

TO THE PARENTS OF FIRST TIME BARTLE CAMPERS:

You and your son are about to embark on a fulfilled adventure — Boy Scout Summer Camp at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation. We say ‘you and your son’ because you are one of the major influences on how your son will view his camping experience. If you show interest, enthusiasm and encouragement, your son is much more likely to do the same. Demonstrate to him that you believe in him and his abilities. Bartle is a wonderful experience where your son will have a great time and will grow both physically and mentally. With your help, he will get the most out of his experience.

As the time to depart for camp draws near, your son will need your special attention helping him acquire, mark and pack his clothing and Scouting items.

Your Scout will be looking forward to your visit on Visitor Day. We suggest you plan to arrive between 10:00 and 11:00AM. Every family is encouraged to attend. Parking at camp is limited, therefore carpooling is strongly encouraged. Your attendance and support for your Scout on this special day during each session helps him to know how important he is to you. Additionally, he is anxious to share with and show you what he is experiencing.

Many troops have a buffet picnic lunch. Food should be brought to camp in disposable containers. Due to the heat, please don’t leave dishes that contain mayonnaise or ingredients such as tuna out for more than a couple of hours and be sure to take that food home with you. Most often enough food is brought on Visitor Day to allow the Scouts and leaders to have enough for not only the noon meal, but also an evening snack. Campers look forward to this day during their session because we all know that home cooked food is much tastier than camp food.

Bring your lawn chairs. Expect the weather to be sunny, hot and humid. The camp is dusty and rocky, so wear your most comfortable shoes (sandals are not a good choice). Your son will want to show you where he spends his days and this requires considerable walking. You will be able to see Bartle through the eyes of your son. Please do not bring pets to camp!

Please plan on leaving the campsite no later than 4:00 PM, as the boys will have evening activities to attend. If your Scout is a bit sad to see you leave, don’t delay — that only makes it harder for him (and you)! In most instances, within a very few minutes after you leave, your son will be off to another adventure and a fun filled evening. Your leaders are aware that departure time is sometimes difficult, so be ready to handle homesickness that might arise.

You might consider mailing a short note or a funny card to your Scout on the day before he leaves for camp so he will get some mail shortly after he arrives at camp. However, **DO NOT TELL HIM ALL THE FUN YOU ARE HAVING WHILE HE IS GONE!** Make your letter sound as if life is **RATHER DULL AT HOME.**

Bartle is a large place with hundreds of campers per session. Please do not call unless it is truly an emergency that cannot wait. Even then, it will be some time before the message can be delivered, and a return call placed back to you. Phones can be a source of homesickness. Should your Scout call home, we suggest you give him encouragement that you want him to stay and have a great camping experience.

DO NOT BRING VALUABLES TO CAMP.

All clothing and equipment should be clearly marked with your full name and troop number.

Canteen

Work Gloves

Nylon Line, Clothes Pins, Coat Hangers

Jeans or Long Pants

Raincoat or Poncho

Hat or Cap

Shampoo, Soap, Comb

Boy Scout Handbook

Drinking Cup

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

The Boy Scout uniform builds pride. The Scoutmaster's attitude toward wearing the Boy Scout uniform will be reflected in the dress of his troop. Scouts should wear their uniform to and from camp with pride. Scouts and Scouters who have their Class "A" uniform shall wear it to camp-wide flag ceremonies, as well as campfires, Mic-O-Say Ceremonies (if not in tribal attire) and church services. Those who do not own a complete uniform should wear their Class "B" uniform.

Every troop at camp should take a few minutes to determine if it has everything necessary for a quality program. Remember that there is no electricity in your campsite. The following is only a suggested list of items to take to camp. Consult the Scoutmaster's Handbook for a more detailed list.

Equipment and Supplies Everyone Should Bring

Health Form (completed and current)

Bible or Prayer Book

Camp Box with Lock (suggest extra key or combination to Scoutmaster)

Official Scout Uniform Shirt, troop neckerchief w/slide, shorts or pants, belt, and socks)

Camp T-shirt (new ones available at trading post)

Extra shirts, shorts, underwear, socks, etc.

Pajamas

Sweater or Light Jacket

Swimming Suit (One piece suit for ladies)

Sun Block
Hiking boots & tennis shoes (no flip flops, open toe shoes, or crocs)
Bath towels
Toothbrush & Toothpaste
Sleeping Bag or Blankets, Pillow
Flashlight & Extra Batteries
Merit Badge Pamphlets
Paper & Writing Utensils
Pocket Knife (No sheath knives)
Non Aerosol Mosquito Repellent

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT

Camera and Film
Sunglasses
Musical Instrument
Small Rug or Mat
Sewing Kit
Stamps and Envelopes
Clothes Washing Soap (in plastic bottle or biodegradable powder)

Spending Money — Souvenirs, snacks, merit badge supplies and craft kits are available at the Osage River Trading Company. Troop 391 will operate a “bank” to hold money for Scouts while at camp. Only small bills such as 1s, 5s & 10s should be brought to camp. The Scouts will sign in or out money on deposit or withdrawal slips to provide accountability for their account. The Trading Post cannot easily make change for larger bills.

All personal items and spending money should be kept in a secure camp box while at camp. Clothing should be clearly marked with your full name and troop number. Another suggestion is to provide a Sharpie or permanent marker to mark items as they are purchased while at camp. The Heart of America Council is not responsible for securing or for the loss of personal items. It is your responsibility to keep track of all personal valuables while at camp.

Thank you.

Your Bartle Summer Camp Scoutmaster and Asst. Camp Scoutmaster