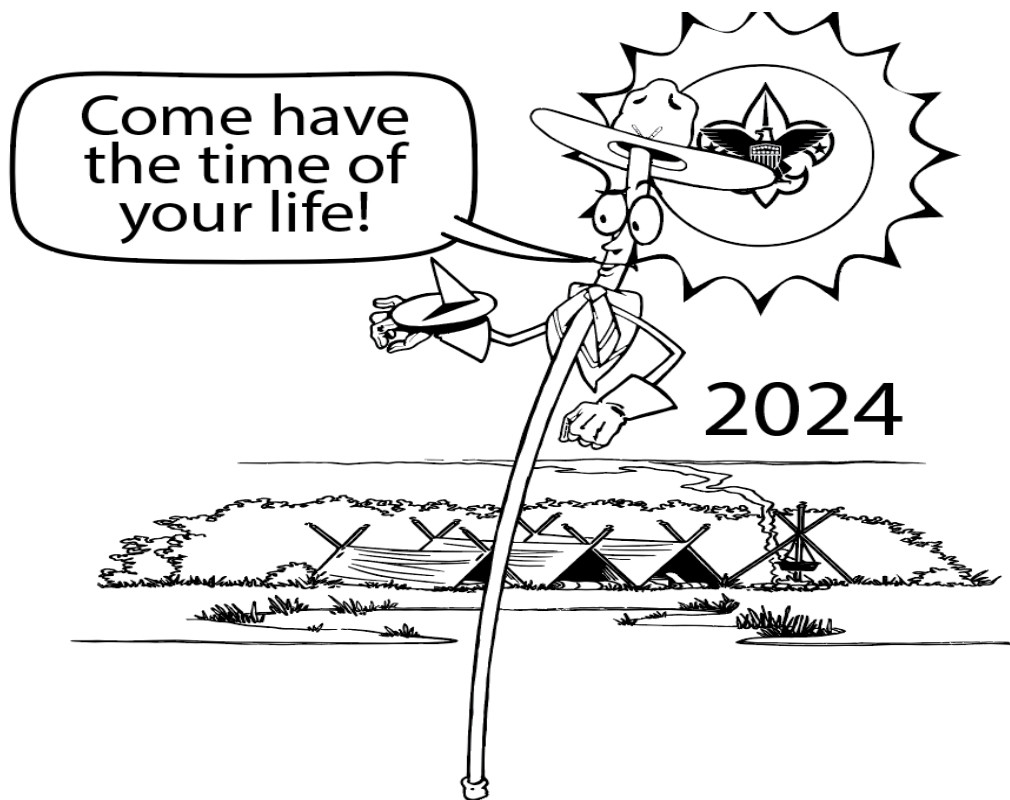

CAMP DRAKE LANTERN



Prairielands Council #117 Champaign, IL
The Scouts BSA Leaders' Guide to Summer Camp in 2024

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Contact Information

Prairielands Council

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P: 217-356-7291

Camp Robert Drake

9994 Camp Drake Rd.
Fairmount, IL 61841
E: campdrake@scouting.org
P: 217-427-5243

Field Service Associate (Reservation Contact)

Susan Coller
Susan.coller@scouting.org
217-531-0219

Registration & Reservations

Calendar

Week #1	June 18 – 24
Week #2	June 25 – July 1
Week #3	July 9– 15

Campsite Reservation

To reserve your campsite, contact Susan Collier, Program Clerk. Please use a 2024 reservation form that can be found at www.campdrake.com in the appendix. In order to secure your reservation, a \$100.00 deposit is required. The \$100.00 deposit is transferable to Scout fees, provisional camp fees, leader fees, or next year's reservation, but is **not refundable**. Campsites are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. If your troop does not meet the required minimum numbers of Scouts as listed on the campsite chart, your troop may be asked to share the campsite with another troop. During the 2024 camp season, reservations for 2025 will be made for the troop in camp at the end of each weekly session. The 2024 campsite deposit can be transferred to the 2025 camp season only if your troop attends Camp Drake in 2024. No refunds are provided to troops who make a deposit but do not attend camp.

Camp Fees

Please review the fees for summer camp with your Scouting families to get the best rates for your campers. The fees paid through Tentaroo or to the Prairielands Council at the Raymond Lee Scout Service Center in Champaign for Scouts BSA resident camp for 2024 are:

Camp Fee Structure

Early Bird	\$325.00 per Scout if \$125.00 MB registration fee paid by March 8, 2024
On-time Fee	\$345.00 per Scout if \$125.00 MB registration fee paid by April 19, 2024
Late Fee	\$365.00 per Scout if paid after April 19, 2024

Merit Badge Registration Opens Monday, March 4, 2024

All camp fees must be paid by May 31, 2024. New crossover Webelos Scouts can pay at the early Bird level until May 31. Any update to this fee schedule will be available on the Camp Drake website, which is www.campdrake.com.

Fees can be paid through Tentaroo **OR** at the Raymond Lee Scout Service Center.

If payment is made through Tentaroo, a 2.75% service fee will be added to your invoice. Any credit card payments through the Raymond Lee Scout Service Center will be subject to a 2.75% service fee as well.

Adult Leader Fees

In following the national Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection Guidelines, all troops attending summer camp must have at least two adults present at all times. One leader must be at least 21 years of age, and all additional leaders must be at least 18 years of age. Adult registration fees, including late fees are due according to the same schedule as the youth fees.

The fees for adults who accompany a troop are as follows:

1-8 Scouts	1 adult free
9-16 Scouts	2 adults free
17-24 Scouts	3 adults free
25-32 Scouts	4 adults free
Additional Adult Leaders	\$150.00 each

For troops of 25 or larger, continue this sequence to calculate leader fee's required.

To meet two deep leadership requirements at camp, your troop has several options:

1. Troop provides all adults. Rotation of leaders is acceptable as long as two adults are present in camp at all times.
2. Two troops may share a campsite and therefore share leaders.

