



Coral Reef Restoration and Protection at BSA Sea Base



Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Roundtable

April 2024



Agenda

- Welcome and opening
- Safety moment-Snorkeling
- Coral Reef Restoration and Protection at BSA Sea Base
- Conservation Corner
- FAQ – Course standards
- 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

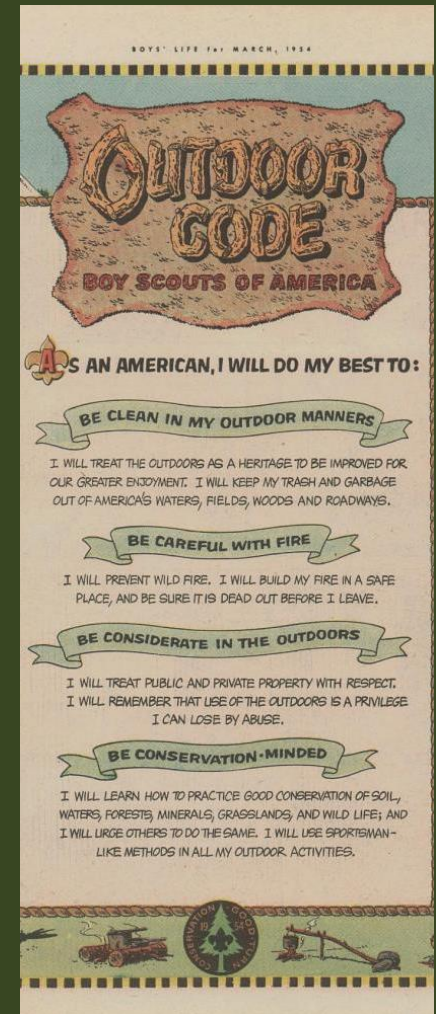
A Scout is:
Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful,
Friendly, Courteous, Kind,
Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,
Brave, Clean, Reverent.





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.





Snorkeling

Michelle Bierstedt, Sioux Council



A person is snorkeling in clear blue water. They are wearing a yellow life vest over a dark patterned shirt and a pink snorkel mask. The water is bright blue with some ripples. The person is looking towards the camera.

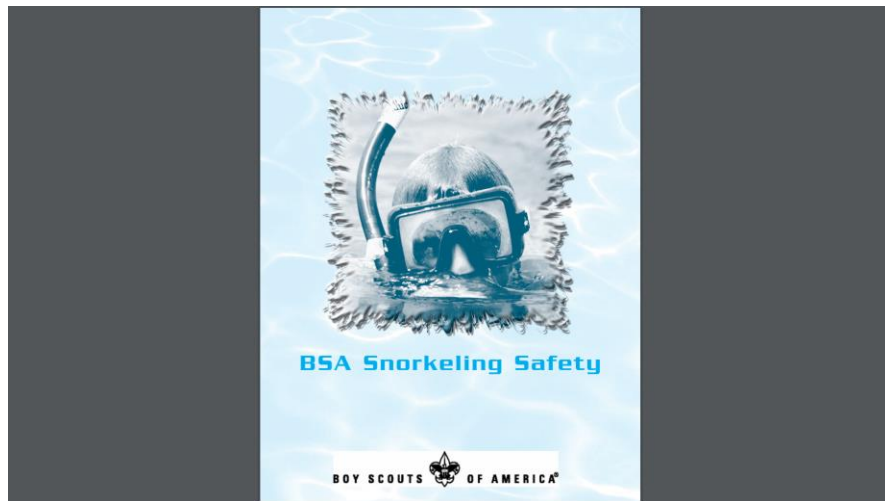
Safety Moment

Snorkeling

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/aquatics-safety/>

Before that swim or row, we want everyone to have a plan and be on the same page when it comes to aquatics safety in the BSA program. The two key training prerequisites are Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. These are not learn-to-swim or learn-to-paddle courses; they are the BSA way to conduct a safe and fun aquatics program.

