

# JOCKEY HOLLOW TRAIL

## A HISTORIC HIKE FOR CUB SCOUTS

*Adapted from a Hike Created by Madison, NJ Boy Scout Troops 25 & 27 in 1962*



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

Cedar Knolls, New Jersey

[www.ppcbsa.org](http://www.ppcbsa.org)



## Things to consider before hiking the Jockey Hollow Trail

Your Cub Scouts and families should be prepared for their hiking experience at Jockey Hollow. Strong consideration should be given to the below list of things to do before you come to ensure a fully enjoyable experience.

1. One or more of your unit's adult leaders and/or parents may want to consider taking the hike for themselves in advance – and ask them to bring their Cub Scout with them. In this way they can understand how the other families and Scouts in the unit will respond to the experience while at the same time getting a better understanding of the trails and rest areas.
2. You may wish to conduct a pre-hike meeting. In addition to discussing the points below, you can discuss the importance of Jockey Hollow and preview some of what the families are going to be seeing there. You can also prepare and begin some of the advancement requirements you might choose to pursue. Requirements can be found later in this pamphlet and in the Guide to Advancement. <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>
3. Review what appropriate hiking attire families should wear depending on season and weather conditions (unless it's been raining, sneakers are okay for this hike).
4. Give a list of items that you suggest families bring as personal gear. These may include:
  - a. First aid kit
  - b. Filled water bottle-there are no facilities to refill water bottles
  - c. Trail food
  - d. Flashlight
  - e. Sunscreen
  - f. Whistle
  - g. Rain Gear
  - h. Etc. (best to leave the pocket knife at home for this outing)
5. Review the Buddy System in detail.
6. Provide detailed instruction on the BSA Outdoor Code as well as the Leave No Trace front- and back-country guidelines  
<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/OutdoorProgram/LeaveNoTrace.aspx>
7. Discuss types of poisonous plants that exist in the park, provide solid tips on how to identify them, and give guidance on what to do if anyone accidentally touches one.
8. Make sure you review with your Cub Scouts and families what they should do if they become lost or separated from the group.
9. Make sure that all leaders are trained in Youth Protection and Weather Hazards. Talk through with your families about how to prepare for marginal weather conditions. Arrange to have your unit's first aid kit and an appropriately trained adult present to help with any emergencies.
10. Be sure to review the [Commitment to Safety](#), the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#), [Risk Assessment Strategy](#), as well as [Camp Standards](#) planning tools. [www.Scouting.org](http://www.Scouting.org)
11. Call the park at 973-539-2016 x210 in advance to schedule your trip and to arrange to have the Wick House open for your visit and to assure there are no scheduled events that will interfere with your hike.
12. This information is to be used as a reference guide only. Although we have strived for accuracy, the Patriots' Path Council, BSA cannot be held responsible for any historical, trail or park information it contains.

You may also want to consider other activities that you may want to accomplish during the outing. Information about the Ford Mansion and Washington's Headquarters, Advancement on the Jockey Hollow Trail and The Junior Ranger program are all included in this packet. Be creative and have fun!



## The Jockey Hollow Encampment December 1779-May 1780

“It was December 1779. Having lost most of New England, and one of their armies surrendered at Saratoga, the British moved the war south. However, the redcoats still held New York City, and General Washington must keep a watchful eye on those rascals. He needed a safe place to winter the Continental Army and maintain that watch!

After conferring with General Nathaniel Greene, the army’s quartermaster, General Washington ordered his army to march for Morristown. Referred to as the Military Capitol of the Revolution, vital storehouses and bake ovens were located there. Also, the area offered enough space, trees and water to support the 10,000-11,000 soldiers soon to arrive. The main army would camp at Jockey Hollow, an area of farms some five miles south of town. Nine brigades, comprising troops from several states, like Maryland, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, would call it home for the next six months. The New Jersey Brigade, the last unit in, camped two miles further south. General Henry Knox and his artillery units set up camp closer to Morristown.

Huts sites were located along the sloping hillsides in Jockey Hollow. Each brigade was allotted an area 320 yards long by 100 yards deep. The quartermasters laid out a uniform plan: eight huts per row, with three to four rows, for the enlisted men. Officers’ huts were spaced behind and uphill, with wide streets between. During the two months it took to build the 1,000 -1,200 huts, the army slept in tents. As schoolmaster Ebenezer Fitch called it, the soldiers built ‘a log house city.’

