



# Smoke Signals

## Special Camp Edition 2023 Camp Conestoga Prepared. For Life.

**Camp Conestoga** offers Scouts a great environment to work on merit badges that you need to achieve the Eagle Rank. With a crystal-clear swimming pool, a 6-acre lake, a handicraft building, ecology and conservation area, a scoutcraft area and modern rifle and shotgun ranges, you will have the opportunity to earn merit badges that are not easily earned at home.

The badges listed below are offered weekly at Camp Conestoga. Most badges can be completed during your stay, but some require the completion of pre-requisite requirements. These pre-requisites must be completed before you come to camp for you to earn the merit badge while at camp. Some merit badges also require an additional cost for program supplies. All merit badge pre-requisites and costs will be listed in the Camp Leader's Guide. All Scoutmasters will receive a copy of the Leader's Guide at the Camp Kickoff. Additional merit badges may be offered depending on the abilities of the camp staff and the participation of camp leaders. You will be notified of all additional merit badges being offered at camp at Sunday evening Leader's Meeting.

**Camp is proud to add 1 NEW Badge  
2 Returning Badges for 2023!**

**NEW - Crime Prevention  
Returning - Plumbing and Electricity**

**All Scouts should consult their  
Scoutmaster about their Merit Badge  
selections!**

**Shotgun & Welding Merit Badge and  
the Stained-Glass activity are limited to  
Scouts 14 years of age or older.**

**Scouts should come prepared to learn  
and have all Merit Badge pre-requisites  
completed as listed in the 2023 Camp  
Leader's Guide and be able to provide  
adequate proof!**

## Camp Conestoga Merit Badge Listing

American Cultures | Archeology | Archery | Art | Astronomy | Athletics | Automotive  
Maintenance | Aviation | Basketry | Bird Study | Camping | Canoeing | Chemistry |  
Climbing | Chess | Crime Prevention | Disability Awareness | Electricity | Electronics |  
Emergency Preparedness | Engineering | Environmental Science | Exploration | First-Aid  
| Fishing | Fly Fishing | Fish & Wildlife Management | Forestry | Game Design | Geology  
| Graphic Arts | Insect Study | Journalism | Kayaking | Law | Leatherwork | Lifesaving  
| Mammal Study | Metal Working | Model Design & Building | Moviemaking | Nature |  
Nuclear Science | Orienteering | Personal Fitness | Photography | Pioneering | Plumbing  
| Pottery | Programming | Public Speaking | Reptile & Amphibian Study | Radio | Rifle |  
Robotics | Rowing | Scouting Heritage | Sculpture | Search & Rescue | Shotgun | Signs,  
Signals & Codes | Small Boat Sailing | Soil & Water Conservation | Space Exploration |  
Sports | Swimming | Weather | Welding | Wilderness Survival

### Important Information & Dates

If your Unit did not reserve a space, the unit needs to complete a 2023 Campsite Reservation form and pay a \$25.00 site fee.

- January 23, 2023 - Please join us for the "State of the Council" where we will kickoff the 2023 camping season.
- March 3, 2023 - Deposits for Camp are due. You must submit all forms and deposits for the session you would like to have. The available space for each session will be on a first come first serve basis.
- April 3, 2023 - Campership applications are due.
- May 5, 2023 - Final Camp fees are due.



# The PATHFINDER Program

Scouts participating in the Pathfinder Program will have the opportunity to explore and engage in nearly every program area in camp. This program will allow scouts to participate as a group at Handicraft, Nature, Aquatics, Scoutcraft, and STEMcraft area. The program will last all six summits for each day and leaders are highly encouraged to keep their scouts in the program for the full day. Scouts will be divided into 3 to 4 patrols and each patrol will follow a different schedule throughout the day accomplishing the same objectives given by the program.

During the pathfinder program, scouts will have the opportunity to fulfill basic requirements on knot tying, lashings, and outdoor skills included in the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First-Class rank. Additionally, scouts will have the ability to earn Art, Mammal Study, and Swimming or Personal Fitness merit badge. The program will also allow the scouts to choose one of the following merit badges offered during sixth summit only; Sculpture, Sports/Athletics, Astronomy, Space Exploration or Chess. Please be aware the some of these merit badges may have additional costs.



# Project C.O.P.E.

## Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience

- Project COPE is a specialty program designed for Scouts aged 14 and up and who have achieved the First Class rank.
- The COPE program helps Scouts build confidence and a positive attitude towards life's challenges through themed activities and initiative games. Scouts are put to the test as

they work together in teams to complete the various elements in Camp Conestoga's low elements COPE course. All Scouts in the COPE program will have the opportunity to conquer Camp Conestoga's 50 ft. climbing and rappelling tower and experience the 550-foot zip-line!

