

Agenda and Notes: Roadrunner District Roundtable

Meeting purpose To provide leaders with program ideas; information on policy and events; and training opportunities through a forum for sharing experiences and enjoying fun and fellowship with other Scout leaders.

Meeting date, time, and place Date: Thursday, October 3, 2019
 Time: 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
 Place: Longhorn Council Office, Upstairs Room
 850 Canon Drive, Hurst, TX

Pre-Opening The table below identifies the activities, responsible leaders, and allotted time.

Begin	Time Allotted	Activity	Person Responsible
6:00 pm	30 minutes	Setup: May include setup details such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlocking and locking up facility • Setting up tables and chairs Secure American flag	Dave
6:30 pm	30 minutes	Commissioners Meeting Scout Swap Shop	Robert Spence Denice Taylor
7:00 pm	30 minutes	• Registration/Sign-In	Dave

General Session This is the main part of the Roundtable in which all levels of the scouting program participate.

Time	Time Allotted	Activity	Person Responsible
7:30 pm	1 minute	Welcome and Introduction	Dan
7:31 pm	3 minute	Opening Ceremony	OA
7:34 pm	1 minute	Opening Prayer	TBD
7:35 pm	1 minute	Recognize New Attendees	Dan
7:36 pm	10 minutes	Big Rock Topic: Logging Service Hours for JTE	TBD
7:46 pm	10 minutes	Announcements	Dan
7:56 pm	5 minutes	Travel to Breakout Sessions/Training	All

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Agenda and Notes: Roadrunner District Roundtable, Continued

Cub Scout Pack Leader Session This is the time that activities are directed to the specific scouting programs.

Time	Time Allotted	Activity	Person Responsible
8:00 pm	45 minutes	Nature in All Its Glory	RTC
8:45 pm	5 minutes	Q&A	RTC
8:50 pm	1 minute	Closing/Commissioner's Minute	RTC
8:51 pm	9 minutes	After the meeting fellowship and/or cleanup	All
9:00 pm		End meeting	

Scouts BSA Session This is the time that activities are directed to the specific scouting programs.

Time	Time Allotted	Activity	Person Responsible
8:00 pm	10 minutes	Ceremony/Skit/Song/Game The Cremation of Sam McGee	RTC
8:10 pm	5 minutes	Tips for Meetings: Tree Search	RTC
8:15 pm	10 minutes	Interest Topic: Hornaday	RTC
8:25 pm	20 minutes	Program Feature: Nature & Environment	RTC
8:45 pm	5 minutes	Q&A	All
8:50 pm	1 minutes	Closing/Commissioner's Minute: Two Seas Minute	RTC
8:51 pm		End Meeting	

Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting

Skit/Song/
Ceremony
5 min

This part of the program helps provide ideas for skits, songs, or ceremonies that can be used during troop meetings or outdoor activities like campouts or hikes.

*There are strange things done in the midnight sun
By the men who toil for gold;
The Arctic trails have their secret tales
That would make your blood run cold;
The Northern Lights have seen queer sights,
But the queerest they ever did see
Was that night on the marge of Lake Lebarge
I cremated Sam McGee.*

Now Sam McGee was from Tennessee, where the cotton blooms and blows.
Why he left his home in the South to roam 'round the Pole, God only knows.
He was always cold, but the land of gold seemed to hold him like a spell;
Though he'd often say in his homely way that "he'd sooner live in hell."

On a Christmas Day we were mushing our way over the Dawson trail.
Talk of your cold! through the parka's fold it stabbed like a driven nail.
If our eyes we'd close, then the lashes froze till sometimes we couldn't see;
It wasn't much fun, but the only one to whimper was Sam McGee.

And that very night, as we lay packed tight in our robes beneath the snow,
And the dogs were fed, and the stars o'erhead were dancing heel and toe,
He turned to me, and "Cap," says he, "I'll cash in this trip, I guess;
And if I do, I'm asking that you won't refuse my last request."

Well, he seemed so low that I couldn't say no; then he says with a sort of moan:
"It's the cursed cold, and it's got right hold till I'm chilled clean through to the bone.
Yet 'tain't being dead—it's my awful dread of the icy grave that pains;
So I want you to swear that, foul or fair, you'll cremate my last remains."

A pal's last need is a thing to heed, so I swore I would not fail;
And we started on at the streak of dawn; but God! he looked ghastly pale.
He crouched on the sleigh, and he raved all day of his home in Tennessee;
And before nightfall a corpse was all that was left of Sam McGee.