BSA Leadership Policy

(Effective September 1, 2023) Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including all meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth or female adult program participants.

All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in. Up-to-date Youth Protection Training is required for registration.

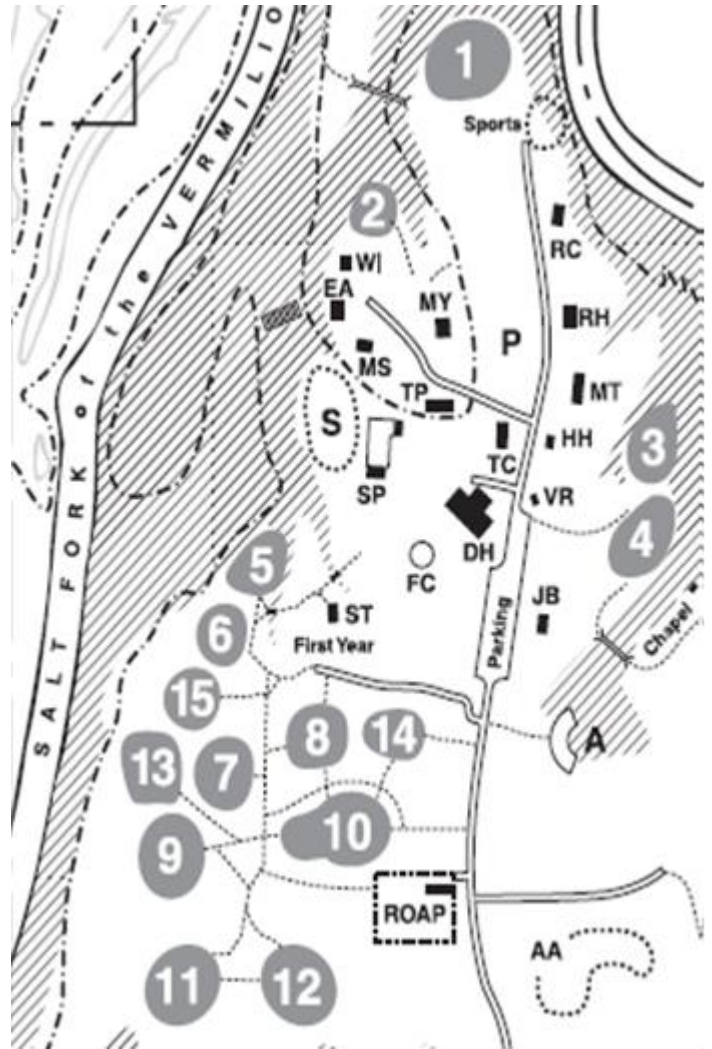
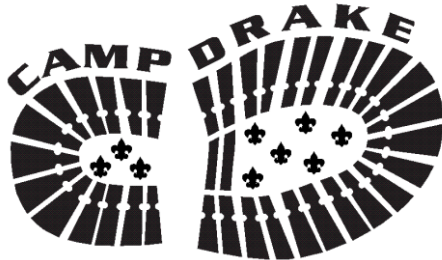
Merit Badge Registration

Merit Badge Registration will open on March 4 at 9am. To be able to register a Scout for merit badges, the following must happen.

1. Units must update their numbers registration. For example, if you have not given us preliminary numbers, you must login to your account, and add spots to your unit based on your estimated attendance. ***NOTE: numbers may be reduced, and are not final.***
2. Units must ensure that youth are in the roster. To do that go to your units account, and click on Manage My Group on the right hand side.
3. A payment of \$125.00 per Scout must be made to assign a Scout to a spot and register for merit badges. For example, if you have 5 Scouts that you are ready to register, you must ensure you have paid a minimum of \$625 paid.

Campsite Reservations

Campsite Chart	Min	Max
1. Hickory Haven	20	100
2. Choctaw Ridge	5	30
3. Dogwood	10	30
4. Tulip Point	5	25
5. Curved Oak	15	50
6. Whipporwillow Hollow	15	50
7. Locust Bend	10	40
8. Pioneer	15	60
9. Scouters Point	15	50
10. Tall Pine	15	60
11. White Oak	10	50
12. Southern Acers	10	30
13. Sassafras	5	20
14. Osage Orange	5	20
15. Hazelnut Cove	5	20



Camp Refund Policy

The Council Camping Committee has established the refund policy for summer camp programs at Camp Robert Drake. Any refund desired must use the **Camp Refund Request** form to be presented in writing to the Council Scout Executive. A sliding scale has been developed depending on the length of time in which the Council Service Center is notified prior to the camp session. If the request is received 30 days prior to the camp session, a full refund will be considered; if received 21 days prior, a 75% refund considered; if received 14 days prior, 50% will be considered if received 7 days prior, 25% will be considered. All refunds will be made on or before August 30. All camper fees are transferable to other Scouts or to another camp session.

General Camp Information

Vehicles

All vehicles driven to camp are to be parked in the parking lot. In order to maintain a good camping atmosphere, only authorized vehicles will be permitted outside the parking area. No personal vehicles are allowed to drive back to the campsites. Heavy equipment and troop trailers will be transported to and from your campsite by staff personnel. It is strongly encouraged to pack all gear into your troop trailer upon arrival at camp.

Valuables

The camp staff is not responsible for the safety of camper valuables. Each unit may wish to bring a lock box for money & other valuables. **NO VALUABLES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO THE SHOWER HOUSE.**

Shooting Sports Equipment

No personal firearms or archery equipment should be brought to Camp Drake. The Nogle Shooting Sports area is equipped with all of the properly approved Boy Scouts of America shooting supplies.

Health & Safety

The First Aid room is well-equipped and staffed by a Health Officer at all times. All illnesses and injuries requiring additional attention will be taken either to the OSF Sacred Heart Medical Center-Logan Campus or Carle Clinic in Danville. If anyone requires hospitalization, a parent or spouse will be notified.

