



2012 PARENTS GUIDE & PRE-CAMP INFORMATION

Dear Parents:

I am very happy to be able to serve as your Mount Norris Camp Director for the 2012 camp season. I have wanted to do this for a long time and it is my goal to make 2012 the best camp season in many years. We have just concluded a very successful 2011 camp season, with a great staff (many will be returning,) great food (provided by an experienced kitchen staff) and an exciting program for your sons and daughters. A program where they will be able to advance in scouting and have a memorable fun-filled week.

In 2011 I served as a "new" staff member in the position of Assistant Camp Director. In 2012, I will serve as the camp director. I have been involved in Scouting for a few decades now and have worked with many of you along the Scouting Trail. I have been involved in District and Council Training for many years.

It is unknown, at this time, if **Eric Sadler** will be able to return because of educational opportunities. It is our hope (and current plan) that he will once again, serve as your Program Director. In the same way, in 2011 **Richard "Woodsy" Woods** was your Camp Commissioner. He has recently moved to Tennessee however, it is planned that he too, will return for the 2012 camp season.

The past two years, since re-opening Mount Norris, we have implemented annual minor program changes and a few administrative changes, that have improved the camp. We will continue to make changes enabling us to deliver a quality summer camp experience for your Scouts. 2012 will see a minor "tweek" in the camp schedule regarding the Merit Badge sessions. First Class Adventure (FCA) will continue to offer two three hour sessions.

If you have any questions please, contact me at: george.beach@myfairpoint.net.

Yours in Scouting,

George Beach
Camp Director MNSR

WHY YOUR SCOUTS NEED SUMMER CAMP

- The Scouting 'program' is deeply rooted in the outdoors and adventures it holds for our youth. In this setting, youth learn appropriate outdoor skills to aid them in emergencies and the course of their adult lives.
- Well-planned unit meetings, hikes, overnight campouts and other outdoor activities all give Scouts the opportunity for advancement, leadership development and to practice citizenship within a small group. These activities and skills all occur under the wise counsel and guidance of the Unit Leader who sets the example for the youth he leads.
- Outdoor adventure is easy for youth to find in Vermont. At summer camp your youth will find a staff ready and willing to serve them the finest outdoor experience possible.
- Think of Mount Norris as an outdoor laboratory, not just a summer camp. It is a place where Scouts will mature, develop leadership skills and potentially discover a skill that will become a life-long vocation. In this outdoor laboratory Scouts will live Scouting's ideals, function as a team, grow personally and as a group and advance in rank while having fun.

CAMP PROMOTION IN THE UNIT

- The words "summer camp promotion" means everything possible to get as many of the unit's Scouts to camp as possible. The 2012 'camp promotion' started when you arrived for camp in 2011! Encouraging every Scout to attend summer camp should be an ongoing process in the unit right up until the day the unit leaves for camp.
- Camp should be mentioned frequently and every youth should plan to attend with the unit. Follow-up with all youth not signed up and their parents. Summer camp should be discussed with new youth and their parents when they join. Start early on those Webelos who will be "crossing" over from the Cub Scout Pack into your unit in the spring. Your retention of new Scouts will even go up if they attend summer camp!
- Talk up summer camp at every opportunity. If your unit would like a camp promotion presentation please contact the Council Office at 1-800-704-3089 or contact George Beach, the Mount Norris Director.

FIRST CLASS ADVENTURE (FCA)

This program is designed for new Scouts, those coming to camp for the first time and working on Tenderfoot through First Class skills. The program is designed as a 'hands-on' experience for the Scouts to master their outdoor skills. However, some of the Tenderfoot to First Class requirements may not be completed a camp. The unit has the responsibility for providing program activities that lead to First Class.

ADULT SCOUT LEADER OPPORTUNITIES

BOY SCOUT LEADER SPECIFIC TRAINING: A volunteer "trainer" will be at camp to conduct Boy Scout LST for those who PRE-REGISTER. This training is available to all unit leaders (required training) and parents in camp.

SAFETY AFLOAT AND SAFE SWIM DEFENSE: The aquatics staff will teach these sessions. Because so many Scouting activities involve the water, it is important that adult leaders be versed in promoting safe aquatic activities.

TREK SAFELY: An experienced member in treks will instruct this course. It is designed for those leaders interested in planning week-long High Adventure programs for their units.

SCOUT LEADER "CAMP SPIRIT" BADGE: Our Camp Commissioner, "Woodsy" has created a recognition for our Scout Leaders. You can help with an OA project; volunteer in a 'program area' or participate in any number of areas or activities serving the camp. Earn this special award!

SOLO/PROVISIONAL CAMPERS- Occasionally, there may be a conflict with some families about the week their unit is coming to camp. Mount Norris firmly believes that all boys who want to attend camp should be able to no matter what week their troop/crew is coming. Our Solo Scout program fulfills this need. The Solo/Provisional "troop" will stay in it's own campsite with their own scoutmasters (two staff members) if greater than 10, if the number of Solo Scouts is less than 10 the Scouts are placed with a cooperating troop. Solo Scouts have the same opportunities as any other scout in camp.

CAMPERSHIPS: Financial assistance for Green Mountain Council Boy Scouts demonstrating a financial need is available for Scouts attending the MNSR. **Campership application deadline is April 15th.** All camperships are need based. Recipients of financial aid will be notified before the June 1st Early Bird deadline. The application can be found at www.scoutingvermont.org in the camping forms.

LEADER'S FEE SCHEDULE:

1-4 Scouts; Leader fee is \$95.

5-16 Scouts; 2 Leaders free, all others \$95.

17-24 Scouts; 3 Leaders free, all others \$95.

DATES - PLANS - FEES

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Early registration fee: \$290 Regular registration fee: \$330 Late fee: \$350

- ✓ 1st \$100 per boy is due (in the office) by March 15th to qualify for Early Bird Fee.
- ✓ 2nd \$100 per boy is due (in the office) by April 30th. Total of \$200 will hold assigned campsite and qualify for Early Bird Fee.
- ✓ \$90 per boy is due (in the office) by June 1st. Total Early Bird Fee is paid.
- ✓ All leader fees are due by June 15th.

FINANCING YOUR CAMP WEEK

- ❖ Starting the week ending 5 November 2011 if you were to save \$10 per week you would have the total "Early Registration Fee" saved before the deadline in June.
- ❖ Some units that participate in the Annual Popcorn Sale(s) (Fall & Spring) have camp payment plans for the Scouts that participate.
- ❖ Partial or total camp fee received as a Holiday gift from grandparents.
- ❖ Unit bottle drives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the: Green Mountain Council
P.O. Box 557
Waterbury, VT 05676
Phone 1-800-704-3089
www.scoutingvermont.org
info@scoutingvermont.org

Camp Director: George Beach
george.beach@myfairpoint.net

See you at camp!