administration area is the rally point. Non-critical injuries should be treated at the unit (Band Aid First Aid) if additional treatment is necessary the Scout needs to report to Administration, 911 will be called. Be prepared for a trip to the hospital. Staff trained in CPR and First Aid will be on site.

If an emergency occurs then follow the emergency action steps should be executed:

CHECK -- CALL -- CARE.

CHECK -- Check the scene for safety -- if the scene is safe then approach the victim and check for responsiveness. If the scene is unsafe, call for help. If the victim is unconscious or confused or suffering from a life-threatening condition then call 9-1-1

CALL -- For life-threatening and serious medical emergencies: 9-1-1 (and notify event staff).

CARE – Get assistance from the trained Health and Safety First Responder Team located at admin to provide care for life-threatening conditions. Do not move the patient unless the area becomes unsafe or you have to move him to provide care for life-threatening conditions (e.g., CPR).

LIGHTNING SAFETY

NOAA's National Weather Service says "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!" If you can hear the thunder then you are in the danger zone. Stay inside until 30 minutes after you last hear thunder.

Each year in the United States, more than 400 people are struck by lightning. On average, about 62 people are killed and many others suffer permanent neurological disabilities.¹ Most of these tragedies can be avoided if proper precautions are taken. Lightning leaves many victims with permanent disabilities. While only a small percentage of lightning strike victims die, many survivors must learn to live with very serious, lifelong disabilities.

NOAA's NWS no longer recommends the crouch position. The crouch position has not been proven effective and it can take up precious time that the person at risk could use to run to a safer location. Also, since the NWS guidance is written for the general public the lightning safety awareness committee (the group that prepares the NWS guidance on the NOAA website) is concerned that the general public might

mistakenly get the impression that the crouch position is an acceptable method to reduce the risk of injury.

Acceptable courses of action when the person hears thunder are to get inside a safe building. A safe building is one that is fully enclosed with a roof, walls and floor, with electrical wiring and plumbing. (safest course of action) or safe vehicle. A safe vehicle is any fully enclosed metal-topped vehicle such as a hard-topped car, minivan, bus, truck, etc. (less safe than a safe building) if one is nearby, and for a person in the backcountry where there are no safe buildings or vehicles (such as the backcountry at Philmont Scout Ranch), to take cover in a forest, in a stand of the shorter trees, staying as far as possible from any single tree, if possible. The person should keep their feet together.

BE AWARE

To estimate the distance between you and a lightning flash, you can use the “Flash to Bang” method: If you observe lightning, count the number of seconds until you hear thunder. Divide the number of seconds by five to get the distance in miles. Remember that if you can hear the thunder then you are in the danger zone.

SEVERE STORM EMERGENCY

The camp shall operate on a (2) two tiered storm emergency plan:

Tier 1 Emergency

Unit leader's discretion. Shelter in place. Be prepared to evacuate.

Tier 2 Evacuation

In the event of a severe storm emergency declaration all scouts and scouters SHALL evacuate the campsite to vehicles.

Tier 2 evacuation will be announced by 3 (three) distinctive blasts of either an air horn, or car horn.

Tier 2 “All Clear” will be announced by 2 (two) distinctive blasts of either an air horn, or car horn.

The unit leader will perform an accountability check for his/her unit and will report to the Administration area either in person or send a responsible representative with the ability to report back to the unit leader any further instructions.

INJURIES AND ILLNESS

If any of our adults who attend this event are medical professionals then please let the Camporee Staff know upon your arrival. If units know of campers with serious medical problems, please discreetly inform the Health and Safety Staff.

A trained Health and Safety First Responder Team will be available at all times for minor first aid. For a medical emergency that requires emergency medical services (EMS) dial 911 and tell the dispatcher your location (including directions to get to site at camp). Please stay on the line until the dispatcher releases you. Send someone to the designated site access point to escort the EMS personnel to the patient. Notify Event admin immediately. Troops are responsible for ensuring compliance with youth protection guidelines by providing additional Scouts or Scouters in the event a Scout is transported offsite for treatment. **YPT (1 Adult and 2 additional scouts or 2 adults)**

In the event of an emergency, contact any member of the Camp staff; they will be able to get you the help you need. The Health and Safety Staff will have FRS radios for the event. If a Troop Scoutmaster or other Adult Leader desires to stay in contact with the Health and Safety Staff using his own FRS radio, please bring the radio to the Friday evening Leaders meeting and the Health and Safety Officer will provide the channel they will be operating on. Adults only please!

911 Camp Address:

Camp Saffran
1929 Susquehanna Hall Road
Whiteford, MD 21160

Campfire Participation Form

Please use the following digital form:

<https://forms.gle/aXGbcEgkvEyU6TgX9>



*****ensure you review the Skit Guidelines before submitting:***

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NCS-Ceremonies-and-Campfire-Guidance-1.pdf>