Snorkeling Safety is the recommended procedure for conducting BSA swimming activities using masks, fins, and snorkels. Since snorkeling is a swimming activity, Safe Swim Defense guidelines are applicable. Snorkeling Safety clarifies and extends Safe Swim Defense concepts to situations encountered during training and open water snorkeling.



1. Qualified Supervision
2. Physical Fitness
3. Safe Area
4. Proper Equipment
5. Lifeguards/ Lookout
6. Ability
7. Buddy System
8. Discipline

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/19-176.pdf>

Snorkel Safely And Leave No Trace



1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Avoid Seafloor Impacts
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Limit Use and Prevent Discharge of Pollutants
5. Leave What You Find
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Others

From Leave No Trace Hotspot 2020



Coral Restoration at Sea Base

Abigail Clark, Florida Sea Base STEM Director



Sara Holtz, National Capitol Area Council

Coral Reef Restoration and Protection at BSA Sea Base

Abigail Clark, PhD

National Assistant Director of STEM Programs, Boy Scouts of America

Sea Base: Brinton Environmental Center

Summerland Key, FL, USA

BSA National Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Roundtable

Date: April 10th, 2024





STEM Director



Education:

- PhD in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (University of Florida)
- MS in Zoology (University of New Hampshire)
- BS in Biology (Emmanuel College)

Research:

- Disease ecology of lobsters and corals
- Coral reef restoration
- Microbial ecology

Professional Experiences:

- Assistant Professor, Marine Science & Technology (The College of the Florida Keys)
- Postdoctoral Researcher, Coral Health & Disease (Mote Marine Laboratory)
- Adjunct Instructor and Scientist (CFK, Old Dominion University, MML)

Professional Contributions:

- 13 peer-reviewed publications
- 9 grants received within last 5 years
- Review Editor, Frontiers in Marine Science
- Reviewer for four scientific journals
- 45+ scientific presentations

The Importance of Coral Reefs



Photo credit: Abigail Clark



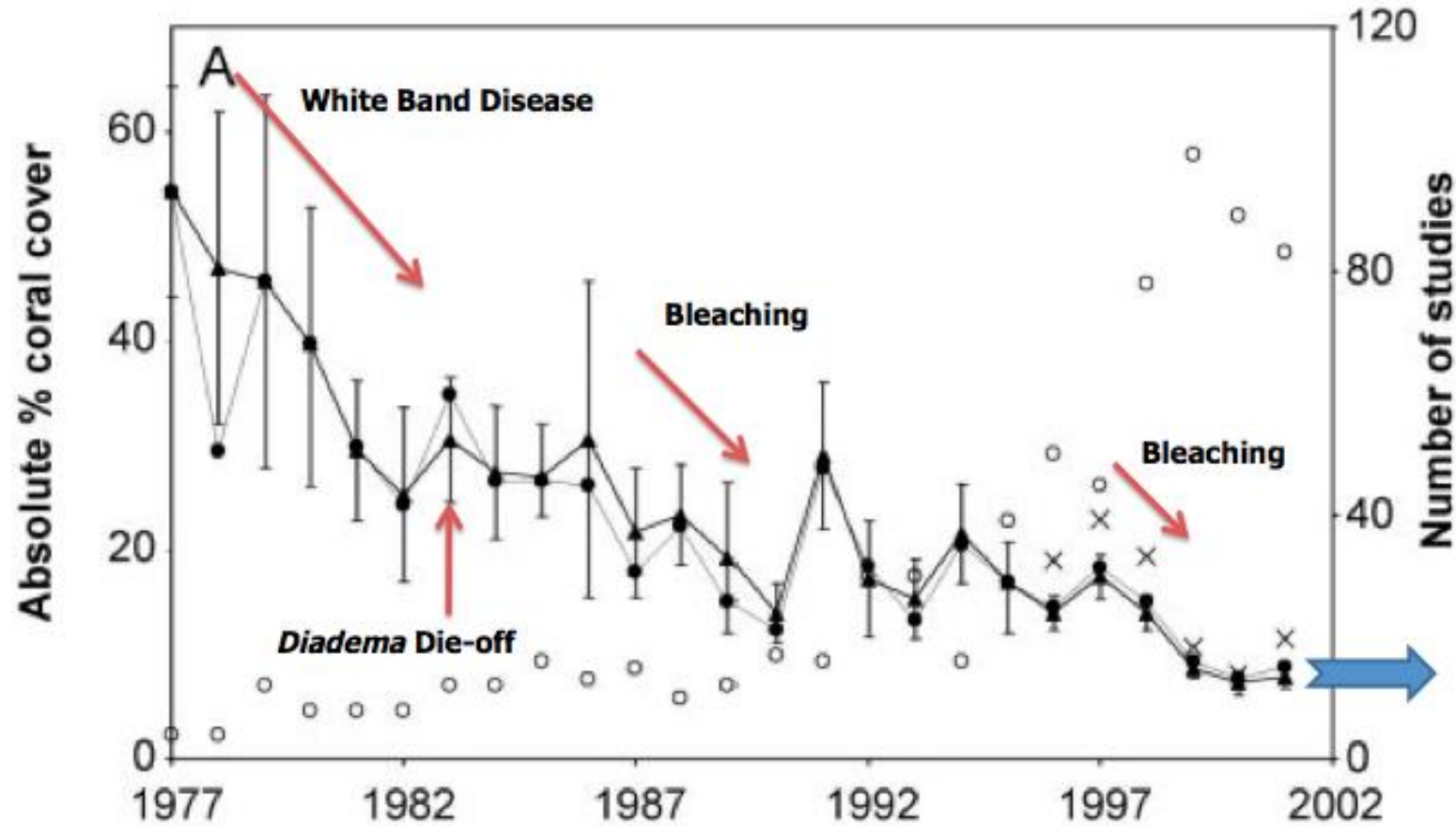
Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Photo credit: The New York Times



