



**Before You Go!**

## Before You Go

Before you go to camp, certain promotional materials and information should be shared with the Scouts and their Parents. This can take place in many ways and forms. The basic reason for this kind of activity is to keep everyone informed, excited, and prepared for the week ahead. Youth need to know what to bring, what activities to prepare for, and which Merit Badges are being offered. Parents need to know how much camp costs, when it will be, where it is, how to send mail and how to get in touch with someone in case of an emergency. Scoutmasters need to know all of this and a lot more.



Many troops hold parent's information meetings a few months before camp. This meeting can take place at a Court of Honor, a committee meeting, or in place of a regular scheduled troop meeting. If your troop has a newsletter, you should also put constant reminders about camp in there as well. It is here that the details of camp should be presented to the parents. This will help you and you're Scouts who haven't been on a campout or haven't been away from home. Questions and answers will most likely take most of the time. But don't panic if you don't know the answers. It is important to read this Leaders Guide from cover to cover so that you understand Camp Conestoga and all it has to offer. If you still do not know the answer, assure the parents that a reply is just a phone call away. You can contact the Westmoreland-Fayette Council Service Center at 724-837-1630 Extension 306 for any questions pertaining to camp.

## Contact and Location Information

### Contact Information

#### Council Service Center

Westmoreland-Fayette Council  
2 Garden Center Drive  
Greensburg, Pa 15601

Phone: (724) 837-1630  
Fax: (724) 832-8780

#### Camp Conestoga

Camp Conestoga  
255 Conestoga Camp Road  
Somerset, Pa 15501

Phone: (814) 445-2018  
[campconestoga@gmail.com](mailto:campconestoga@gmail.com)

### Location Information

Camp Conestoga is located on Route 31 between Donegal and Somerset, in the Laurel Hill State Park.

#### **Traveling from the west....**

Exit the PA Turnpike at the Donegal/Ligonier Exit 9. Turn left onto PA Rt. 31 and travel east approximately 10 miles. Watch for a COEN's gas station on the left. Directly across from the station is the sign for Camp Conestoga. Turn right at the sign and follow the road approximately one mile into camp.

#### **Traveling from the east....**

Exit the PA Turnpike at the Somerset Exit 10. Turn right onto PA Rt. 601; travel south about 1 mile and turn right on to PA Rt. 31 and go 14 miles. Watch for a COEN's on the right. Directly across from the station is the sign for Camp Conestoga. Turn left at the sign and follow the road approximately one mile into camp.

## **2023 Backdater for Camp Conestoga**

*The following is a list of important dates and happenings, broken down monthly. The dates listed below affect both you and your unit, so pencil them into your calendar now.*

**NOTE:** *Deposit deadlines are mandatory for ALL units attending camp. All units must also submit a completed roster with each payment. Any questions concerning camp should be directed to the Council Service Center at 724-837-1630; Conestoga Extension 306 / Buck Run Extension 317*

### **March 2023**

**3<sup>rd</sup>** - \$50.00 Deposit due from all Scouts. This deposit should be sent to the Council Service Center, along with a roster of Scouts the deposits are for!

**NOTE:** *All units must include a completed Troop roster listing all youth and adults attending, with their deposits. All persons listed on your roster must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America.*

### **April 2023**

**3<sup>rd</sup>**- All Campership applications must be submitted for consideration for the 2023 season.

**NOTE:** *Incomplete applications or applications missing documentation will not be considered for review.*

### **May 2023**

**5<sup>th</sup>** - Final Camp Fees Due to Council Service Center, (along with a roster of the Scouts and Leaders), and online merit badge registration is due.

**NOTE:** *All units must include a completed Troop roster listing all youth and adults attending, with their final payments. All persons listed on your roster must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America.*



Follow your “Leader’s Pre-Camp Checklist,” that way you will be on top of the paperwork you and the camp need.