Due to the time intensive nature of the program, all Scouts participating in this program will have limited Merit Badge choices. The COPE program also requires fair weather since the tower and low-elements course cannot be safely completed in the rain.

# Camp Conestoga Parents/Visitors Night

Parents/Visitors Night for the Scouts BSA Resident camp will be held every WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

COME JOIN US AND SHARE SOME OF THE CAMP EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR SCOUT!

### Schedule of Events

- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner (Cafeteria Style)
- 5:30 – 6:55 p.m. Zipline Open for Visitors
- 7:05 p.m. Units Report to upper Field for Parade of Flags
- 7:15 p.m. Flag Ceremony-OA Calling out Ceremony at the lower parade field, (below pool).
- 8:00 p.m. Campfire (Troop Participation)

Traditionally, parents bring picnic type foods or desserts for the troop, parents, and guests to eat in the campsite. However, dinner will be available in the dining hall for a fee of \$7.00 per parents / visitor, (Campers are Free). All Scoutmasters must inform us of any family having dinner in the camp's dining hall and the number of people attending. The dinner fee may be paid at the door.

Parents / visitors bringing items to camp may be unable to park in or close to the campsite. All parents / visitors should be prepared to walk from the designated parking lots and make sure the items being brought to camp are easily transported.



## Visitor Night Open Zipline

During the summer, visitors will be able to use the Zipline on Family Night. The participant requirements are as follows:

- All participants must be at least 14 years old.
- All participants must have a signed and completed waiver (obtainable from [www.wfbsa.org](http://www.wfbsa.org)). If under 18, the waiver MUST be signed by participant's parent or guardian.
- All participants must purchase a ticket at the COPE Tower (\$5.00). Arrangements to participate in this activity can be made through an adult leader that is staying at camp.
- The Wednesday Night Zipline is open from 5:30 - 6:55pm. Please be prompt because all activities will cease at 7pm for Evening Colors and the OA Calling Out Ceremony.



# Reservation Fee – ALL SCOUTS

\$50.00 PER SCOUT – Due in the Council Service Center by MARCH 3rd, 2023.

The troop will receive the discounted fee to be paid in full by May 6th, 2023, for only the number of Scouts that the Troop has paid \$50 for by this date. Exception will be AOL/Webelo Scouts moving to the troop; they will receive the discounted price until May 5th, 2023. This fee is necessary to hold the troop campsite and is credited toward the remaining balance. The fee is NON-REFUNDABLE but is transferable to a NEW Scout added to the roster, (see the refund policy for more information about transferability).

Early Bird Camp Fees – \$400.00 PER SCOUT, PER WEEK, IF PAID IN FULL BY MAY 5th, 2023.

Regular Camp Fees – \$420.00 PER SCOUT, PER WEEK, IF PAID IN FULL AFTER MAY 5th, 2023.

Troop Fee: \$25.00 per troop, this fee reserves the campsite, and may be rolled over from year to year.

Second Week of Camp Fee: \$365. 00 PER SCOUT, PER WEEK OF CAMP.

Camp Fees – Units Cooking in their Campsite \$70.00 price reduction per Scout by prior arrangements. The fee is \$330.00 PER SCOUT.

Leader Fees: The First 2 leaders for every unit are free. Beyond the initial 2 leaders, a ratio of 1 leader to every 8 scouts will allow an additional leader to attend camp at no charge. Units bringing more than 2 leaders that do not meet the 1 to 8 ratio will be charged \$220.00 per additional leader.

01 – 16 Scouts = 2 Free Leaders Beyond 32 Scouts the ratio stays the same.

17 – 24 Scouts = 3 Free Leaders

25 – 32 Scouts = 4 Free Leaders, One more free adult at 33, 41, 49, 57, 65, and etc.

Family Discount: Fee for second (and subsequent) Scouts attending Camp Conestoga there will be a \$35 per Scout discount. The fee is \$355. Families with Scouts attending both Conestoga and Buck Run, the Cub Scout receives the 10% discount on the second (and subsequent) Scout camp fees.

REMINDER: A COMPLETED TROOP ROSTER WITH ALL YOUTH AND ADULT LEADERS ATTENDING IS REQUIRED WHEN MAKING DEPOSITS ON MARCH 3rd, 2023 / MAKING FINAL PAYMENTS ON MAY 5th, 2023 / AND WHEN YOUR TROOP CHECKS IN AT CAMP.



