

Thank you for your mulch order!

You have made this fund-raiser for Troop 255 a success. Watch for the many service projects that we do in the area as well.

Expect to hear from us next year. Our plan is to contact you mid-winter and if you are happy with our service and the mulch we have provided this round, please consider placing an order next year, too.

For any questions concerning this mulch order, please contact troop members Carlton at 301-657-3327 or Adam at 301-907-9451.

For any questions concerning the troop's program or activities, please see our website at www.t255.com.

Again, thank you for putting your trust in our service.

The Boys and Volunteers of BSA Troop 255

Introduction to BSA Troop 255: How to Get Involved and Learn More

Boy Scouts can provide boys with great opportunities for learning practical life skills and having fun outdoors. This is done in the context of a program that builds character and moral strength, and fosters leadership and citizenship. But when it comes to whether to join or not, the decision for both boys and their parents is usually based on intangibles, such as the composition of the troop, the influence of friends, the adult leadership and other time commitments. T-255 invites prospective Scouts and their families to come and observe our troop in action, both at regular meetings and on selected campouts. This flyer identifies activities you are welcome to join and a guideline to transition into a Boy Scout.

Who are we? T-255, at 65 years, is one of the oldest Boy Scout troops in Montgomery County. It is chartered by the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church at 7001 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, but is open to all boys interested in the outdoors, adventure, great friendships, service to the community, independence, learning new skills and leadership. Members of various Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths are members of the troop.

What do we do? Every troop has its own focus and character. T-255's focus is on outdoor camping and hiking and fun. Our monthly campouts vary every year, depending on what the Scouts decide. Past trips include hiking, biking and camping on the C&O Canal, hiking and camping on the Appalachian Trail in Maryland and Virginia, hiking and camping Dolly Sods and Old Rag Mountain in glorious sunshine, ice storms and snow, attending Pumpkin Chunk'n, spelunking caves, and ski trips. Younger Scouts, as they acquire the necessary skills and maturity, can look forward to participate in week-long High Adventure camps. Recent High Adventures include 70+-mile hikes at Philmont, New Mexico, 50+-mile canoe trips in Manitoba, Canada, kayaking the Florida Keys, and hiking Zion Canyon's slot canyons and crossing the Grand Canyon. Weekly meetings are focused on acquiring the skills to participate on the trips, planning their responsibilities for the next month's trip, and rank advancement.

Who is eligible? All boys who will be 11 or older, or in 6th grade by Fall 2005, are eligible. The joining fee is \$128.50, for 2005 through December 2006.

How do boys and parents know T-255 is for them? Joining the Boy Scouts is a decision that the boy should make for himself. To help boys (and parents) who may be interested, T-255 has a program to introduce boys to the troop.

- ▶ Every Tuesday School Night 7:30 to 9:00 pm: Visit T-255 during a troop meeting. Every troop has its own character. T-255 is fairly relaxed and unstructured. Notwithstanding, Scouts make progress on skills and rank advancement. We meet in the Church's Phillips's Hall. Contact Ruth Robbins at Ruth@dral.us (301) 907-9451 for joining requirements, participation requirements, and costs, and answers to other questions.

- ▶ April 16-17, 2005, Saturday and Sunday: Campout at Little Bennett. First campout for new Scouts; also all prospective Scouts are invited. This campout focuses on satisfying some of the first Scout advancement requirements, such as map reading, orientation, fire building and camp cooking. Parents are encouraged to camp with us. Cost: Camp fee \$10. Contact Keith Pierce, 301-951-5290 or keith.pierce@ferc.gov by March 30, 2005.

- ▶ May 14-15, 2005, Saturday and Sunday: Overnight canoe trip on the Shenandoah River. Must be a BSA Scout who has passed the BSA swim test. Cost: Approximately \$60 per person (costs not yet fixed); \$10 for transportation. Reservations required. Contact Rob Klein, (301) 657-3327 Rob.Klein@montgomerycountymd.gov by April 30, 2005.

- ▶ June 26-July 2, Sunday through Saturday: Summer Merit Badge away camp at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation in Pennsylvania. Most Scouts earn a majority of their non-Eagle required merit badges at summer camp. T-255 strongly advises Scouts to participate. \$250. A separate information sheet is available at the troop website: www.t255.com. Contact Keith Pierce, 301-951-5290 or keith.pierce@ferc.gov by May 11, 2005.

- ▶ July 20-26, Wednesday through Tuesday: Older T-255 Scouts will attend the Sea Base High Adventure located in the Florida Keys. A separate information sheet is available at the troop website: www.t255.com. A couple of slots available for BSA Scouts above 1st Class age 14 by September 2005. Contact Keith Pierce, 301-951-5290 or keith.pierce@ferc.gov

Further information:

The Troop website has a wealth of information: www.t255.com

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