

Other Scouting Programs

You are here because you are interested in having your 1st through 5th grade child participate in Scouting. Our elementary age youth program is called Cub Scouting. Cub Scouting is grade level based and is independent of age. More on advancement in the section titled Cub Scouting Awards and Achievements. There is currently a new program for kindergarten age youth called Lion Cubs which we in Fredericksburg do not have yet. Cub Scouting is the traditional program you think of for young scouts. They wear blue uniforms and focus on adventure awards.

The next level of Scouting program has traditionally been called Boy Scouting, but has recently been retitled Scouting. The Boy Scouting (Scouting) program starts for youth age 11 or 10 and having finished the 5th grade. Kids can participate in the Boy Scouting (Scouting) program continues until the youth's 18th birthday. The core unit of Boy Scouting (Scouting) is called a Troop and is led by volunteers called Scoutmasters. The program is the traditional program you think of besides Cub Scouting when you think of Scouts. They wear tan uniforms and focus on merit badges, outdoor skills, leadership skills, etc. Boy Scouting has traditionally been boys only but has recently been opened to female scouts. More on female participation in the section titled Female Scouts.

Venturing or Venture Scouting is a coed program for 14 to 20 year olds previously called Explorer Scouting. This is a youth lead curriculum focused on high adventure activities like mountain biking, wind surfing, caving, distance hiking, etc. The core unit of Venturing is called a Crew and wear a dark green uniform. The youth are overseen by a crew committee who guide the crew program and activities while the crew is led by the youth. This youth organization has traditionally been comprised of Boy Scouts who have turned 18 and/or earned Eagle Scout as well as from various female scouting programs who want to participate in high adventure scouting.

Sea Scouting or Sea Scouts is a spin off coed youth program from Venturing. Participants are 13 to 21 years old who focus on nautical skills and adventures. The core unit of Sea Scouting is called a Ship and is also youth led with oversight from an adult committee.

Leadership

Now that you understand a little about how Scouting is organized and some of the other scouting programs, it is helpful to understand who the leaders are and what they do.

The national organization BSA and Council organizations have numerous paid employees whose job it is to provide the local volunteers with the scouting program we offer. Our Pack's main point of contact in BSA is our District Executive who is currently Carl Baker. Carl is a paid employee of BSA Capitol Area Council who helps us provide Scouting in Fredericksburg but he does not do all the work. At the District and local Pack levels, all leaders are non-paid parent volunteers. We are not paid in dollars but rather by the smiles and joy the scouting program provides to our kids. The Pack is headed by a Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster who are aided by a number of committee positions like Secretary, Treasurer, Activity Chair, Advancement Chair, etc. It is their job to make sure the Den Leaders have the materials and training they need to provide the Scouting program to youth. The individual Dens are led by one of you...a parent. Cub Scouts is a family oriented program and you, the parents, run the program for your kids. Den Leaders have local, district, area, and national people to aid you in this process and to provide you the program, but the parents are who make Scouting happen.