



DATE: JANUARY 1, 2020
TO: NCS Participant Course Dates: **Sept. 19-Sept. 25, 2021 – Full School:**
Course Location: **Philmont Scout Ranch** **Camp Director *, Program Director,**
17 Deer Run Road **COPE (R), Climbing (R),**
Cimarron, NM 87714 **Ecology/Conservation, Outdoor Skills,**
Shooting Sports (R) *(R)=Recert

FROM: Jeff Doty – National Camping School Course Director
jeff.doty@scouting.org

Welcome to the 2021 National Camping School (NCS) at **Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico!** On behalf of the camping school faculty, we eagerly look forward to having you with us at **Philmont Scout Ranch**. The course liaison for this school is Nick Hutchinson (nick.hutchinson@scouting.org). Please do not hesitate to contact either Nick or myself if you have any questions prior to the school. The following information will help you prepare for NCS.

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*

A BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B & C) completed within the past 12 months, is required and must be completed prior to your arrival. Please bring the completed form with you. If you do not have this required form, you will need to obtain a physical at your own expense prior to beginning class. The cost will likely be a **MINIMUM** of \$100.

Please plan to arrive between **9:00 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** (Mountain Time) on Sunday, **September 19th, 2021**. Check-in at the PTC Offices – a map of the PTC campus is included in this letter. Departure will be after graduation on Saturday, **September 25th**. If your travel schedule requires you to arrive early, Philmont has accommodations beginning on Saturday afternoon and includes lodging and two meals (dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday) for an additional \$40. Your council will be billed if you arrive early so be sure to consult with them prior to arriving early. Philmont has made arrangements for shuttle service from the Raton, NM Amtrak or Greyhound stations for \$50.00 roundtrip. Individuals flying to airports serving Philmont (Albuquerque, Colorado Springs and Denver) will be required to rent a vehicle. Carpooling is recommended. Driving directions to Philmont are attached.

Shooting Sports, COPE, and Climbing - Please note that there are pre-requisite trainings which you **MUST** have before you attend your sections of NCS. Please ensure you have these trainings and bring support materials with you as proof. Persons who attend without these trainings complete will be sent back to their home councils.

Shooting Sports: NRA Rifle and Shotgun Instructor Certification

COPE: COPE Level I Instructor

Climbing: Climbing Level I Instructor

Resident Camp Director and Program Director: Online NCAP training is available at on the NCS page @ <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/>



Complete, correct BSA uniforms are required. The BSA Field Uniform (Scout shorts or long trousers, Scout shirts, Venturing shirts, Scout socks) or the BSA Activity Uniform (Scout shorts or pants with Scouting golf or t-shirts) will be worn at camp school. Complete field uniform is required for evening meals, worship services, campfires, and other formal activities. The weather in Cimarron ranges from mid-80s to low-40s during the time that the course will be happening. Please make sure to be ready for the swings in temperature – coats and/or jackets are recommended.

Housing will be in canvas wall tents. Once on site you may have the opportunity to upgrade your housing for an additional fee, based on availability. Housing upgrade fees will not be charged to the local council and will need to be paid for on site. Some walking will be required. Please dress for the weather and snow is a possibility. The telephone number at **Philmont Scout Ranch** is **575-376-2281** in case of emergency. Internet Wi-Fi is available throughout the Philmont Training Center campus. Cellular coverage is available throughout the camp property as well.

In addition to the items listed above, please bring an open mind, a cooperative attitude, a willing smile, a lot of enthusiasm, and we'll have a great course.



Getting to Philmont

From Denver or Colorado Springs:

