

Camp Olmsted 2022

Leaders' Guide

Goshen Scout Reservation



Prepared. For Life.®



A Note from your Camp Director:

Hello and thank you for choosing beautiful Camp Olmsted at Goshen Scout Reservation for your unit's 2022 summer camp experience! Your unit's week at Olmsted will surely create lasting memories for your scouts and adult leaders alike.

In the following pages you will find information needed to prepare your youth members and adult leaders to enjoy a successful week at Camp Olmsted and Goshen Scout Reservation, the summer home of over a thousand scouts and leaders. Whether you are an experienced Scouter or a parent helping your scout pack their bags, this guide will serve as your first reference tool and help you along the way.

Although this guide has been written to provide answers to an extensive list of potential questions that may arise about your upcoming week at Camp Olmsted, it may not necessarily satisfy all of them. You will find it helpful to also consult the Goshen Leader's Guide, the Olmsted Schedules document, and other resources available for download on our website. If you have any questions you cannot find the answer to, please feel free to reach out to us - our staff and I will be sure to answer any and all questions.

If you need to contact us, the best way is via email.

For questions regarding merit badge programs, TrailsHead, and other scout activities, please contact our Program Director at camp.olmsted.staff@gmail.com For questions regarding logistics, administrative questions, food, and everything else, please contact the Camp Director at camp.olmsted@gmail.com

Olmsted's key staff members and I will spend the coming months hiring an amazing staff and preparing for another wonderful summer. Our program, facilities, and staff will be ready to deliver on our promise to provide the best possible summer camp experience. Your leadership, coupled with our unique staff and engaging program, creates an environment ripe for accomplishing our mutual goal of enriching the next generation of young leaders. At Camp Olmsted, we believe that the foundation a Scout builds at summer camp will yield returns far into their life; and I would like to thank you for your efforts in assisting us with our mission.

We can't wait to see you at camp!

Yours in Scouting,

Tom Van Patten

Camp Olmsted Camp Director

Inclusivity Statement

It is the vision of the BSA to partner with all families and communities in raising young people of high moral character, developing their leadership skills, and preparing them to serve and thrive in a world of increasing complexity and challenge. As a Scouts BSA camp, Camp Olmsted is committed to the inclusion and recognition of all peoples regardless of race, age, culture, ability, ethnicity or nationality, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, religious affiliation, and socioeconomic status.

Pre-Camp Planning

Camp Sites

All the campsites at Camp Olmsted are organized into what are called “troop sites.” Each troop site is conveniently located near a latrine. Within each of these sites are two or more “patrol sites” or “sub-sites.” In order for your unit to properly plan, the patrol and sub-sites at Olmsted are generally set up for 8-scout patrols. Be advised that smaller units may share a troop site with another unit, but there will be suitable space to allow for privacy within a unit. For troops familiar with Olmsted, campsite preferences can be input through your Goshen registration. Linked boy and girl troops will be put in neighboring sites unless otherwise specified by troop leadership. **Campsite assignments are not given out before camp. Please do not contact us asking for your site number in advance.**

Leader Site Equipment

Adult areas are separate from youth areas. Adults may be required to share tents with other adults of the same gender. The unit leader area in each troop site will consist of at least two tents for adult leaders. **If leaders are not comfortable sharing a tent with another leader, they may provide their own tent and set it up within the site. Goshen Scout Reservation does not possess the resources to allow each leader to have their own tent.**

Parent Meetings

In the spring, it is a good idea to have a meeting with the parents of the scouts who are going to camp. This allows you to review the camp program, camp physical examination requirements, transportation arrangements, and what each scout needs to bring. Many unit leaders put together guides tailored to their unit’s particular requirements based upon information contained in this guide and materials found on the Goshen website.

Update your registration

Prior to your unit’s arrival, please double check on Goshen registration that your numbers are correct and that everyone is registered. It is important that every participant who has any dietary restrictions or needs any medical accommodations has this information input to their individual participant profile within the troop’s registration. **All changes to your registration including participant numbers, merit badge schedules, and dietary restrictions must be finalized by the end of the day on the Tuesday prior to your arrival at camp.** Any changes made after this cutoff must be brought to the attention of camp leadership or you risk not having them accounted for prior to your arrival.

General Information

Sunday Arrival and Check-In

When you arrive at beautiful Camp Olmsted, your unit will be introduced to your site guide in the Parking Lot. Your site guide will take your unit to your site. The Troop will drop off gear and then your Site Guide will lead you on your camp tour as well as the medical checks (with medical forms) followed by a swim check at Aquatics (the Troop should be advised to wear a swimsuit if participating in the swim check). Adults will receive an adult wristband at med checks, and each participant will receive a buddy tag to bring to Aquatics. If an adult is

coming to camp mid-week, they need to report to the Admin building upon arrival. There, they will check in and receive an adult wristband. Please see the Sunday schedule in our Schedules document on the Goshen website.

