



Camp Somers

Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation Stanhope, New Jersey

2018 Specialty Camp Scout and Parent Guide



Patriots' Path Council, BSA
1 Saddle Road

Cedar Knolls NJ 07927

973-765-9322

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www.ppcbsa.org/camping



Welcome to Camp Somers at Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation!

Outdoor activity is the most appealing feature of the Scouting program. Boys are drawn to it because it offers opportunities for fun in hiking, camping, swimming, boating, climbing and high adventure experiences. From Cub Scouting into Scouting and Venturing, the outdoor program continues to deliver high interest and motivating activities for boys of all ages.

Outdoor activities provide a vehicle for the achievement of Scouting's primary goals. The Scout Oath and Law are an integral part of being a Scout and are woven into the fabric of the program at Camp Somers. We instill the values of the Scouting program through our daily interactions with the youth we serve.

Scouting's outdoor program is tailored to meet the strengths and needs youth. Activities are planned to match the skills and abilities of their age level. At Camp Somers, our goal is to provide activities and programs to meet the aims and methods of Scouting while ensuring each Scout is able to meet his goals. Whether his goal is to earn a merit badge, climb the rock wall, complete the mile swim or advance in rank, we will partner with the Scouts and their families to assist in accomplishing those goals.

This guide has been prepared so that your Scout will get the most valuable experience from his experience at Camp Somers. Please take some time to look through this guide, as it will provide you with an in-depth understanding of camp. It is our goal to create lifelong memories for everyone who comes through our gates. On behalf of the Camp Somers staff, we welcome you to the summer of 2016 and look forward providing an exceptional program!

Yours in the best of Scouting,

David Lage

Dave Lage Reservation Director

david.lage@scouting.org

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Preparing For Camp

Specialty Camp Overview

The Specialty Camp Troop is designed for Scouts who want to go beyond the normal camp experience. Each of the camps is focused on a specific area of interest at camp. Scouts will spend the entire week with staff who are experts in their fields.

Troop Assignment

Scouts will spend most of their time in with the other Scouts in their specialty camp. All the Scouts of Specialty Week are placed into one troop led by dedicated leaders for the week. The Scouts will become members of the Specialty Week troop and will be able to enjoy the companionship of other Scouts and participate with them in activities throughout the week.

Arrival at Camp

All Specialty Camp Scouts should report directly to their Camp Directors at the handicraft pavilion at 12:30 pm on Sunday with their gear.

Contact Information

Patriots' Path Council

Keith Dlugosz

Camping Director

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973-765-9322 x412

Richard Hawkins

Registration and Payments

richard.hawkins@scouting.org

973-765-9322 x225

Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation

Camp Somers

750 Waterloo Road

Stanhope, NJ 07874

Year Round: 973-347-3266

Summer Season: 973-347-2240

Fax: 973-347-3710

Trading Post: 973-347-6777

Dave Lage

Camp Director

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Camp Somers Program Director

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Directions to Camp

Address

Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation – 750 Waterloo Road, Stanhope, NJ07874

GPS or Google Maps

If using a GPS, the address 1 Camp Allamuchy Road, Stanhope NJ 07874 (or Andover NJ 07821) will take you to the Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation entrance.

Turn by Turn Directions

Available on the Camp Somers web site website <https://ppcbasa.org/camping/resourcesforms/> under MASR Resources

From I-80

Take Exit 25 (Route 206 North, Newton). Take the first ramp to the right. (Follow the Waterloo Village signs). Take the first right, just before the light, onto Continental Drive. Go to the end of Continental Drive and turn left onto Waterloo Road. The entrance to the camp is approximately one mile ahead on the right (it is opposite and a few hundred yards past the entrance to Waterloo Village). NOTE: If you miss the first right hand turn after exiting I-80, don't panic! Proceed on US-206 past the Black Forest Inn, to the second traffic light. Turn left at this light onto Waterloo Road, and continue to camp.

From NJ - 10/US - 46

Follow NJ-10/ US-46 West to Ledgewood light. Continue West on US-46 approximately 1-1/2 miles up the hill, and take the exit for I-80 West. Continue on I-80 to Exit 25 and follow the directions from I -80 found above.

