

EAST CAROLINA COUNCIL

Safer at Home, Scouting at Home

Thank you for your interest in keeping the Scouting Program active during this time where face-to-face interaction is not recommended. These resources are meant to be used so that we may safeguard the health of our youth and adult leadership.



With the concerns of COVID-19 spreading, units are canceling campouts and in-person meetings, but that doesn't mean Scouting stops.

As Scouters, we are never ones to shrink from a challenge. As long as you can provide two-deep digital leadership the program can continue!

For the next several weeks, we're all going to be hunkered down while we wait out the preparations for the COVID wave. During this time, it's important to think about how we can mitigate how our youth members are disrupted. More than thinking about it, we need to act! There are ways that we can deliver positive adult associations, even with the lockdown.

Editors' Notes:

- *While there's no replacement for the social benefits of a live scout meeting, we owe it to our youth and parents to continue to engage them in every way we can through the social distancing period.*

East Carolina Council Resources

Scouting's official web resources are regularly publishing new ideas on how to provide programs that are socially-distanced.

General Info

1. [Boy Scouts of America | Prepared. For Life.™](#)
The official website of the Boy Scouts of America, serving youth in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Exploring, and Sea Scouts.
2. <https://www.eccbsa.org/>
The official website of the East Carolina Council.



Finding a Unit or Marketing your Unit

3. [Scout Me In](#)
Find a Unit to join, or make sure your unit can be found by others.

Health and Safety

4. [Guide to Safe Scouting](#)
The who, what, where, and how of keeping Scouts safe in age appropriate activities.
5. [Official BSA COVID-19 Page](#)
The Boy Scouts of America's office response to our current crisis.

Shopping

6. Order from our local Scout Shop in Kinston. E-mail Aimee at Aimee.Nethercutt@scouting.org
Or, if not available from your local store (Shop Local!) you can check:
7. [The Scout Shop Official BSA Store | Uniforms, Badges, & Gear](#)
Stock up now! Don't forget that proceeds from these sales help support the Scouting Program.

Program at Home

Time at-home provides unique opportunities to pursue certain types of advancement, like parent-cub activities and merit badges that are well-suited to work at home. See the section on Merit Badges for information on this. Advancement isn't the only part of Scouting.

[Scoutshare.org](https://scoutshare.org) - A resource for sharing remote Scouting ideas and other Scouting ideas in general.

Online Patrol and Den Meetings

Official BSA Resources

- [Den Leader Resources](#)

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- [Patrol Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Troop Meeting Agenda](#)
- [PLC Meeting Agenda](#)

Games & Fun Stuff

- [Gimkit | Live Quiz Learning Game](#)
Online gaming can help engage youth in social interactions in constructive, structured activities.
- [Stuck Inside? 25 Fun Projects to Do with Stuff From Around the House](#)
- [Fun Stuff to Do](#)
- [Fun projects for kids that you can do from home](#)
- [Mobile Games](#)
- [JPL Activities by grade level](#)

Hosting Meetings

Best Practices

When conducting meetings over videoconference, here are some tips to follow for a successful meeting:

- Ask everyone to mute themselves while the meeting chair is talking. If needed, use the mute function if the system has moderator capabilities.
- Remember to follow YPT rules if meeting with youth on a videoconference
- Try not starting the meeting on the hour/half hour to avoid system overload.

- Use Zoom, Skype, Webex or facetime to hold the ceremony
- The Cubmaster, Scoutmaster of the receiving unit(s) and the youth and parents crossing over would all participate electronically
- The Cubmaster would read the normal ceremony script, then introduce each youth and then electronically crossover the receiving Scoutmaster who would welcome each individually
- If the receiving unit Scoutmaster of the receiving unit has a special message he would deliver it then. If the receiving unit normally give a scouting item such as neckerchief or scout book, it could be mailed. Then the Scoutmaster would tell the youth when the unit's next virtual meeting will take place.
-
- I realize that doing the ceremony make seem awkward, but I think it essential that the cross over occur otherwise we may lose the youth.
-
- On the bright side, maybe by the time the crossover ceremony is needed we will be past this crisis, but it is best to **Be Prepared**

Virtual Museums and other Enrichment

NORTH CAROLINA

<https://naturalsciences.org/>

<https://www.ncmuseumofhistory.org/>

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<https://ncartmuseum.org/>

- [Google Arts & Culture: Virtual Museums](#)
Art Collections curated by Google
- [Online Tours: The Louvre](#)
Visit the museum's exhibition rooms and galleries, contemplate the façades of the Louvre...
- [The Museum of the World](#)
The British Museum presents: The Museum of the World
- [Guggenheim Online Collection](#)
- [Museum of Natural History](#)
- [Salvador Dali Museum](#)
- [Air Force Museum](#)
- [Nightly Met Opera Streams](#)
- [Moma Learning](#)

Scouting Specific Activities and Challenges

Make the time matter--work on Rank Advancement at home!

