

Bashore Scout Reservation

2026 SPL Guide



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Welcome

Welcome to camp. As the Senior Patrol Leader of your troop, you have an important role to fill this week. With that role comes certain responsibilities. Your troop is counting on you to lead them through the week. It is also your chance to show your troop that they have chosen the right person for the job.

In addition to being the leader of your troop, you are also the link between your troop and the camp staff. As the Program Director, it is my job to give you the information and support you need to make that happen. Think of me as your assistant and your advisor.

The purpose of this guide is to help you. It will answer many of the questions you might have. Consult it often. If you can't find the answers to your questions or you need help with anything, let me know. Please feel free to contact me at program@campbashore524.org. I will do everything I can to help you and your troop have a great week at camp.

Donovan Hoffman,
Program Director



CHECK-IN

Once you arrive at camp you will need to gather your troop together. A staff member will find you and guide your troop through check-in at your assigned check in time. This includes photos, swim tests, medical checks, dining hall orientation, shooting sports orientation, a general tour of camp, and will finish at your campsite. At your campsite you, a troop leader and your staff guide will need to complete a campsite inspection. Check for anything that needs to be repaired or replaced. We want to make sure that your campsite is ready for the week. You, your troop leader, and your guide will sign the sheet when inspection is finished.. When check-in is finished, you and your troop can set up.



QUARTERMASTER

While inspecting your campsite with your guide, you will notice some essential items such as some wood tools, and latrine supplies. Your guide will check these with you and take care of anything that is missing or needs to be replaced. If you need any other supplies or equipment, have your Troop Quartermaster see A staff member for assistance. If you find yourself in need of anything throughout the week, come to the same place.

COLORS

The morning colors ceremony will begin at 7:45 on the parade field next to the dining hall. Line up behind your troop's marker on the field. The Program Director will check to see if your troop is present and on time. The ceremony will then begin. After the ceremony SPLs will be invited to the daily SPL meeting and troops will be dismissed into the dining hall.

The evening colors ceremony will begin at 5:45. Line up behind your troop's marker on the parade field and the ceremony will begin just as it had for morning colors. After the ceremony, troops will be dismissed to the dining hall for the evening meal.

Your troop may wish to provide the color guard for a flag ceremony. If so, see the Program Director to make the necessary arrangements. You will need to give enough advance notice so that you can practice the ceremony. If your troop has a bugler, he will also be welcome to participate.



MEALS

Troops may enter the dining hall for breakfast after the morning colors ceremony. Follow the instructions of the dining hall steward to finish setting up. Lunch will be served at 12:15. Report to the dining hall and wait outside. The dining hall steward will let you know when to enter. Dinner will be served after the evening colors ceremony. For all meals please enter in silence and stand at your table until grace is offered. The dining hall steward will then instruct you on what to do. When the meal is over, the staff will conduct a program of songs and announcements. You will then be dismissed by a staff member.

Waiters need to report to the dining hall 15 minutes before colors to set up. Space to schedule Waiters can be found in the troop plan. While setting the tables, waiters should take a staff totem from the mantle for each empty seat at your tables. This is a nice way to invite a staff member to eat with your troop. We recommend taking different staff totems at each meal so you can get to know the whole staff.

EMERGENCIES

If at any time you hear the camp alarm sound, it means we have an emergency situation. Everyone in camp needs to stop what they are doing and report immediately to the parade field at the dining hall. Assemble by troop and remain quiet. Attendance will be taken. Make sure you have an accurate count. You will be called by troop. Respond as follows:

“All present, sir.”

(Everyone from your troop is present.)

“We are missing ‘#’, sir.”

(Someone is absent and you don’t know where they are. We will question you further.)

Sometimes this will be a drill. In all cases, however, you must respond as if this were the real thing. Remember, time is extremely important. Be Prepared!

For more detailed emergency procedures, [see this link](#).

SPL MEETINGS

There will be a Senior Patrol Leader Meeting every morning, Monday through Friday on the parade field. The meeting will take place after the colors are raised and before you go to breakfast. It would be helpful if you bring something to write with and something to write in. There may be information given at the meeting that won’t be published anywhere else so it is important that you are able to give that information to your troop.

There will also be a SPL meeting after Scoutmaster Splash on Thursday night. This will take place on the Nature Lodge Porch. Come prepared with questions and suggestions to help us improve your camp Bashore experience in the future.

YOUR CAMPSITE

Your campsite is your home away from home for the week. While there, you will want to make sure it is safe, clean, and comfortable for your troop. We have some suggestions that will help to make sure it is a site you can be proud of.

- ✿ Make sure tents are neat and clean.
- ✿ Be aware of the weather and close your tent flaps if it might rain.
- ✿ All personal equipment should be put away.
- ✿ Clotheslines must be at least six feet high.
- ✿ Nothing should be hanging from the outriggers.
- ✿ Clean out the fire circle
- ✿ Pick up trash.
- ✿ Have a well defined axe yard.
- ✿ Hammocks should be hung below six feet and no two hammocks should be between the same two trees

If you need any help with this, our Camp Commissioners are ready, willing, and able.

