



## The Game of Scouting

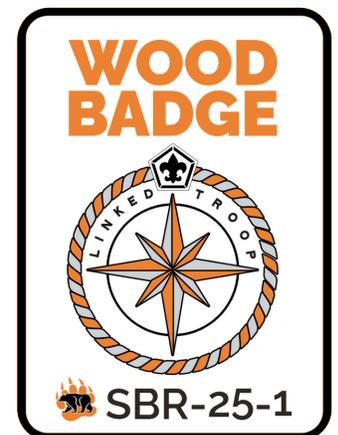
Baden-Powell once said, "The Scoutmaster teaches boys to play the game by doing so himself." It was this quote that most likely inspired William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt to write the section The Game of Scouting in the third edition (1936) of The Boy Scouts of America Handbook for Scoutmasters. Within that section, Hillcourt writes "Here, then, is Scouting in a nutshell: A game for boys under the leadership of boys with the wise guidance and counsel of a grown-up who has still the enthusiasm of youth in him. A purposeful game, but a game just the same, a game that develops character by practice, that trains for citizenship—through experience in the out-of-doors." Like Baden-Powell, Hillcourt's vision was that Scouts would be so caught up in the fun of Scouting, they would not realize they were being taught things like citizenship, character, and reverence.



Your Wood Badge experience will take place in a similar fashion. Through a series of presentations, challenges, games, and other fun activities, you will learn about leadership, communication, team development, and conflict resolution. When you arrive at Summit Bechtel Reserve and embark on your Wood Badge experience, approach the course with the same spirit the Scouts in your units have towards "the game of Scouting." Don't be afraid to embrace the enthusiasm of your inner child during the activities. You will have more fun, the lessons will be more understandable, and you will make memories for a lifetime! While it was "Green Bar Bill" who coined the term "Scouting is a game with a purpose," it was Baden-Powell who said "Scouting is not an abstruse or difficult science: rather it is a jolly game if you take it in the right light. At the same time, it is educative, and (like Mercy) it is apt to benefit him that giveth as well as him that receives." In the words of William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt, "Your life as a Scout will make you strong and self-reliant. You will learn Scoutcraft skills that will benefit you as you grow. In time, you will develop skills of leadership as well. So pitch in! Swing into action! In your patrol and your troop, you will have some of the best times of your life."

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## Medical Form

Participants must bring a BSA Annual Health and Medical Record form (Parts A, B & C) with them as well as a copy (front and back) of their insurance card. Your physical must be valid through the end of the course. Part C must be completed by a doctor. A copy of this form can be downloaded [here](#).



## The Usefulness of the Neckerchief

Did you know the Scout neckerchief can be used as more than just part of your uniform? Here are a few of the many uses:

- As an International Morse signal flag
- In knot-tying practice
- As a substitute for a belt
- As a smoke mask
- As a blindfold for Scout games
- As a dressing for a burned face and neck
- As a sweat band or hair tie
- As a night cap or ear protector
- As a muffler for storm or blizzard
- As a cover for a pail of water
- As a triangular cap bandage
- As a napkin
- As an apron
- As a dust cloth or cover
- As a drifter bag
- To lash poles or staves together
- As a patch for a leaky boat, or canoe, when properly treated
- For making smoke signals
- As a padded glove for the hand, to prevent blisters
- To pad portions of a harness to prevent chafing
- To tie up square packages
- For fastening ends of the blanket roll
- As a tablecloth

*"...the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best."*

~ Robert Baden-Powell

## Gray Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Logistics

### Stephanie Smutter



## Orange Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Logistics

### John Vajanyi



## PARTICIPANT Notebooks

There is an opportunity to buy a Participant Notebook with summary sheets! These sheets will also be provided electronically during the course, so if you don't want to buy a Participant Notebook, no worries! You can bring a laptop/tablet and download the information during the course.

This book **DOES NOT INCLUDE** the slides which will be presented during the course.

Step 1: [Fill out google order form \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Step 2: Payment

- [Electronic payment \(CLICK HERE\)](#)
- Bring \$15 to registration on-site



## Gray Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Program

### Name: Kaleen Deatherage

**Hometown:** Portland, OR

**Participant Year:** 2009

**Critter:** Antelope

**Council:** Cascade Pacific

**Current Scouting Role:** Member, National Executive Board; Immediate Past Chair, Cascade Pacific Council Board, Co-Chair Scouts BSA National Youth Council

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 4 (TG, ASPL, SPL, ASM-P)



**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants? :** Don't put too much pressure on yourself to "get it right." Wood Badge isn't about winning or having all the answers. You'll get the most from the experience from simply being fully present, keeping an open-mind, and experiencing the course without expectations. You only get to be a participant once, make the most of it!