- <https://www.scoutspirit.org/at-home/>
More ideas from "Scout Spirit"
- [Hawkeye Council 30 Day Challenges](#) are a great way to keep scouting going!

In case you missed the Scouting at home web conference that was maxed out-Please find the recorded conference at the link below:

<https://scoutingwire.org/scouting-at-home-web-conference-from-march-26/>

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Why we realize that doing the ceremony make seem awkward, but we do think it essential that the cross over occur otherwise we may lose the youth.

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Jamboree on the Internet

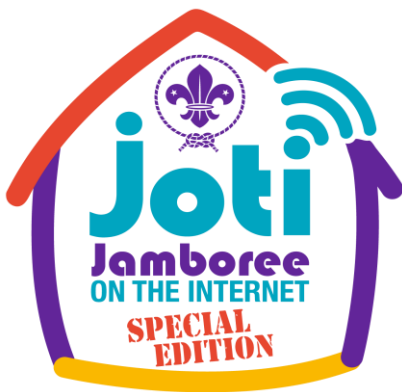
What is JOTI?

This special edition of our largest digital jamboree will allow you to connect to others, learn new skills, bring Scouting online, and build new friendships during this challenging time. We'll foster teamwork and intercultural interaction while enhancing safe social engagement and wellbeing.

Dates and Links

Website: <https://www.jotajoti.info/>

Dates: April 3-5 2020



Advancement

The rules of Scouting work very similarly online as they do live. If you have a question about how to make online activities work well, the literature below can provide official guidance. For example, under these circumstances, there's not really any reason why we shouldn't be doing boards of review by videoconference.

- [National Guidance on COVID-19 - Advancement](#)
- [Guide to Advancement](#)
- <https://www.scoutbook.com/>
Unit Management, directly from the BSA. Manage Advancement seamlessly
- <https://leader.scouting.org/>
Den Leader Experience in Scoutbook
- [The Eagle Scout Rank](#)
- <https://www.scoutshop.org/> - purchase advancement items online

Merit Badges Online

ECC's Online Merit Badge Classes- April 18, 1p-5p:

<https://3nsikw3604w6250tgt2k0zas-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2020/03/Virtual-Merit-Badge-Day-.pdf>

Other options

1. Find a registered merit badge counselor: Scouts should work with their Scoutmaster to identify a merit badge counselor for the badge or badges they want to earn. (Merit badge counselors — either current or future — should read our guide to being a merit badge counselor for some helpful tips.)
2. Use the official requirements: You'll find a lot of outdated merit badge requirements online. For the most current and up-to-date requirements, go to the BSA's official merit badges page.
3. Understand what made the cut: All 137 merit badges have certain requirements Scouts could complete at home.
4. Have fun: Earning merit badges is one of our favorite parts about Scouting. Other than the merit badges required for Eagle, Scouts BSA get to pick any merit badge that interests them. That decision should be 100% theirs. If earning a merit badge ever feels like schoolwork ... well, you're doing it wrong.

Merit Badge Listing: <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/merit-badges/>

Other Online Merit Badge Resources:

- <https://scoutingevent.com/083-OnlineMB>
Utilize time at-home to complete merit badge advancement.
- <https://www.meritbadge.info/>
Utilize time at-home to complete merit badge advancement.
- <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/20/merit-badges-for-social-distancing/>

Special Extensions for Earning Eagle Scout Rank

In the [National Guidance on COVID-19 - Advancement](#) there is a provision for a special extension for scouts of Life rank whose 18th birthday is a short distance away and their advancement has been interrupted by the COVID-19 virus. If a scout meets the criteria for the special extension:

- Use the standard form for [Request for Extension of Time to Earn Eagle Scout Rank](#)
- Submit to the District Advancement Chair the form with scout (or family) statement on the interruption in advancement and a scoutmaster statement endorsing the extension and describing the scout's progress towards Eagle rank. Include an Advancement Summary report if available.
- The District Advancement Chair will review and forward to the Council Advancement Committee for final review before approval by the Scout Executive

Online Boards of Review

- [Boards of Review by Videoconferencing](#)
You don't have to be face to face to run boards of review

Training

Lots of BSA training is available through the online learning center. Now is an ideal time to complete your position-specific training if you haven't already.