Also, you will want to build a gateway to your campsite and display your troop flag. This will help to identify your troop and show pride in who you are. A competition will also take place for our “Outstanding Gateway” award throughout the week.

VESPERS

A Scout is Reverent. An Interfaith Chapel Service will take place on Tuesday evening at 9:00 in the chapel. Your Chaplain's Aide is invited to participate in the service. Please enter the chapel area with reverence and respect. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



CAMPWIDE GAMES

The Campwide Games will be held on Thursday evening. This year's Campwide Challenge: "Under the Sea". Showing your strengths through teamwork and skills in challenges atypical to the environment they are in. Come prepared with your best synchronized swimming routine

CAMPFIRE

There will be two campfires during the week. The first is on Sunday evening and presented to you through the courtesy and talents of the staff. Assemble in the meadow by the Nature Lodge at 7:30. We will proceed together to the campfire circle.

The second campfire is your troop's moment to shine. It is now your turn to show off for the staff and your parents. We will meet Friday evening at the same time and place: 7:30 in the meadow by the Nature Lodge.

To participate, make arrangements with the Program Director during the week to audition your act. You must do this before Thursday at 1:00 PM. All acts need to reflect the ideals and values of Scouting. If you have any questions, see the Program Director.

Two additional duties of the SPL are to help build Friday's campfire and to help serve as M.C. for Friday night. The Program Director will give you more details at the daily SPL meeting.



BADEN-POWELL AWARD

There is more to summer camp than just merit badges. Each patrol has the opportunity to earn the Baden-Powell Patrol Award. To earn this award, each patrol will have a number of activities to complete. Some are required and some are optional. Check to make sure that the proper person signs each requirement. While the award allows scouts to practice many skills, the main objective is to build team work within the patrol. As patrols complete the requirements, have the patrol leaders turn the sheets in to the Program Director. Please be sure they are turned in by 1:00 PM on Friday. Each patrol will need its own award form, which can be found [at this link](#).



TROOP AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

While the Baden-Powell Patrol Award allows teamwork within the patrol, the Troop Award of Excellence brings all of your patrols together for a common goal. This award has a number of requirements that your troop will need to complete to earn the award. These will encourage your troop to live by the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law. Again, please return the award sheet to the Program Director by 1:00 PM on Friday. Make sure you are using the most current version of this form, found [at this link](#).



MERIT BADGE LOCATOR

Archery—Shooting Sports Art—Handicraft Astronomy—Nature Basketry—Handicraft Bird Study—Nature Bugling—Donovan Camping—Campcraft Canoeing—Lake Chemistry—STEM Lab Climbing—Barn Cooking—Campcraft Electricity—STEM Lab Emerg. Preparedness—Campcraft Environmental Science—Nature First Aid—Campcraft Fishing—Campcraft Forestry—Nature Game Design—Handicraft Geocaching—Campcraft Hiking—Campcraft Insect Study—Nature	Kayaking—Lake Leatherwork—Handicraft Lifesaving—Pool Mammal Study—Nature Metalwork—Handicraft Music—Donovan Nature—Nature Orienteering—Campcraft Pioneering—Campcraft Reptile & Amphibian Study—Nature Rifle Shooting—Shooting Sports Rowing—Lake Shotgun Shooting—Shooting Sports Signs Signals and Codes—Campcraft Small-Boat Sailing—Lake Soil and Water Conservation—Nature Space Exploration—STEM Lab Swimming—Pool Textile—Handicraft Weather—Nature Wilderness Survival—Campcraft
Other Programs Blue Mountaineers Program—Blue Mountaineers area COPE—COPE area Green Bar Scout Program—Blue Mountaineers area Instructional Swim—Pool Leave No Trace Training—Campcraft Build It—STEM Lab Test It—STEM Lab Film It—STEM Lab Trades and Technology—Maintenance area	

REMINDERS

- ✿ Morning colors are at 7:45, followed by breakfast.
- ✿ Evening colors are at 5:45, followed by dinner. Wear Class A uniforms.
- ✿ There will be daily SPL meetings at 7:45 am, right after flags, before breakfast and one more on Thursday after Scoutmaster Splash.
- ✿ Thursday is dress down day. Have fun!
- ✿ Campfire auditions should be done before Thursday at 5:00.
- ✿ [Baden-Powell](#) and [Troop Award of Excellence](#) forms are due by Friday by the end of Siesta.
- ✿ If you have any questions or concerns, see the Program Director.

LINKS TO FORMS

[Baden-Powell Patrol Award form](#)

[Troop Award of Excellence form](#)

[Program Plan](#) (general and blank)

[Merit Badge Schedule](#)

[Camp Map](#)

[Emergencies Procedures in Camp](#)

[Suggested Packing List](#)