

2026 Camp Bowman

Non-Merit Badge Activity Descriptions

Marine Search and Rescue

Step into the boots of a rescue professional and learn the life-saving skills of marine search and rescue. Over four action-packed days, you'll master navigation in low-visibility waters, practice rescue techniques, and collaborate as a team to tackle challenging scenarios. Whether you're crafting emergency signals or executing simulated rescues, this course is your chance to become a real-life hero in the making.

Makerspace

If you've ever wanted to build something just because you could — this is the place for you. The Makerspace is an open workshop where Scouts can tinker, design, build, test, break, fix, and invent with a wide variety of tools and materials. From duct-tape hammocks and paracord mods to cardboard catapults and custom trail gadgets, this space is about thinking with your hands. There's no final exam and no required project — just workbenches, junk bins, and full creative freedom. Make something cool. Make something weird. Make it yours.

Camp Engineering Lab

Can you build a structure that holds weight — or launches a tennis ball 20 feet? In Camp Engineering Lab, Scouts face real-world building challenges using simple materials like rope, sticks, buckets, marbles, and PVC pipe. You'll plan, prototype, test, and rebuild as you explore engineering concepts like load-bearing, mechanical advantage, structural design, and teamwork. Each day brings a new challenge and a new chance to outsmart gravity. Come prepared to build smart, think fast, and get some hands-on engineering.

Lost Scout Survival

You're alone. You're off-trail. You've got limited supplies and no cell service. Now what? In Lost Scout Survival, Scouts enter a scenario-based adventure where they must think and act like real backcountry survivors. You'll practice building emergency shelters, signaling for rescue, purifying water, navigating without GPS, and responding to staged problems. The class builds resilience, leadership, and confidence in the outdoors. Do you have what it takes to stay calm and survive when things go off the map?

CSI: Wild

The trail has gone cold — or has it? In this investigative adventure, Scouts take on the role of wilderness detectives to solve simulated “camp crimes.” You'll analyze fake evidence, dust for prints, interpret trail signs, track footprints, and piece together clues to crack the case. Along the way, you'll learn wilderness forensics, logical deduction, communication, and teamwork. It's one part Scoutcraft, one part mystery, and 100% hands-on problem solving.