Unfortunately for the soldiers and Morristown’s citizens, they experienced the worst winter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The horrendous weather, combined with a worthless currency, meant vital supplies were often not available. Soldiers lacked proper clothing, sufficient food, and the pay promised them. Over 1,000 men deserted the army, while others stole what they desperately needed. Maintaining discipline was a constant problem for General Washington. During that hard winter of 1779-1780, the army’s battle against the British had been temporarily replaced by a battle for survival. That his army endured these hardships can be attributed to General Washington’s determination to overcome those obstacles, keep the Continental Army united, and the cause for Independence alive.

The Ford Mansion, in Morristown, served as General Washington’s headquarters. Assisted by his aides, including Alexander Hamilton and Tench Tilghman, Washington worked many winter months deciding the army’s strategies for the 1780 campaigns. Fortunately, in April, ministers of France and Spain arrived to reaffirm their countries’ commitments to the American fight for freedom. In May, General Lafayette, returned from his diplomatic mission to France. His news: King Louis would send warships and 6,000 soldiers to support the Continental Army! With this vital help, General Washington might achieve what he long sought to date: victory!”

Written by and used with permission from National Park Ranger Kevin Hanley, July 2013.



## **A History of Scouting in Jockey Hollow**

Fred Bruehne and Warren Wheeler of Troops 25 and 27 in Madison, NJ put together the first Jockey Hollow Trail, in 1960 as a 17-mile overnight hiking and camping event. The Arrowmen of the Allemakewink Lodge of the Order of the Arrow helped to maintain the trail and it was officially opened in May, 1962. Some of the original trail markers can be seen on trees along the trail.

The idea was that Scouts from New York, Newark and Jersey City could hike and camp along the trail as a weekend adventure. They could travel by train to Peapack on a Friday and hike to the then Schiff Scout Reservation by dinnertime and camp overnight. The next day, they would hike to Jockey Hollow and set up camp at the Grand Parade. On Sunday they would hike to Morristown to visit the Ford Museum-Washington's Headquarters, returning home by train in time for dinner. Scout troops would also hike the entire trail in one day to earn the Hiking merit badge.

The legacy of the Jockey Hollow Trail teaches Scouts about the history of Morristown during the Revolutionary War and the hardships the soldiers endured during the harsh winter of 1779-1780.



## The Hike

As you arrive at the Visitor Center let the Park Ranger know you will be hiking the Cub Scout section of The Jockey Hollow Trail. Have your Jockey Hollow Trail Award Application stamped at the front desk.

Start your visit with the viewing of the video "Morristown, Where America Survives". (This takes approx. 10-15 minutes)

This informative video is an excellent introduction to what is now the Jockey Hollow National Park. (To start the video, go to the rear of the seats and press the button)

Go from the visitor center to the **Wick House**. It was refurbished by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934 to reflect its original historical appearance of winter of 1779-1780, when the Commander of the Pennsylvania Line General St. Clair made his headquarters there while living with the Wick family, Mary age 61, and daughter Temperance, age 21. Henry Wick, age 72, was serving as a volunteer with the Morris County cavalry during this time.

**Count how many windows the Wick House has.** \_\_\_\_\_

**How many rooms did Mary and Temperance Wick live in while General St. Clair stayed with them?**

\_\_\_\_\_

Before you leave the Wick House grounds enjoy the garden with its well-kept variety of fruits, vegetables, herbs and plants which were used for medicines, dyes, seasonings, polishes and cleansers. Most of what you see today are the same items grown by the Wicks.

**Name one fruit, one vegetable and one herb that were grown when the Wicks owned the farm.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Now that you completed the Wick House grounds, walk along the left side of the field adjacent to Cemetery Road to pick up the yellow trail markers. This trail is also known as soldier hut trail and leads to the soldiers' huts. It is approximately 1 mile to the soldiers' huts and takes approximately 30 minutes.

### **The Soldiers' Huts:**

Proceed along the yellow trail towards the soldiers' huts. This trail closely follows Cemetery Road as you enter the woods. You'll be walking through a typical New Jersey Forest with Black Walnut, Maples, Oaks, Beeches and Tulip trees towering over you. At the aqueduct trail intersection, keep to the left on the "yellow" trail. As you journey along the trails you will see low growing bushes. They are known as



Japanese barberry bushes. These “alien” plant species are not native to New Jersey and will gradually take over the environment of plants that belong here.