From US-206

Follow US - 206 to Waterloo Road. At the intersection of Waterloo Road and US -206 there are signs to Allamuchy State Park and Waterloo Village. From the North turn right. From the South turn left. Follow Waterloo Road to the camp entrance on the right.

Upon entering Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation

Watch for the Camp Wheeler / Kent Center sign. Continue straight ahead for Camp Somers and the main parking lot, or make the right turn at the Camp Wheeler sign for the Trailblazer drop off and pick up point.



What to Bring

Recommended Gear

- Pack/Duffle Bag/Footlocker
- Sleeping bag
- Official Scout uniform
- T-Shirts (6 days)
- Bathing suit
- Fleece (preferred) or Sweatshirt
- Hat
- Hiking Boots (waterproof)
- Jacket
- Pants or zip-offs
- Rain gear
- Shorts or zip-offs
- Shoes that can get wet (required for boating)
- Sneakers or moccasins
- Socks (6 days)
- Underwear (6 days)
- Comb or brush
- Flashlight or LED headlamp
- Handkerchief or tissues
- Insect Repellent (No aerosol)
- Medications properly labeled (all must be included

on the medical form). Please place medication in a zip-top bag with the Scouts name and Camp name.

- Merit badge prerequisites
- Pen/Pencil/Notebook
- Personal First aid kit
- Plastic bags - 1 and 2 gallon
- Scout handbook
- Soap/Shampoo/Deodorant
- Shower shoes/Flip-flops
- Sunscreen
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- Towels and washcloths
- Wallet w/spending money
- Water bottle/Hydration bladder

Optional Gear

- Alarm clock
- Bandana
- Backpack (outpost camping)
- Bible/Prayer book
- Camera/Film/Memory cards
- Compass
- Cord/Clothesline
- Day pack
- Fishing tackle
- Ground Cloth (Outposts, Camping/Wilderness Survival MB's)
- Hangers
- Laundry bag
- Mattress/Foam pad
- Merit badge pamphlets
- Mosquito netting
- Musical instrument
- Pillow
- Pocket knife (no sheath knives)
- Tent (outpost camping)
- Watch

A good rule is: If you don't want it lost, damaged or destroyed, consider leaving it at home.



At Camp

Sunday Arrival

All Specialty Camp Scouts should report directly to their Camp Director at the handicraft pavilion at 12:30 pm on Sunday with all their gear. Please arrive with swimsuits on. Everyone should bring a small bag with a towel, t-shirt and socks so they can dry off after the swim test. The first meal will be dinner, so please eat lunch before arriving, or bring a bagged lunch. You will be taking a swim classification test on Sunday afternoon. See page 11 for the requirements.

Scouts will be assigned to their appropriate troop location. Please be sure to have the following completed and signed forms. They are available on our website:

BSA Annual Health and Medical Record – Required for all Scouts and leaders – Parts A, B, and C must be completed and signed, a photocopy of your insurance card is also required. Please bring photocopies and keep the originals.

Health Lodge

A health officer is available 24 hours a day for emergencies. The health officer is typically available at the health lodge before and after flags, after breakfast and after dinner to administer medications. Throughout the day, the health officer may need to leave the health lodge, during that time, a location will be posted on the door as to where to find him/her. In an emergency please contact the camp office during normal office hours. After hours, knock loudly on the door of the health lodge.

Trading Post

The Trading Post operates as a service to the camp community. Stock includes handicraft items, snacks, soft drinks, slush puppies, ice cream, popcorn, stamps, merit badge pamphlets and other Scouting literature, T-shirts, uniform parts, various items from the BSA Supply Catalog, and souvenirs. The hours of operation are posted at the TradingPost.

Camp Uniform

Scouts should wear full BSA uniform to evening retreat, dinner in the dining hall and to the opening and closing campfires. A uniform is not required to come to camp. If someone does not have a uniform, please dress appropriately.

During other times, including breakfast and lunch, uniforms are not required. Troop t-shirts are encouraged. Other Scouting, plain and appropriate t-shirts are always welcome.

Telephone Service

Incoming Calls

Leaders, Scouts, and parents should be made aware that incoming calls to individuals are seldom practical due to the size of our camp.