BSA Annual Health & Medical Record (Physical Form)

A COPY of Parts A, B, and C of the current BSA Annual Health & Medical Record is required for each Scout and Scouter who will be staying in camp overnight. Persons without the appropriate forms will be required to have a physical completed in Danville prior to participation in Camp Drake program activities. All information must be on the BSA form- DO NOT bring an assortment of papers from other groups. Only the current BSA form will be accepted. The BSA Annual Health & Medical Record form is available at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx>

Uniforms

Scouts are encouraged to wear their official uniform at camp. The 'Official' uniform is typically worn at the evening flag ceremony and meal. During all other times Scouts can wear a T-shirt and suitable shorts or long pants.

Buddy System

The use of the buddy system throughout camp is encouraged. If a Scout is the only one in his Troop going to a certain program area, efforts should be made to join with a Scout from another Troop.

Parents & Visitors

Parents, friends, and relatives are invited to visit program areas while camp is in session. All visitors must check in at the camp office. Meal tickets MAY be available for guests in the dining hall during the week, however there is a limit to how many people can be seated and fed per meal. . Visitor's meals are \$6.00 per meal. For the evening campfire programs, guests may bring lawn chairs for added comfort.

Insurance

All youth participants in council and district sponsored activities are covered by a Camper Health and Accident Insurance Policy. Adult leaders are not covered under the council accident insurance policy. Any injury incurred prior to leaving home but still requiring medical attention after arrival in camp, is not covered under this policy. Every illness or injury must be reported immediately to the health officer and be logged in order to receive this coverage. Medical expenses incurred after leaving camp due to an accident or injury sustained at camp should be reported immediately to the Prairielands Council Office at 217-531-0218.

Mail Service

The outgoing mail mailbox is located at the Trading Post and is available during regular Trading Post hours. Letters mailed to camp after Thursday morning will most likely not reach camp in time for dismissal on Saturday morning.

The camp address is:

Scout's Name, Troop Number, Campsite
Camp Robert Drake
9994 Camp Drake Road
Fairmount, IL 61841

Troop Photos

Troop photos will be taken during your week of camp. All photos will be posted to www.campdrake.com within a week of their week of camp for easy retrieval.

Lost & Found

The camp's lost and found is located in the Trading Post. **Leaders are to remind Scouts to have their personal gear clearly marked with the Scouts name and Troop number.** Prairielands Council is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. Items not claimed within 30 days of the close of camp will either be donated to local charities.

Religious Services

A non-denominational religious service is open to all Scouts and leaders. There is a chapel service at 1:15 pm. Please encourage your Scouts to attend. The chapel, located off the trail behind the Scoutcraft area, is available throughout the week for your troop or individual use as well

Dining Hall

Camp Drake uses a central dining hall for all meals. Please notify the Camp Kitchen staff of any special dietary needs of youth and adult participants prior to your arrival at camp. Campers will eat family style with breakfast at 8:00am, lunch at 12:15pm and dinner at 5:45pm.

Bicycles

Campers are welcome to bring their own bicycles for merit badge instruction, Vermilion TreX participation and transportation use as long as camp guidelines are followed. Bicycle riding is permitted only on the gravel roads throughout camp and a helmet must be worn at all times during riding. Recreational riding on the bike trail or for merit badge requirements will be allowed special opportunities to traverse other paths of the prairie area. No bike riding is allowed on the grass or sidewalks and parking of the bicycles must be out of the path of camp service vehicles.

Campsites & Equipment

All campsites are equipped with a latrine, washstand, and bulletin board. Your campsite is your home during your camp visit. Your troop is responsible for the cleanliness and attractiveness of your campsite. The troop will be held responsible for any damage to the site or equipment.

Counselor in Training Program

Prairielands Council invites Scouts to participate in Camp Drake's CIT program. Scouts will attend two weeks of summer camp as staff members, learning the skills necessary to become a full-time staff counselor. Participants will choose two weeks to participate in the program on a first-come, first-served basis. An option for additional camp service is possible if both the CIT and camp management are interested. To register for a CIT position, contact the Camp Director to set up an interview.

Daily Leader Meetings

Leader meetings will be held each morning directly following breakfast. Any leaders in camp are encouraged to attend to stay up to date on all happening in camp. On Friday morning, leaders will be asked to share their opinions of their week of camp and have a chance to give input to the Camp Administration team.

Song & Skit Standards

1. All skits, songs, and run-ons, must be screened by the unit leader and the person in charge of the event (campfire or song) prior to performance in front of a group. Campfire programs are the place where a positive example is set.
2. No toilet humor – anything that involves bodily functions, toilet paper, etc.
3. No embarrassing an audience member without their prior knowledge and agreement to participate
4. No racial put-downs, making fun of mental or physical abilities, religious groups, and others.
5. No portrayal of violent behavior
6. Avoid anything that is not in keeping with the ideal of the Boy Scouts.
7. No performances with sexual overtones.
8. Unacceptable acts that get on stage will be removed immediately.

Pre-Camp Swim Checks (strongly encouraged!)

Troops have the option to complete a swim test prior to the arrival at Camp Drake. **By participating you save valuable campsite set up time!** This test must be administered by a certified BSA Lifeguard, Red Cross Lifeguard or an adult trained in BSA Aquatics Safety or Paddle craft Safety. A copy of their current certification must be attached to the form. The Aquatics Director may review or re-test any Scout whose skills appear to be inconsistent with his classification. A swim roster can be found on www.campdrake.com/forms.

Ice, Toilet Paper, Garbage Bags

Bags of ice can be purchased at the Trading Post. Toilet paper and garbage bags are available free of charge upon request at the Trading Post.

Notify camp leadership with any special dietary needs at least two weeks prior to your unit's arrival at camp. Please communicate singularly about your Scout's dietary needs to avoid miscommunication.