For Adults: YPT, Position, and Program

- [My Scouting website](#)
Your source for adult training (and some youth as well)

For Youth: Cyber Chip, Den Chief

- [Cyber Chip](#)
Maybe this is an ideal time to renew that cyber chip with all the screen time in front of our youth?
- [Den Chief Training](#)
Den Chief Training gives our youth valuable leadership skills

Committees

Districts

- Why not use our Round Table Templates and Meeting Guides?
Return back here on Monday 3/24/2020 for more details.

Units

- 30 Day Challenges can keep your unit working and collaborating together.
- Online meetings can be fun and offered more frequently.
Not everyone has to attend all meetings, but all scouts can attend at least some.
- Create a Zoom Account



Scouting At Home Web Conference

Special thanks to everyone who joined the Scouting at Home call yesterday. We maxed out our capacity with Zoom so some were not able to get in. In case you missed it, [you can now watch the recording on Scouting Wire](#).



New Scouting at Home Activities Posted

We have also added new content to the [Scouting at Home program pages](#). *Boys' Life* is a tremendous pool of great content – and we're sharing it! Yo-Yo, STEM activities, Venturing 30-Day Challenges, and more.

Let Us Know What Else You Are Doing to Keep Scouting!

- Online service projects?
- Virtual Roundtables?
- Digital backyard campouts?
- 30-Day Training Challenges?

Email Us! Share your efforts on Facebook, Instagram, WorkPlace or send them to our new Scouting at Home email address: ScoutingAtHome@scouting.org.

#Hashtag it! If you are posting Scouting at Home activities on social media, use the hashtag #ScoutingatHome so we can see your efforts!

Walkthroughs and Resources

my.scouting.org

- [Organization Security Manager Help](#)
- [Member Manager Help](#)
- [Training Manager Help](#)
- [How to use Invitation Manager](#)
- [How to use Application Manager](#)
- [Printing Charter Certificates](#)
- [Printing Membership Cards](#)

- [Getting started with Scoutbook Tutorials](#)
 - [Getting Started with Scoutbook Video](#)
 - [Why Scoutbook Video](#)
 - [Login Help](#)
-
- [Google Hangouts](#)
Lets you set up video conferencing through Calendar, but can only be accessed by people who have Google accounts. It might be good for units with sizable Google use.

Technology options

1. Above all, maintain youth protection and safety for our Scouts.
2. Follow BSA procedures for online youth protection – including and especially two-deep leadership. <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>
3. Free online options for meetings
 - Google Hangouts: Easy to use, no time limit, allows up to 10 participants
 - <https://hangouts.google.com/>
 - Zoom: Great features, 40-minute time limit, allows up to 100 participants
 - <https://zoom.us/pricing>
 - Skype: Good stability, four-hour time limit, allows up to 50 participants
 - <https://www.skype.com/en/features/group-video-chat/>
 - UberConference: Excellent video quality, 45-minute time limit, allows up to 10 participants
 - <https://www.uberconference.com/pricing>
 - GoToMeeting: Free 30-day trial using this link. If need longer than 30 days, have someone else create a free account.
 - <https://www.gotomeeting.com/partnerstrial>

Unit activities

1. Based on current CDC recommendations, units are strongly encouraged to avoid in-person meetings and gatherings at this time. Follow guidance of your chartered organization. The concern is, while Scout age youth are not in the high-risk category, they may easily be a carrier to another family member or neighbor. This is not an acceptable risk.
2. Have Scouts work on the Cyber Chip appropriate to their grade level so that they understand how to work safely online while schools are closed.
 - a. <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/>
3. Scouts BSA videos of Scouting skills: <https://troopresources.scouting.org/campcraft-skill-videos/?fbclid=IwAR0I7neutJCxKb2TSTLVqACxoGmZGJhw96LqIDHTE5MJbuwhsZGFrSAZVvw>
 - a. Knots
 - b. Fire building
 - c. Map & compass
 - d. Lashings
 - e. Pioneering
 - f. Wood tools
 - g. Whipping rope

