

# CAMP MINSI

Summer 2024



## Merit Badge and Program Guide



[campminsi.org](https://campminsi.org)



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL

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## A Note About Merit Badges & Advancement

The most important thing we want Scouts to get out of camp is that they enjoy their week, learn and grow as a Scout and that we build excitement for the Scouting Program. We also want Scouts to have the opportunity to advance within Scouting.

Our focus in providing Merit Badge instruction is to provide a quality learning experience for all the Scouts that participate. We want your Scouts to be successful in their advancement endeavors, and if your Scout is having trouble completing a merit badge they signed up for, reach out to the staff. We're glad to help! We want every Scout as much as possible to complete the Merit Badges they signed up for by successfully meeting the requirements as written.

People only like surprises when they are good. Don't let your Scouts be surprised with the requirements for their badges. As you help them pick out their schedule, double check any prerequisites, age restrictions and additional costs. Also have them double check the descriptions in this guide. Scoutmasters should have a discussion with their Scouts prior to starting any Merit Badge, and if there are concerns about a Scout's schedule, please speak with a staff member right away so if a change is needed a Scout still has the time to complete an alternative badge. Please note that all aquatics Merit Badges require that your Scout qualifies as a swimmer. If they have not done so prior to camp and are taking a swim check on Sunday, please have a backup plan in case they struggle on that day.

If a Scout cannot complete the requirements during their week at camp, they will be issued a "partial" that details which requirements they have completed so they can finish the badge another time. The most common reasons Scouts receive partials is because they did not complete the prerequisites or they didn't attend all the classes. To prevent this, **please remind your Scouts to have all their prerequisites completed prior to camp**, and if a Scout can't attend a class, meet up with the instructor to complete the missed content.

Blue Cards will be issued electronically by the Camp. Unfortunately, we cannot submit them through ScoutBook to your troop. If your troop requires a paper blue card, we can stamp filled out blue cards

# Camp Minsi Weekly Schedule

TIME	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:45 am	<i>Camp Closed</i>	<b>Morning Colors</b>					Continental
8:00 am		<b>Breakfast</b>					Breakfast
9:00 am	<b>Early Arrival</b>	<b>Morning Program</b> <i>Merit Badges, TTA</i>					Closing Ceremony
12:00 noon		<b>Lunch</b>					<i>Camp Closed</i>
1:00 pm	<b>Siesta</b>						
2:00 pm	<b>Check-In</b>	<b>Afternoon Program</b> <i>Merit Badges, TTA, Afternoon Adventures (Pre-registration required)</i>					
5:00 pm							
5:45 pm	<b>Evening Colors</b>						
6:00 pm	Dinner			Cook in Your Site Night	Dinner		
7:00 pm	<b>Camp Tours Q&amp;A Session</b>	<b>Evening Programs</b>			<b>Evening Programs</b>	<b>Blue Card Party</b> <i>Merit Badge Reconciliation</i>	
8:45 pm	<b>Opening Campfire</b>	<b>Older Scout Programs</b>		OA Callout	<b>Older Scout Programs</b>	Closing Campfire	
10:00 pm	Taps						

Evening Programs may vary by week. A Copy of changes for the week will be available to units on Sunday

Please find the following resources at [campminsi.org](http://campminsi.org).

- The Merit Badge Schedule
- Program Scheduling Worksheet
- Merit Badge Prerequisites & Guide
- Trail to Adventure Program Guide



# Camp Minsi Afternoon Adventures

If you are a thrill-seeker looking for new outdoor challenges and fun, then look no further than Camp Minsi's exciting Afternoon Adventures. These special programs provide a variety of unique outdoor adventures for Scouts in the heart of the Poconos!

Some activities have age or ability restrictions – see below. Additional fees are required to cover transportation and equipment rentals for off-site adventures. Pre-registration is required for all Afternoon Activities. Please register and pay by June 1<sup>st</sup>. See registration on the website for pricing

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## Horseback Riding at the Ranch – Monday



Saddle up for a beginner-friendly riding experience as you take a guided ride through gently sloping hills and wooded trails on horseback.

*All ages – but there is limited space*

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## Treetop Adventures at Gorilla Grove – Tuesday



The Gorilla Grove Treetop Ropes Course will challenge you with tightropes, rope net climbs, swinging logs, moving tunnels, platforms, quad-racing, zip lines, and more!

*Must be at least 14-years-old (or 13-years-old and have completed the 8th grade)*

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## Whitewater Rafting on the Lehigh River – Wednesday



Enjoy a fun-filled rafting trip on the Lehigh River. The eight-mile trek gives Scouts and leaders an afternoon of fun on the river interspersed with a touch of Class III rapids.

*Open to all ages, must qualify as a "Swimmer" to participate.*

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## Mountain Biking in the Lehigh Gorge – Thursday



Ride through the Lehigh Gorge. As you pedal the 22-mile trail, you'll see cool rock formations, waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. Bicycle and helmet rental included.

*Must have previous experience biking – the trail is not difficult but is long*

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## Natural Face Rock Climbing at Eagle Point – Friday



Reach great heights as you ascend to the summit. Develop belaying, climbing and repelling skills to conquer the 50-foot cliffs overlooking Tobyhanna Creek.