There wasn't a breath in that land of death, and I hurried, horror-driven,
With a corpse half hid that I couldn't get rid, because of a promise given;
It was lashed to the sleigh, and it seemed to say: "You may tax your brawn and brains,

But you promised true, and it's up to you to cremate those last remains."
Now a promise made is a debt unpaid, and the trail has its own stern code.
In the days to come, though my lips were dumb, in my heart how I cursed that load.
In the long, long night, by the lone firelight, while the huskies, round in a ring,
Howled out their woes to the homeless snows— O God! how I loathed the thing.

And every day that quiet clay seemed to heavy and heavier grow;
And on I went, though the dogs were spent and the grub was getting low;
The trail was bad, and I felt half mad, but I swore I would not give in;
And I'd often sing to the hateful thing, and it hearkened with a grin.

Till I came to the marge of Lake Lebarge, and a derelict there lay;
It was jammed in the ice, but I saw in a trice it was called the "Alice May."
And I looked at it, and I thought a bit, and I looked at my frozen chum;
Then "Here," said I, with a sudden cry, "is my cre-ma-tor-eum."

Some planks I tore from the cabin floor, and I lit the boiler fire;
Some coal I found that was lying around, and I heaped the fuel higher;
The flames just soared, and the furnace roared—such a blaze you seldom see;
And I burrowed a hole in the glowing coal, and I stuffed in Sam McGee.

Then I made a hike, for I didn't like to hear him sizzle so;
And the heavens scowled, and the huskies howled, and the wind began to blow.
It was icy cold, but the hot sweat rolled down my cheeks, and I don't know why;
And the greasy smoke in an inky cloak went streaking down the sky.

I do not know how long in the snow I wrestled with grisly fear;
But the stars came out and they danced about ere again I ventured near;
I was sick with dread, but I bravely said: "I'll just take a peep inside.
I guess he's cooked, and it's time I looked"; ... then the door I opened wide.

And there sat Sam, looking cool and calm, in the heart of the furnace roar;
And he wore a smile you could see a mile, and he said: "Please close that door.
It's fine in here, but I greatly fear you'll let in the cold and storm—
Since I left Plumtree, down in Tennessee, it's the first time I've been warm."

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Tips for Troop Meetings
5 min

Tree Search:

Identify as many trees as you can within a 50-yard radius of HQ. Impose a time limit, or they can go all night.

Boy Scout Interest Topics
10 min

Pre-Opening/Gathering Period and SPL Announcements

Hornaday

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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

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Program Feature: Nature & Environment

The material for this section of the program is available at <http://troopleader.org/program-feature-nature-and-environment/>.

Taking Care of Our Home

Few Americans spend more time in the outdoors than Scouts. Whenever you camp, hike, or go boating, you are surrounded by nature. If you're lucky, you may catch a glimpse of a bald eagle soaring high overhead or a days-old fawn skittering through the trees. But even if the rarest creature you see is a squirrel, you'll still enjoy the whisper of the wind through the trees and the endless array of colors and scents all around you.

This month's activities will help you learn more about the outdoors. You will learn about birds, animals, plants, and other living things—and you'll discover your responsibility to care for the planet we all share. When you have tried these activities, you will want to learn more, experience more, and care more for the natural world, until you feel truly at home in outdoor environments.

Related Advancement and Awards

- Nature-related merit badges, including Bird Study, Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management, Fishing, Fly-Fishing, Forestry, Geology, Insect Study, Mammal Study, Nature, Plant Science, Reptile and Amphibian Study, Soil and Water Conservation, and Sustainability
 - Nature-related requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class
 - World Conservation Award
 - Conservation Good Turn Award
 - William T. Hornaday Awards
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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

Program
Feature: Nature & Environment
(continued)

Exploring Nature and the Environment – People have always been curious about the natural world, studying it in order to survive. Early humans learned which plants were good to eat and which ones made them sick. They learned the habits of animals they hunted for food and learned how to avoid those animals that preyed upon humans.

The natural development of a living thing over time is its natural history. People who study natural history are naturalists. Because many people over time have studied nature closely, much is known today about the natural history of plants and animals. Today, many people observe plants and animals in the wild as a hobby. Some go hiking to find rare wildflowers. Others keep binoculars and field guides near a window so they can identify the birds that visit backyard bird feeders.

Plants and animals, however, do not live alone in the environment. They interact with one another and with the nonliving parts of their environment. A living thing's environment is made up of all of the living and nonliving materials around it, including plants, animals, air, soil, heat, light, food, water, and anything else that plays any role in its life. Living things depend upon the materials found in their environment to survive. Anything that disturbs the environment may affect the living things found there.

Animals, Plants, and Birds – Every living thing—from plants and animals to birds and fungi—supports a healthy, balanced environment. Without one element of that balance, the others could not exist. Without the oxygen produced by plants, humans would not exist. Without animals consuming plants, forests and marshland would become overgrown and choke out species. The delicate balance that exists on Earth is dependent on all species doing their part in the circle of life.