# Camp Conestoga | Check List | What to Bring

Please mark ALL equipment and clothing with your name and unit number

## Clothing

- ☐ Scout Uniform
- ☐ Extra T-Shirts
- ☐ Extra Shorts/Pants
- ☐ Extra Socks
- ☐ Extra Underwear
- ☐ Boots/Sturdy Shoes
- ☐ Jacket/Sweatshirt
- ☐ Raincoat/ Poncho
- ☐ Swim Trunks
- ☐ Scout Hat

## Personal

- ☐ Shower/Personal Toiletries
- ☐ Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- ☐ Shower Shoes

## Do NOT Bring

*Fireworks / Ammunition / Pets / Sheath Knives / Alcoholic Beverages  
Electronic Games / Kerosene or Gas Lanterns*

## Supplies

- ☐ Pocket Knife
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Extra Batteries/Bulb
- ☐ Canteen
- ☐ Footlocker
- ☐ Eating Utensils
- ☐ Insect Repellent
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ First Aid Kit

## Bedding

- ☐ Sleeping Bag/Blankets
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Ground cloth
- ☐ Large sheet of cardboard to cushion springs

## Miscellaneous

- ☐ Paper & Pencils
- ☐ Rope
- ☐ Matches
- ☐ Hiking Stave
- ☐ Fire Starters
- ☐ Scout Handbook
- ☐ Survival Kit



## Housing

All scouts and leaders will be staying in BSA issued wide-wall canvas tents on wooden platforms. (2 Campers per Tent) There is a pavilion, picnic tables, fire circle and bulletin board located at each campsite. Running water and bathhouses are located near each campsite. *Your campsite will be your home while you are at camp. You are expected to keep it clean.*

## Camp Conestoga Contact Information

The camp telephone is available for business and emergency use only. All parents wishing to contact a camper should call 814-445-2018. A message will be delivered to the scout. Camp telephone is available for scouts/leaders to use in emergencies.

There is a camp mailbox that is checked each day and mail will be delivered to troop mailbox in camp office. All campers can also send mail as well. Parents should send stamps and envelopes for their scouts to mail letters home. *Parents sending mail should do so as early as one week prior to ensure it arrives on time for their week.*

### All incoming mail should be addressed as follows:

Camper's Name  
Troop #/Campsite  
Camp Conestoga  
255 Conestoga Camp Road  
Somerset, PA 15501

## Health Lodge

Our modern, state of the art Health Lodge is staffed by qualified, fully licensed personnel 24 hours a day to provide Immediate or Emergency first aid to campers and leaders.

**NOTE: Prescriptions or medications WILL ONLY be Administered between 7 am and 10 pm daily!**

All medications are required to be checked in and kept in the health lodge. Parents should send the medications and instructions with their scout. The scout then visits the Health Lodge as needed to take their medication.

It is the scout's responsibility to see that they take their medications as prescribed.

## Medical Forms and Special Accommodations

BSA requirements state that all campers, youth and adults, bring with them a copy of the NEW completed medical form, (A,B, & C MUST BE COMPLETED), which is available at the Council Service Center. This form must be completed annually and signed by a licensed physician.

- Bring **ONLY A COPY** of your completed medical form.
- All special accommodations such as diet restrictions should be brought to the attention of the camp director at least 2 weeks before your scheduled arrival date.



# Eagle Camp | Camp Conestoga

July 23-29, 2023

TOTAL -FEE: \$400.00 - First week at Camp Conestoga  
\$365.00 - Second week at Camp Conestoga  
Registration Fee: \$50.00 due upon registration  
Balance must be paid by May 5th, 2023

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: May 5th, 2023

REGISTRATION: Limited to First Class, Star and Life Scouts who previously attended 2022 Summer Camp at Conestoga or a previous Unit long term experience at another council camp.

PROGRAM: Merit badges offered: Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the World, Family Life, Communications, and Personal Management. Scouts are required to prepare for camp by initiating the time requirement sections of any merit badges before camp to avoid the partial completion of the badges.

During their stay at Eagle Camp, the Scouts will be going on a variety of field trips that are specifically designed to meet the requirements of those badges offered. The scouts shall be required to attend specific program sessions designed for the Eagle Camp. Further program information of the Eagle Camp shall be forwarded to the individual campers following registration.

## Provisional Camp 2023 Season at Camp Conestoga

Do you think one week of camp is exciting? Is your troop camping somewhere else this summer? Will you be on vacation during your troop's week at camp? If this is the case, then don't miss out on the True Scouting Experience 2023. Join us at provisional camp for your chance to experience all the Camp Conestoga has to offer. The camp will provide adult leadership for provisional camp-all that's missing is you!

Provisional Camp Fee:

- 1st week at Camp Conestoga in 2023 - \$400.00
- 2nd week at Camp Conestoga in 2023 - \$365.00

In 2023, Scouts in need will have an opportunity to apply for an Eagle Camp Campership. Details and applications can be found at [www.wfbsa.org/camping](http://www.wfbsa.org/camping)

## Specialty Camp Registration Form

I would like to register for **EAGLE CAMP - July 23-29, 2023**

OR

I would like to register for **PROVISIONAL CAMP** during these dates:

June 18-24      June 25-July 1      July 9-15  
July 16-22      July 23-29

Scout Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Scoutmaster Approval (Eagle Camp only) \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee (\$50.00) enclosed. Balance must be paid before May 5th, 2023, unless approved by the Camp Director.

