

TEXAS TRAILS COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



SCOUTS BSA First Year Camper Mini- CAMP

PROGRAM LEADERS GUIDEBOOK

SUMMER 2021 June 21-23



TEXAS TRAILS COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Texas Trails Council
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CAMP TONKAWA

4117 FM 89
TUSCOLA, TEXAS 79562
325-572-3337

This guidebook provides programs, merit badges and activities of Scouts BSA Resident Camp at Camp Tonkawa.

Dear Scout, Leaders and Parents:

Our staff is committed to making your summer camp experience the highlight of your Scouting year. The outdoor setting offers your Scouts the opportunity for outstanding adventures including swimming, camping, hiking, nature study, and more. We continually enhance our program to provide the best well-rounded camping experience for your Unit and your Scouts. Each Texas Trails Council Camp provides distinct characteristics to enhance your outdoor program opportunities. Both camps will be covered in this guide with the first being...

Camp Tonkawa this year will provide our First Year Camper Program. To a Scout, summer camp is the greatest adventure that Scouting holds. It can be particularly exciting for first year Scouts BSA. The program offers the opportunity for Scouts to work on many of their early rank requirements. They'll practice knots, build fires, go hiking and swimming, First Aid and learn to use an ax and pocketknife.

During the course of the mini-camp, Scouts will build many of the skills necessary to earn the ranks of Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class while also building teamwork, leadership, and Scouting skills. However, the main goal is for the Scouts to have fun and to leave camp with a positive camp experience and enthusiasm for the Scouting program.

At the end of the mini-camp, each Scoutmaster will be given a letter listing the advancement requirements that were covered. The staff will not sign-off in the handbooks of individual boys and leaves the ultimate verification of each requirement up to the discretion of the troop leaders.

We here at the Texas Trails Council are excited to offer this new program for ALL Scouts and look forward to an amazing summer adventure like no other.

Sincerely,

Erin Miller
Program Director



WELCOME TO FIRST YEAR CAMPER RESIDENT CAMP



Camp Tonkawa is nestled under huge Oak trees in southern Taylor County, Texas. Located about 12 miles south-southwest of Abilene and about 4 miles west of Buffalo Gap, the camp is on FM 89 next to the Abilene State Park.

Camp Tonkawa is a perfect setting for First Year Camper (FYC) Scouting events. These activities are designed for young Scouts to spend time outdoors, having fun as they learn. Camp Tonkawa is an over 200-acre tract of land dedicated to offering Scouts the chance to experience the beauty of the outdoors and enjoy adventure.

Camp Tonkawa is a camp where the Spirit of Scouting is still strong. Songs, campfires, fellowship, and outdoor adventures make it an excellent Scouting adventure for Scouts of all ages.

The Texas Trails Council Camping & Outdoor Programs Committee welcomes you to this Texas Trails Council Camp! We are proud of the Boy Scouts of America's history and pledge our support to you in helping develop Scouts into responsible young people. We thank you for making a significant personal commitment of your time and talent to serve these youths and help instill the values of Scouting through an outdoor program.

FYC Camp Tonkawa

Camp Tonkawa offers a wide variety of fun and challenging programs for your units. Scouts will have the opportunity to meet new people and have great adventures that will help them on their trail in Scouting. The camp program areas are staffed by fellow Scouts who are eager to teach. Program areas include:

- Aquatics/Swimming
- Field Sports
- Nature
- Outdoor Skills / Scoutcraft
- Shooting Sports (Archery)
- Camp Wide Twilight Activities

PLANNING YOUR FYC CAMP ADVENTURE

Planning for camp should start several months before your unit plans to arrive at camp. As a Troop Leader, it is your responsibility to ensure your Scouts are prepared to set and accomplish their personal goals. Here are a few basic tips to help you insure this happens.

-  You should take a few minutes at a Troop meeting to talk with each Scout individually about the summer camp agenda and provide guidance on individual preparation.
-  Some Troops find it helpful to hold a “Summer Camp Meeting” just prior to camp to go over what Scouts need to bring with them for the camp session. At this meeting you should also hand out information packets to parents, finalize paperwork, secure the needed equipment for the Troop campsite, and review the program schedule.
-  Most of all, remember that FYC Camp is an opportunity for Scouts to grow both mentally and physically. The older Scouts should assist as much as possible in preparing the younger Scouts for camp.

