

# Mining in Society Merit Badge Prework

## Hidden Oaks Nature Center

Mining in Society merit badge is a four hour session. Scouts should bring a snack and plenty of water. Please no red liquids. Scouts will be spending the some of the session outside. Please have them wear sunscreen and insect repellent.

What to bring:

- Blue card, pen and pencil.
- Camera if possible.
- Appropriate clothing including closed toe shoes.
- Snack and water.
- Prework.

### Prework

5. Do **ONE** of the following:

- a. With your parent's approval and your counselor's assistance, use the Internet to find and take a virtual tour of two types of mines. Determine the similarities and differences between them regarding resource exploration, mine planning and permitting, types of equipment used, and the minerals produced. Discuss with your counselor what you learned from your Internet-based mine tours.
- b. With your parent's permission and counselor's approval, visit a mining or minerals exhibit at a museum. Find out about the history of the museum's exhibit and the type of mining it represents. Give three examples of how mineral resources have influenced history.
- d. With your parent's permission and counselor's approval, visit a mining equipment manufacturer or supplier.\* Discuss the types of equipment produced or supplied there, and in what part of the mining process this equipment is used. Take photographs if allowed, and request brochures from

your visit. Share photos, brochures, and what you have learned with your counselor.

f. Learn about the history of a local mine, including what is or was mined there, how the deposit was found, the mining techniques and processes used, and how the mined resource is or was used. Find out from a historian, community leader, or business person how mining has affected your community. Note any social, cultural, or economic consequences of mining in your area. Share what you have learned with your counselor.

6. Do the following:

b. Explain reclamation as it is used in mining and how mine reclamation pertains to Scouting's no-trace principles.

c. Discuss with your counselor what values society has about returning the land to the benefit of wildlife and people after mining has ended. Discuss the transformation of the BSA Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve from a mine site to its current role.

8. Do **ONE** of the following:

a. With your parent's and counselor's approval, meet with a worker in the mining industry. Discuss the work, equipment, and technology used in this individual's position, and learn about a current project. Ask to see reports, drawings, and/or maps made for the project. Find out about the educational and professional requirements for this individual's position. Ask how the individual's mining career began. Discuss with your counselor what you have learned.

b. Find out about three career opportunities in the mining industry. 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.

c. With your parent's permission and counselor's approval, visit a career academy or community college to learn about educational and training requirements for a position in the mining industry that interests you. Find out why this position is critical to the mining industry, and discuss what you learned with your counselor.

For help or questions, contact Emily Cole at [Emily.cole@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Emily.cole@fairfaxcounty.gov), or at (703) 941-1065.