Emergency Calls

In case of emergency, the camp office telephone number is 973-347-2240. A message will be taken and delivered to the individual concerned as quickly as possible. Do not expect to talk to the person immediately.

Cell Phones

If your Scout brings his cell phone to camp, please remind them to follow good cell phone etiquette. This includes leaving phones in their backpack during program time and merit badge sessions. Camp is not responsible for lost or damaged phones.



Health and Safety Information and Camp Policies

Guide to Safe Scouting

BSA's Guide to Safe Scouting prepares members of the Boy Scouts of America to conduct Scouting activities in a safe and prudent manner. The policies and guidelines have been established because of the real need to protect members from known hazards that have been identified through 100 years of experience.

All participants in official Scouting activities should become familiar with the Guide to Safe Scouting and be aware of state or local government regulations that supersede Boy Scouts of America policies and guidelines. The guide provides an overview of Scouting policies and procedures rather than comprehensive, stand-alone documentation. For some items, the policy statements are complete. Unit leaders are expected to review the additional reference material cited prior to conducting such activities.

Patriots' Path Council camps follow policies and procedures in the guide, so please use it as your primary reference source. You can find it online at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS.aspx>.

The remainder of this section is to remind you of some key information and to specify any local policies that may supersede or supplement information in the national publication.

Patriots' Path Council Camping Policies

The complete Patriots' Path Council Camping Policies document can be found on our website at <https://ppcbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-Camping-Guidelines.pdf>. The remainder of this section of the leaders' guide highlights some key information and policies that pertain to summer camp.

Annual Health and Medical Record

The BSA Annual Health and Medical Record, parts A, B and C must be completed, and kept with the camp health officer while Scouts and leaders are in camp. This is required for all Scouts. Forms are good for one year. See the Forms/Information page of the Camp Somers web site for a current copy of the form. Please keep the original and submit a copy.

Medication Administration (prescription and over-the-counter)

Policies

All medication(s) currently being taken must be noted on part B of the Annual Health and Medical Record. The medications section in part B should be filled out at the time of the annual medical evaluation.

Medications must be kept in the original (pharmacy or over the counter) container.

Medications are administered by the health officer as directed by the original label.

The BSA routine drug administration record will be completely filled out by the health officer during check-in.

Each Scout will be observed to ensure that the medication is being taken.

If a Scout fails to take the medication, camp staff will notify the leader, who will then notify the parents or guardians if the Scout refuses to take medication.

Administration

The health officer is available at the health lodge before and after flags and meals to administer medications.



Youth Protection Policy

The Patriots' Path Council and the Boy Scouts of America believe protecting the safety of children is a critical priority. In order to achieve this goal, all adults staying overnight at any Patriots' Path Council summer camp program must have proof of current Youth Protection training.

Buddy System

The buddy system is an important requirement for the safety of our Scouts and leaders while at camp. The Patriots' Path Council requires the use of the buddy system throughout camp without exception. Please emphasize to your Scouts the importance of always traveling with a buddy and to remain in sight of your buddy at all times. If you do not have a buddy, you can often find a Scout from another troop that is heading in the same direction. This is a great way of meeting new people and making friends. Please remember that one-on-one adult to Scout contact is unacceptable according to Youth Protection guidelines when pairing up with buddies.

Wristbands

All Scouts and leaders are required to wear a camp issued wristband while in camp. This will ensure that all Scouts and leaders have checked in with the camp office. One wristband is provided to each person upon check-in. Replacements are available for a nominal fee. Any Scout or leader who is not wearing a wristband will be directed to report to the office to check-in or receive a replacement wristband. Staff members are instructed to stop and question individuals without wristbands to ensure the safety of all participants.

Footwear

Close toed shoes must be worn at all times at camp. We do not permit open toed shoes, sandals, etc. outside the waterfront and camp shower areas.

Swim Classification Test

All Scouts and adults, who have turned in a completed medical form and would like to participate in aquatic activities (swimming, boating, etc.), must take a swim classification test at Camp Somers to determine their swimming ability. A buddy tag will be issued to indicate the appropriate classification.