Camp Facilities



Bigger Welcome Center

Upon arrival at camp, the Jack Bigger shelter will serve as an initial orientation location. During the week, adult leaders will use this shelter for meetings and activities. Adjacent to the parking lot, the Bigger Welcome Center will be the hospitality headquarters for troops.

Training Center

In the same building as the First Aid Room, a Training Room has been set up for the convenience of all campers. During the weekday mornings of summer camp, all adult leaders are welcome to participate in educational BSA courses.

Campfire Arena

Excellent seating for up to 600 viewers is in place at the Jack Jones campfire arena. Evening shows provide entertainment for the opening and closing programs as well as the Family Night OA ceremonies. The arena is equipped with quality sound system, lighting, slide show capabilities, and an outdoor stage.

Swimming Pool And Shower house

The Keith Hutson Shower house is divided into four shower areas. The swimming pool is adjacent to the shower house and divided into 3 sections - swimmer, beginner, learner - in accordance with BSA policy.

Friendship Circle

Located in the center of camp, the Friendship Circle is an outdoor gathering place for social activities, camp meetings, or simple relaxation. Adirondack chairs provide comfortable seating for campers.

Program Areas

Camp Drake has a total of 10 program areas that provide service to Scouts and Leaders.

First Year Camper (Pollywog Program)	Vermilion TreX (Older Boy Program)
Range (Archery, Rifle & Shotgun)	Handicraft
Lantern Program	Ecology
Pool	Scoutcraft (ROAP)
Poncho Pond	Sports Center

Trading Post

The social center of camp, the Trading Post is next to the camp office. Scouts and leaders can purchase souvenirs, snacks, camping supplies, and other miscellaneous items throughout the week. The following list are some available items:

T-Shirts	Patches (including OA)	Scout Knives
Flashlights & Other camping accessories	Handbooks	Merit Badge Books
Craft Kits	Candy, popcorn, & Slushies	Ice Cream

Hours (times may change during Camp):	Sunday:	1:00-5:00
	Monday – Friday:	9:00-Noon; 1:00-5:00
	Saturday:	7:00am-10:00am

Program Areas



First Year Camper Also known as the Pollywog Program, boys and girls new to Scouts BSA are taught at the Stiverson Family Shelter in the southwest corner of main Camp, next to the Volleyball and Gaga Ball courts. New Scouts will work on advancement requirements for the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. Trained Staff Counselors will provide guidance, and encourage the Scouts to use the EDGE teaching method while engaged in activities and games to reinforce the requirements taught. New Scouts will also have the opportunity to earn the Scouting Heritage merit badge at First Year.

Vermilion TreX - Older Scout Program A balance of activities based on outdoor trek excitement is available exclusively for older Scouts at Camp Drake. Since this exciting new program's inception in 2010, older Scouts have enjoyed the thrills it offers of tube floats, kayak river trips, outpost campouts, bike riding, and so much more! Please visit www.campdrake.com/VermilionTreX for more info!

Range The Nogle Shooting Sports area allows campers to sharpen their marksmanship and learn proper handling techniques for firearms and bows. Target competitions, troop shoots, and Scoutmaster contests are some of the events available. Safety is very important in this area, and the rifle and archery ranges are operated by BSA staff members. Scouts can choose from bows, 0.22 caliber rifles, air rifles, black powder muzzleloaders, and shotguns.

Handicraft Develop your creative talents in the handicraft area. Counselors provide guidance in basketry, leathercraft, and other handicraft skills. Build useful items to enhance your campsite. Tools are available for woodcarving and woodworking projects. Visit the Handicraft area in the Sadorus shelter to make the best of it.

Ecology On the trail to Poncho Pond is the ecology area, which offers the ideal opportunity for Scouts to discover the great outdoors. From its scenic location overlooking the river, the ecology staff organizes conservation events and nature studies. Visit the Arboretum, which consists of over sixty labeled trees.

Pool Dive into all the exciting events at the swimming pool. Early morning activities focus on mile swim training. The aquatics staff provides an instructional swim for Scouts needing assistance. Older Scouts and leaders can work toward a new certification in BSA Aquatics Supervision: Swimming & Water Rescue. In the evenings, the addition of night lights at the pool allow for evening aquatic activities.

Scoutcraft Also known as **R.O.A.P.**, The Rendezvous Outdoor Adventure Place is located in the southern territory of Camp and the first program area encountered upon entering the gates of Camp Drake. Of the nine camping skills merit badges available to earn, *Camping*, *Cooking*, and *Hiking* are Eagle rank merit badges. *Pioneering* is where a knowledge of ropes, knots, and lashing are learned to build camp gadgets and structures. *Orienteering* and *Geocaching* teach the use of maps, compasses, and GPS units to find locations, plan journeys, and find hidden places of treasure. While *Wilderness Survival* and *Signs, Signals, & Codes* will show how to make good plans and do the best to manage any risks. R.O.A.P. Counselors will also guide new Scouts on the proper use of wood tools for a Totin' Chip card or learn fire safety for a Fireman's Chip card, and the Paul Bunyan Award for wood tool teaching and usage.

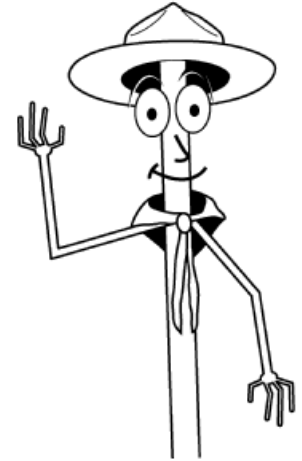
Poncho Pond Boating and fishing activities take place at Poncho Pond, located at the northern edge of camp. Additional areas of the waterfront have been opened for Scouts to test their canoeing, rowing, and sailing skills. A fishing trail has been created to allow easier access to the pond. Cruise the pond in style on a fast-moving kayak. Merit badge instruction begins at the Mayfield Shelter in the center of the action.

