2020 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site: Northern Lights Council Service Center  
4200 19th Ave S,  
Fargo, ND 58103  
Course Director: Sheryl Oakman  402-490-6138  
Sheryl.oakman@yahoo.com  
Staff Adviser / Hotel Coordinator: Tom Barry  
Tom.Barry@Scouting.org

Dates: March 28-29  
Theme: Down on the Farm

Course times: The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28th and ends approx. 2:00pm on Sunday, March 29th.

Weather: Temperatures will be high in the 30s with lows in the 20s. Be prepared for cool days. Be prepared for a few outdoor activities during the day.

Lodging: For those requiring lodging, arrangements have been made for you to stay at the C’mon Inn, 4338 20th Ave SW, Fargo, ND. If you need housing, please email Tom.Barry@scouting.org to reserve your room. Please indicate at that time if you have a desired roommate, otherwise you will be assigned one. For questions regarding housing, please contact Tom.Barry@scouting.org.

Early Arrivals: For those who need to arrive Friday evening, please email Tom.Barry@scouting.org to ensure your hotel room stay is for both Friday and Saturday nights. Breakfast at the hotel is included as part of your stay.

Before You Arrive at NCS:
- Fill out the NCS Personal Resource Questionnaire online HERE.
- Take the online NCS course and the in-person Council led NCS course. Don’t forget the other required pre-requisites: Youth Protection Training and Cub Scout Leader Position Specific training.

What to Take to Camp:
- 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/resident camp promotional materials, staff manuals, or other camp literature, registration forms, schedules, etc., for display or giveaway. Make copies for at least 40 participants (No copying services are available at camp).
- Interesting crafts or activity ideas to share.
- Your camp T-shirt—there will be an opportunity for everyone to wear theirs.
- Notepad and pencil or pen. A participant binder and learning materials will be provided.
- NCS 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.

Personal Gear:
- Official complete BSA uniform. We will wear the Field uniform, the official Scout uniform, on Saturday morning and Sunday morning. You may wear any Day Camp T-shirt/Sweatshirt or Scout activity uniform, at other times.
- Coat, jacket, suitable footwear/socks, gloves, hat, umbrella
- Camera (Shoot the displays and show others back home what can be done!)

What to Expect and What Is Expected:
- Arrive rested. Be prepared for concentration, participation, and fun! Days last early morning to late at night.
- We 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.
- 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.