Birds – Birds provide many benefits to humans and the environment. Birds such as hummingbirds and warblers aid in pollination, while barn owls and hawks help control rodent populations. In certain areas, birds consume enough insects to allow farmers to cut down on the pesticides used in their fields.

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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

Program
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& Environment
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Additionally, bird populations and their migratory patterns can be indicators of a quality environment or of bigger problems on the horizon. Each year, the National Audubon Society conducts a Christmas Bird Count using information gathered by thousands of amateur birders. After more than 100 years, the data collected during the Christmas Bird Count has informed hundreds of research studies and has helped guide important conservation work.

Animals – Millions of different species of animals inhabit Earth, with some 10,000 new species being discovered each year. Highly advanced life-forms such as apes and dolphins interact with minuscule invertebrates not even visible to the human eye. Scientists organize these creatures into nine major (and numerous minor) phyla—a type of taxonomic group—of the animal kingdom.

Many Scouts and their families have pets, which are domesticated animals that are kept as companions. Some animals, such as horses and oxen, supported early farming and are still widely used today. While certain animals are raised as a major food source, animal welfare groups are increasingly promoting humane treatment of animals raised for food.

Each species of animal that inhabits Earth has a need for a clean, healthy environment. As Scouts, it is our duty to respect nature and wild animals when we venture into the backwoods of our hometowns.

Plants – Plants play a major role in supporting all other lifeforms. All plants and animals need energy to keep them alive. Most plants absorb energy from sunlight, which they use to convert carbon dioxide, water, and minerals from the soil into plant food. Chlorophyll, a chemical compound that makes most plants appear green to the human eye, uses the sun's energy to convert water and carbon dioxide into simple sugars called carbohydrates. This chemical process, called photosynthesis, also returns oxygen to the atmosphere. In the field of ecology, plants are called producers because they manufacture the food that supports consumers and decomposers in all ecosystems through intertwined food webs. This process produces the oxygen we breathe and ties up carbon from Earth's atmosphere in plant fibers, thus helping to protect us from climate change.

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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

Program
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As pristine wilderness and green space continue to shrink to support Earth's booming population, plant science is becoming more and more important. Scientists have learned to graft and create hybrid species that can produce more fruit or use less water. Being able to grow more food with less water is vital in drought-stricken areas. Hybrids that produce heartier plants can require fewer pesticides; this keeps the air, soil, and water cleaner, thus reducing human impact on the environment.

Circle of Life – Imagine what life would be like without plants and animals. Every living thing on Earth depends on something else to survive, with each organism playing a role in the global food chain and serving as a link to keeping our environment healthy. As we look at life on Earth, we must be attentive to the impact humans can have on our environment. Delicate ecosystems that have existed for millions of years are in jeopardy because of the actions of humans. We are one small part of nature that must respect every other part and work to support and continue the circle of life for future generations.

Boy Scouts and the Environment – In the early 1900s, as the conservation movement grew, two separate organizations for boys that focused on nature and the environment were founded. In 1902, the Woodcraft Indians was started in Connecticut by the naturalist Ernest Thompson Seton to preserve the wilderness knowledge of American Indians. As one of the foremost naturalists of his time, Seton spoke before the U.S. Congress in 1904 in support of legislation written by William T. Hornaday to protect migratory birds. About the same time, Daniel Carter Beard, a former surveyor and engineer who became an author and illustrator, wrote a book titled *The American Boy's Handy Book*. In 1905, Beard founded a club called Sons of Daniel Boone to teach boys about nature, conservation, and outdoorsmanship.

On February 8, 1910, Seton and Beard merged their separate boys' clubs into the Boy Scouts of America. Publisher William D. Boyce founded this new organization. From its beginnings, the Boy Scouts of America had a strong foundation of woodcraft, nature study, and conservation. Many activities in Scouting come from activities of American Indians. Many of the principles that Scouts uphold come from the conservation ethics of Seton and Beard. The BSA has taught more than 45 million young environmentalists throughout its history. Currently, with more than 2 million active members, the BSA continues to train American youth in principles of conservation and environmental science.

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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

Program
Feature: Nature & Environment
(continued)

PREOPENING IDEAS

- Set up laptops or tablets so Scouts can go [virtual birding](#) as they enter the meeting.
- On a table, place numbered leaves from various plants and trees. Have Scouts write the name of each plant on a piece of paper next to its corresponding number. The Scout with the most correct answers gets a prize at the end of the meeting. New members can work in small groups while older Scouts can participate individually.
- Have materials on hand to help Scouts and adult leaders learn about the [William T. Hornaday Awards](#) program.

Group Instruction Ideas

Birds: Lead a brief discussion about the need for bird study and the ways in which birds are indicators of the quality of the environment.