Sports Center In the spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship, the Sports Center allows Scouts to explore their physical fitness. Teaching personal fitness, golf, and sports merit badges, Scouts will be able to expand their skills and knowledge in these areas. In the afternoon, troop and individual sport activities will be played including volleyball, soccer, softball, and ultimate frisbee.

Fun Features

Onaquispasippi Trail

Hike throughout the boundaries of camp along the Onaquispasippi Trail. The trail follows the perimeter of the camp property and takes campers to little used areas in the wilderness. Discover the historic landmarks, the hidden valleys, and the scenic views along the way. The Onaquispasippi can be hiked in segments or all at once in a long afternoon. Pick up a special patch or trail medal once you've completed your journey.



Inner Tube Float Trip

Your most enjoyable excursion of the week will be a float trip down the Salt Fork River. Arranged transportation will be needed to take your group to the drop-off point up-river from camp and you'll drift down the lazy Salt Fork to the swinging bridge at camp. The Safety Afloat requirements must be met for this activity. Troops select from early morning or late afternoon float trips. All Scouts and leaders must be swimmers to participate.

Evening Aquatics Event

Water is the theme for AQUA night, as the pool games take the spotlight for the evening. Bring your trunks, make a splash, and enjoy the fun and games at the pool. PLUS the return of cardboard boat racing. Other nighttime swimming opportunities for individual troops are available, as well.

Campfire Programs

Three evening campfire programs will provide entertainment for Scouts, leaders, and visitors. On Sunday night, the Camp Drake Staff will welcome all campers with the opening campfire. Skits and stunts will preview the upcoming programs. Family and friends are invited to enjoy the Wednesday evening campfire. Tour the camp and enjoy program demonstrations starting at 6:30 pm. Share in Scouting fellowship with songs and stories in the Friendship Circle prior to the Order of the Arrow Call-Out ceremony, an impressive and inspiring campfire. To close the week, the Friday night campfire allows Scouts to participate with their own troop skits and stunts. Recognition for Scouts, leaders, patrols and troops will be awarded at this campfire.

Campfire Times

Sunday Night Welcome 8:15 Wednesday OA Ceremony 8:00 Friday Night Closing – 8:30

Mealtime Treats

The Friday Night Supper Club caters to campers with fine dining and spirited entertainment. On the last night of camp, the staff serves the campers while musical performances enhance the atmosphere. Bring your enormous appetite to the Lumberjack Breakfast on Saturday morning. You will be treated to flapjacks so huge, we have to flip them with a shovel. Line up early near the outdoor griddle, to experience a meal big enough for Paul Bunyan.

The Pollywog Man Tale Trek: A Thursday evening hike of First Year Campers, Counselors, and Unit Leaders on a backwoods trail, and experience the local history and legendary resident of Camp Robert Drake.

Advancement

The camp staff members counsel Scouts on a variety of merit badges and are available to teach other skills necessary to earn the first three badges of rank. Summer camp is the best place to earn many of the badges in the outdoor setting. Advancement opportunities are offered during the morning, afternoon, and a few evening merit badge sessions. It is possible for a Scout to earn in excess of six merit badges during the week, but it is suggested that the Scout attempt a more reasonable number (3 or 4).

Attempting too many badges can leave the boys feeling like they are still in school, and prevent them from enjoying the other opportunities at camp. Encourage your Scouts to work on advancement, but don't forget about free swim, hiking, open boating, and exploring the outdoors.



Merit Badges

Camp is a great place to earn some badges because of the resources available. Please share the merit badge schedule with your Scouts as soon as possible. Some merit badges can be completed at camp only if prior work is complete before camp. Scouts should read through the requirements and be ready for the badge before they come to camp, and they should be aware that they will be required to complete all of the requirements in order to receive the badge.. Any questions about the tracking process can be directed to the Program Director or Camp Director.

Merit Badge Registration Opens Monday, March 4, 2024

Rank Requirements

The Pollywog Program offers individuals teaching sessions for the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class for any Scout needing assistance. These sessions are set up like a merit badge sessions on an hourly basis each of the five program scheduled days of the camp period. Scouts may choose to take only one rank session or join all three, depending on their interest. At the end of the camp week, troop leadership will be presented a listing of the requirements covered during the sessions. The Camp Drake counselors will NOT sign requirements in the book, allowing adult leadership to oversee the skill proficiency required for their troop.

Rank advancement is considered an important part of each troop program. The Camp Commissioner is available to arrange Boards of Review, through volunteer personnel. To encourage advancement while at camp, the Program Director will recognize all Scouts who do advance in rank throughout the week.

Additional Honors

There are many other opportunities for recognition in the wide variety of programs provided at Camp Robert Drake. Several Boy Scouts of America awards are also provided through the program area staff. These opportunities include Snorkeling and Mile Swim at the Pool, Paddlecraft Safety at Poncho Pond, and the Paul Bunyan Award in the R.O.A.P. area. Additional safety skills instruction courses are held to provide certification cards in wood tools and aquatics safety.

Look to earn recognition through the Camp Drake awards in several program areas. Scouts who specialize in marksmanship, nature identification, first aid talents, and sports may be honored at the Friday night closing campfire. Every day in the Dining Hall, contests are provided for talented Scouts in a variety of enjoyable Camp Drake traditions.

Leadership

Scoutmaster Activities

Coffee and afternoon naps aren't the only activities Scoutmasters can do at camp. Daily information meetings will inform leaders regarding the latest camp wide news and upcoming events for both youth and adults. Programs for leaders include aquatics games, a Scoutmaster Shoot competition and other fun filled activities. The ultimate challenge for adults in camp is the Dutch Oven Cook-off. Leaders who accept the challenge will prepare their own entree or dessert in a competition of taste.



Adult Leader Training Courses

The Prairielands Council Training Committee is planning to provide adult leader training courses for any interested volunteers during the camp session. Guest speakers provide informative sessions on topics including Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat.