The classifications are as follows:

Swimmer – Blue tag

The Scout has successfully completed the swimmers test: Jump feet first into water over the head in depth. Level off and swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be completed in one swim without stops and must include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

Beginner – Red tag

The Scout has successfully completed the beginner's test: Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, and swim 25 feet on the surface. Stop, turn sharply, resume swimming and return to the starting place.

Non-Swimmer/Learner

Anyone who has not completed either the beginner or swimmer tests is classified as a non-swimmer.

Sometimes Scouts find it embarrassing if they know they cannot swim well enough to be classified as a swimmer or know they are not strong swimmers. Please talk to your Scouts before camp and explain to them that they will not be forced to go into the water however they will be encouraged to try. At Camp Somers, we attempt to get all Scouts in the water, either to attempt an assessment or to get their feet wet. Our goal is to get Scouts who are nervous or uncomfortable in their abilities to get into the water. Explain to them that they should communicate their concerns with an Aquatics staff



member. Scouts that fall within this category will be strongly encouraged to attend instructional swim sessions. Scouts must be “Swimmers” to enroll in merit badges at the waterfront. Scouts may re-take the swim classification test after they have received instruction.

Leaving Camp

Scouts are under the supervision of their host Scoutmaster. Should a Scout need to leave camp (family obligations, sports, etc.) they will be released to a parent/guardian, or other adult authorized in writing by the parent/guardian. The Patriots’ Path Council will not release a Scout to an unauthorized adult. A sign-out/sign-in log is kept in the camp office and must be used by all adults or Scouts entering or leaving camp outside of the normal camp schedule. Please remember anyone removing a Scout from the property must show appropriate picture identification.

Emergency Alerts

Camp Somers has an emergency alert system (horn, siren) in place to notify Scouts of an emergency. When an alert is sounded, the entire camp should proceed to the parking lot in front of the office, where we will conduct a head-count of all participants. Once the Scouts are assembled and present, the senior patrol leader will report to the director/designee. Further directions will be given at that time. We may have to initiate the emergency plan for a variety of situations including: fire, thunderstorms, earthquakes, tornados/high winds, or a lost camper.