Florida's Coral Reef



Threats to Florida's Coral Reef



Photo credit: Abigail Clark

NOAA Coral Reef Watch 5km Bleaching Alert Area Year-to-date Maximum (v3.1) 14 Aug 2023

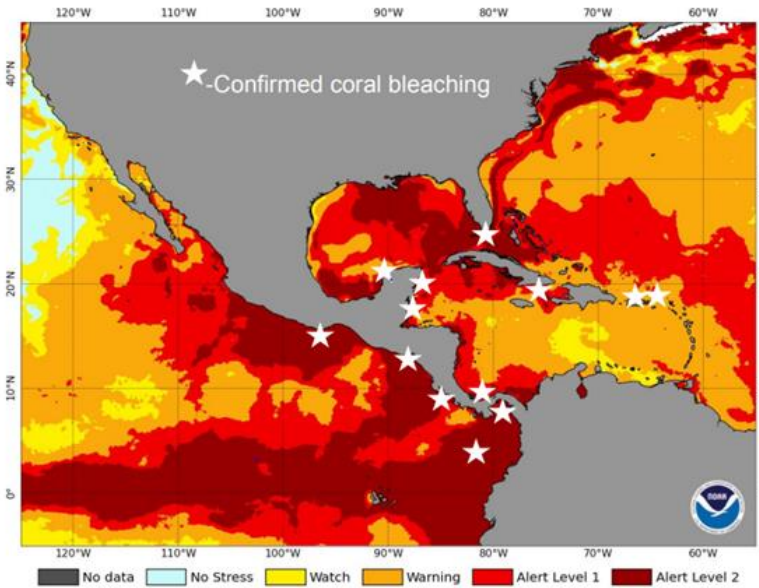


Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Mission: Iconic Reefs



Photo credit: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



Welcome to the Brinton Environmental Center (BEC)



Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Scouts in STEM

- Sea Base serves >14,000 young men and women across 19 programs
- The BEC alone serves >3,000 Scouts/yr.
- > 300 Scouts/yr. participate in the Marine Eco Expedition Program, gaining hands-on experience in STEM and coral restoration



Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Coral Nursery @ BEC



Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Coral Nursery @ BEC



Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Coral Nursery @ BEC

- Houses > 16,000 corals
- Nine coral species, including threatened and endangered species:
 - Elkhorn
 - Staghorn
 - Smooth star
 - Symmetrical brain
 - Knobby brain
 - Mountainous star
 - Boulder star
 - Great star
 - Mustard hill
- Outplant > 4,000 corals/yr.