*Must be at least 14-years-old (or 13-years-old and have completed the 8th grade)*

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# Special Camp-wide Programs

## Evening Programs

Special evening programs and presentations will be announced throughout the week. Evening activities include: open swimming and boating, special shooting sports opportunities, exciting sports and games, troop competitions, advancement workshops, astronomy observations, crafts, special presentations, service projects, and more.

## Wednesday Evening Site Cook-In Night

On Wednesday evening, the dining hall will not provide a cooked meal; instead, units will be provided with ingredients to cook their own dinner. Each unit should bring their own cooking equipment and mess kits to prepare and eat the meal in their campsite.

## Order of the Arrow Callout Ceremony

On Wednesday evening the Order of the Arrow will perform their public recognition ceremony, known as the call-out. Arrangements for those who will be called out should be confirmed with the OA coordinator prior to the ceremony.

## The Muck Hike

Here's is an experience you will never forget! This Thursday afternoon (2pm-5pm) hike takes Scouts and leaders through the muddy swamps on the western edge of camp as they hike (and swim) through thick mud. The event concludes with a mob of muddy Scout descending upon the waterfront to cleanse in the lake. The hike is open to all Scouts and leaders. Bring clothing (and footwear) that can get extremely wet and dirty (and most likely thrown away afterwards). A special patch is available in the Trading Post to commemorate the experience.

## Trexler Rangers

Continuing the tradition from Trexler Scout Reservation, Camp Minsi will present its own version of the Trexler Rangers! Scouts who participate will work together to solve a number of hands on challenges, and will work to develop the team work it takes to become a Trexler Ranger. Bring clothing (and footwear) that can get extremely wet and dirty (and most likely thrown away afterwards). This program is being developed with the input of past staff from TSR.

## Friggid Froggie

Take an early morning dip in the lake at Frigid Froggy, at 6:30AM. Check this week's schedule while you are at camp.

## Camp-Wide Whitewater Rafting

Enjoy a fun-filled whitewater rafting trip on the Lehigh River on Wednesday afternoon. The eight-mile trek gives Scouts and leaders an afternoon of fun on the river interspersed with a touch of Class III rapids. This activity is open to all ages, participants must qualify as a "Swimmer" to participate. An additional fee is required.

## Camp Minsi Honor Troop Award

The Camp Minsi Honor Troop Award is awarded to units that exemplify the aims and methods the Scouting program. The Honor Troop Award encourages Scout spirit, teamwork, and participation during your week at camp. Honor Troop tracking sheets can be picked up in the Ad-Pad throughout the week.

## Special Shooting Opportunities

Camp Minsi offers several special shooting opportunities. Cowboy Action Shoot is held in place of Shotgun Merit Badge Class on Tuesdays (must be 14 or older or completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade to participate). Scouts have the chance to try Sporting Arrows on Tuesday Evening at Archery. Our "History with a Bang" demonstration is also held on Tuesday evenings.

## Mountain Man

Experience the life of a Mountain Man! Out in the backwoods of Camp Minsi, come explore our Mountain Man outpost and experience fun activities of yesteryear, such as Tomahawk throwing!

## Radio Fox Hunting

The thrill of the chase with a technological twist! Radio Fox Hunting is using a directional antenna and radios to find a hidden transceiver, the "fox" which emits a signal. Its an addition to Radio Merit Badge this year, but we wanted you to have a chance to try it even if you are not in Radio Merit Badge!

# Adult Leader Trainings & Programs

Training helps adult leaders deliver quality Scouting experiences to their youth. While at camp this summer, leaders can utilize their time to get trained (and have fun) with a variety of adult leader training opportunities. This is a great opportunity for leaders to get these essential trainings completed.



## **BSA Safe Swim Defense**

**Time:** Monday @ 1PM @ the Ad-Pad

**Description:** Safe Swim Defense training teaches the basic principles necessary for conducting a safe swimming activity. Adult leaders supervising a swimming activity must have completed the BSA Safe Swim Defense training within the previous 2 years.



## **BSA Safety Afloat**

**Time:** Tuesday @ 1PM @ the Ad-Pad

**Description:** Safety Afloat training has been developed to promote boating and boating safety and to set standards for safe unit activity afloat. Adult leaders supervising activities afloat must have completed Safety Afloat training within the previous 2 years.



## **BSA Swimming & Water Rescue**

**Time:** *Tuesday-Friday at Waterfront with the Lifesaving merit badge class.*

**Description:** Training for BSA Swim & Water Rescue provides BSA leaders with information and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to swimming emergencies. It expands upon the awareness instruction provided by Safe Swim Defense training.



## **BSA Paddle Craft Safety**

**Time:** *Tuesday-Friday at Waterfront with any Canoeing or Kayaking merit badge class.*

**Description:** BSA Paddle Craft Safety expands Safety Afloat training to include the skills and knowledge needed for a unit leader to confidently supervise safe boating activities. Training can be completed in kayak or canoe.



## **Scout Leader Merit Badge**

**Time:** *On your own, open all week.*

**Description:** Camp Minsi's Scout Leader Merit Badge is a progressive award for adult leaders. The program encourages leaders to get out of the campsite and participate in a variety of fun and challenging activities throughout camp. Scout Leader Merit Badge requirement sheets can be picked up in the Ad-Pad and completed throughout the week.