

## **Important information for parents about how to prepare your scout for any merit badge program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park!**



### **Please bring your blue card we do not have blue cards!**

Be sure that you are familiar with the requirements for the merit badge your scout has selected. Some badges can be very demanding and may take considerable time and planning to complete. Some badges are not appropriate for younger scouts.

Most Merit Badges are not designed to be completed in a single session with an instructor, so it is not always possible to walk away with a completed and signed blue card at the end of a program. Most badges require some independent or “pre-work” by your scout, if these requirements are performed prior to our program, we can complete and sign the merit badge card. If pre-work is not completed, counselors can review assignments on an individual basis, at a later date from the scheduled program. Please note you will have to contact and schedule an appointment with an appropriate staff member to do this. Not all staff members are qualified for all badges.

Please prepare for the possibility that you may have to stay for the program and not just drop off your scout. We encourage that one or more adults remain. There is no fee for adults, and you are sure to learn something. It is also in keeping with the scouting guidelines for youth protection.

#### What to bring.

Dress for the weather rain or shine and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Snacks or lunch and drinking water.

Blue card for counselor signature.

Copy of merit badge workbook, copies can be found online.

Thank you! And best wishes for success to your scout.

## **Environmental Science Merit Badge**

**BE PREPARED:** The **Environmental Science Merit Badge** session is five hours long and covers a lot of material and a lot of ground: we will be doing a good bit of walking. Please bring water and snacks to keep up your energy. Dress for the weather. Wear hiking boots or a similar shoe that will support your feet and you don't mind getting muddy.

**The following is pre-work that needs to be completed by the scout who is registered for the program prior to the scheduled merit badge class at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park.**

1. Make a timeline of the history of environmental science in America. Identify the contribution made by the Boy Scouts of America to environmental science. Include dates, names of people or organizations, and important events.

3f1. Look around your home and determine 10 ways your family can help reduce pollution. Practice at least two of these methods for seven days and discuss with your counselor what you have learned.

5. Using one of the construction projects provided below, identify the items that would need to be included in an environmental impact statement for the project planned to improve a park. Construction project options are installing a dock at a small pond, installing a campfire ring or constructing a bridge over a creek.

6. Find out about three career opportunities in environmental science. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor and explain why this profession might interest you.

If you have any questions, you can e-mail the Merit Badge counselor at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park: [Lara.Dolata@Fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Lara.Dolata@Fairfaxcounty.gov)