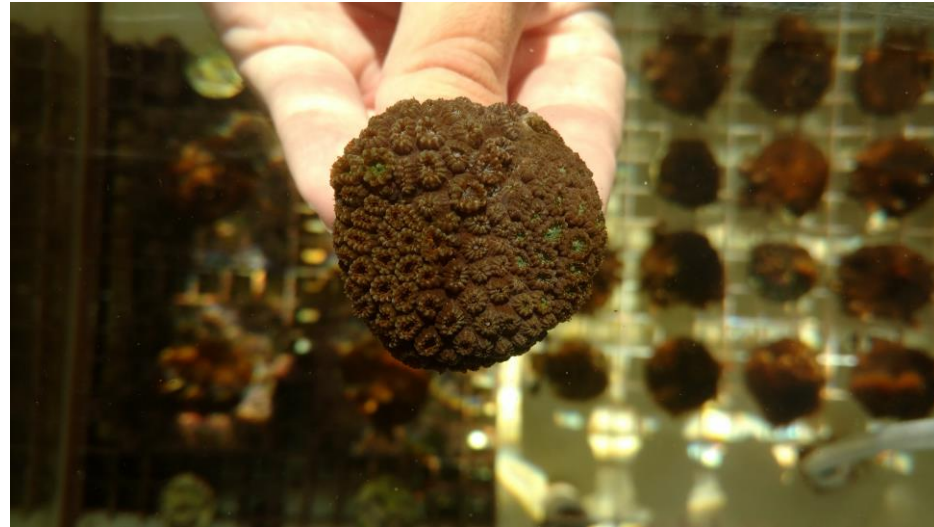


Photo credit: Mote Marine Laboratory



This work is permitted by the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS-2021-101-A1) and the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (SAL-22-2486-SCR).