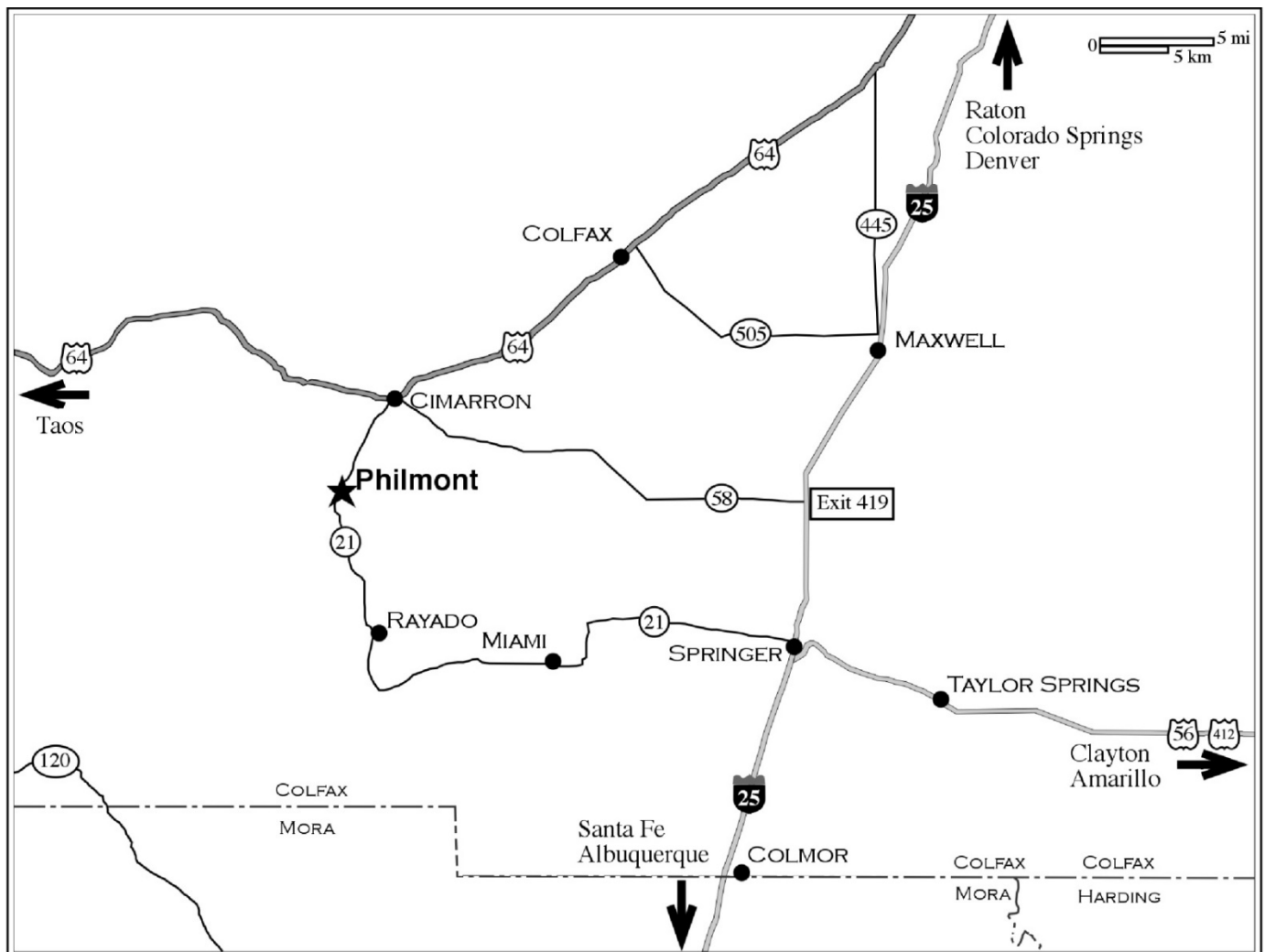
Go south on Interstate 25 to Raton, New Mexico (17 miles south of the Colorado border). Four miles south of Raton take Exit 446 onto Highway 64 and drive about 40 miles to Cimarron.

From Albuquerque:

Go north on Interstate 25 about 200 miles to Springer, New Mexico. Three miles north of Springer, take Exit 419 onto Highway 58 and drive about 20 miles to Cimarron. (Note: Highway-58 will be closed during the winter of 2011 to allow the reconstruction of the highway over the Ponil Creek Wetland. It should be open in late spring. The alternative route from Springer is State Highway-21. Watch for signs)

From Cimarron to Philmont

When you reach Cimarron, turn south on State Highway 21 and drive approximately 4 miles to Philmont Scout Ranch. As you enter Philmont, you will see several buildings before you reach your destination; these buildings are other parts of Philmont Base Camp, such as the Administration Building. Look for the brown Philmont Training Center sign near mile-marker 4 and turn left (east) onto Orchard Circle. The Villa Philmonte, the Mediterranean-style home of the Phillips family, is located on the grounds of the Philmont Training Center and will serve as a guide to those arriving by car.





Additional Housing Details

Each housing unit has 2, 4, or 6 single beds (some also have couch beds or bunk beds), a small refrigerator, microwave, clock radio, and private bath. Blankets, sheets, pillows, and towels are provided. Cots, irons, ironing boards, and other items are available. There is a mid-week towel exchange, but daily housekeeping is not provided. Your housing assignment will be made by the camp school leadership. Rooms do not have telephones or televisions.

Laundry

A coin-operated laundry with washers and dryers is located at PTC and is open 24 hours. Laundry detergent and dryer sheets are available in the Laundromat in a dispensing machine, along with a change machine. Detergent and dryer sheets are also available at the Tooth of Time Traders. Change is available at the PTC Office.

Meals at Philmont

Meals will be provided at the Training Center Dining Hall. We can accommodate gluten-free, nut-free, and vegetarian food needs with prior notification of your dietary needs. If you have questions about what we can accommodate, please feel free to call the PTC offices.

National Scouting Museum

Philmont is home to the National Scouting Museum campus. You will want to make a visit to this excellent facility that showcases Scouting throughout the years. More information can be found at:

<https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/museums/>

Villa Philmonte



Waite Phillips built the Villa Philmonte as the summer home for his family on the Philmont Ranch. It was completed in 1927 and was designed in Spanish Mediterranean style. Restored to the period when Phillips owned the ranch, it now serves as a memorial to him and his generosity to the Boy Scouts of America. Daily Tours will be available during your stay.



Philmont Training Center