## Orange Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Program

### Name: Griffin Roblyer

**Hometown:** Knoxville, TN

**Participant Year:** 2017

**Critter:** Beaver

**Council:** Great Smokey Mountain

**Current Scouting Role:** National Committee, National Commissioner Service Team, Asst. Council Commissioner

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 4 (Scribe, TG, SPL, ASM-P)



**How would you describe WoodBadge to someone who has never been?:** I would say its a transformative leadership experience that is extremely challenging but so rewarding. It's a combination of huge personal growth, as well as professional development that when combined with networking and meeting new friends creates this magical moment.

**What is your goal as a WoodBadge staff member this year?** Create the best experience possible for our amazing participants!

## Gray Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop Guides

**Name: Jen Rodriguez**

**Hometown:** Williamsburg, VA

**Participant Year:** 2020

**Critter:** Bear

**Council:** Colonial Virginia

**Pack#/Troop#:** T103

**Current Scouting Role:** Committee Member

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, ASM-TG)

**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your WoodBadge experience?** At this phase of my life I am maximizing the principles of Servant Leadership in a shifting work environment and finding fulfillment in focusing on Including and Optimizing Diverse Talent. I'm also finding my skills are coming into play in my family life as my parents age and I find myself taking a leadership role in the family even though I'm the "baby".



## Orange Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop Guides

**Name: Patrick Kaser**

**Hometown:** Hockessin, DE

**Participant Year:** 2022

**Critter:** Eagle

**Council:** Del-Mar-Va

**Pack#/Troop#:** Crew 1923

**Current Scouting Role:** Crew Advisor, Committee Member, District Committee

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, ASM-TG)

**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Bring the Energy! The week at Wood Badge was fun and spirited.

**What has WoodBadge taught you about yourself?** It has enhanced my communication and mentoring skills.



## Personal Equipment List

(PDF can be found [HERE](#))



- Official BSA Field Uniform \*
- Official BSA Activity Uniform \*\*
- Clothing for Indoor & Outdoor
  - Cool Weather Jacket
- Shoes, for indoor use
- Scout Cap, if desired
- Underwear
- Sleeping Clothes
- Personal Items
  - Toiletries
  - Toothbrush/ Toothpaste
  - Soap
  - Shampoo
  - Deodorant
  - Comb/Hairbrush
  - Lip Balm
  - Handkerchief or Bandana
  - Sunscreen
  - Medications, including nonprescription
  - Face mask

### BACKPACK/DAY PACK:

Your pack should contain the following:

- Medication in Labeled Containers
- Pens, Pencils, Notebook/Notepad
- Water Bottle/Hot Cup
- Pocket Knife/Tool
- Cell Phone & Charger
- Laptop/Tablet & Charging cables
- Handbook for your Scouting program
- Flashlight/Head Lamp (With Spare Batteries)

### PROVIDED ON COURSE:

One of each of the following:

- Beanie Hat
- Course T-Shirt
- Water Bottle
- Neckerchief

### OPTIONAL:

- Ear Plugs
- Sunglasses
- Camera
- Spending Money
- Watch
- Indoor Slippers
- Religious Books
- Scout Books—Camp Songs, Skits, etc.
- Alarm Clock
- Seat Cushion (we will be sitting on hard chairs)

*\*A complete field uniform consists of: BSA shorts, BSA long pants, or BSA skirt; BSA belt; BSA socks; BSA shirt with appropriate insignia for your position. An official Wood Badge neckerchief and slide will be provided to you as part of course.*

*\*\*A complete activity uniform consists of: BSA shorts, BSA long pants, or BSA skirt; BSA belt; BSA socks; a t-shirt (preferably the course t-shirt, but any BSA Pack or Troop t-shirt is acceptable. You will be provided with one course t-shirt when you arrive at Wood Badge).*

## Leave No Trace: Why Is This Program Important?

Instilling values in young people and preparing them to make moral and ethical choices throughout their lifetime is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America. Leave No Trace helps reinforce that mission and reminds us to respect the rights of other users of the outdoors as well as future generations.

Appreciation for our natural environment, and a knowledge of the interrelationships of nature, helps bolster our respect and reverence toward the environment and nature.

Leave No Trace is an awareness and an attitude, rather than a set of rules. It applies in your backyard or local park as much as in the backcountry. We should all practice Leave No Trace in our thinking and actions—wherever we go.

We learn Leave No Trace by sharing the principles and then discovering how they can be applied. The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace provide an easily understood framework of minimum impact practices for anyone visiting the outdoors. Although Leave No Trace has its roots in backcountry settings, the principles have been adapted so that they can be applied anywhere.