Coral Outplanting by Sea Base



Photo credit: Julia Bartlett



Mass Bleaching Event of 2023

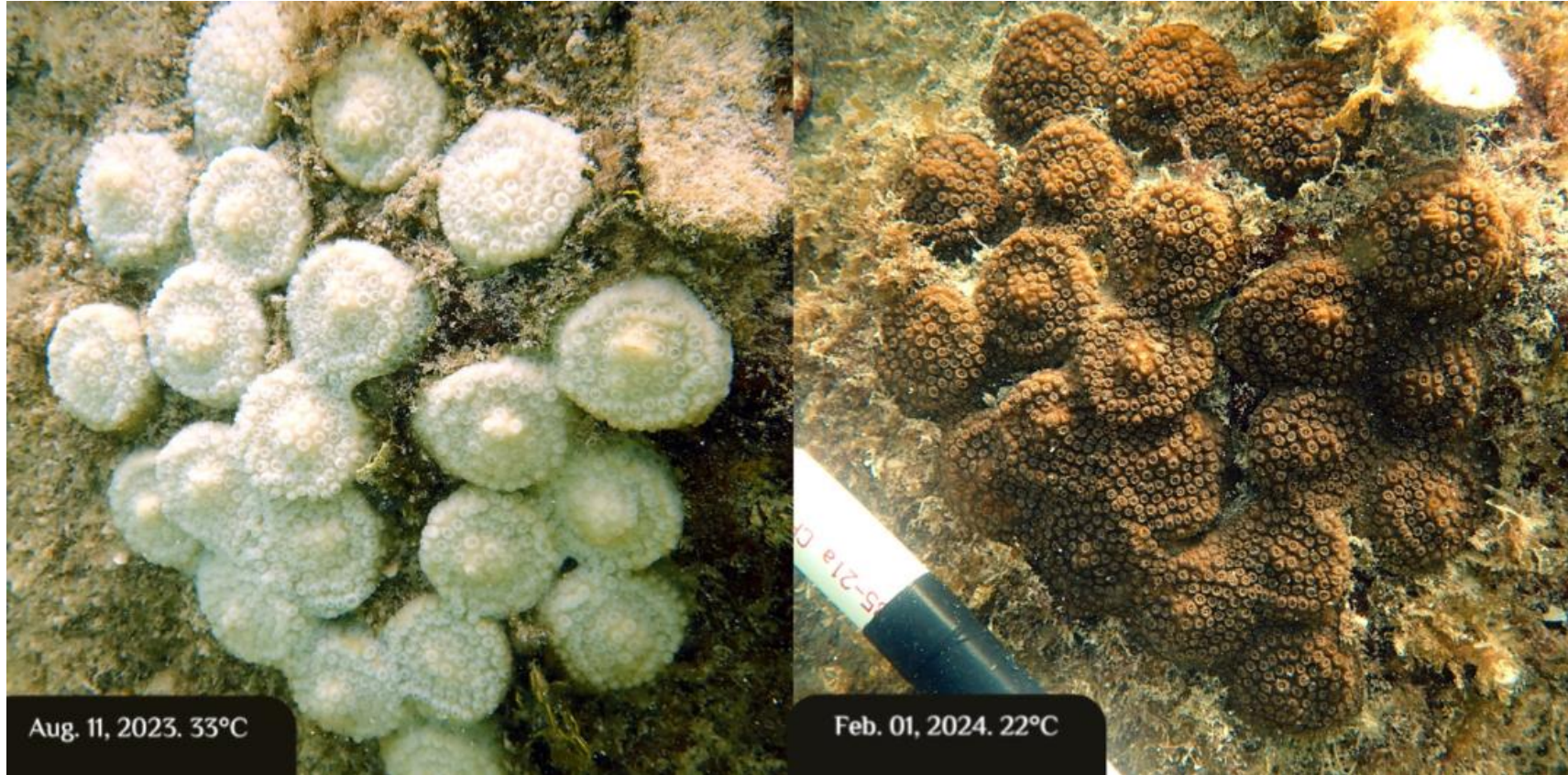


Photo credit: Julia Bartlett



Programmatic Expansion

More corals and more opportunities for Scouts!



Photo credit: www.bsaseabase.org



S.C.E.N.E.

Scouting Center of Excellence in Nature and Environment

- Sea Base: the first Scouting facility to be designated as a S.C.E.N.E. camp
- Examples of S.C.E.N.E. projects at Sea Base include:
 - Beach cleanups on Big Munson Island
 - Restoration of native trees
 - Trail maintenance
 - Rebuilding beach berms
 - Marine debris removal
 - Fish and coral surveys



Photo credit: Abigail Clark



Questions?



Photo credit: Abigail Clark





Conservation Corner

Ted Weiland, Hawkeye Area Council



Paul Schimke, National Capitol Area Council



Conservation Corner

- Conservation Handbook 3rd Edition has been published
- Updating the Ecology Syllabus at National Camping School





FAQ

Scott Anderson, Patriot's Path Council



Paul Schimke, National Capitol Area Council



Outdoor Ethics & Conservation

FAQ's

Scott Anderson, Chair
National Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Subcommittee



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





Can a Leave No Trace Skills Course
be combined with a Leave No Trace
Level 1 Instructor Course?



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





National Leave No Trace Training Guidelines

https://Int.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/National-Training-Guidelines_Final.pdf



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





National Leave No Trace Training Guidelines Training Agreement

The Boy Scouts of America has a blanket training agreement to provide the **Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course & Leave No Trace Skills Course**. This agreement extends to all Councils (every course approved by the council is covered under this agreement and must follow the National Leave No Trace Training Guidelines).



