



Starting a DCSA Program in Your Council



Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Roundtable

April 8, 2026



Agenda

- Welcome and opening
- Safety moment—The Adventure Plan
- Starting a DCSA Program
- Announcements
- Closing
- Open discussion



Paul Schimke, National Capitol Area Council



Pledge

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.





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 Law

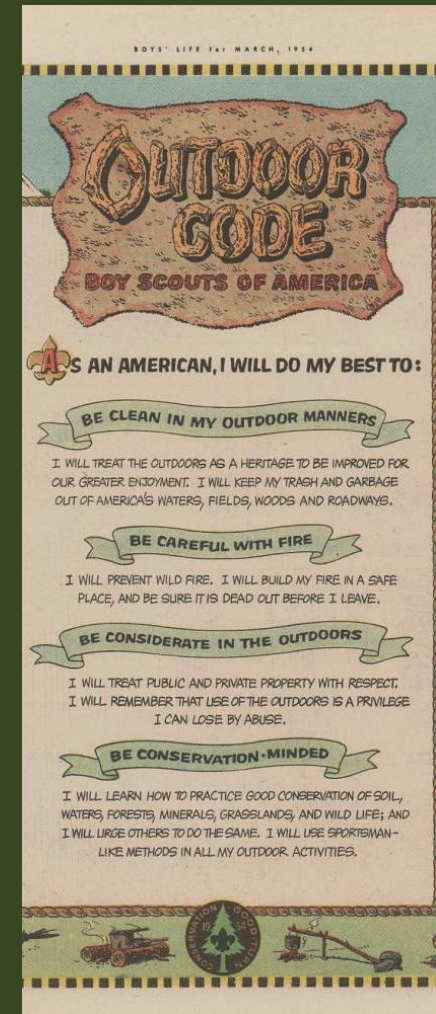
A Scout is:
Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful,
Friendly, Courteous, Kind,
Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,
Brave, Clean, Reverent.





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.
Be conservation minded.





The Adventure Plan

Michelle Bierstedt, Sioux Council



Suse Bell,, Northern New Jersey Council

Safety Moment

A group of Scouts and leaders are on a sailboat named "Winds of Destiny". They are wearing blue shirts and are engaged in various activities on the deck. The boat is docked at a marina, and other boats are visible in the background. The scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a pleasant day on the water.

A Scouting website that helps Scouts and leaders work through the steps needed to plan most outings or adventures. Known as “The Adventure Plan” or TAP; try it as your team organizes your next outing to help your Scouts “Be Prepared.”

THE ADVENTURE PLAN

The Adventure Plan

The Adventure Plan (TAP) provides a one-stop set of tools to help leaders envision, plan, prepare and conduct safe, exciting and successful outdoor *Adventures*.

Your unit *Adventure* may be as simple as an overnight backpacking trip or bike ride, or maybe it is a week-long or longer activity.

This guide is helpful with the assistance of an adult leader.

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/tap/>



Six Waypoints To Adventure Planning

As Scouting is a youth-led organization, these resources are intended to be used by Youth Leaders with Adult Leader Support.

1. Choose Adventure: Every adventure starts with an idea. Maybe it is a suggestion from the Patrol Leaders Council, perhaps it's an idea from the unit committee or maybe from the unit's adult leadership. Regardless, it should be an adventure that the youth are excited about and committed to. The first place to start is to decide WHAT you want to do, WHERE you are going, WHEN are you going to go, and WHO is responsible for each step.

2. Plan Adventure: Planning and executing an Adventure is a team effort, and this step involves the formation of a unit Adventure planning and support team.

3. Safe Adventure: The best Adventure is a Safe Adventure. To ensure the safety of participants, Scouting America expects leaders to use the four points of SAFE when delivering the Scouting program.