Senior Patrol Leader Honor

A unique opportunity for a youth leader is serving as the Senior Patrol Leader for summer camp. As the Scout in charge of troop operations, this individual has many duties to oversee during the outdoor session. As a reward for completing a series of camp responsibilities, the SPL for each troop is able to earn a special patch. The recognition will be presented at the closing ceremony on Saturday morning.

Robert Drake Award

The cleanliness and safety of troop campsites is an ongoing concern during your week at Camp Drake. All campsites will be visited daily by the Camp Commissioner or an assistant. This visit will be conducted with the Senior Patrol Leader or his designee so the Commissioner can make suggestions for campsite improvement, or offer congratulations for a job well done. The Robert Drake Award is presented to all troops that maintain clean and safe campsites, as determined by the Commissioner.

Counselor In Training Program

Prairielands Council invites Scouts to participate in Camp Drake's CIT program. Scouts will attend two weeks of summer camp as staff members, learning the skills necessary to become a full-time staff counselor. Participants will choose two weeks to participate in the program on a first-come, first-served basis. An option for additional camp service is possible if both the CIT and camp management are interested. To register for a CIT position, contact the Camp Director to set up an interview.

Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow is a premier leadership development organization within the Boy Scouts of Americas. Known as the Brotherhood of Cheerful Service, the Order of the Arrow (or O.A.) recognizes honor campers within each troop and provides management experience in conducting beneficial programs to Camp Drake and the Prairielands Council. Members, called arrowmen, organize service weekends for camp improvement, host activities, and support Scouts in their outdoor skills development.



Troop or Team Representative

Illini Lodge 55 is recruiting youth & adult arrowmen to serve in an important role in the lodge. Order of the Arrow Troop (or Team) Representatives are a youth liaison and his advisor serving between the local O.A. lodge and his unit. The representatives serve as a communication and program link to the unit Arrowmen, as well as adult leaders and Scouts who are not presently members of the Order. They do this in a fashion that strengthens the mission of the lodge and the purpose of the Order. By setting a good example, they enhance the image of the Order as a service arm to the troop or team.

Inductions for Ordeal Members

Illini Lodge 55 is very active during the summer months at Camp Drake. The Lodge will conduct a Call-Out ceremony each Wednesday evening. Scouts who have been elected to join the Order of the Arrow are recognized with an impressive Call-Out Ceremony, introducing the new candidates selected by their troop. Units visiting from other councils may participate in this ceremony as long as they have written permission from their own lodge chief. Illini Lodge will conduct the Ordeal for new members, beginning late Wednesday evening and concluding with an Ordeal Ceremony on Thursday night. Current arrowmen are needed to assist with the Ordeal process.

Brotherhood Opportunities

Scouts and Scouters who are already Ordeal members in Lodge 55 may choose to seal their membership in the Order by completing Brotherhood ceremonies. The ceremony will be held each week of camp. Please encourage all current Ordeal members to participate. Order of the Arrow camp staff members will be available to assist your Scouts in preparing for the requirements for Brotherhood. See your Order of the Arrow handbook for more information on this topic.

Camp Drake Promotional Program

Each troop is encouraged to host a Camp Drake Promotional Program for Scouts and parents this spring. The Illini Lodge Camp Promotions Team has created a new presentation of exciting camp traditions to provide an entertaining view of the thrills of summer camp. Your troop can choose to conduct the Camp Drake Promotional Program on your own or invite a celebrity, such as a District Camping Committee member or a Camp Promotions Team specialist. A new camp promotions packet allows your troop to bring the Promotional action of Camp Drake to your troop meeting. The Promotion Information Packet will include a camp details, program literature, and promotional handouts.

Calling All Arrowmen

Illini Lodge is restructuring itself to give YOU the opportunity to play a large role in its future. Update your contact information and pay your \$15.00 annual dues to support the lodge. For all your up-to-date news on your local Order of the Arrow business, look to www.illinilodge55.com for news articles, lodge forms, and chiefly ideas.



Health & Safety

The Prairielands Council is accredited each year by the Boy Scouts of America to conduct a safe camping program for youth and adult participants and guests. Please help keep Camp Drake a safe environment by assisting our staff and volunteer leaders in following these following rules:



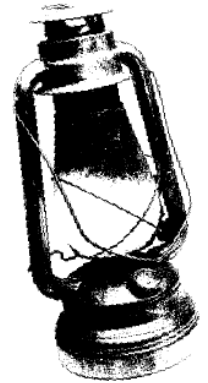
1. In accordance with Boy Scouts of America policy, only registered Boy Scouts are eligible to participate as youth at camp. Non-Boy Scout youth are able to visit Camp Drake, but cannot stay overnight.
2. No one may leave camp property without permission. Leaders and parents must inform the Camp Director when they plan to be absent and must secure alternate supervision for their campsite in their absence. All Scouts and leaders are required to sign in and out at the camp office.
3. Proper instruction should precede the handling of any axe, knife, or saw. Please request assistance from the staff. Chainsaw use at camp is restricted to properly trained BSA personnel. No sheath knives are allowed.
4. All accidents and illness should be reported to the health officer immediately. Accidents not involving injury should be reported to the Camp Director or appropriate staff member.
5. Campers must use the BSA Fireguard Chart for fire prevention planning for the week. Scouts are assigned daily responsibilities for fire safety tools and wood detail.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times, unless in the shower/pool area or sleeping.
7. NO FIREARMS or archery equipment is allowed to be brought to camp.
8. NO FIREWORKS. Individuals possessing or using fireworks will be dismissed from camp.
9. NO ALCOHOL. No alcohol is permitted on camp property.
10. NO PETS are allowed in camp.
11. NO SWIMMING is allowed in the Salt Fork River. No unsupervised swimming is allowed in the pool.
12. Taps will be played at 10:00pm and all Scouts are required to be in their campsite at this time. Troops should respect neighboring campsites in the evening with quiet hours until 7:00 am the next morning. Any campsite campfires must be watched by troop members.
13. Do not leave valuable items around camp. In the campsite, maintain a secure container for valuable items. Do not take any valuable items to the shower house. A "Lost and Found" box is kept in the camp office.
14. No liquid fuels may be used or stored at the campsites for fire-starting. Liquid fuel appliances may be used only by adults or under adult supervision. Please notify the Camp Commissioner upon your arrival if you plan to use such appliances.
15. It is the responsibility of the Boy Scouts of America to protect the health and safety of the young people in the program. As a result, it is the policy of the BSA that leaders should not use tobacco products in any form in the presence of youth .