Departure Procedures

Troops must leave by 8:00am on Saturday morning. Once your unit is ready to depart you must send an adult to first aid to retrieve your medical forms. On Saturday morning there will be a continental breakfast offered from 6:30 to 8:00am. If your unit would like to leave early, please talk to a member of the admin team about accommodations.

Early Departures/Late Arrivals

Anyone—**youth or adult**—leaving Camp Olmsted must check out at the camp office and check in again upon return. Youth are not permitted to leave without direct adult or staff supervision. The camp sign in/out book must be signed. A youth is not to leave for home without their leader first clearing it with the Camp Director and the youth's parents. **Anyone arriving after the opening day of camp should proceed directly to the administration building to check in.**

Approved Adult Leaders

All participants over the age of 18 years old will be given a wristband to be worn on your wrist at all times while at Goshen Scout Reservation, as this procedure is Reservation-wide. If your wristband is lost or broken, you must come to Admin for a replacement immediately. If any adult is without a wristband, please notify the closest staff member immediately.

Program Offerings

Schedules

You will find schedules for our complete merit badge offerings, our TrailsHead program, and a supplemental schedule available, and our Sunday arrival schedule as a separate download on our [website](#).

TrailsHead

The TrailsHead program at Camp Olmsted is a well rounded experience for new scouts to enjoy. The TrailsHead program is designed for scouts who have recently registered and have an interest in working on Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class advancement requirements. TrailsHead is a half-day program that will allow scouts to progress through some rank advancement and earn up to three merit badges of their own choosing.

TrailsHead has two identical half-day sessions where the participants will work on rank advancement and other scout skills. You can either do TrailsHead A where you will do rank advancement in the mornings or TrailsHead B where you can do rank advancement in the afternoon. Whichever half of the day the scout is not doing TrailsHead, they are free to sign up for three merit badges of their choosing.

The scouts will practice a variety of skills in the program, but per Scouts BSA advancement rules, it is at the discretion of the troop leadership to officially certify successful completion of rank advancement requirements. Via your Goshen registration, you will be provided documentation of the requirements that were covered during the week to assist you in your certification of these requirements.

There are a handful of supplementary TrailsHead events that happen during the Activity Hour and Evening program. Both TrailsHead groups will come together to participate in these sessions. These are not mandatory as the scouts may wish to participate in other activities or might have obligations for other merit badges.

Food Service

Special Dietary Needs

Special dietary needs must be shared with camp leadership prior to arriving at camp via your registration. Your troop's Goshen registration has a spot for every single participant to list their dietary restrictions. It is mandatory that this is filled out for any participants with dietary restrictions or special food will not be portioned out for you. We will do our best to accommodate most food allergies, but cannot be held accountable for the management of these allergies. We are able to easily accommodate dietary restrictions such as lactose intolerance, gluten intolerance, nut allergies, fish/shellfish allergies, soy allergies, egg allergies, vegetarianism, and other meat-free diets. Parents of scouts with special diets that go beyond the ones just listed, in addition to inputting the dietary restriction into the troop's Goshen registration, should email phil.barbash@scouting.org to discuss available food options (this must be submitted at least 2 weeks in advance). For participants with special dietary restrictions that require bringing supplementary food, we are able to store food for you in our refrigerator or dry storage area if requested. Equipment such as microwaves and stoves will be available for reheating in our kitchen.

Open Lunch

Camp Olmsted is unique in that lunch is not a formal meal in our Dining Hall. Meals will be prepared and packaged for your unit to pick up. Troops may choose to eat in the Dining Hall or wherever they would like in camp. We simply ask that you clean up after yourselves and that you return the crates that the food came in back to the Dining Hall at dinner.

Aluminum Foil Cooking

On Tuesday evening in camp, all leaders and scouts will be given the ingredients for a foil dinner to cook in their sites. Wood for this meal should be collected early by the unit and kept dry. Many units bring additional charcoal to make cooking easier. Scouts can go to the dining hall starting at 5:30 to pick up their food. You only need to send a few scouts to pick up the whole troop's food. During activity hour at 1pm on Tuesday, there will be a foil dinner cooking demonstration at the TrailsHead I Pavilion. In anticipation of this event, please pack the following for camp:

- Gloves and tong for handling hot aluminum foil, two cutting boards, two paring knives
- Any spices you think you may need such as salt, pepper, and special flavorings.
- Heavy Duty Aluminum foil (foil is provided for the meal; some units prefer more). For more details, see The Official Scout Handbook concerning preparation of aluminum foil meals. Give it a try beforehand!
- Three wash basins for cleaning any dishes you have

Safe Food Handling

Adult leaders are asked to pay close attention to the thoroughness of food preparation and cleanup. The health of your campers and the entire camp is dependent upon the supervision given by unit leadership in this most important area of camp living. Please remember that all meat must reach 165 degrees at the center to be considered fully cooked. Food handlers must wash their hands prior to starting any meals.