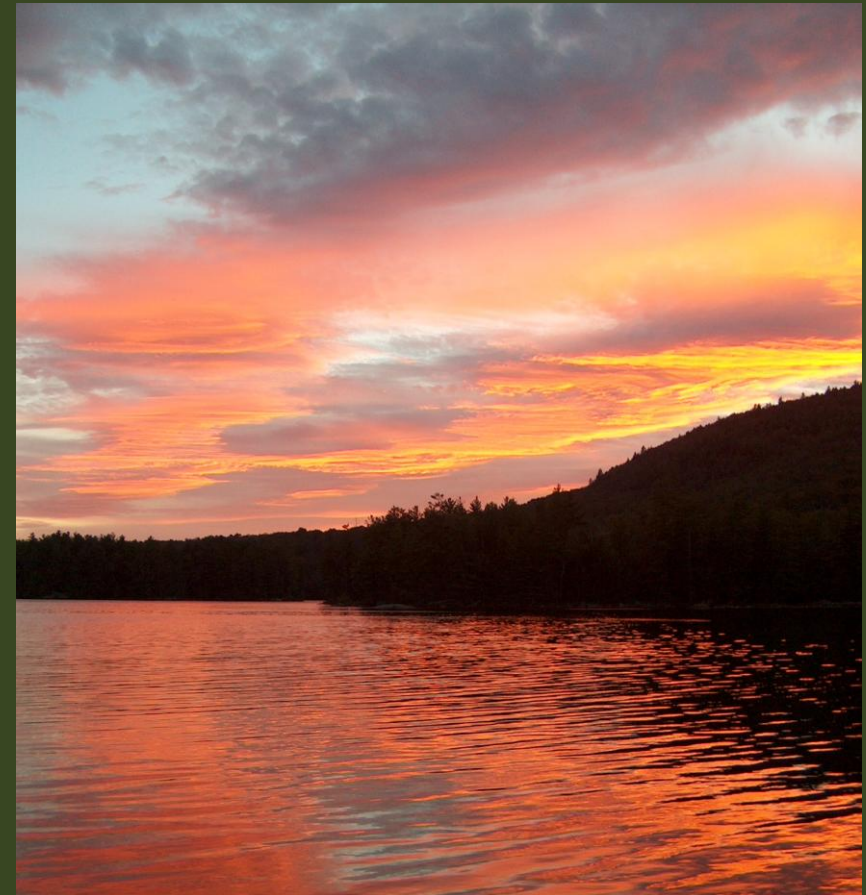
4. Prepare Adventure: Preparation for any adventure is part planning and part practice.

5. The Adventure: You've planned, you practiced, everything is ready to go... now is time for fun.

6. After Adventure: Document the successes and pitfalls for the next Adventure. Closing out an adventure not only save time for the next group, it helps them do it even better!



Starting a DCSA Program in Your Council

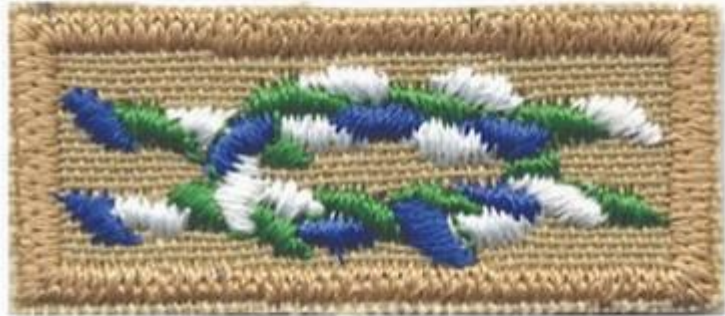


Dave O'Leary, Western Massachusetts Council



DCSA Training – my.scouting.org

Catalog > **Distinguished Conservation Service Award Advisor/Committee Training**



Distinguished Conservation Service Award Advisor/ Committee Training

Learning Plan

Total time: 123 minutes

Progress • 25%



Description

To serve as a DCSA Advisor or on the DCSA Committee, you need to complete this training. Completion of this training will award you with the related training code.

Conservation

Distinguished

Advisor

More ▼



Panel members

Bill Kamman

Michigan Crossroads Council

Carol Brown

National Capitol Area Council

Jim Honan

Pathway to Adventure Council

John Selstrom

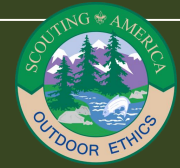
Greater Colorado Council

Sara Holtz

National Capitol Area Council

Wayne Schimpff

Pathway to Adventure Council





Announcements



EvelynAnn Bruno, National Capitol Area Council



2027 Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Conference

- Dates & Cost:
 - \$280 for the main Conference: February 18-21, 2027
 - \$375 for the Conference + Pre-Conference Workshops: February 15-21, 2027
- Location & Travel:
 - Sea Base, Islamorada, Florida
 - \$110 round-trip shuttle to Miami, Key West, or Fort Lauderdale airports
 - Lodging in bunk rooms at Sea Base or local hotels (on your own)
- Program features include:
 - Sunset cruise on February 18
 - Tour of Brinton Environmental Center and keynote address on coral reef restoration efforts
 - Optional evening field trip to Key West

CONSERVATION AT THE SUMMIT



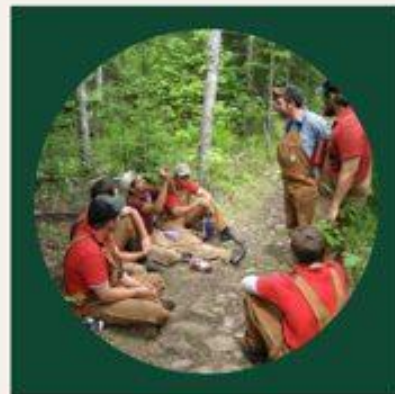
SCOUTING AMERICA

SCOUT CONSERVATION TRAINING

Come ready to gain knowledge, work outside, and become equipped to bring what you learned back home!

