



Summer TIMES

YOUR MONTHLY SOURCE FOR MISSISSIPPI VALLEY COUNCIL SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION

VISIT US AT WWW.MISSISSIPPIVALLEYBSA.ORG OR CALL 319-754-8413

Pre-camp Leaders Meetings

Find help and ask those burning questions about camp

The Pre-camp Leaders meeting can be an invaluable tool for Troop leaders to ask questions and find answers so you can prepare for camp. This year we have changed a few things up so the meetings can be more time efficient, less travel, and in a smaller setting to get more interaction with you as a leader. Camp administration will be there to answer program questions, check-in/ check-out procedures, new program features and more.

The highlight will be the unveiling of our new Online Merit Badge sign-up process and more detailed explanation of merit badge schedules, times, and new offerings. While at least one representative from each Troop should attend, all leaders are invited to come and share. Each Pre-camp Leaders meeting will be held at a local restaurant and you are welcome to come and eat (on your own). Specific location will soon be available but mark your calendars now for:

Wednesday, February 29th-Quincy

Thursday, March 1st-Keokuk

Thursday, March 7th-Burlington

Leader's Guide

Complete Guide to your Summer Camp Adventure now available at www.mississippivalleybsa.org

The 2012 Summer Camp Leader's Guide is done and online for you to view and use. This guide features all of the new changes to the summer camp program and included is: how to sign up for camp (including complete "Camper Savings Plan"), rules and regulations, schedules, what to pack for camp, services offered, and more. The guide will also be presented at the Pre-Camp Leaders meeting on a CD so you can have on your computer to use in case you don't have access to the internet.

Camp Staff

CIT (Counselor in Training)-Do you have any 14-15 year olds that are looking for leadership, fun, and a way to prepare for future seasonal employment? Applications are now being accepted for CIT positions at summer camp. This staff position is a non-paid position but many times is a Scouts first real opportunity in an employment setting and they get invaluable skills inside a job setting but also get to have FUN and experience camp in a whole new light. CIT will be asked to work Staff Week and an additional 2 weeks (not during your camp week so they can still attend with the troop and earn advancements). Send your applications to the Burlington Scout Office today.

Summer Camp Backdating

Suggested steps to help you get to camp!

- **Promote Camp to Parents**-a recent study of "Who Influences the Camp Enrollment Decision" found that parents were the most influential part of the decision (53%) over leaders (26%) or peers (30%). Use the "Camper Savings Plan" and set up a Summer Camp kick-off and talk to parents about camp so they understand how important it is and make them feel comfortable.
- **Promotional Help**-extra camp brochures are in the office for you to use and contact the Order of the Arrow for more help and put a spark into your camp kick-off!

Camper Savings Plan

Save Money!

Make sure the Troop Committee pays special attention to the "Camp Savings Plan". This plan is an incentive plan to help you save money and also help you promote camp to all of your Scout families. Keep up with the deadlines and make sure they are clearly marked on your Troop's calendar.

- **Campsite deposit in by 2/1/12**
- **Hold Troop Summer Camp Kickoff by 2/28/12**
- **Make deposit of \$250 by 3/23/12 with estimated number of attendees**
- **Hold Family FOS by 5/4/12**
- **Make final payment on-time by 5/4/12**