



PARENTS'

GUIDE TO CUB SCOUTING

2024 - 2025

Seneca Waterways Council, Scouting America

Scouting America
Seneca Waterways Council

MY DEN & PACK INFORMATION

My child is in the Seneca Waterways Council

My child is in Pack # _____ My child is in Den # _____

My child's Den type is (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos) _____

My child's Den Leader's name is _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

My child's Cubmaster's name is _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

My child's Den meets on _____ at _____
day time

The meeting location is _____

My child's Pack meeting will be on _____ at _____
day time

The meeting location is _____

Our Pack Committee meets on _____ at _____
day time

My District Executive is _____

Phone number _____

Email Address _____ @ Scouting.org

I can reach the Scout Servicer at:

Scouting America, Seneca Waterways Council
2320 Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road Rochester, NY 14623
Phone: (585) 244-4210
Fax: (585) 256-8533

Use the QR Code for
our website and follow
us on social media



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**Scouting
America**

Seneca Waterways Council

WELCOME TO SCOUTING!

For over a century, families like yours have enjoyed the incredible experiences that Scouting offers, and we're thrilled to have you start your Scouting journey with us. One of the greatest aspects of Scouting is the opportunity for parents to actively participate in the program. Scouting is powered by volunteers—parents like you who are dedicated to creating a fantastic experience for their children and their friends. They continue because they're making lifelong memories with their kids.

While it's not required for parents to become registered leaders, it's certainly encouraged. There are many ways to contribute to your Pack's success, whether by taking on a visible role or helping behind the scenes. After all, many hands make light work! More importantly, when parents get involved, their children benefit even more from Cub Scouting.

Thank you for joining us on this Scouting adventure and for all you'll do to support your children and their friends along the way.

WHAT IS SCOUTING?

Your child, scouting and you...

As a parent, you want your child to grow up to be a self-reliant, dependable and caring person. Scouting has these same goals in mind for boys and girls.

Scouting teaches first aid, swimming, outdoor skills, hiking, camping, and many other skills—life skills boys and girls will take with them into adulthood.

Did you know?

For every 100 Scouts:

- 18 will develop hobbies that will last throughout their adult life
- 8 will enter a career that was learned through activity badges
- 5 will learn their religious emblem award
- 2 will become Eagle Scouts
- 1 will enter the clergy
- 1 will use their Scout skills to save a life
- 1 will use their Scout skills to save his own life

Scouting alumni include:

- Over 90 million Scouts since 1910
- 90% of the first 26 astronauts
- 89% of Senior Class Presidents
- 85% of Student Council Presidents
- 85% of FBI agents 72% of Rhodes Scholars
- 70% of Annapolis graduates
- 68% of West Point Academy graduates
- 63% of Air Force Academy graduates

PACK FACTS

YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A DEN.

- A den has 4 to 8 boys or girls each and meets once a week
- The den is led by a trained Den Leader (usually a parent) and is assisted by an Assistant Den Leader
- Den meetings offer age-appropriate activities with friends



YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A PACK.

- A pack is made up of several dens and meets once a month
- The monthly pack meeting is led by the Cubmaster
- The pack meeting is the culmination of the month's den meetings and activities. Pack meetings may have games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of awards that the Cub Scouts earned that month

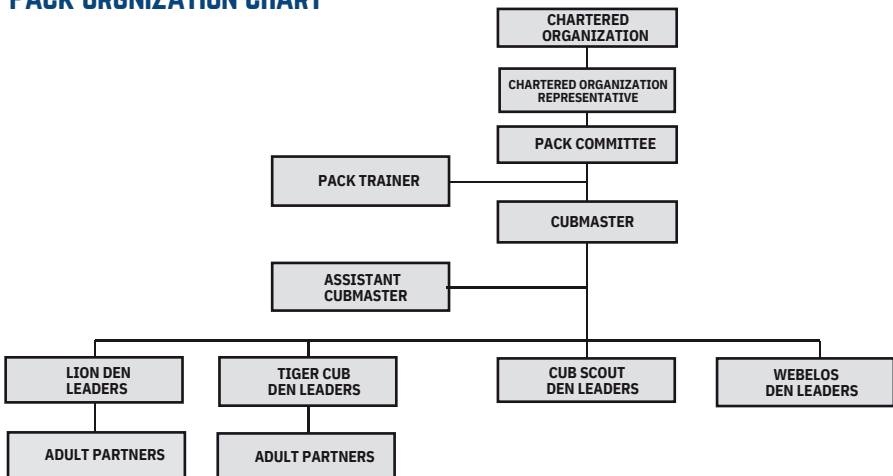
THE PACK IS RUN BY THE PACK COMMITTEE

- The pack committee is made up of a group of qualified adults appointed by the chartered organization to administer the program of the pack. Usually the committee members, as well as other pack leaders, are parents of youth in the pack.