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- h. Troop Meeting Planner
4. Use technology options listed above. Most Scouts know how to use them.
 - a. Ensure two-deep leadership
 - b. Follow all Youth Protection procedures.
5. Maintain social distancing.
6. Develop Fun themes
 - a. Important for all Scouts, but especially important with Cub Scouts
 - b. Look for activities that can use materials readily available at most homes – tape, glue, paper towel tubes, notebook paper, Legos, backyards, star gazing – constellation identification, etc.
7. Have Scouts or parents invite friends to participate in digital adventures in a safe environment. Invite a boy or girl to join, do an application online, and let them join in the unit's online activities. They get engaged, meet Scouts in the unit, then when the isolation restrictions are lifted – go join the meetings in person. Go to camp this summer. It's different – but so are the times we are in right now.
8. Scouts BSA look at merit badges that can be done from home or with the help of technology access. Scouts can watch a City Council or School Board meeting on public access television for Citizenship in the Community.
 - a. Other merit badge ideas easily done at home include: Reading, Communications, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness, Genealogy, Family Life, Pets, Dog Care, Energy, Electricity, Moviemaking, Photography, all of the Citizenship merit badges, and more.
 - b. All current requirements found here: www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/merit-badges/
 - c. Find merit badge counselors on Scoutbook. Go to the troop dashboard page. Scroll to the bottom and select "MB Counselor List". Fill in the information regarding the merit badges of interest. A list of counselors will appear. Select one and remember the name.
 - d. Request a merit badge counselor. Go to the Scout's profile page, scroll down to Advancement, scroll down below rank requirements to "Start Another Merit Badge". Select a merit badge, obtain leader approval, click "Invite merit badge counselor". Enter the counselor's name and invite.
9. Look for other resources online. Share ideas with other units. Be creative on how to do the activities remotely or using technology. Some units are reporting doing "Digital Pinewood Derbies". Scouts make their cars, bring to a location, then go home. Car is sanitized and raced by a group of 4-5 adults who maintain 6 feet separation. Scouts watch the race by live stream or other technology options.
 - a. US Scouting Service Project. <http://usscouts.org/start.asp>
 - b. MacScouter. www.macscouter.com/
 - c. Boy Scout Trail. <https://boyscouttrail.com/>
10. Religious activities. All youth and adults—Scouts or non-Scouts, Catholic or non-Catholic—are welcome to participate in the Religious Activities provided by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting®. All of these may be used by groups, families, schools, or any Cub Scout, Scout BSA, Venturer, Girl Scout, American Heritage Girl, or Campfire USA.
 - www.nccs-bsa.org/index.php/religious-activities?fbclid=IwAR1_mfTQ7r7PjwL8J5I_yPINKH2r4qsXHhIkJhZqZ55IH51x_s8IN4jQle0
11. BSA STEM NOVA Awards. Developed for all ages of Scouting to encourage the curiosity of Scouts about these fields and to have fun and receive recognition for their efforts.
 - a. www.scouting.org/stem-nova-awards/awards/
12. Knot tying. www.animatedknots.com/
13. Online video games recommended and screened by the BSA. <https://boyslife.org/games/>

Advancement

1. Review Scoutbook for what requirements each Scout needs for next advancement
 - a. Message parents to let them know what their Scout can / needs to do for a Cub Scout Adventure belt loop, a merit badge, or rank advancement.
 - b. Post links to resources or ideas on unit website, unit Facebook page or email.
 - c. Have parents send pictures of completed requirements.

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- d. Scout may need to demonstrate skill later to unit leader – or demonstrate by using technology (see below).
2. Track progress on Scoutbook. Encourage parents and Scouts to do the same.
3. Scoutmaster Conferences
 - a. Skype, Facetime, Zoom
 - b. Ensure two-deep leadership
 - c. Follow all Youth Protection procedures.
4. Boards of Review
 - a. Skype, Facetime, Zoom
 - b. Ensure two-deep leadership
 - c. Follow all Youth Protection procedures.
 - d. <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/16/how-to-conduct-a-board-of-review-through-videoconferencing>

Personal Protection

Follow personal health safety guidance from CDC

1. **If you are sick (coughing, sneezing, had a fever of 100.4⁰ in the previous 14 days) stay home.**
2. **Wash your hands frequently for at least 20-seconds.** (the length of time to sing the “ABCs” song once or “Happy Birthday” twice).
3. **Avoid shaking hands.** Instead use a wave, an “air high five”, or the Scout salute. (“The Scout salute is a form of greeting that also shows respect. You may salute other Scouts and Scout leaders.” *Scouts BSA Handbook*, pg. 19.)
4. **Avoid touching your face with your hands** as much as possible.
5. **Maintain at least 6 feet of separation** between people
6. Use your own pen to sign receipts and documents. Public pens easily transfer germs.
7. Use something as a barrier when opening doors or pumping gas.
8. Clean surfaces with disinfectants recommended by the CDC, including your cell phone. The virus lives on surfaces for up to 72 hours. www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/sars-cov-2-list_03-03-2020.pdf
9. If you experience symptoms (Cough, fever, shortness of breath), call your healthcare provider and tell them about your symptoms. Follow their instructions.
10. High risk groups should avoid exposure to others. High risk groups are vulnerable seniors (60+ yr. old) and those with significant underlying conditions. Significant underlying conditions include heart, lung, kidney disease; diabetes; and conditions that suppress the immune system.