GETTING SCOUTS EXCITED ABOUT CAMP!!!

This can be accomplished in many ways. Several ideas for promotion include:

-  Take your Scouts to Camp Tonkawa during the "off season" and let them explore. Discuss the different program areas and historical sites around camp.
-  Hold Troop fund raising projects to help Scouts earn part of their own camp fees.
-  Show slides or videos of previous summer camps at Troop meetings.
-  Invite former and current staff members to visit your Troop to talk about Camp to heighten the Scout's interest.
-  While on a Troop campout, have a campfire and share songs, stories and skits from previous summer camp experiences.

INFORMING PARENTS ABOUT CAMP

Successful Troops hold an informational meeting for parents before Camp. This meeting can be held in conjunction with a Troop meeting, or at some other convenient time prior to summer camp. Parents need to be informed about all the details regarding summer camp. Visitor's night information, camp rules, equipment needs, and departure and arrival times should all be covered during this meeting. All the needed information for a pre-camp meeting can be found in this ***First Year Camper Leader Guidebook***.

2021 CAMPING SEASON FEES

	On or Before May 30 th , 2021	June 1 st , 2021
Youth	\$150.00	\$175.00
Leaders	\$100.00	\$125.00
Part-Time Leaders (Part time leaders are leaders spending less than ½ time at camp)	\$25.00 per day	

- ✿ There are no part-time youths at camp. All youth pay the full fee.
- ✿ **A Late Fee of \$50.00 will be applied to all reservations received after June 7, 2021.** The only exception to this policy will be for Scouts and Leaders joining Scouting for the first time on or after June 7, 2021. Any unit adding a Scout or Leader after this date must give the Council Office a specific name. This policy is intended to assist us in planning our food, supplies, and equipment orders in advance of your arrival.
- ✿ If a unit discovers that a Scout or Leader cannot attend summer camp, and alerts the Scout Center on or before May 30, 2021, \$50.00 of that person's camp fee will be non-refundable. **Scout and full-time leadership slots are interchangeable.**

REFUND POLICY

Units are asked not to over reserve places for Scouts and leaders. This often means that others will be denied spaces, which would have otherwise been available. **There are no refunds for "no shows"**. Only medical emergencies will constitute a valid reason for a refund. \$50 is not refundable in any case. **The Council will credit refunds to the Unit's Unit Account at the Council Service Center for use by the Unit for Scout Shop purchases, registrations and Boy's Life fees, or event, activity and training fees.**

If a Scout or leader becomes ill while attending camp and is sent home by the camp medical staff, they are eligible for a pro-rated refund (by day) of the "balance of fee." (Remember \$50 is non-refundable.) If a camper leaves without being sent home by the camp medical staff, there is NO refund.

All refunds and overpayments will be processed after camp has been balanced by the Council Service Center. **All refunds and overpayments will post to the Unit's Account at the Council Service Center.** A notification of the deposit will be mailed to the Unit Committee Chairman.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

The Texas Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America provides program, facilities, and services without regard to race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap. However, all leaders and youth on the camp **must** be current registered members of the Boy Scouts of America. All part-time leaders that will be camping overnight on the camp **must** be current registered members of the Boy Scouts of America. ***No camper, youth or adult, will be permitted to stay in camp unless their full camp fees have been paid prior to the start of their camp session.***

MEDICAL TREATMENT NOTES

The Health and Safety of all Scouts and Leaders attending is the priority of our operation while they participate in outdoor programs at our summer camps. The following information is provided to familiarize you with camp medical policies and procedures.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS - All Scouts and Leaders going to camp must, upon arrival, present a completed Part A, B and C medical form, signed by a licensed health-care provider/physician (MD, or DO). A link is provided for the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record, Form 680-001, on the Texas Trails Council website.

NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION - Each Unit must provide transportation to and from the Local Health facilities in non-emergency situations. If transportation is not available from the Unit, check with the Camp Director or Health Officer for assistance.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION - All prescription medication will be kept in the Camp Health Lodge unless it is an Epi-Pen, rescue inhaler or other “immediate need” medication. Also, please note that needles used for insulin injections or other prescribed medications must be placed in the biohazard container located in the health lodge. The Health Lodge will provide cold storage for medications requiring refrigeration.

SPECIAL NEEDS - Any Scout or Leader with needs that require accommodations while at camp, need to tell us well in advance of those Services of the type of need, i.e. physical, medical, dietary, food allergies, etc. **Food allergies and dietary requests should be turned in by May 24th, 2021. Please use the “Special request” form located in the appendix of this guide.**



UNIT FIRST-AID KITS - Everyone should be familiar with basic first aid. **It is important that each Unit be prepared to treat minor cuts, scrapes and abrasions.** Bandaged wounds should be kept clean to aid in preventing infection, especially in an outdoor setting. The following is a list of recommended contents for a Pack first aid kit:

One 4" Roll of Bandage
Two Triangular Cravats
One Box of Assorted Band-Aids
Six Pairs of Latex Gloves
Safety Pins
Index Cards

One 2" Roll of Bandage
Four Elastic Bandages
Twelve 4x4 Sterile Pads
Twelve 2x2 Sterile Pads
Sunburn Lotion
Scotch Tape

Two Rolls of 1" Tape
Antibacterial Soap
Scissors
Needle and Tweezers
Tylenol/Non-Aspirin Tablet

USAGE POLICY OF MOTORIZED CARTS -From time-to-time, youth members with disabilities may have a challenge with the amount of foot-travel that is required to participate in the programs at Camp and need special assistance in the form of a motorized cart while at camp. To protect all Scouts and Leaders while in Camp, the following guidelines have been established for the use of motorized vehicles such as golf carts, electric scooters, etc. for transportation of individuals with limited mobility. **On the Scout's Camp Physical, the need for a motorized vehicle must be noted by the signing physician and Any person needed this request should be turned in by May 24th, 2021. Please use the "Special request" form located in the appendix of this guide.**

- 🦋 Personal vehicles are not allowed, unless is it designed specifically for a scout with a disability. Personal vehicles must be inspected by the Health Lodge and Camp Ranger prior to being used at the camp so that it can be determined safe to operate on the terrain found at both of our camps. Not all motorized vehicles are designed or are safe in this environment and could put a scout at risk of injury. When a personal vehicle is used, a Certificate of Liability Insurance covering the vehicle must be presented. This Certificate should name the Council as a co-insured.
- 🦋 The assigned driver of the vehicle shall be over the age of 21 and the youth member shall not operate the vehicle by themselves.
- 🦋 The vehicle is solely for the transporting the Scout with a disability. Additional riders or operating the vehicle for other purposes will NOT be permitted.
- 🦋 The camp will NOT provide vehicles for use.
- 🦋 Adults may bring their own vehicle to camp if the following criteria are met:
 - Their Camp Physical states that they need this type of assistance.
 - It is inspected by the Health Lodge and Camp Ranger to determine it appropriate design for the terrain of the reservation (Gators or mules will not be allowed)
 - It is for the sole use of the owner. Additional passenger, drivers or scouts will not be allowed to ride or operate it.
 - Certificate of Liability Insurance which names the Council as a co-insured is presented.

What to Bring

- Tent (must tent alone or with someone you came with)
- Sleeping gear (cot, pad, sleeping bag, blanket, sheets, pillow, etc..)
- Clothes (shirts, shorts/pants, socks, and undergarments)
- Personal Hygiene Products (showers are available)
- Towels
- Sleep wear
- Swimsuit
- Sturdy shoes
- Shower shoes
- Rain gear
- Jacket
- Hat
- Bandana
- Cantine, Nalgene (for water)
- Sunscreen
- Pocket knife
- Compass
- Flashlight
- Personal First Aid Kit
- Small day pack
- Medications
- Optional Gear
 - Sunglasses
 - Notebook/pen
 - Watch
 - Hiking stick
 - Insect repellent
 - Fire starter
 - Lantern
 - Camp chair
 - Card games
 - Parachute cord (20-50 ft ish)

CAMP SERVICES

CAMP OFFICE

The Camp Office is open daily from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM. The office staff is eager to meet the needs of any leader. The following are important things to know about the office.