THE PACK IS OWNED BY THE CHARTERED ORGANIZATION

- The chartered organization approves leaders, provides a meeting place, and operates packs within the guidelines and policies of the chartered organization and Scouting America.

PACK ORGNIZATION CHART



WHAT DO CUB SCOUTS DO?

Cub Scouts work toward specific rank advancements. All ranks are designed to be age and grade specific and completed in sections called Adventures! The responsibility of a child's advancement in Cub Scouting lies with the family. Many Adventures are completed at den meetings, and some are done at home with the family.

Adventures are different for each age group, and use themes of Character and Leadership, the Outdoors, Personal Fitness, Citizenship, Personal Safety, and Family.

Boys and girls may join Cub Scouts at any point during the year. In some cases they may not be able to complete all of the Adventures for a given age group, however they can still participate in all of the fun activities and growth opportunities.



CUB SCOUT MOTTO - DO YOUR BEST

In a society where your child is often taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches each child to “do their best” and be helpful to others as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law. Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood-centered program designed to support family life for boys and girls in kindergarten through fifth grades. Each Cub Scout learns to respect their home, country, God, and other people. The program also helps boys and girls to:

- Learn new physical skills through sports, crafts, and games
- Learn how to get along with others through group activities
- Reinforce mental skills such as writing and calculating
- Develop personal independence

A Cub Scout den provides your son or daughter with a group of children of the same age in which they can earn awards and recognition. In the den, they will also gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills learned.

CUB SCOUT RANKS

Your Scouting adventure will see your Cub Scout progress from rank to rank, learning new skills as along the way. Each of the ranks and awards in Cub Scouting has its own requirements. As a Cub Scout advances, the requirements get more challenging to match the new skills and abilities learned appropriate to age development. For more information on advancement, visit CubScouts.org.

LION - KINDERGARTEN



- Children participate with their parent/guardian at each meeting
- Dens consist of 4-8 boys or girls each, a Den Leader guides the process
- In most cases the Den get together twice each month (once as a meeting and once as an outing)
- Each adult partner takes a turn working with the Den Leader to plan and lead an age-appropriate Den meeting/activity
- Take part in monthly Pack meeting

The Lion program is designed especially for kindergarten-aged youth. It is a great experience for both the child and the parent.

TIGER - FIRST GRADE



- Children sign up with their parent/guardian Boys and girls become part of separate Tiger dens having 4-8 boys or girls each and their partners
- One adult partner will be the Tiger Den Leader
- Tiger dens meet regularly (usually weekly)
- Take part in a monthly pack meeting
- Each adult partner takes a turn working with the Den Leader to plan and lead an age-appropriate den meeting/activity

WOLF - SECOND GRADE



- Wolf Scout dens consist of 4-8 boys or girls each
- Each den meets regularly (usually weekly)
- Dens also participate in monthly pack meetings
- One parent is the Den Leader and conducts meetings on his or her schedule
- The Den Leader is assisted by one or more assistant leaders (parents of the other children)
- Den meetings consist of age-appropriate ceremonies, games, crafts, songs and skills

BEAR - THIRD GRADE

- Bear Scout dens consist of 4-8 boys or girls each
- Each den meets regularly (usually weekly)
- Dens also participate in monthly pack meetings
- One parent is the Den Leader and conducts meetings on his or her schedule
- The Den Leader is assisted by one or more assistant leaders (parents of the other children)
- Den meetings consist of age-appropriate ceremonies, games, crafts, songs and skills



WEBELOS & ARROW OF LIGHT - FOURTH & FIFTH GRADE

- Webelos and Arrow of Light are programs designed to prepare boys and girls to transition into the older Scout program
- Each den consists of 4-8 boys or girls each
- Each den meets regularly (usually weekly) and participates in monthly pack meetings
- A parent of one of the children is the Den Leader and conducts meetings on his or her schedule
- The Den Leader is assisted by one or more assistant leaders (parents of the other children)
- Meetings consist of age-appropriate ceremonies, games, crafts, songs and skills



UNIFORMS

Uniforms are highly recommended as they provide a special way for Scouts to display awards earned and show Scout spirit. Each pack has its own plan for uniforms, and they are available for purchase at the Scout Shop in Rochester, at 2320 Brighton-Henrietta TL Road, Rochester, NY 14623.



