2020 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site: K-M Scout Ranch, Hilger MT

Course Director: Kee Ostler mtscoutergirl@gmail.com  Staff Advisor: Shon Ostler shon.ostler@scouting.org

Dates: April 25 & 26, 2019  Theme: Down on the Farm

Course times: The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 25th and end approx. 2:00pm on Sunday, April 26th.

Weather: Spring weather can be unpredictable at this time of year. Prepare to dress in layers and bring warm waterproof clothing. Temperatures can range from nighttime temperatures of 30+ degrees Fahrenheit to 60+ degrees Fahrenheit during the day.

Early arrivals:
- For an additional fee of $55.00*, you may arrive the night before, please make it after 6:00 p.m. and before 11:00 p.m. This fee covers lodging Friday night and breakfast Saturday morning. This fee does NOT cover a meal Friday night. You are welcome to use our kitchen microwave to heat up a meal that you bring. This fee is handled through your local council and you may or may not be required to cover it personally.
- FYI...No activities are planned for early arrivals as the staff are busy with preparations. However, you are welcome to use our WiFi. The password will be given when you check in.

Before You Arrive at NCS:
- Fill out the NCS Personal Resource Questionnaire HERE and bring to camp school.
- Take the online NCS course. Link will be provided once you are registered.
- The in-person Council led NCS course with your council.
- Youth Protection Training: https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/
- Cub Scout Leader Position Specific training. https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/

What to Take to Camp:
- Either a screenshot or printed proof of BSA registration & prerequisite online training courses (Youth Protection Training, Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Training, Camp School Online Training, and Council-led Camp School Training).
- Your completed BSA health form (parts A and B).
- Samples of your council’s day camp promotional materials, staff manuals, or other camp literature, registration forms, schedules, etc., for display or giveaway. Make copies for at least 30 participants (No copying services are available at camp). If you are bringing a craft to share, please provide all of the materials. There will be room in the display area for people to make them before and after scheduled events.
- Your camp T-shirt—there will be an opportunity for everyone to wear theirs. Any of your previous years are fine.
- Note a pad and pencil or pen. A participant binder and learning materials will be provided.
- Energy and enthusiasm! We can’t wait to get to know you!
- NCS Online Trading Post: You can preview and purchase specialty National Camp School items (shirts, sweatshirts, and more!) to be sent directly to your home via BSA National Supply. The K-M Trading post will be open for limited hours on Saturday and Sunday.

Personal Gear:
- Official complete BSA uniform. We will wear the Field uniform, the official Scout uniform, during the weekend. However, you will have the opportunity to wear your favorite camp shirt or sweatshirt on Saturday afternoon.
- Pillow, sleeping bag, extra blanket, warm sleepwear, perhaps “long johns” or sweats
- Personal toiletries, towel, washcloth, soap, shampoo, etc. Personal medication (prescription and over the counter)
- Coat, jacket, suitable footwear/socks, gloves, hat, umbrella (Remember, think layers!)

What to Expect and What Is Expected:
- Arrive rested. Be prepared for concentration, participation, and fun! Days start early morning and end late at night.
- Be prepared for platform style tents – Canvas tents on a concrete pad, wired for electricity. Double cot style bunks. In the event of cold weather we will provide tent heaters. Please bring your own bedding.
- You must arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. on the first day, and attend all sessions through the last day in order to be certified**
- In order to focus on the learning, please leave the distractions of life behind: family, children, pets, job, etc. Note also, there are no accommodations for anyone but you.
• Our Wifi signal is strong, but cell reception is spotty. You will receive the Wifi password when you arrive at camp.

• Please understand that if you receive the names and contact information for other participants or for staff, you may not contact them for commercial purposes unless you receive their expressed permission to do so.

**Note Regarding Absences for Religious Reasons**  
Occasionally participants ask to be excused from parts of NCS for religious reasons. It is expected that before requesting, you first seek permission from your pastor or bishop to attend the entire school, and then seek substitutes to fulfill teaching responsibilities, etc. NCS is a once-in-five year occurrence; more critical than most other Scouting activities. Requests must be written to the associate regional director, and outline what was done in an attempt to experience the entire course. Even then, excuses can only be granted if a camp school staff member is willing to review with you, all sessions missed.

**Getting to K-M Scout Ranch:**

• Address- K-M Scout Ranch, 1066 KM Road, Hilger MT, 59451 Phone: (406) 708-4662 (Before calling the camp phone, call Shon Ostler (406-241-6014) with camp specific questions)

• Driving instructions: K-M Scout Ranch is located approximately 20 miles north of Lewistown, MT. K-M is in the North Moccasin Mountains next to the Kendall gold mines and the ghost town of Kendall. Proceed north out of Lewistown on Highway #191 for approximately 14 miles to the town of Hilger. Turn west onto a gravel road and follow the directional signs for about 5-6 miles and arrive at K-M Scout Ranch. Once through the gate at the bottom of the hill, stay left at the T intersection to get to the parking lot.

[Map of K-M Scout Ranch]

• Flying instructions: The closest Airport to the K-M Scout Ranch is Billings International Airport, located 150 miles South of camp or the Great Falls Airport located 125 to the west. Pickup and drop off from the airport is available for a $35.00 fee. Please call Shon Ostler at (406) 241-6014 one week prior to arrival date to arrange transportation

I look forward to meeting you!

~Kee Ostler