2020 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site: Sam Houston Council Service Center
2225 N Loop West
Houston, TX 77008

Course Director: Jennifer Mikes
jennifer.mikes.scouting@gmail.com

Staff Adviser: Vincent Manning
Vincent.Manning@scouting.org

Dates: March 7-8

Course times: The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 7th and ends approx. 2:00pm on Sunday, March 8th.

Weather: Temperatures will be high in the high 60s with lows in the 50s. Be prepared for cool mornings and warm afternoons, as well as some outdoor activities.

Lodging: For those requiring lodging, the Sam Houston Area Council has made arrangement for you to stay at the Springhill Suites 2750 North Loop West Houston, Texas 77092 (less than one mile from the Council Service Center). If you need housing, you must BOOK YOUR ROOM online. You can share a room with another participant or choose to have your own room. You must work with your local council directly to be reimbursed for your hotel expense. For questions regarding housing in general, please contact Vincent.Manning@scouting.org. For questions about a hotel reservation, contact Samantha Hopkins Samantha.Hopkins@aim hosp.com

Before You Arrive at NCS:
❖ Fill out the NCS Personal Resource Questionnaire HERE and bring to camp school.
❖ 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.
❖ 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.
❖ 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.
**Training Location Address:**
Sam Houston Area Council Office
2225 N Loop W
Houston, TX 77008

*Map of Sam Houston Council Service Center to SpringHill Suites Houston Brookhollow (for those who reserve a hotel room):*