PACK BUDGET

The pack prepares an annual budget to fund their “ideal year” of Scouting which includes for most packs: den and pack activities, awards and advancements, recognition, summer camp, and Cub Parent Weekends. Packs fund the annual budget in a variety of ways including by selling popcorn or charging dues.



THE COUNCIL PRODUCT (POPCORN & NUT) SALE

Each year the Seneca Waterways Council conducts its annual popcorn and nut sale to benefit the Scouting programs of our Units and the Council. More than 70% of the sale proceeds are returned to the local Scouting program. A number of packs sell popcorn and nuts as their only fundraiser of the year and are able to pay for all of their activities from the proceeds.

Most packs participate in the Council sponsored popcorn and nut sale which offsets or eliminates pack dues for Scout families and also helps Cub Scouts raise enough money for their summertime camp experiences.



THE ANNUAL PACK PROGRAM

Packs conduct a well planned and organized annual program. You will receive a specific calendar of events for your pack, which may include several of the following:

BLUE & GOLD BANQUET

Celebrate the anniversary of Scouting in February with your pack with dinner, entertainment, and special ceremonies. A Blue & Gold Banquet is also a good opportunity to host a Friends of Scouting (FOS) presentation with parents and family members present.

PINEWOOD DERBY

Cub Scouts and their parents build cars from wooden blocks and race. Awards may be given for fastest, best design, and much more.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

participate in a national service project to collect canned food that is then distributed to the needy in your community.

CUB SCOUT ADVENTURE CAMP

Opportunities are plentiful for your son and/or daughter to participate in high quality camping experience Cub Adventure Camp at Camp Cutler, or locally at our Cub Scout City Day Camp or Twilight Camp.

CUB SCOUT ADVANCEMENT

Earn belt loops and pins by participating in a wide variety of sports and academic activities.

FIELD TRIPS & ACTIVITIES

Your pack will participate in local field trips and in district and council activities like Scout Days with sports teams, Cubs in Camp, Scout week at Darien Lake and Seabreeze, and others.

PRODUCT SALE (POPCORN & NUTS)

Sell popcorn and nuts to earn money to help pay for your pack's activities and events. The sale also teaches your child the importance of being thrifty and about earning his/her own way. The Product Sale returns more than 70% of the proceeds to our local Council.



THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL & THE DISTRICT

The purpose of the Council is to guide and support Districts and their volunteers in order to serve as many young people as possible with Scouting programs of the highest caliber. The Seneca Waterways Council encompasses the five counties of Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne and Yates. The purpose of the District is to organize and support successful Cub Scout packs and Scouts BSA troops by working through chartered organizations. The end result of effective district support is continued growth in membership and the delivery of a quality program to all members.

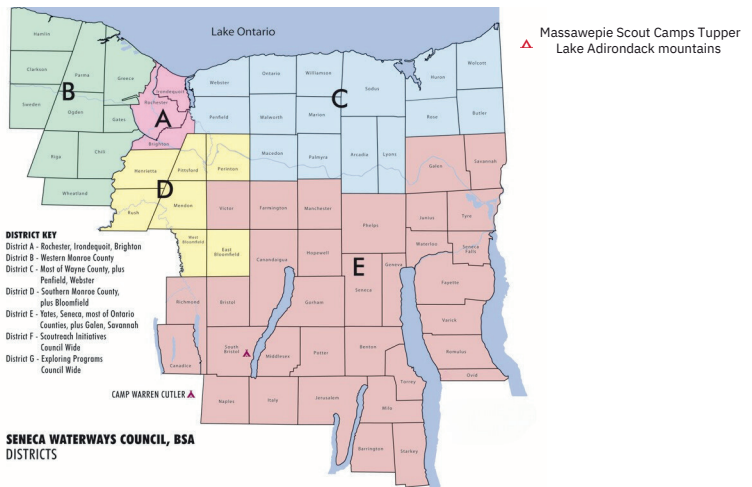
Districts carry out four primary functions

1. Membership
2. Finance
3. Program
 - Camping, Activities and Civic Service, Training, Advancement and Recognition
4. Unit Service

The Council employs a team of Scouting professionals to help guide and assist our volunteers plan and execute our local programs.

The District Committee is the organization by which Scouting programs and services are carried to the chartered organization, their units, and youth. It serves as a sounding board for the needs of chartered organizations and units. The District Committee also participates in the building and raising of the council budget to finance the program of Scouting.

SENECA WATERWAYS COUNCIL SERVICE AREA

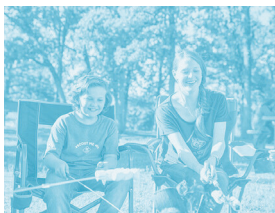


VOLUNTEER NOW TO BECOME A SCOUTING LEADER

Scouting is a volunteer organization. Scouting operates through people like you who are concerned about providing their children and other children with a quality Scouting experience. As a leader, you will not only serve Scouting, but you will have a chance to have some amazing experiences with your son and/ or daughter and their friends.

WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE IN RETURN

- The opportunity to make a difference in the lives of boys and girls as they grow strong in mind and body Satisfaction of being part of a worldwide movement
- Privilege of helping to strengthen families
- Opportunity to be a positive role model to youth and adults
- The fun and fellowship Scouting provides



PACK LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

DEN LEADER—Leads the den at weekly den and monthly pack meetings. Attends the monthly leaders' meeting.

CUBMASTER—Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees the monthly pack meeting and attends the leaders' meeting.

COMMITTEE CHAIR—Presides at all pack committee meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders. Also attends pack meetings.

NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR—Makes sure new families feel welcome, have their questions answered, can become engaged and enjoy the program quickly.

ADVANCEMENT CHAIR—Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia.

SECRETARY/TREASURER—Keeps all records for the pack, including the pack bank account, financial records, etc. Attends pack meeting and leaders' meetings.

PARENT HELPERS—"One shot" program jobs such as coordinating pack participation in sales events, Scouting for Food, pinewood derby, blue and gold banquet, day camp, etc. These jobs are of short duration.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

- The staff at the Seneca Waterways Council Scout Servicenter can help you or they will get you in touch with someone who can.

Phone # - (585) 244-4210

Website - senecawaterways.org

- Your district has a team of volunteers called the district committee which develops quality district-wide programs for your Scouts to participate in.
- Your district has another volunteer team called the commissioner staff. They are the unit service team. They check on the health of your pack and are a communications link between your pack and the Scouting organization. A commissioner is assigned to assist your unit.
- We have award winning training programs to teach Scouts and adults about child abuse protection and avoiding potentially dangerous situations.

ROUNDTABLE

Roundtable is a monthly leaders' meeting for all adult volunteers in your district. You can get help with program development and supplemental training. It's also a great place to ask questions and share ideas.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU

STAFF SUPPORT:

Our professional and support staff at the Council Servicenter can assist when needed and get you in touch with other resources. In addition, each community is served by a full-time District Executive.

DEN & PACK RESOURCE GUIDE:

A book that contains den and pack meeting plans and tools necessary to help Scouts along the Cub Scout advancement trail. Available online by going to google.com and search for Den & Pack Meeting Resource Guide and click on the PDF version.

PACK LEADERSHIP:

Most packs have been in existence for many years and have existing leadership which will provide direct assistance and support to your den program. Many packs even have a library of resource books to aid leaders in putting on quality den and pack programs.

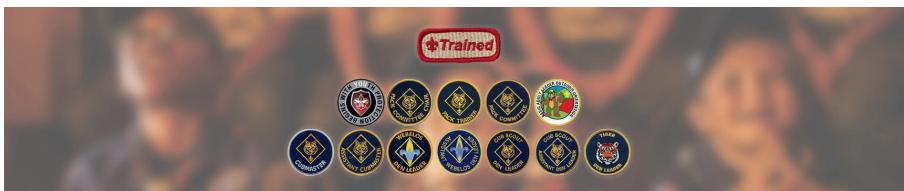
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

All Youth Deserve a Trained Leader. All leaders must complete Youth Protection Training and Job Specific Training. Training programs are provided on a regular basis throughout the Scouting year. Contact the Council office or your District Executive for a list of dates and locations. We encourage new leaders to attend one of the many “in-person” trainings available during the year, but training can also be completed online by going to my.scouting.org. (Note: you must create a user account to take a course and receive the certification).



Scouting America places the greatest importance on creating a safe and secure environment for our youth members. This training covers the Scouting America’s Youth Protection policies, kinds of abuse, how to respond to disclosure of abuse, and proper reporting procedures. This training is available online and in each district through the year. All new leaders must complete this training BEFORE they can be registered and currently registered leaders must renew the training every two years.

CUB SCOUT LEADER SPECIFIC TRAINING



These trainings are designed to present in-depth information for new leaders in a specific leadership position. Training includes five different courses related to specific Cub Scout positions—Cubmasters and assistants, pack committee chairs and members, Lion Den Leaders, Tiger Den Leaders, Cub Scout Den Leaders and assistants, and Webelos Den Leaders and assistants.

ROUNDTABLE

Trainings are also provided at the monthly District Roundtables. These trainings include leaders specific and program delivery trainings.



HOW IS SCOUTING FINANCED?

