

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – TROOP WEEKEND CAMPING

McNair Cub Adventure Camp at Bovay Scout Ranch

ATTENDANCE

Can a Boy Scout Troop camp at Cub Adventure Camp?

Yes, on a limited basis. Program areas at Cub Adventure Camp are restricted to members of the Cub Scouting program. Age-appropriate activities are crucial to the development of our young people.

Troops can, however, arrange to camp at Cub Adventure Camp if they agree to work on a conservation project or service project for a minimum of 3-4 hours. Projects will vary, depending on what is available. Troops may choose to prepare their own food (cooked on propane stoves only) or, for a nominal fee, eat their meals in the Dining Hall.

May I bring my pet?

No. Pets should stay home. Bovay Scout Ranch has its own wild critters for you to listen to, look at, and observe -- but not touch!

PROGRAM

What facilities are provided at Cub Adventure Camp?

Cub Adventure Camp at Bovay Scout Ranch features a 500-seat air-conditioned dining hall, spacious campsite pavilions, trading post, flush toilets, hot showers, headquarters building, 20 campsites, aquatic park, seven program theme areas, and 1400 acres of safe, secure rolling hills and lake view vistas.

Boy Scout Troops provide their own program for weekend camping at Bovay Scout Ranch.

Can everyone go fishing? Do you need a license? Can you bring your own pole, bait, and tackle?

Yes, everyone can go fishing. You do not need a license as all lakes are Catch and Release only. You are welcome to bring your own bait, pole, and tackle. The program areas around the lake (Indian Village, Paddlewheeler, and the Fort) will provide fishing poles on a limited basis.

Can we build a campfire?

Yes. There is a provision for wood-burning fires or charcoal fires at each campsite at Bovay Scout Ranch. Bring your own wood and charcoal. Two natural gas campfire arenas, each seating up to 500 people, are available and can be reserved by your troop.

Can I retire a flag at the campfire ring?

Yes. Since the campfire rings are in your campsite, the retiring of flags is approved at Bovay Scout Ranch.

May I bring my own BMX bike to camp? May I bring my bike to Camp?

Yes. You may bring your own bike to ride at the camporee site or Cub Adventure Camp as long as BSA Biking Guidelines are used which require wearing approved helmets and being accompanied by an adult while riding. A bike trail is planned for the camporee area.

You may not ride on the BMX track.

May I take a wild animal home from camp?

No. Campers should not attempt to handle wild animals at any time. Bovay Scout Ranch has a wide variety of wildlife to observe, but campers should remember not to disturb them or their environment.

CAMPSITES

How many people can be assigned a campsite?

The average campsite is designed for 50 people. Larger units will require an additional adjacent campsite.

May I choose my campsite?

No. Campsites are assigned by the registrar because we rotate campsites each week. Campsites will be assigned in as close proximity as possible to the program areas in which you will be participating.

Are tents provided for everyone in my family, group, den, and pack for the weekend?

No. There are only 8 (eight) tents per campsite, which are set up on concrete pads. These tents are intended for those new campers in the pack who do not have a tent of their own. This is to make camping more *readily* available to new families in Scouting. The troop leadership will assign these tents as necessary. There is plenty of room in each campsite to set up personal tents.

Usually Boy Scout Troops provide the own tentage.

Is there electricity in the tents or in the campsites?

There are lights in each campsite pavilion, the restrooms, and the showers but there are no lights in tents. There is one 12-amp receptacle at each campsite under the pavilion. However, fans, lights, or any other electrical appliances may *not* be run on extension cords from the pavilion to the tents.

Can we use bug candles? Can we use lanterns? What kind?

Bug candles cannot be used anywhere at camp due to the open flame policy. Propane or battery-powered lanterns are acceptable for general campsite use. No gas or kerosene lanterns should be brought to camp because liquid fuels are not allowed.

NOTE: Only flashlights and battery-powered lanterns are permitted in tents. No flames in tents is a BSA policy that must be enforced.

How many can sleep in one of the camp-provided tents?

Three cots will fit in one tent.

NOTE: As per BSA Youth Protection Guidelines, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his/her parent or guardian. Male and female leaders require separate tents; married couples may share the same tent.

May I bring my RV or pop-up camper?

Yes. There are spaces for RV's or pop-up campers at Bovay Scout Ranch at the end of Road B and at the camporee site if your District Events Committee elects to use them.

Tell me about the restroom and shower facilities.

There are modern restroom and shower facilities with flush toilets and hot showers located within 150 feet of each campsite at Cub Adventure Camp. We like to say that Cub Adventure Camp is a "first-time-camper friendly" environment. Bovay Scout Ranch has its own water and sewer system much like a small city. There are no restroom or shower facilities at the Duke Energy Camporee site. Port-o-potties are used there.

Is there poison ivy or poison oak at camp?

Yes. Poison ivy and poison oak are both found Bovay Scout Ranch, as well as many other types of plants and wildflowers native to south Texas.