**Where does the barberry bush come from?**

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**Name three trees growing in the park.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

When you arrive at the open field below the soldiers’ huts take the time to read the signs explaining the different brigades that were here.

**Can you name two different brigades that camped here?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**What holiday were the men given off for?**

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Head up the field to the soldiers’ huts.

**How many bunks do you see?** \_\_\_\_\_

These reconstructed huts represent the soldiers’ living conditions. General Washington was very specific in the dimensions for the huts. Each was “14 feet wide, 15-16 feet long, about 6.5 feet high. Any hut not meeting those requirements had to be torn down and started over.” The officers’ huts were not built until after all the soldiers were in their huts. Can you imagine the field with up to 1,200 huts? This is the number of huts that stood in the winter of 1779-1780. Can you picture yourself living with 11 other people in these small huts? Walk a short distance up the hill to the officer’s huts. Do you notice the difference in living conditions?

**How many officers lived in a hut?**

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**Soldiers’ Huts to Grand Parade**

Continue on the yellow trail from the soldiers’ huts up and over the hill to Grand Parade Road. Go left on Grand Parade Road to the interpretive signs in front of the Grand Parade. The Grand Parade field is



the spot where soldiers lined up daily for inspections. Here officers were checking to make sure the soldiers' guns were in working order and that they had enough ammunition. Imagine this field being 6 times its size during the Revolution. In this field soldiers who disobeyed their officers were possibly punished and deserters who were caught risked being hanged. However, General Washington did not like to give the harsher punishments because he felt the men were already suffering enough. Continue to walk along Grand Parade Road, do not follow the yellow trail across the other side of the road, up to Jockey Hollow Road. You will pick up the blue trail to the right of the restrooms and parking lot. Cross Jockey Hollow Road.

### **Grand Parade to Stark's Brigade**

At the top of the hill take the blue trail on the right. The New York brigade encampment was to the right. Follow the blue trail down to Cat Swamp Pond on your right. Continue along the blue trail bearing left with Cat Swamp Pond to your right. As you pass the pond, bear to your right to stay on the blue trail, the white trail bears left. You will now proceed up a long gradual hill. At the top of the hill you will turn right at a metal gate marking the park boundary. Walk a short distance along this road with a private house on your left. Please be respectful of the residents here. Just past the house bear left to follow the blue trail. A few minutes down the trail you will come to the Stark's Brigade Monument. The harsh weather of the winter of 1779-1780 and the protective hills around Morristown worked to the advantage for the Patriots as they endured the winter without an attack. You are now standing on a ridge providing a beautiful view to the east of the Watchung Mountains and New York City. Look across, can you see the top of the Empire State Building and the Freedom Tower? It is easy to see from this vantage point why General Washington chose Jockey Hollow as a strategic location for his troops. Here he could keep a watchful eye on the threat of advancing British troops. General Stark's troops were stationed here to watch for smoke signals warning the countryside of advancing enemy troops. Word would have to get to General Washington as fast as possible.

Continue along the blue trail to the bottom of a hill where you will meet the Old Camp Road Trail. Go right. The blue trail will take you past a private residence on your right. A short distance past the house you will come to the Primrose Brook which was the main water source for Stark's troops, as well as the New York and Connecticut brigades. Imagine carrying buckets of water from here all the way back to the soldiers' huts. After crossing over the Primrose Brook Bridge the blue trail continues up a gradual hill returning you to Jockey Hollow Road. When you arrive at Jockey Hollow Road turn left onto the road across from the Visitor Center parking lot which will be on your right. Looking at the parking lot from Jockey Hollow Road, take the yellow trail on the left side of the lot heading back towards the Wick Farm and Visitor Center.

### **Trail Center to the Visitor Center**

Go over a little bridge across to Primrose Brook. Take a left at the head of the aqueduct trail. Do not go on the aqueduct trail to the right. Just past the aqueduct trail bear right just beyond the Jockey Hollow Road where you will continue on the yellow blazed Grand Parade Trail uphill. You are now



walking between the camps of the first and second Maryland brigades. There will be a trail to your left, take this back onto Jockey Hollow Road. Continue walking up hill on Jockey Hollow Road. Look for the small headstone on the left side of the road, across from the Wick Farm field fence. This headstone marks the grave of Captain Bettin who was accidently killed during the mutiny of the Pennsylvania line. Ask the Scouts to salute Captain Bettin. Just past Captain Bettin's grave you will see the Visitor Center and Wick House on your right. Make sure you get your Jockey Hollow Award application stamped by the Park Ranger before leaving the park.