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





The Standards Followed for a BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course

Minimum enrollment per course (18+) = 4 participants

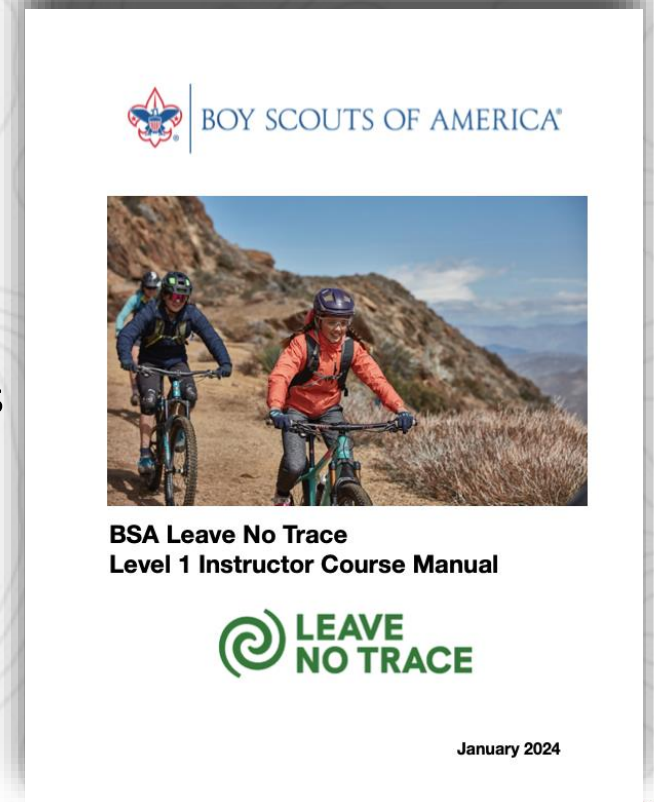
Maximum enrollment per course = 12 participants

Lead Instructor = Level 2 Instructor

Co-Instructor = Level 1 (18+) or Level 2 Instructor

Additional Instructors = Level 1 or Level 2 Instructor (age requirement is not a factor)

All BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Courses must follow the [BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course Manual](#)



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES



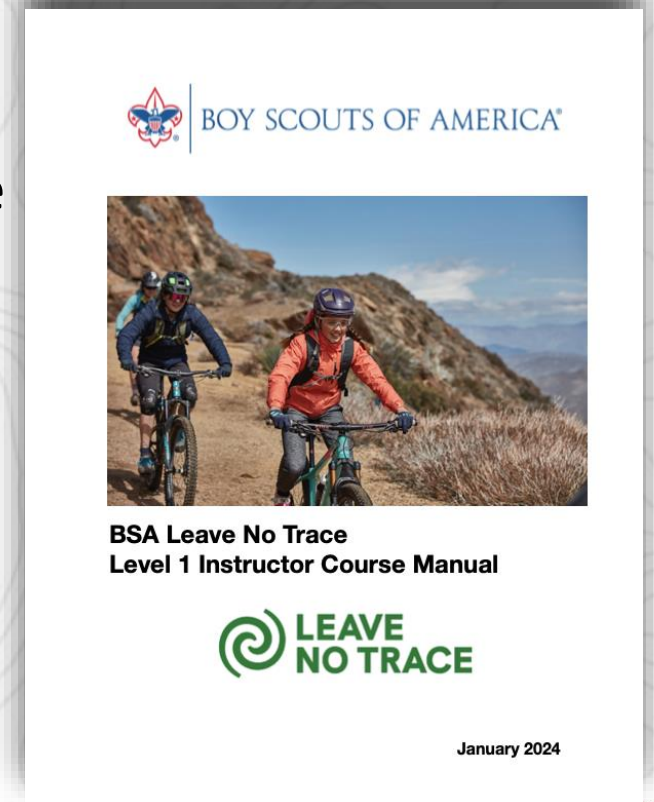


Multiple BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Courses

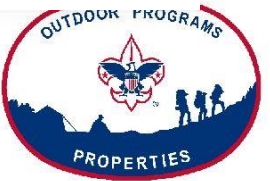
Multiple courses can be held at the same time providing the enrollment and Instructor standards are met for each course.