MEALS

Are Boy Scouts at Cub Adventure Camp participants allowed to cook their own meals?

Yes Cub Adventure Camp has a full-service dining hall on site that will provide all meals. There are provisions in the campsites for fires but not for cooking of any meals. Meals must be cooked on propane stoves or using the "leave no trace" method.

May I bring a propane camp stove for preparing coffee at my campsite in the morning?

Yes. For your convenience, however, freshly brewed coffee will be available each morning in the dining hall beginning at 6:30 AM. We encourage you to take advantage of this service.

Can I use charcoal for Dutch oven cooking?

Yes. The use of wood, charcoal, fake paper logs, etc. is allowed at Bovay Scout Ranch but please consider their effects on the environment and safety of your outing. These may be used in the campsite fire ring provided.

May we bring our own food, snacks, and drinks?

Yes. We would prefer that you not bring your own snacks, however, as food in the campsite will attract critters. Our dining hall is fully stocked to provide all food necessary. Both snacks and drinks can be purchased at *Trader Vic's* trading post.

If your dietary needs are special, please feel free to bring some of your own food supplements if that will make your stay more comfortable. The full fee will be charged per person.

What do you have for me to eat? Do I get to choose my own menu? What about food allergies? Vegetarians? Kosher?

We serve a wide variety of food. The camp director chooses the menu, and it varies weekly. Most food allergies and dietary needs (including Kosher) can be met if we have your request in writing two weeks prior to arrival. Please fax your requests to the camp office (936-825-2456) stating: name, pack number, date attending camp, number of special meals required, type of special need required.

FEES

How much does it cost for Boy Scouts on a weekend at McNair Cub Adventure Camp?

There is no fee for Boy Scouts as long as a conservation or service project of 3-4 hours is completed during your stay at Bovay Scout Ranch. If your Troop chooses the meal service option the fees are Saturday \$5 for lunch and \$6 for supper and Sunday \$4 for breakfast.

What happens if it rains, thunderstorms, or we have inclement weather?

Camp goes on. In the rare event of hazardous conditions that require closing for the weekend, those persons designated as unit leaders on the registration forms will be contacted as early as possible prior to check-in.

Is the weekend patch included?

No, but extra patches can be purchased at *Trader Vic's* for \$2.00.

TROOP REGISTRATION

How far ahead can I sign up for a weekend at Cub Adventure Camp?

Contact the camp registrar for availability. We will accept reservations 16 months in advance of the activity.

When is it too late to reserve a weekend?

Camp is usually close to full each weekend we are open. We will know if there is room for Troops to attend 30 – 60 days prior to camp. As available, you may reserve a spot anytime prior to this date.

When is the last possible moment to add more people to my count? When do I pay for them?

Only changes to total numbers attending need to be submitted two weeks' prior. Substitutions of names of attendees within the unit can be made up to arrival time.

If your Troop is eating with us I need to know correct numbers for food 10 days prior to camp date,

NOTE: Significant additions may not be feasible, depending on the weekend. If the camp is full, we may not be able to accommodate additional campers.

How do we pay? If money is due.

Fees may be paid by check or by using major credit cards:

- Troops– Preferred method is one check from the unit account or a single charge to a leader's personal charge card.
- Troop check – Preferred method is one check or a single charge.
- Families – Check or charge.

TROOPS ARRIVING AT CAMP

May I arrive at camp on Friday night?

Yes. Starting after 1:00 PM till 9:00 PM.

Where do I go to check-in at camp?

For Cub Adventure Camp: As you enter camp on the paved road, follow it to the big green building. This is the Headquarters, and that's where check-in is located.

For camporee area participants: Go directly to the camporee area. Turn right at the sign just past the Walnut Grove House.

BOY SCOUT DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Is there a location available for large-scale district activities?

Yes. Boy Scout Ranch has a 100-acre camporee site available for district Cub Scout and Boy Scout activities. This site is equipped with a 750 car all-weather parking lot. Potable water and access roads make this site a first class area. Your District Executive will facilitate reservations.

Please note that in keeping with sound, environmental friendly ideals, only propane cooking fires are permitted. As in Cub Adventure Camp, no open flame is allowed and natural-gas campfire program areas are required to be used. **Showers are not available at the camporee area and portable latrines are necessary for sanitary needs.**

Can the camporee site users use the dining hall, water park, nature center or any other areas of the McNair Cub Adventure Camp?

Maybe. This is handled on a case-by-case basis through the camp director. As a general rule, camporee activities are usually limited to the camporee area and Cub Adventure Camp facilities are limited to those reserving campsites in that area. The decision to allow a camporee to use additional sites is based on the camp schedule and the numbers in camp. These areas may not be reserved ahead of time.

Where do I go to check-in at camp?

Camporee area participants should go directly to the camporee area. Turn right at the sign just past the Walnut Grove House.

Can I use a gasoline-powered electric generator?

Yes. This may be accommodated on a case-by-case basis for district events only. Ask your District Executive to facilitate this request directly with the Camp Director.

FAQs - Revised January 2003