**What was Captain Bettin's first name?**

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This is where your Cub Scout adventure ends but the history of Jockey Hollow National Park continues...

Thank you for hiking through our nation's history! When your Cub Scouts become Scouts BSA, they can hike the 10-mile Jockey Trail Historic Hike for Scouts BSA and learn more about General Washington's army and the events of the winter of 1779/1780.





## Cub Scout Advancement

Jockey Hollow is a great place to work on Cub Scout advancement. Some of the suggestions below require work either before or after the experience. Other requirements can also be completed by inserting your own optional activities into the outing. Be sure to consult the Guide to Advancement for exact requirement details. <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>.

### **Tigers: Tigers in the Wild Adventures:**

**2** Go for a short hike with your den or family, and carry your own gear. Show you know how to get ready for this hike.

**3a** Listen while your leader reads the Outdoor Code. Talk about how you can be clean in your outdoor manners.

**3b** Listen while your leader reads the Leave No Trace Principles for Kids. Discuss why you should “Trash Your Trash.”

**3c** Apply the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids on your Tiger den and pack outings. After one outing, share what you did to demonstrate the principles you discussed.

**4** While on the hike, find three different kinds of plants, animals, or signs that animals have been on the trail. List what you saw in your *Tiger Handbook*.

**6** Find two different trees and two different types of plants that grow in your area. Write their names in your *Tiger Handbook*.

**7** Visit a nearby nature center, zoo, or another outside place with your family or den. Learn more about two animals, and write down two interesting things about them in your *Tiger Handbook*.

### **Wolf: Call of the Wild Adventures**

**3** While on a den or family outing, identify four different types of animals. Explain how you identified them.

**7a** Recite the Outdoor Code with your leader

**7b** Recite the Leave No Trace Principles for Kids with your leader. Talk about how these principles support the Outdoor Code.

### **Wolf: Paws on the Path Adventures:**

**1** Show you are prepared to hike safely by putting together the Cub Scout Six Essentials to take along on your hike.

**2** Tell what the buddy system is and why we always use it in Cub Scouts.

**3** Describe what you should do if you get separated from your group while hiking.

**4** Choose the appropriate clothing to wear on your hike based on the expected weather.

**5** Before hiking, recite the Outdoor Code and the Leave No Trace Principles for Kids with your leader. After hiking, discuss how you showed respect for wildlife.

**6** Go on a 1-mile hike with your den or family. Watch and record two interesting things that you've never seen before.

**7** Name two birds, two insects, and two other animals that live in your area. Explain how you identified them.



### **Bear: Fur, Feathers, and Ferns**

- 1** While hiking or walking for one mile, identify six signs that any mammals, birds, insects, reptiles, or plants are living nearby the place where you choose to hike.
- 3** Visit one of the following: zoo, wildlife refuge, nature center, aviary, game preserve, local conservation area, wildlife rescue group, or fish hatchery. Describe what you learned during your visit.
- 4** Observe wildlife from a distance. Describe what you saw.
- 5** Use a magnifying glass to examine plants more closely. Describe what you saw through the magnifying glass that you could not see without it.

### **Webelos: Webelos Walkabout**

- 1** Create a hike plan.
- 2** Assemble a hiking first-aid kit.
- 3** Describe and identify from photos any poisonous plants and dangerous animals you might encounter on your hike.
- 4** Before your hike, plan and prepare a nutritious lunch. Enjoy it on your hike, and clean up afterward.
- 5** Recite the Outdoor Code and the Leave No Trace Principles for Kids from memory. Talk about how you can demonstrate them on your Webelos adventures.
- 6** With your Webelos den or with a family member, hike 3 miles (in the country, if possible).
- 7** Complete a service project on or near the hike location.
- 8** Perform one of the following leadership roles during your hike: trail leader, first-aid leader, lunch leader, or service project leader.

### **National Summertime Pack Award** – If conducted during the summer months.

This is an individual recognition for Scouts.

The pack can qualify for the certificate and streamer by planning and conducting three pack activities—one each in June, July, and August, or during other school vacations if your pack is in a year-round school.