<https://Int.org/research-resources/level-1-instructor-course-guidelines/>

All BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Courses must follow the [BSA leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course Manual](#)



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





The Standards Followed for a Leave No Trace Skills Course

There are no minimum or maximum enrollment standards.

Lead Instructor = Level 1 or Level 2 Instructor

Co-Instructor = Level 1 (18+) or Level 2 Instructor

Additional Instructors = Level 1 or Level 2 Instructor (age requirement is not a factor)

Additional Instructors are needed to maintain a 6 participant/ 1 instructor ratio when enrollment exceeds 12 participants.

<https://lnt.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Skills-Course-Guidelines.pdf>



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





There is not a BSA specific curriculum for the Leave No Trace Skills Course at this time.

A Training Code has been requested.



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





<https://Int.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Skills-Course-Guidelines.pdf>

- A qualified co-instructor is required for all Leave No Trace Skills Courses.
- A co-instructor for a Skills Course can be a Level 1, 2, or 3 Instructor or a person with advanced knowledge and understanding of Leave No Trace Principles, skills, and ethics. The lead instructor should ensure that a co-instructor without Leave No Trace Level 1, 2, or 3 instructor training has the necessary background to co-instruct.



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





The burden of correctly providing the syllabus and properly teaching the skills and ethics for a Leave No Trace Skills Course falls on the Lead Instructor. The BSA recommends that the co-instructor also be a Level 1, or 2 Instructor for all Council approved Leave No Trace Skills Courses.



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





The Standards Followed for a Combined Leave No Trace Skills Course & BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course



A BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course and a Leave No Trace Skills Course can be held at the same time providing the standards for each course are met. When the situation arises that the total number of participants is less than 12 for the two courses, the BSA would feel comfortable allowing the two concurring courses to commence with one set of instructors providing the number of participants (+18) for the Level 1 Instructor course is equal to 4 or more and with the provision that both courses file separate course rosters. When ever the total number of participants is greater then 12 the courses should be separated with each having its own set of assigned instructors, regardless of the way the numbers break down. In all cases with the total participation greater than 12 the Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor courses ares run as a separate entities.



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





Thank you for all you do to support
Outdoor Ethics and Conservation in
Scouting



OUTDOOR PROGRAMS/PROPERTIES





Announcements



Paul Schimke, National Capitol Area Council

2024 BSA National OUTDOOR ETHICS AND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!



The Link

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

The Speaker



The Patch

Questions??

oec-conference@outdoorethics-bsa.org

Pre-Course Offerings

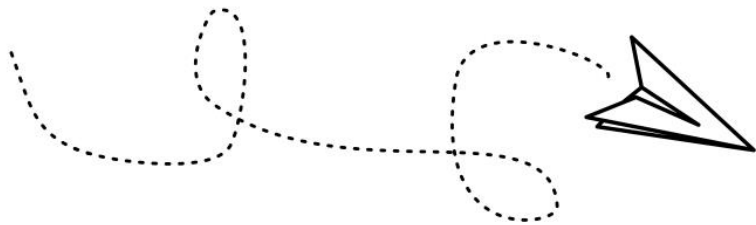
Tuesday: Risk Management – \$50 (only for those who take a different course Wednesday)

Wednesday - Thursday: Council Outdoor Ethics Advocate – \$70

Wednesday: Distinguished Conservation Service Award Adviser – \$70

Wednesday: Risk Management – \$70

Wednesday: Tread Lightly! Master Tread Trainer – \$100



Cost

Main Conference
\$200 before 6/1/24
\$225 after 6/1/24
Registration ends
August 1st