When you register your child into the Scouting program there is a national registration and insurance fee. This fee allows your child to be part of the Scouting program and goes straight to our national office to help provide many of the services that our leaders receive (training courses, Scouting Magazine, and insurance, etc.) None of this money stays in the local Council.

Providing a Scouting program within the Seneca Waterways Council takes an annual budget of approximately 4.4 million, which must be raised each year from the generous support of friends, families, corporations and foundations. The Seneca Waterways Council budget includes things like subsidization of the summer camp program, maintenance and upkeep of the land and property at our three camping facilities, support staff, newsletters, training courses for leaders, and much, much more. The funds needed to support Scouting programs in the Seneca Waterways Council comes from a variety of areas including:

Friends of Scouting Campaign (FOS): Each year, our Council conducts a “Friends of Scouting Campaign” to solicit contributions from families and members of the community. It offers families the opportunity to help invest in the future of our Scouting youth.

United Way: The Scouting program is not a government agency; hence, we receive no tax dollar support. United Way support accounts for 5.6% of our annual budget.

Popcorn Sale: Most units in the Council participate in the annual popcorn sale. Sales from this fundraiser benefit both the Council and those Units that participate. The annual sale occurs during September and October with popcorn delivered in November.

Special Events: Each year, the Council conducts a number of special event fundraisers to help raise money to support our Scouting program. Events include: 21 Stories for Scouts, the Youth Power Dinner, Lobster Fest, Clay Shoot Tournaments, and Casting for Character.



SCOUT CAMPS

TWILIGHT CAMP

Twilight Camp is Seneca Waterway's premier "Day Camp" for Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos and Arrow of Light. The camp is offered in the early evening hours and does not include any overnight activities. Scouts will attend on all 4 evenings accompanied by their parent or Cub Scout leader, but will return home to sleep. It is designed to have parents and Scouts participate in outdoor programs together without parents taking significant time out of work. This camp is designed for Scouts and their parents to experience the adventure of Scouting together. Twilight Camp also prepares families for extended resident camp experiences at Cub Scout Adventure Camp at J. Warren Cutler Scout Reservation

J. WARREN CUTLER SCOUT RESERVATION

Cub Scout Adventure Camp is the greatest three-day, two-night adventure you've ever had! Designed for Scouts and their adult guardian, with several alternative camping options, campers will have adventures and experiences they have only dreamed of.

You will stay with your pack, den, or group of friends in one of 5 themed villages - Medieval Castle, High Seas, Viking Longhouse, Pioneer Fort, or Mountain Scout Village. Each village has its own themed program in addition to the camp-wide programs. All villages have access to flush toilets and hot showers.



THEMED VILLAGES

Camp Cutler has five themed villages for Cub Scouts to stay in. See next page.

HIGH SEAS ADVENTURE



MEDIEVAL CASTLE



PIONEER FORT



VIKING LONGHOUSE



MOUNTAIN SCOUT VILLAGE



ARROW OF LIGHT WEEK - SUMMER

This six-day program is the ultimate older Scout experience. You will learn essential survival and pioneering skills that you can take with you as you cross over into a Scouts BSA Troop.

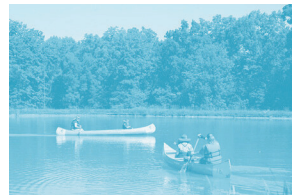
Your group will participate in outpost trips to some of the most beautiful areas of camp. You'll build your own campsite and the fire on which you'll cook your meals. As part of your outpost adventure you'll also make the camp a better place by helping with a conservation project to help preserve the environment. Scouts in the Arrow of Light Week program are preparing to cross over to a Scout Troop within the year and is designed to help the Scouts become familiar with the Scouts BSA program.

CUBS IN CAMP - MAY

Scouts get a sneak peak at the adventures in store for when you attend Cub Scout Adventure Camp this summer. ACTIVITIES INCLUDE FISHING, ARCHERY, CRAFTS, BOTTLE ROCKETS, OUTDOOR GAMES, AND MUCH MORE. Pack a picnic lunch to enjoy with your group and water bottle Day Participants: On Saturday, experience some of the action of Cub Scout Adventure Camp and receive an event patch, high quality program, and a closing campfire. Please bring a picnic lunch and a water bottle for lunch.

CUB SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP

Enjoy three days and two nights of Cub Scout outdoor adventure at J. Warren Cutler Scout Reservation. Have fun with action and stationary archery, fishing, boating, swimming, cooking on a campfire, shooting BB Guns, earn achievements and explore the great outdoors in Naples, NY.





Scouting America.

Seneca Waterways Council

2320 Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road
Rochester, NY 14623



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www.senecawaterways.org

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