

# READ ME FIRST!

## Welcome to Troop 250!

This sheet is designed to be a quick-reference guide to help you to become familiar with some of the basic information regarding scouting. We welcome your son and your entire family into our Troop!

## Scouts, Patrols & Troops

- A group of six to ten Scouts make a *Patrol*, and are given a patrol name such as Moose, Shark, Dragon, Owl, etc.
- A group of Patrols make a *Troop*—we are *Troop 250*
- A group of Troops make up a *District*—we are part of the *York District*
- A group of Districts make up a *Council*—we are part of the *Palmetto Council*
- Palmetto Council reports to the *National Office of the Boy Scouts of America*
- Grace Presbyterian Church is our *Chartered Organization*

## 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.

## Scout Motto *Be Prepared*

## Scout Slogan *Do a Good Turn Daily*

## Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful,  
friendly, courteous, kind, obedient,  
cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and  
reverent.

## Merit Badges

Merit Badges are an important part of the Boy Scout advancement program. Unlike ranks, there is a degree of choice in the merit badge program. A sub-group of merit badges are known as Eagle required merit badges. To earn Eagle Scout, most of these badges must be earned although some are "either/or" badges. The remainder of the badges help with earning ranks as well as Eagle. You can learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers as you earn merit badges. There are more than 100 merit badges to choose from. Any Boy Scout may earn any merit badge at any time.

## OA - Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow is the National Honor Society for Scouting. It uses American Indian traditions and ceremonies to bestow recognition on scouts selected by their peers as best exemplifying the ideals of Scouting. There are special Order of the Arrow events throughout the scout year.

## Troop Meetings (Monday 7pm)

- Offer a chance to sign up for events, work on scout skills, and prepare for upcoming Troop trips
- Patrols are assigned duties such as the opening ceremony

## Board of Review (Monthly)

- Verify that the Scout has completed the requirements for their next rank
- See how good an experience the Scout is having in the unit.
- Encourage the Scout to progress further

## Patrol Meetings (as-needed)

- Meeting of an individual patrol to work on any number of tasks such as advancement or a project for an upcoming trip

## Court of Honor

- Quarterly celebration to recognize the scouts' achievements
- Rank Advancements & Merit Badges are presented

## PLC Meetings (Monthly)

- Scout-led Patrol Leaders meeting to plan troop activities
- Following the PLC meeting, the patrol leader should update their patrol members with what was discussed

## Eagle Court of Honor

- Special celebration to honor one or more scouts that have earned the rank of Eagle Scout

## Trips, Events & Outings

- Week-long Summer Camp
- Shoebox Camping
- District Polar Bear Camporee
- Spring District Camporee
- Scouting for Food

## Trips, Events & Outings

- Rock Climbing
- Whitewater Rafting
- YMCA Team Building
- Horseback Riding
- Rifle / Shotgun Shooting

## Trips, Events & Outings

- Caving Trip
- Backpacking
- Deep Sea Fishing
- 10 & 20 Mile Hikes
- Mountain Biking



# READ ME TOO !

## Advancement

The Boy Scout advancement plan is designed to encourage Scouts to accomplish a progressive series of learning experiences in the areas of citizenship, character, and personal fitness objectives of the Boy Scouts program. This advancement plan measures and recognizes these experiences.

### Tenderfoot:

Tenderfoot is the first rank achieved in Boy Scouting. You must know the Oath, Law, Motto and Slogan and have displayed the knowledge of basic scouting abilities. Among the requirements are basic camping skills, basic knots and basic first aid skills.

### Second Class:

To achieve the Second Class rank you must show further abilities in scouting. You must show that you have learned more advanced skills in camping and first aid. You must show that you can properly use and navigate with a compass. You must also achieve a certain level of swimming ability. A minimum of 1 hour pre-approved community service is required.

### First Class:

First Class is the third level of rank in Boy Scouts. To achieve this rank you must again demonstrate your growing camping and orienteering skills. Your level of swimming skills also increases.

### Star:

At this stage in Boy Scouts you begin on the trail to Eagle. The first step in this is the rank of Star. To achieve Star you must earn 6 merit badges, 4 of which must be Eagle required badges. Your service project hours must be a minimum of 6 and approved by the Scoutmaster before starting. You must also serve for 4 months in one or more positions of responsibility within the troop.

### Life:

The next step in the trail to eagle is Life. You must earn 5 more merit badges, 3 of which must be Eagle required. Your service project hours must be a minimum of 6 and approved by the Scoutmaster before starting. A Scout must actively serve in a position of responsibility for 6 months.

### Eagle:

The highest rank in scouting is Eagle. To achieve this rank you must have a total of 21 merit badges, 12 of which must be Eagle required. You must serve in a position of responsibility for 6 months. As a final service project you must plan develop and lead a project that will be helpful to a religious institution, school or your community. This project must be submitted and approved by the Troop Committee.

## Key Troop Contacts

Scoutmaster	Robert Mercer	roblmercer3@aol.com	(803) 548-5533
Advancement	Kaye Boone	kayepboone@gmail.com	(803) 547-6137
Merit Badge Progress	Rick Pugh	jkpugh@comporium.net	(803) 547-6345
Target First Class Coordinator	Devon Mahoney	devonamy@msn.com	(803) 746-5890
Star / Life Coordinator	Chase Foster	c2foster@comporium.net	(803) 802-3708
Service Hours	Mike Stacy	mike.s.Stacy@pepsico.com	(704) 340-8439
Troop Treasurer	Paul Smith	paul_smith@comporium.net	(803) 547-2367
Troop Communications	Bill Ruddy	bruddy@ccllabel.com	(803) 802-2709
Committee Chair	Wes Caudle	wesc237@hotmail.com	(803) 548-6538



### Helpful Websites

- Troop 250 Website:** [www.bsa250.org/troop250](http://www.bsa250.org/troop250)  
**York District:** [www.palmettocouncil.org/York](http://www.palmettocouncil.org/York)  
**Palmetto Council:** [www.palmettocouncil.org](http://www.palmettocouncil.org)  
**BSA National Site:** [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)  
**Safe Scouting Guide:** [www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety/GSS/toc.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety/GSS/toc.aspx)