Beautiful Camp Tracy





2024 Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Courses

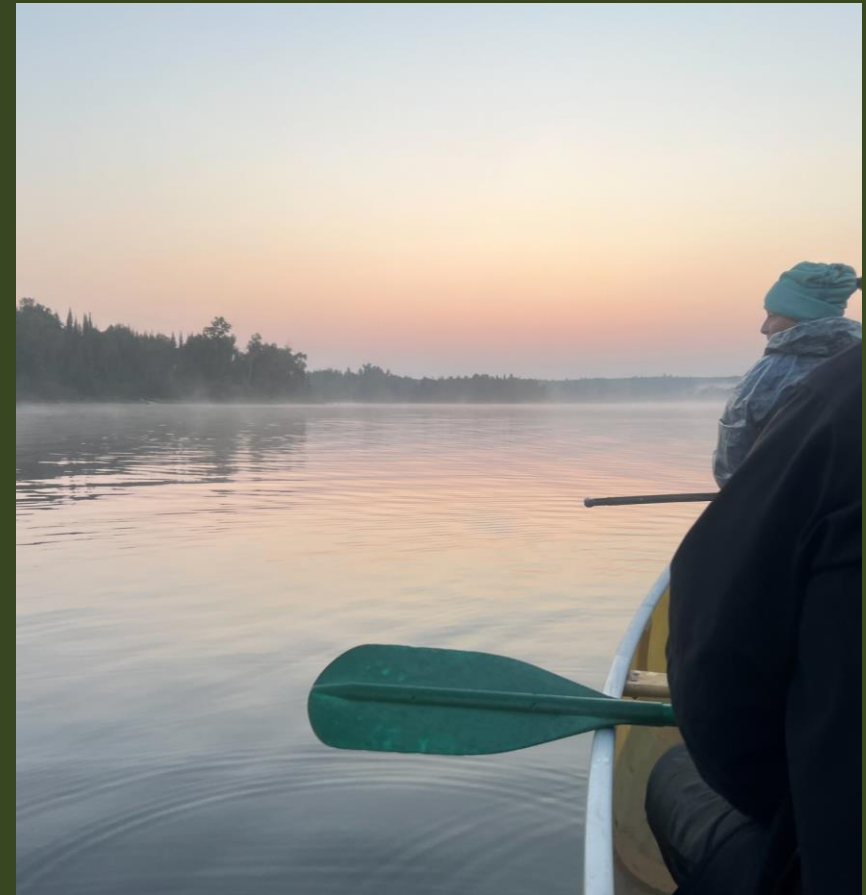
Dates	Council	Camp	Course Info	Field Experience
2024				
Apr 26-28, May 16-19	<u>Heart of New England Council</u>	Camp Wanocksett, Dublin, NH	Contact: <u>Timothy Bradbury</u>	Non-trek
May 9-14	<u>Great Trail Council</u>	<u>Manatoc Scout Reservation, Peninsula, OH</u>	Contact: <u>Patty Payne</u>	Non-trek
May 12-17	National Council	Summit Bechtel Reserve	<u>Info/Registration</u>	Non-Trek
June 3-8	<u>Sioux Council</u>	<u>Lewis & Clark Scout Reservation, Tabor, SD</u>	<u>Flyer Information (registration coming Jan 15)</u> Contact: <u>Michelle Bierstedt</u>	Non-Trek
August 11-17	National Council	<u>Northern Tier High Adventure Base, Ely, MN</u>	<u>Flyer Info (Registration coming soon)</u> Contact: <u>Ted Weiland</u>	Canoeing
Sept 22-27	National Council	<u>Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico</u>	<u>Information/Registration</u>	Backpacking
Oct 25-27, Oct 31-Nov 3	<u>Central Florida Council</u>	<u>Camp La-No-Che, Paisley, FL</u>	Contact: <u>Carolann Smith</u>	

Latest Level 2 Course Schedule
http://www.outdoorethics-bsa.org/training/me_courses.php

Dan Howells Scholarship
<http://www.outdoorethics-bsa.org/DanHowellsScholarship.php>



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



Evelyn Bruno, National Capitol Area Council



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

<https://tinyurl.com/OECCRT>
roundtable@outdoorethics-bsa.org

Feedback !?



Paul Schimke, National Capitol Area Council

Prairie Birthday

“During every week from April to September there are, on the average, ten wild plants coming into first bloom. In June as many as a dozen plants may burst their buds on a single day. No man can heed all of these anniversaries; no man can ignore all of them.”

Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac



May's Roundtable

Promoting Outdoor Ethics on Treks

