WHO WE ARE

The Boy Scouts of America is the nation's foremost program of character and leadership development, with more than 1 million youth across every state and territory in the country. With the support and leadership of more than 628,000 volunteer leaders in 248 councils, Scouting teaches real-life skills and qualities that help young people become “Prepared. For Life.”

WHO WE SERVE

• 580,194 boys and girls ages 5 to 10 in Cub Scouting.
• 415,564 boys and girls ages 11 to 17 in Scouts BSA.
• 15,400 young men and women ages 14 to 20 in Venturing and Sea Scouting.
• 30,870 young men and women ages 10 to 20 in Exploring career-based programs.
• 42,822 Scouting units representing partnerships and collaborations with businesses, community and religious organizations, and agencies that support BSA programs.
• 52,180 boys and girls in elementary through high school who benefit from the character-education programs of Learning for Life.
• Boys and girls completed almost 2 million Adventures in Cub Scouting.
• Scouts earned more than 1.3 million merit badges in 2022.

Scouting stands for adventure, leadership, learning, and service. The following provides an overview of the impact of Scouting during the past year.

PREPARED. FOR LEADERSHIP.

Earning the rank of Eagle Scout requires Scouts to plan and execute a project that considers everything they have learned about leadership, service, and values. In 2022, 35,533 young men and women earned the Eagle Scout rank, joining more than 2.7 million Americans before them.

Scouts use the skills they learn to make a difference in our country every day. On June 27, 2022, Troop 73 and Troop 12, both of Appleton, Wisconsin, were on their way home after completing a 7-day, 50-mile trek at Philmont Scout Ranch. Disaster struck when their passenger train collided with a dump truck that was obstructing the track near Mendon, Missouri. Four people were killed and more than 100 were hospitalized. In the moments following the crash, these Scouts showed enormous poise and presence of mind and employed all their Scout training by immediately jumping into action to assist trapped and injured passengers.

The Scouts and adult volunteers that were onboard the train are heroes who performed brilliantly in an unimaginably difficult situation. Fifteen Scouts and one adult Scouter earned the BSA's Heroism Award, reserved for those who have demonstrated heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save a life at more than minimal personal risk to self. Five Scouters were awarded the BSA's Honor Medal, reserved for youth members or adult leaders who have demonstrated unusual heroism and skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save a life at considerable risk to self. These youth and their leaders embody the Scout motto, Be Prepared.
PREPARED. FOR ADVENTURE.

Outdoor adventure has been at the heart of Scouting since the founding of the BSA. It is still true today. At every opportunity, Scouts head outdoors to hike, climb, paddle, and put their Scouting skills into practice at more than 730 camp properties nationwide. In addition to local camps, more than 28,384 participants went on treks at the BSA’s four national high-adventure bases: Philmont Scout Ranch, the Summit Bechtel Reserve, Sea Base, and Northern Tier. As Scouts test themselves in the mountains or on the water, they learn perseverance and develop a can-do spirit that is a hallmark of what it means to be a Scout.

Respect for wild places comes with Scouting’s connection to the land. While the BSA teaches young people conservation and sustainability in the remotest parts of our nation, those lessons don’t stay in the wilderness. At Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico, Scouts learn about forestry management practices that are helping to preserve fragile ecosystems and protect forests from the fires that regularly scorch the region. Alongside universities and with federal, state, and private support, the BSA is pioneering model land management practices. In fall 2023, Philmont will host a national conference to share best practices for sustainable management of the outdoors. Scouts use these lessons and their love of the outdoors to make a difference in their own communities.

PREPARED. FOR LIFELONG LEARNING.

For more than seven decades, the Exploring program has been helping young people discover their potential in diverse career fields, including Arts and Humanities, Aviation, Business, Communications, Engineering, Fire and EMS, Health Care, Law and Government, Law Enforcement, Science, Skilled Trades, and Social Services. Exploring enables young adults to sample a career and learn from frontline professionals. In 2022, more than 30,870 young women and men were enrolled in Exploring programs.

PREPARED. FOR SERVICE.

Each Scout takes an oath to “Help Other People at All Times” and they strive to “Do a Good Turn Daily.” By doing their part to care for their families, neighbors, and communities, Scouts learn respect, character, leadership, and so much more. In 2022 alone, Scouts recorded almost 7 million hours of service to the nation. This legacy of service stretches back more than 112 years and spans generations of Americans.

PREPARED. FOR LIFE.®

Scouting prepares young people for lives of adventure, leadership, learning, and service. These remarkable young people go on to make their families, their communities, and our nation better. They are “Prepared. For Life.”

Roger C. Mosby
Chief Scout Executive/
President & CEO

Scott Sorrels
National
Commissioner

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National
Chair

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®