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Classroom training on concepts
- Hands-on application of concepts in the outdoors
- Recreation day at the Summit
- Registration for the week is \$350



SUNDAY MAY 31- SATURDAY JUNE 6, 2026

THE SUMMIT BECHTEL FAMILY NATIONAL SCOUT RESERVE
2550 JACK FURST DRIVE GLEN JEAN, WV 25846

JOIN US NOW! REGISTER AT [SUMMITBSA.ORG/TRAINING](https://summitbsa.org/training)



Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Courses

Dates	Council	Camp	Course Info	Field Experience
2026				
May 16-22	National Council	<u>Summit Bechtel Reserve</u>	<u>Info/Registration</u>	Non-Trek
August 9-14	National Council	<u>Northern Tier High Adventure Base, Ely, MN</u>	<u>Flyer</u> <u>Info/Registration</u> Contact: <u>Mark Hammer</u>	Canoeing
Sept 25-30	National Council	<u>Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico</u>	<u>Information/Registration</u>	Backpacking
Oct 18-23	National Council	<u>Summit Bechtel Reserve</u>	<u>Info/Registration</u>	Non-Trek

<https://scouting-oec.org/training/Level2Courses.php>



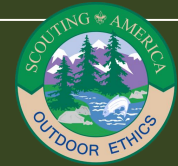
SCHOLARSHIPS Available



Partial course scholarships are available for scouters needing financial assistance in order to attend a Scouting America Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Course. Please see our [Dan Howells Scholarship](#) webpage for more information.

The Dan Howells Memorial Fund was established to honor the memory of this passionate leader and his lifelong commitment to Leave No Trace and Scouting.

Thanks to the Howells family and Leave No Trace for creating this wonderful way for us to honor Dan's legacy.



[Home](#) [Resources](#) [Calendar](#) [Awards](#)

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News and Reminders



Scouting America National Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Subcommittee

2027 National Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Conference

Save the date!

- Feb 15-21, 2027
- Florida Sea Base

Sea Scouting

NEW - [Outdoor Ethics and Sea Scouting Guide](#)

Developed as an Outdoor Ethics supplement to the *Sea Scouts Manual*, this Guide is a valuable reference for everyone involved in



Annual OE Survey

Council Outdoor Ethics Advocates

Please submit your 2025 Progress Survey

This data, tracking our progress getting the OE message out to scouting, is very useful to the OEC Committee.

(Even if your council doesn't have an active Outdoor Ethics Advocate, please have someone fill out the survey.)

[Survey Form](#)

Virtual Roundtables

Upcoming Events [\(Calendar\)](#)

[Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Roundtable](#)

April 8, May 13

[Leave No Trace Skills Course - CA](#)

May 16-17

[Leave No Trace Skills Course - TX](#)

September 18-20

[Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor - Summit](#)

May 16-22

[Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor - Northern Tier](#)

August 9-14

[Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor - Philmont](#)

September 25-30

[Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor - Summit](#)

[Leave No Trace Level 1](#)

[Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor](#)

April 19, April 25-26

[Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor - CA](#)

May 16-17

[Dan Beard Council Leave No Trace Level 1](#)

September 11-12

● [Add your OE Training Course](#)

Council Outdoor Ethics Advocates are

<https://scouting-oec.org/news/>

Updated Powerpoint Decks

Thanks to Josh Lamothe and our curriculum group for the fully updated presentations for our Leave No Trace Level 2 & 1 Instructor courses!

[\(see resources\)](#)

New Training Guidelines

Wednesday, April 8, 7:00pm Central

May - Taking Cub Scouts Fishing

Wednesday, May 13, 7:00pm Central

[More Information & Registration](#)

[Archive of past Roundtables](#)

Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor

Courses

AARON ON SCOUTING

The Official Site of Scouting Magazine



For All Families and Scouting America Volunteers



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- SCOUTS BSA
- VENTURING
- SEA SCOUTING
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LATEST POSTS > Scouts can learn STEM and experience hot rod racing at the same time

SEARCH ...

Scouting prepares for Season 2 of Clean Waterways! Here's how you can participate.

By Darrin Scheid | March 27, 2026 | 2 Comments | Service



AARON ON SCOUTING NEWSLETTER

Join 10,586 people who get Aaron on Scouting in their inbox. We'll send an email every time we post a new story, and you can unsubscribe any time.

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Your last name

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2026/03/27/scouting-prepares-for-season-2-of-clean-waterways-heres-how-you-can-participate/>

LATEST STORIES



Scouts can learn STEM and experience hot rod racing at the



Please send in your photos of Outdoor Ethics education, Conservation projects, or great nature photos you've taken!

roundtable@scouting-oec.org



Paul Schimke, National Capitol Area Council



Your feedback is a gift!
Was this roundtable helpful?
What would you like to see
covered in future roundtables?

roundtable@scouting-oec.org

Feedback !?



Recordings of Outdoor Ethics & Conservation roundtables are posted at <https://scouting-oec.org/roundtable>



Scouting America Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Virtual Roundtables

● Past Roundtable Resource Links - [see below](#)



The Choral Copse

“The drama of the sky dance is enacted nightly on hundreds of farms, the owners of which sigh for entertainment, but harbor the illusion that it is to be sought in theaters. They live on the land, but not by the land.”

Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac (April)



Adobe Stock



Thank you for attending.
See you next month!

Take Cub Scouts Fishing!



Scouting.org