**This is important!**

## Leaders Pre-Camp Checklist

Check this list as you complete each task as a part of your Troop planning & preparation.

\_\_\_\_\_ Rosters of all Scouts going to camp. (Are the names spelled correctly? Is it legible? Do you have at least 3 copies?) Update the Scout Service Center of all roster changes as soon as they happen.

\_\_\_\_\_ Names, addresses and both work & home phone numbers of all parents. Do you know where they can be reached in case of an emergency?

\_\_\_\_\_ Photocopies of Health & Medical forms for each Scout and Leader. No Scout or Adult may stay without one. Do you know which Scouts will be bringing medication to camp? Is the Health Form filled out and signed?

Please fill out the Camp Health History form to help ease Check-in.

\_\_\_\_\_ All transportation arrangements have been made- both coming and going

\_\_\_\_\_ Final Camp Fees and Full roster are sent by May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



## Camp Standards

It is expected that Scouts and Scouters live up to the Scout Oath and Law. A good camper always maintains high standards of personal conduct, safety, courtesy, and conservation. Therefore, scouting units must observe the following minimum camping standards.

### National Camping Standards

1. **All SCOUTS, LEADERS, AND ANY ADULT** attending camp must be registered in a troop prior to camp. No Cub Scouts or siblings may attend, even if camping with a parent.
  2. Liquid fuels and liquid burning equipment may be used under adult supervision; liquid fuels must be stored in a locked cabinet under adult control for safety. **THIS IS MANDATORY FOR SAFETY.**
  3. Ammunition, rifles, and archery gear may not be brought into camp by Scouts or leaders for safety reasons.
  4. Park cars, trailers, and campers in designated areas only; help in conserving campsites, minimize traffic.
  5. The only tents authorized to be used for any purpose in camp are those supplied by the camp. Exceptions are for those taking Camping Merit Badge or as approved by the camp director.
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1. All units must provide at least two adult leaders to be in camp at all times in order to attend camp. Both adults must be at least 21 and both must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America. Units unable to provide two leaders must make arrangements with another Unit. The camp is not responsible for assigning additional leadership. If you are having difficulties in finding adult leadership, contact your District Camping Chairman **BEFORE** you leave for camp.

**Vehicles belonging to leaders and visitors must be parked in designated parking areas.  
Roads through campsite and program areas are restricted to service vehicles only.  
This is a National Camping Standard set forth by the Boy Scouts of America,  
and the Pennsylvania State Park System.**



## 2024 Stake Your Claim

During your 2023 camp week, you may stake your claim for the 2024 camp season at any time. Reservations forms will be available at the camp office and must be submitted to the Camp Director before 10 AM on Saturday.

You will have until 10 AM on the Saturday that you are scheduled to check-out to turn in your Roll over Form, for the same site and week as in 2023. Troops not turning in their Roll Over form at this time will forfeit their deposit, campsite, and week reservation for 2024.

1. All Troops will have 1<sup>st</sup> priority for the same site and week in 2024, unless they exceed or fall short of the allotted camp site maxes and minimums.
2. Troop's wishing to switch campsites must wait until the end of the week.
3. Troop's wishing to switch weeks must wait until the end of the week in which they want to move to before contacting the Camp Director.
4. If payments for your unit do not reflect your unit filling at least 2/3 of the campsite capacity, your reservation may be transferred to another site in the same week, or another unit may be assigned to share your site.
5. If your Troop arrives at camp with more Scouts then they are registered for or they arrive with too many Scouts and exceed the maximum number of campers for the site, we reserve the right to switch your campsite.
6. All units are responsible for notifying the Council Service Center of reservation request changes for 2024. Any Troop changing reservations without notifying the Council Service Center will **FORFEIT THEIR DEPOSIT, CAMPSITE, AND WEEK RESERVATION FOLLOWING THE SEASON.**

All campsite minimum and maximum attendance requirements are located on this form. You will receive your official 2024 Roll Over form when you arrive at camp.