Mail to:

Westmoreland-Fayette Council

2 Garden Center Drive

Greensburg, PA 15601

# Financial Assistance

The Charles (Charlie) A. Yarris Campership fund is named in honor of the longtime Scoutmaster of Troop 608 in Uniontown. Charlie was Scoutmaster for more than 40 years and attended Camp Conestoga with his unit every year with his Troop during his tenure. Charlie always set out to ensure his Scouts attended camp regardless of their financial circumstances. Annually over \$2,500 is awarded to Cub Scouts and Scouts who qualify for assistance. We actively seek donations to help the Council to continue to offer this assistance to our Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA and their families! Contact the Council Service Center to make a financial contribution to the Campership Fund.

In 2021 Camp Conestoga also established a new assistance program to defer the cost of attending the Eagle Camp Session. Both assistance programs are designed to aid, but not support, Scouts who would not be able to attend camp without financial assistance -- remembering that A SCOUT IS THRIFTY and WORKS to pay his own way and helps others.

## Campership Information

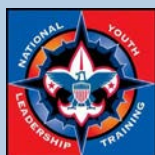
### AVAILABILITY & REVIEW PROCEDURES

- Campership applications will be reviewed by the campership committee. The Reservation/Camp Director shall be given power of approval beginning the first day of Staff training week.
- Camperships shall be available for all RESIDENT CAMPS, Including EAGLE CAMP.
- Camperships will be considered on a first come, first served basis.
- All campership applications must be received no later than April 3rd, 2023.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- Applications are available on council website. Unit leaders are responsible for completing the "unit information" section and distributing applications to families with a perceived need.
- Parents or Guardians are responsible for the remainder of the application and for its submission.
- Incomplete applications will be denied.

(EAGLE CAMP - Separate form and requirements will be needed)



## Westmoreland-Fayette Council National Youth Leadership Training Course

**August 6-11, 2023**

Eberly Scout Reservation. The course takes place within Eberly Scout Reservation in Somerset County and aims at teaching scouts the skills they need to hold a leadership position in the troop. Organized into patrols, scouts cook, eat, and attend hands-on learning sessions with other scouts from across the Westmoreland Fayette Council.

Attendance at the course is limited to those scouts who meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 14 years of age • Be recommended by the scoutmaster of your troop
- Be at least first class • Be enthusiastic about learning new skills
- Be proficient in scout skills (such as knots, first aid, cooking etc.)

NYLT integrates the best modern leadership theory with the traditional strengths of the Scouting experience. Through activities, presentations, challenges, discussion, and audio-visual support. NYLT participants engage in a unified approach to leadership that gives skill and confidence to lead well.

\*Cost of the course is \$225.00 and includes food, printed materials, t-shirt, hat, lanyard, patch, program supplies, and a quality enthusiastic, trained staff.



# Camp Conestoga Refund Policy

Any required deposits shall be **NON-REFUNDABLE.**

Refund of fees, outside of a deposit, will be processed on a sliding scale according to the following guidelines:

1. Requests received 30 or more days before the event – 100% of the total event fee, less the NON-REFUNDABLE deposit.
2. Requests received 14 – 29 days before the event – 50% of the total event fee, less the NON-REFUNDABLE deposit.
3. Requests received less than 14 days before the day of the event — 25% of the total event fee, less the NON-REFUNDABLE deposit.

\*In the event of a documented medical reason (doctor's note required), a death in the family, a natural disaster, or a declared emergency – refund request must be submitted within fourteen (14) days following the end of the applicable activity.

For events where you register as a unit, registrations are transferrable within the same unit to a Scout or adult leader not currently registered for the activity.

Approved refunds will be processed within thirty (30) days of their receipt and all deposit will be made to the Unit. The unit will be responsible for the disbursement of those fees to the correct family. In Council Units, fees will be deposited into the Units account at the Council Service Center.

If an activity is cancelled or postponed by our council and the participant cannot attend on the alternate date, a refund request of the full fee will need to be submitted to process the refund.

Recognizing that we are here to "help other people at all times," regardless of the policies set out above, full or partial refunds may be granted for special hardship cases. Special hardship cases may include personal illness or family emergencies. Special hardship case refunds will be promptly considered and granted or denied by the Camp's Staff Advisor or Camp Director.

All refund requests must be submitting using the Refund Request form found at <https://wfbsa.org/camping/camp-conestoga/>



Westmoreland Fayette Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
2 Garden Center Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
Return Service Requested



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Greensburg, PA  
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