Dens with an average attendance of at least half their members at the three summer pack events are eligible for a colorful den participation ribbon.

Scouts who participate in all three pack events are eligible to receive the National Summertime Pack Award pin, which they can wear on the right pocket flap of their uniform.

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33748.pdf>



## Morristown National Historical Park-Ford Mansion and Washington's Headquarters

The Ford Mansion first became a museum in 1876, operated by the Washington Association. Combined with Fort Nonsense and Jockey Hollow, it became our nation's first National Historical Park in 1933 and has been an important destination for Scouts for almost 100 years. The Patriots' Path Council is proud to support the park and its outstanding educational programs.

Entrance Fee-\$7.00 cash or check

- Valid for seven days.
- Under 16 years old free
- Includes: Washington's Headquarters Museum and Ford Mansion
- Jockey Hollow, New Jersey Brigade, Cross Estate Gardens and Fort Nonsense are free

Annual Park Pass- \$30.00

- Valid only at Morristown NHP for 12 months from date of purchase
- Permits the card holder and three adults free entrance.
- Includes: Washington's Headquarters Museum and Ford Mansion

## Park Regulations



All paleontological, natural and historical resources are protected. Special activities and groups may need permits. Contact a Ranger at the Jockey Hollow Visitor Center at 973-543-4030 or 973-539-2016, ext. 210 for more information.

- The use of bicycles on hiking trails is prohibited. Bikes are allowed on paved roads.
- Driving or parking outside of established roads and parking areas is prohibited
- The use of roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, in-line skates and similar devices is prohibited.
- Open flame fires are prohibited.
- Pets must be kept on a six-foot leash at all times while visiting any area of the park. Pets are not permitted in park buildings. Pets also may not be left unattended while their owners explore the park. You are required to clean up after your pet.
- Use of metal detectors or digging to retrieve any object is prohibited
- Feeding of, or harassing any wildlife is prohibited.
- Gathering of plants, wood, pine cones, rocks, and artifacts of any kind is prohibited.
- Gathering of flowers, nuts, fruits, for other than limited personal use is prohibited.
- Operating drones is prohibited.
- Check website for current hours. <http://www.nps.gov/morr>
- Phone: (973) 539-2016 for additional information.
- Call park headquarters if large group (50 or more) are attending.
- No food in historical interpretation areas, but permitted in the open fields. Check with Ranger upon arrival. You must follow Leave No Trace-whatever you pack in you must pack out. You may not eat inside the visitor's center.
- Bikes and motor vehicles are NOT permitted on any of the trails.



## Junior Ranger Program



Your unit may also want to consider participating in the National Park Service's Junior Ranger Program. Participation in the program gives youth and families the opportunity to uniquely explore and learn about their national parks, and how they can help protect them today and into the future. Details about the program and some of the activities that need to be completed before you go can be found at: <http://www.nps.gov/morr/forkids/beajuniorranger.htm>



## **Directions to Jockey Hollow National Historical Park**

- I-287 to Exit 30B (“Bernardsville”-turn right at the end of the exit ramp).
- Turn Right on Route 202 North (look for signs to Jockey Hollow)
- Left at Tempe Wick Road
- Turn Right at the National Historical Park entrance –parking lot to the left.

## **Directions to Washington’s Headquarters/Morristown**

- I-287 to Exit 36/36A (“Morris Ave”-entrance is behind the Ford Mansion)
- Signs are clearly posted





**Jockey Hollow Historic Trail Award-Cub Scouts**

I certify that Cub Scout Pack \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ Council has completed the Jockey Hollow Trail hike, and the Scouts and Scouters listed below have earned the Jockey Hollow Historic Trail Award.

The trail leader should mail all the completed documents back to the Patriots' Path Council with a check for \$3.00 per patch made out to Patriots' Path Council.

**Jockey Hollow Trail  
Patriots' Path Council  
1 Saddle Road  
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927  
(973) 765-9322 ext. 253**

You are welcome to email the information to [Brenda.Sonzogni@scouting.org](mailto:Brenda.Sonzogni@scouting.org) (call with a credit card) or you may fax the information to: (973) 267-3406 (call with a credit card).

**Scout Shop Code =158**

**National Park Stamp-Jockey Hollow**



Please mail the JHT Historic Awards to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cub Scouts, Scouters and family members who have completed the requirements are:

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 14. _____ |

Please write on the back if you need additional space.