- 🏆 The "Lost and Found" is located here. (In front of the Training Center)
- 🏆 All Scouts and leaders must check in and out with the office when coming to or leaving camp. See the check in and check out procedures.
- 🏆 Toilet paper and hand soap for each campsite is available in the Camp Office.
- 🏆 Report any emergencies to the Camp Office immediately. Office staff will notify the proper personnel.
- 🏆 Incoming telephone messages are placed in your campsite's mailbox in the office.
- 🏆 All incoming mail for your unit will be handed out at lunch or evening flags.
- 🏆 Letters and postcards can be mailed from the Camp office.
- 🏆 Scouts are asked to stay out of the Camp Office except in cases of emergency, unless accompanied by an adult.

CAMP MAIL SERVICE

Mailboxes for each campsite, which should be checked by a leader daily, are in the Camp Office. Outgoing mail is also delivered to the Post Office from here daily. Letters for Scouts at camp should be sent to the following address:



Scout's Name & Pack Number
Camp Tonkawa
4117 FM 89
Tuscola, TX 79562

CAMP PHONE SERVICE

The Camp Office telephone is used for **Camp Business and Emergencies Only**. The telephone number is 325-572-3337, and it is answered 24 hours a day.

SWIM CHECKS & POOL ORIENTATION



Following your unit's Swim Check on your check-in day, each unit will receive a short pool orientation. During swimming pool orientation, Scouts will be shown how to "check in" and will be informed about the rules and regulations that are to be followed during free swims. You will also be given a swim test during the orientation time.

TRADING POST

The Camp Tonkawa Trading Post is stocked with various souvenirs, t-shirts, patches, camping gear, writing materials, stamps, refreshments, and toilet articles. The following hours of operation are subject to change due to staffing and camper traffic. The trading post is open after morning flags until approximately 9:30 pm each evening. The specific hours of the trading post will be announced and posted.



SPENDING MONEY - It is suggested that Scouts bring spending money to camp. We have a very well stocked Trading Post. Some Scouts bring approximately \$50 or a prepaid credit card to camp. Packs may wish to operate a "bank" to hold money for Scouts while at camp. Only small bills \$1s, \$5s & \$10s should be brought to camp. The Trading Post cannot easily make change for larger bills. **The Trading Post also can process Credit Card payments for purchases over \$5.00**

All personal items and spending money should be kept in a secure camp box while at camp. Clothing should be clearly marked with your full name and Pack number.

Camp Tonkawa is not responsible for securing or for the loss of personal items. It is your responsibility to keep track of all personal valuables while at camp.

CAMP T-SHIRTS

T-shirts are available to order for \$12 each for youth and adult sizes up to XL. XXL – XXXL are available for \$15 each. Order Form is attached lower in this Guide.



Unit CAMP T-SHIRT PRE-ORDER FORM



We are offering Unit Leaders, who are attending Summer Camp the opportunity to pre-order 2021 camp t-shirts. This will ensure that your unit will be able to purchase the correct sizes. The shirts will be packaged for your unit and will be available upon your arrival at camp. **PLEASE PLACE ONE ORDER PER UNIT.** All shirts must be paid at the time the order is placed. *T-Shirts may cost more and there will be a limited amount at the Trading Post.

Troop # _____ Council _____

Name of person placing this order _____

Phone number _____ Troop # _____

Week attending camp _____

The deadline for placing your order is May 8th, 2021

_____ Adult Small T-Shirts @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

_____ Adult Medium T-Shirts @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

_____ Adult Large T-Shirts @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

_____ Adult X-large T-Shirts @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

_____ Adult XX-large T-Shirts @ \$15.00 = \$ _____

_____ Adult XXX-large T-Shirts @ \$15.00 = \$ _____

Total # of T-Shirts _____

Total amount \$ _____

CAMP MAP