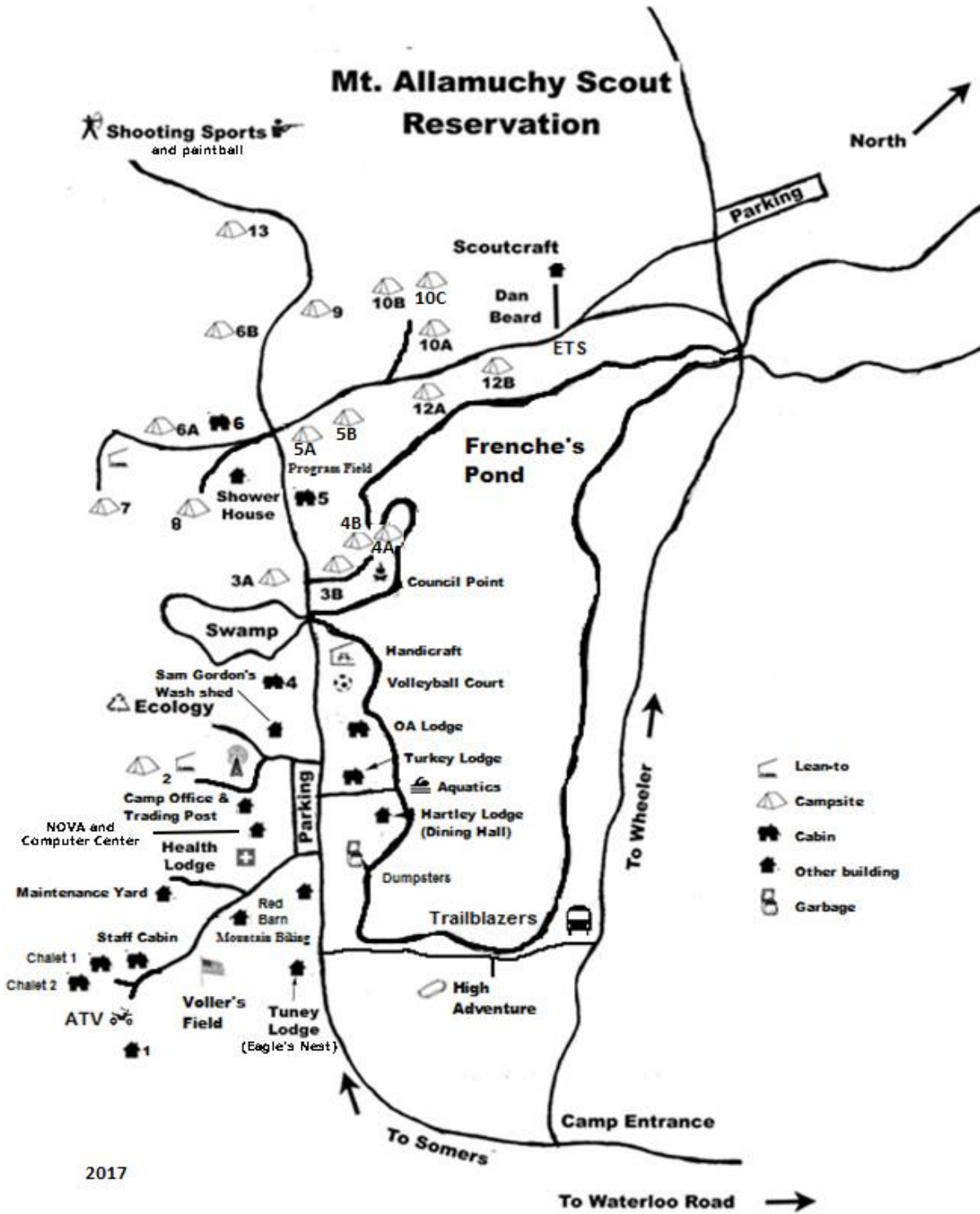
Lost and Found

All Patriots’ Path Council camps will hold any items that are found in camp for a period one week; medications; food; perishables will be destroyed immediately. Articles may be retrieved by claiming the item in person at the camp office during the camp season. Any item not claimed within that period will be discarded.



Appendices

Camp Map



2017



Camp Somers Dining Hall Menu

BREAKFAST	LUNCH	DINNER
Sunday		
		Baked Ham Mac & Cheese Corn Rolls & Butter Dessert/Bug Juice
Monday		
English Muffin Sandwiches Taylor Ham, Egg & Cheese Cereal Juice/Milk	Chicken Fingers w/ BBQ Sauce French Fries/Salad Bar Fruit Bug Juice	Beef Stew w/ Biscuits Rice Dessert Bug Juice
Tuesday		
Pancakes & Bacon Butter & Syrup Cereal Juice/Milk	Pizza Salad Bar Fruit Bug Juice	Tacos & Fajitas, Doritos & Salsa Beef, Chicken & Refried Beans Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cheddar Cheese Dessert/Bug Juice
Wednesday		
Omelets & Sausage Muffins Cereal Juice/Milk	Hot Dogs Tater Tots/Salad Bar Fruit Bug Juice	IN-SITE COOKING Steak Corn on the Cob/Butter Salad w/Dressing Chocolate Pudding/Bug Juice
Thursday		
Waffles Sticks & Bacon Butter & Syrup Cereal Juice/Milk	Pulled Pork Sandwiches Baked Beans/Salad Bar Fruit Bug Juice	Baked Fried Chicken Baked Potatoes w/ Sour Cream & Butter Green Beans Dessert/Bug Juice
Friday		
Croissant Sandwiches Egg, Sausage Patty & Cheese Cereal Juice/Milk	Hamburgers/Bun Salad Bar/Chips Fruit Bug Juice	Baked Lasagna Salad w/Dressing Garlic Sticks w/Butter Dessert/Bug Juice
Saturday		
French Toast Sticks & Sausage Butter & Syrup Cereal Juice/Milk		

- A full salad bar is offered for lunch
- A tossed salad bar is offered at dinner
- Peanut butter, jelly, bread and butter is available at every meal
- Milk is available at breakfast and dinner only
- Snacks are available at the trading post
- Leaders: If you need anything in between meals please stop by the kitchen and let us know. If we have what you need, you are more than welcome to it.
- See the leaders' guide for special dietary needs

Menu subject to change based on availability