Animals: Discuss animals and how they are impacted by their environment. Discuss ways for Scouts to interact with animals in the wild without disturbing them.

Plants: Explain photosynthesis and tell why this process is important. Tell at least five ways that humans depend on plants.

The Circle of Life: Discuss the concept of the circle of life. Introduce the concept that every living thing depends on another living thing.

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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

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SKILLS INSTRUCTION IDEAS [The following presents just one of the four categories of skills instruction ideas. See the web site for a complete listing]

Birds



- Discuss bird features and learn how to identify species.
 - Learn how to use binoculars.
 - Create a matching activity or game to help participants identify bird features.
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- Explore a field guide to see what information it includes to help identify birds.
 - Learn how to care for binoculars.
 - Bird ecology: Prepare a set of questions for participants to answer by examining Christmas Bird Count results.
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- Bird ecology: Discuss how the Christmas Bird Count is carried out, and let participants browse through a copy of the results.
 - Practice focusing and using binoculars.
 - Discuss the importance of bird counts.
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Animals



- Describe the difference between “wild” and “domesticated” animals.
 - Help Scouts name various pets and identify the animals that are their wild counterparts.
 - Discuss human impact on animals in the wild.
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- Discuss animals Scouts may encounter on an outing.
 - Learn proper ways to deal with animals both on the trail and in camp.
 - Describe responsible hunting and fishing and how those sports can impact the environment.
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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

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Plants



- Learn about edible wild plants.
- Identify edible wild plants in your area.



- Discuss the process of growing a plant from a seed, including soil prep, watering, etc.
- Using seeds and soils, plant something edible. (Either send seed cups home with Scouts or plant seeds at your meeting location.)



- Learn about grafting plants.
- Discuss how hybrids and cross-pollination have improved or otherwise affected plants and food.

Circle of Life



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- Learn about grafting plants.
- Discuss how hybrids and cross-pollination have improved or otherwise affected plants and food.
- Explain how photosynthesis affects the environment.



- Identify the five kingdoms and how they support each other.
- Discuss the concept of evolution and how life adapts over time.
- Discuss the future of Earth and how human activity affects the circle of life.

BREAKOUT GROUP IDEAS

Getting Ready for the Main Event

- Discussion
- New members work on nature-related rank advancement requirements.
- Older members review the requirements of the Bird Study merit badge and plan for future completion of the badge.

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Scouts BSA Breakout Meeting, Continued

Program
Feature: Nature
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(continued)

GAME AND CHALLENGE IDEAS

Bird Art Gallery

– Materials: Twenty pictures, each depicting a different kind of bird, numbered but not identified; pencil and a sheet of paper for each Scout

– Method: Post the pictures on the walls around the room. Allow the Scouts to move about with their pencils and papers and try to identify the bird in the pictures. Without consulting each other, they write down the names on their sheets. After a certain time limit, all sheets are turned in for judging.

– Scoring: Add the number of correct identifications made by each patrol and divide by the number of members to get the average. The patrol with the highest average wins.

– Notes: Depending on the challenge presented by the birds you've selected and the expertise of the Scouts, you may want to allow patrols to use field guides.

Edible Plants Who's Who

– Materials: Twenty (or more) edible plants, each in a numbered No. 10 can; a card at each can that gives the name of the plant and the part that is edible (for instance, "Cattail: pollen for flour, shoot for greens, root (rhizome) for starch"); pencil and paper for each player

– Method: Patrols walk silently around the cans as they read the descriptive cards and try to learn about the plants and their edible parts. All of the identifying cards are then removed. The patrols again walk around the cans. Scouts try to identify and list all the plants and their edible parts. Each patrol goes into a huddle and makes a list of plant names and edible parts.

- – Scoring: Score 5 points for each plant correctly identified. The patrol with the most points wins.

Comm Minute
3 min

Two Seas Minute

The Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea are two bodies of water in the middle east - I expect you've heard of them.

The Sea of Galilee is full of fish and is surrounded by lush vegetation and trees. It is a living body in every sense.

There is nothing living in the Dead Sea - no fish - the sea is stagnant and dead.

The difference between these two seas is that the Sea of Galilee gives up its water while the Dead Sea only takes in water. For every gallon of water that flows into the Sea of Galilee, a gallon is passed on downstream. It is constantly renewing itself. It gives as much as it takes.

The Dead Sea, on the other hand, only takes. It gives up nothing. The water there is never cleansed. It just stagnates.

Some say there are two kinds of people in the world - those who give of themselves (who help people at all times and contribute their time, money and energy), and those who only take. I bet you can guess which one has a fresh, healthy life and which leads to a stagnant dead end.

Which kind will you be?