Waterfront Safety

Camp Drake adheres to the BSA Safe Swim Defense Plan. The course is taught at the Sunday night leaders meeting at 7:00 pm. Upon arrival at camp, everyone must take a swim test. The ability groups will be used to determine a boy's eligibility to participate in aquatics activities. The pool and pond both use the Buddy System. Remember to check in & out of the swimming/boating areas.

Salt Fork River Trip Safety

In regards to the Inner Tube Float trips for troops attending Camp Drake the Prairielands Council follows the Safety Afloat requirements for this activity, so in addition to Safe Swim Defense procedures, the BSA boating policies are also met. Two deep leadership policies are required for the trip, so if this causes a hardship with the troop, either for the float trippers or for the Scouts remaining in camp, arrangements can be made through the Camp Drake management. Adults from multiple troops can be arranged to meet the two-deep leader qualifications on the trip or in the campsite. All Scouts and leaders must be swimmers to participate on an Inner Tube Float Trip. All Inner Tube Floaters will wear a lifejacket and protective footwear. Prior to each trip, a safety briefing will remind participants of the pertinent factors and stress the buddy system. The weather conditions and river water levels will be reviewed with trip leaders prior to each excursion.



Camp Check-In Procedures

The Troop leader must bring the following to check-in.

- BSA Annual Health and Medical Record for each participant (collected at Medical Re-checks)
- All youth prescription medications
- Any merit badge schedule changes

Arrival Schedule

Check-In begins at 1:00 pm, not before. Please let Susan Collier know of your arrival time at Camp Drake to ensure a smooth arrival and check-in process.

- Drop Trailer alongside road for Camp Ranger/ Camp Director to haul back to campsite.
- Park cars and send SPL to the Bigger Shelter to get your Campsite Commissioner.
- Your Campsite Commissioner will then guide you to your campsite to set up tents.
- After tents are set- up, your campsite commissioner will guide you to medical re-checks, swim checks, administration check in with Program Director, and fire safety procedures.
- After all of those are completed you will return to your campsite.
- Flags will begin at 5:35; please assemble at the flag pole at 5:30 to be lined up by the Camp Commissioner.

Tips for a Quick Check-In

Units may choose to take the following steps to ensure a quick and simple check-in:

- Sign up for merit badges online prior to arrival.
- Ensure that the unit's health forms are accurate and in alphabetical order.
- Ensure that all financial obligations for camp are met prior to arrival.
- Complete swim checks prior or camp using the Pre-Camp Swim Check Form on www.campdrake.com.
- Ensure that all participants attending are inputted into the Tentaroo online registration system (especially adults!)
- Have all Troop and personal gear loaded into your Troop trailer.

Camp Check-In & Check Out

Sunday Afternoon & Evening Program

5:35	Flag Ceremony (please arrive to the flag pole at 5:30)
5:45	Dinner & front porch program at Dining Hall
6:45	Return to Campsites for Camp Tour
7:00	Adult Leaders meeting (all leaders attend)
8:00	Units gather in the Friendship Circle
8:15	Opening Campfire at the Arena

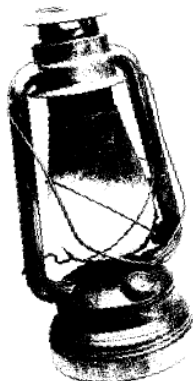
***** Troop trailers will be allowed in campsites, but will need to be transported by official camp vehicles and staff. Personal vehicles will not be permitted in campsites.***

Camp Check-Out Procedures

6:30 am – 8:00 am	Campsite Commissioner meets units at site to pack up
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Lumberjack Pancakes prepared at Dining Hall
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Unit leader meets with Program Director to collect packet
9:00 am	Closing Flag Ceremony & Recognition
9:15 am	Depart camp. (See you next year!)

*****packet contains the following: physical forms, requirements completed sheets, & buddy tags. Patches are handed out during closing flags. If your unit decides to leave camp early, please notify the Program Director upon check out.***

Pre Camp Checklist



- Turn in a camp reservation form with your \$100 deposit.
 - Arrange for a Camp Drake Promotional Night at a Troop meeting. (The OA Camp Promotions team will assist when requested.)
 - Go over the merit badge list with your Scouts. Discuss any work they need to do prior to arriving at camp. Prepare a list of each Scout's selections.
 - Pay fees early to avoid late charges. (Review page 2 for registration details.)
 - Double check adult leadership for every night.
 - Notify parents of all plans and emergency numbers.
 - Prepare Troop advancement records that will be needed for camp.
 - Inventory and service any Troop equipment to be used at camp.
- Go over summer camp program, camp rules & policies with your Scouts.
 - Secure all adult and Scout physicals and Health Histories. Ensure only the BSA form is used, and that all sections have been completed.
 - Notify Camp Director of any special needs for camping arrangements or scheduling issues.
 - **Notify mykegr@gmail.com with any special dietary needs at least two weeks prior to your unit's arrival at camp. Please communicate singularly about your Scout's dietary needs with this e-mail contact to avoid miscommunication.**

Arrival a Camp Drake

You should plan to arrive on Sunday of your week at camp, between 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Units unable to arrive during this time should make prior arrangements with the Camp Director. Upon arrival in the parking lot, a staff guide will welcome you and assist you in the check-in process. The staff guide will take your troop to the designated campsite and assist with your set-up.

