

2021 Critical Details on National Camping School Participation

Course site: Camp Loud Thunder
9906-175th Street West
Illinois City, IL 61259
(563) 357-8887

Course Director: Jay Oakman, bsafox@yahoo.com
Staff Advisor: Amy Borgstede, amy.borgstede@scouting.org

Dates: March 6-7, 2021

Theme: Weird Science

Course times: The action begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 6th and ends approx. 2:00pm on Sunday, March 7th.

Weather: It will be cold, and it may snow. Bring suitable footwear, coat, gloves, & warm sleepwear. Be prepared for outdoor activities during the day. You will be sleeping in heated cabins at night.

Early arrivals: For an additional fee of \$55.00*, you may arrive the night before, please make it after 7:00 p.m. and before 10:00 p.m. *This fee covers lodging Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday. This fee does NOT cover a meal Friday night. FYI: No activities are planned for early arrivals as the staff are busy with preparations.*

COVID-19 and National Camping School - Local council host sites will continue to practice any locally required COVID-19/communicable disease mitigation strategies. Prior to your arrival, you will receive additional information about what precautions will be in place at your NCS site. If local area restrictions do not allow a course to be held, you will be contacted no less than 14 days in advance and given an alternative training option.

These precautions are important, but these efforts cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while at camp. Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. *If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to attending National Camping School.*

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 Bring 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 20 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 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](#).

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.
- ❖ Pillow, Bed Linens, Toiletries, towel, washcloth, soap, shampoo, etc.

- ❖ Warm sleepwear, perhaps “long johns” or sweats.
- ❖ Coat, jacket, suitable footwear/socks, gloves, hat, umbrella
- ❖ Camera (Shoot the displays and show others back home what can be done!)
- ❖ Cell phone coverage at this site is spotty (camp phones restricted to emergencies)

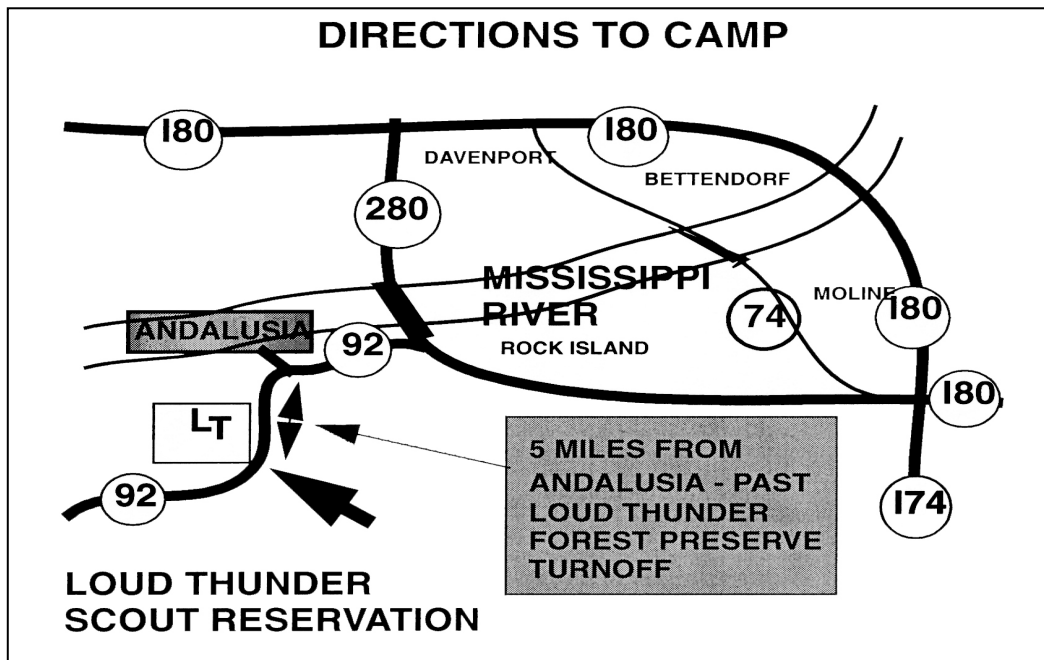
What to Expect and What Is Expected:

- ❖ Arrive rested. Be prepared for concentration, participation, and fun! Days last early morning to late at night.
- ❖ Be prepared for Dorm style - indoor housing with mattresses. 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.
- ❖ 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.

**The early arrival fee is handled through your local council. You may or may not be expected to cover it personally.*

LOUD THUNDER SCOUT RESERVATION

West of Andalusia, Illinois



ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

From the North or East: Pass through Andalusia, stay on Highway 92 with the Andalusia Slough on your right. Past the campsites along the Slough and the last boat ramp, the road will curve to the left (south) and climb a hill. At the top of the hill IGNORE signs to the Loud Thunder Forest Preserve and follow the sign south to Loud Thunder Scout Camp, going down the steep hill. Towards the bottom, IGNORE the entrance on the right and CONTINUE to the bottom of the hill and start up the other side. About a third of the way up, there will be a sign to the Scouts BSA Camp on your right, and you will turn RIGHT onto a gravel road going up the hill. Follow that road and park in the large gravel parking lot. Registration will be at the Administration Building immediately opposite the parking lot. See you there!

From the West or South: You'll either be on Highway 92 from Illinois City, or join it about a mile South of the camp. From that junction, stay on Highway 92 North. You'll continue north about a mile to a significant downward slope. About halfway down the slope you'll find the camp's entrance on your left. You will turn LEFT onto a gravel road going up the hill. Follow that road and park in the large gravel parking lot. Registration will be at the Administration Building immediately opposite the parking lot. See you there!