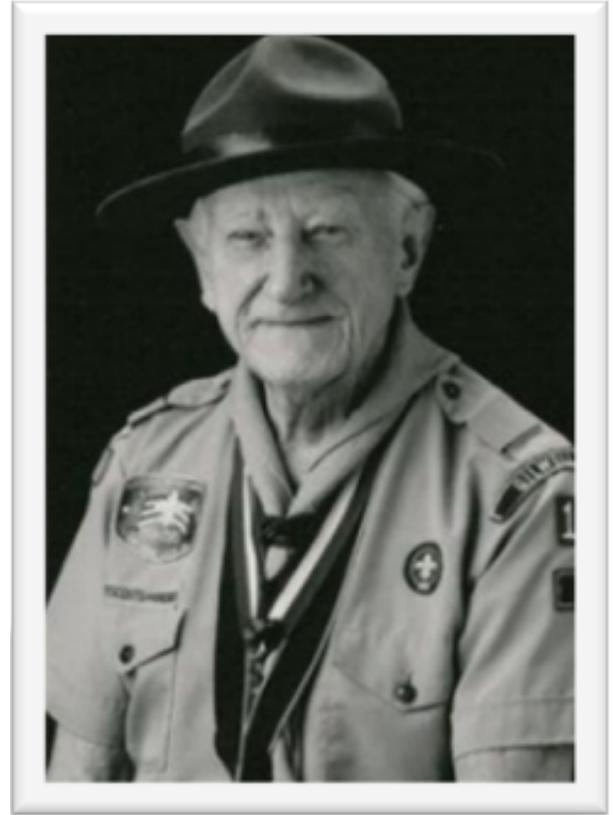
The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace are as follows:

1. **Plan ahead and prepare.** Proper planning and preparation increases safety, reduces the impact of your visit on the environment, and helps make your outdoor experience more enjoyable.
2. **Travel and camp on durable surfaces.** Natural environments are easily damaged by foot traffic. Use existing trails or travel on durable surfaces such as rock, gravel, sand, compacted soil, dry grasses, or snow. Large groups should spread out to avoid creating new trails. Keep campsites small.
3. **Dispose of waste properly (pack it in, pack it out).** Any material people leave behind pollutes the environment and might create a health hazard for wildlife or other visitors. Pack out any trash and leftover food. Dispose of human waste by digging catholes 6 to 8 inches deep and 200 feet away from water, trails, and campsites.
4. **Leave what you find.** Observe the interesting things you find, but do not disturb them. Use established campsites and do not alter them in any way. Restore campsites to pristine condition before you leave.
5. **Minimize campfire impacts.** Use a lightweight stove when cooking in the backcountry. If you need to build a fire, keep it small and use only dead or downed wood. Never cut down limbs or trees for firewood.
6. **Respect wildlife.** Stay far enough away from animals that your presence does not disturb their natural activity. Store food, food scraps, and trash securely to prevent animals from eating food that is not part of their natural diet. Never feed wild animals.
7. **Be considerate of other visitors.** Let everyone enjoy nature. Travel and camp quietly and away from other people. Blend in by wearing subdued colors. Leave pets and portable audio devices at home.



## Who Was "Green Bar Bill?"

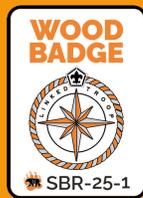
William Hillcourt, known as "Green Bar Bill", was an influential leader in the Boy Scouts of America organization from 1927 to 1992. Hillcourt was a prolific writer and teacher in the areas of woodcraft, troop and patrol structure, and training; his written works include the BSA's official Boy Scout Handbook, Boy Scout Fieldbook, Patrol Leaders Handbook, Scoutmaster's Handbook, and numerous magazine articles in Boys' Life. Topics included monthly sections on Scoutcraft, outdoor Scouting skills, and included his signature superimposed over the two green bars that are the emblem of the patrol leader. This led to his moniker "Green Bar Bill" and its adoption as the logo of his regular Boys' Life column. Green Bar Bill became involved in Wood Badge in 1936 when John Skinner Wilson, Camp Chief of Gilwell, came to introduce Wood Badge to the United States. He was a member of the Burham Patrol during that course and became Senior Patrol Leader four days later for the second course. Green Bar Bill earned his Wood Badge Beads in 1939. After World War II, Wood Badge was reawakened to become a permanent part of training in American Scouting. Early in 1948, Bill Hillcourt was one of four people appointed by the new Scout Executive to get Wood Badge underway as a national training standard, adapted to the BSA program. These four National Professional Staffers decided that two BSA Wood Badge courses would be held in 1948. The first at Schiff Scout Reservation, and the second at Philmont Scout Ranch. Green Bar Bill was the Scoutmaster at both of these courses. He died at the age of 92 on November 9, 1992; but Green Bar Bill's legacy in Scouting and his influence continue to live on in the programs and trainings that we still use today.



*"The only things we keep permanently are those we give away."*

~ Waite Phillips

Please click the icons below for more information!



The SBR-25-1 store is closed for new orders which would make it in time for the course. You can still order items to be delivered after the course!