After dropping off your equipment and doing a little primary set-up, your guide will lead your unit to the location of the medical re-checks. Please have Scout and adult physical forms on hand to turn over to the Health Officer. The troop will then have their orientation and swim check in the pool, and a briefing on dining hall procedures. Your troop will then have an opportunity to return to camp to complete their set-up tents and fire safety plan.

Sunday supper will be the first meal served, and will be at 5:45 pm. The first flag ceremony is at 5:35 pm. After dinner there will be a leaders meeting, additional tours of camp for Scouts, and the opening campfire hosted by the Camp Staff in the arena.

Troop trailers will be allowed in campsites, but will need to be transported by official camp vehicles and staff. Personal vehicles will not be permitted in campsites.



PRAIRIELANDS COUNCIL'S

CAMP ROBERT DRAKE



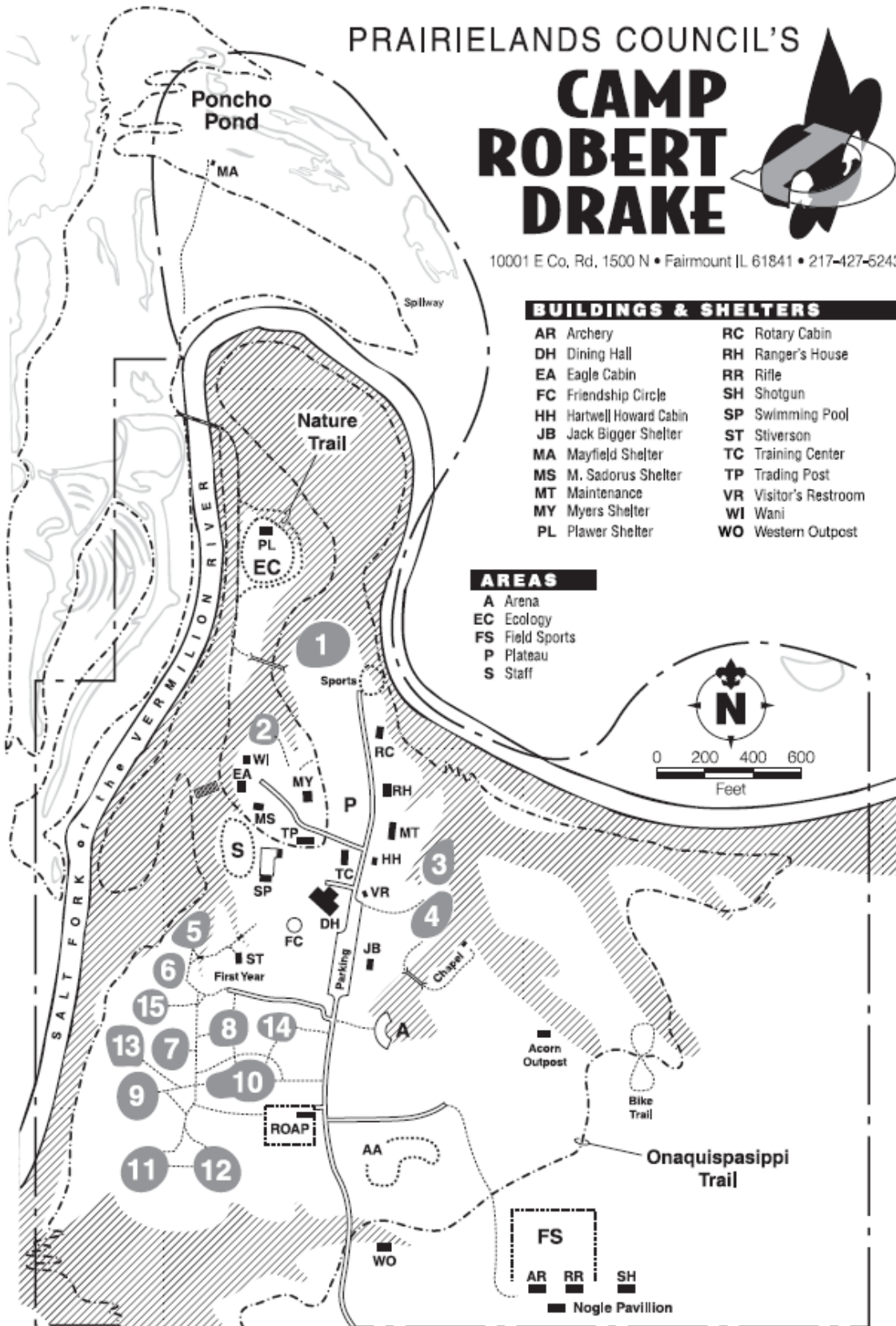
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BUILDINGS & SHELTERS

AR Archery	RC Rotary Cabin
DH Dining Hall	RH Ranger's House
EA Eagle Cabin	RR Rifle
FC Friendship Circle	SH Shotgun
HH Hartwell Howard Cabin	SP Swimming Pool
JB Jack Bigger Shelter	ST Stiverson
MA Mayfield Shelter	TC Training Center
MS M. Sadorus Shelter	TP Trading Post
MT Maintenance	VR Visitor's Restroom
MY Myers Shelter	WI Wani
PL Plawer Shelter	WO Western Outpost

AREAS

A Arena
EC Ecology
FS Field Sports
P Plateau
S Staff



Indicates ravines and low areas south of the river

Rev. 11-09

ENTRANCE

CAMPSITES

1 Hickory Haven	6 Whip-poor Will	11 White Oak
2 Choctaw Ridge	7 Locust Bend	12 Southern Acres
3 Dogwood	8 Pioneer	13 Sassafras
4 Tulip Point	9 Scouter's Point	14 Osage Orange
5 Curved Oak	10 Tall Pine	15 Hazelnut Cove