



# **Troop 2 Milford, BSA**

*Where the Spirit of Rising Eagles Lives On...*



## **New Scout Orientation Booklet**

**A guide for new Troop 2 Scouts and their parents**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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As a new member of the Troop 2 family, we hope you find the information included within this package useful. It is provided with the aim of easing the transition of your Scout and yourself into the Troop 2, and Boy Scouting families. Should you have any questions regarding the program or the Troop itself, please feel free to ask any adult volunteer. They can either provide you with the information you require or point you in the right direction to allow you to obtain the answer.

## **High Ideals and Principles from Humble Beginnings**

In 1910, Newspapers featured Model T Fords chugging along gutted roads at 8 miles an hour; Detroit's center fielder, Ty Cobb, batting .385; and Tom swift hitting the book market with a bang. Buried deep in one newspaper, it was reported: William D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher, incorporated the Boy Scouts of America in Washington, DC on February 8." That was all it said.

We can't blame reporters for missing the biggest story of the day, because who could have guessed that from such a small beginning, Scouting would become the giant it is today? From about 2000 Boy Scouts and leaders in 1910, Scouting in the United States has grown to 6 million strong. Although changes have been made in Scouting over the years, the ideals and principles have remained the same since its beginning –Service to others and Duty to God and Country.

## **Mission Statement Boy Scouts of America**

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of American to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and in other ways prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential.

Boy scouting is for eleven to seventeen year old boys. The Boy Scout Program is designed to further the goal setting process for a young man. This continues the educational process through the advancement program. For Scouts to advance, they earn merit badges, which help prepare them for future vocations and hobbies.

**Official BSA Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

**Scout Oath**

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

**Scout Law**

A Scout is:  
Trustworthy Obedient  
Loyal Cheerful  
Helpful Thrifty  
Friendly Brave  
Courteous Clean  
Kind Reverent

**Vision Statement**

The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.

## Troop 2 Basics

### Our Team...

The chartering organization for Troop 2 is the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. They have carried our charter since 1927. Pastor of the church at this time is the **Reverend Richard Scioli** who is the Troop 2 **Executive Officer**.

The **Scoutmaster** for Troop 2, Milford, is **Giacomo "Jack" Armata**, a Milford resident. He feels strongly about the values, the program and the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Armata became Troop 2 Scoutmaster in October 2004. He has been involved with Troop 2 for many years and has coordinated many programs, such as the Ad Altare Dei religious emblem and Textile Merit Badge programs. He has also been instrumental in Fundraising. Jack is well known for being the Troop's head chef – a role now filled very adequately by Tom Pittsley and Matt Fitzgerald; being behind many a final night "Pot Luck" dinner at Camp Resolute, various Eagle COHs, along with almost all Troop camping trips.

Mr. Armata was also an active member on many subcommittees for Troop 2's Scottish Highlands trek in the summer of 2003 and their fall 2005 US return (Mass Mania).



Our Committee is led by **Mr. Richard Amour, Committee Chairperson**, who assumed that role in February 2010. Rich has been an active Committee Member and attendee on our trips and is aided by his predecessor, **Mr. Paul Sobierajski**, who remains an active Committee Member and our **Troop Webmaster**.

Our **Advancement Chair** is **Mr. Jay Bradley**. Holding this post for several of the past few years, Jay oversees the tracking of the Scouts' completion of the requirements for each rank and oversees the Troop's Board of Review process.

The Troop's Finances are guided by **Mr. Brian Donahue**, the Troop **Treasurer**. Brian tracks and forecasts the Troops financial needs and aids the committee in assisting the Scoutmaster in guiding the direction of the Troop 2 programs.

Additionally, **Ms. Shannon Vinton-Delmore** serves as the Troop **Fundraising Chairperson**. She gathers ideas and guides the organization of the fundraising efforts of Troop 2 and its Scouts.

Our final "officer" of the Committee is **Mrs. Leticia Michelson** who serves as the Troop **Secretary**. Leticia authors all of the notes of the Troop Committee meetings and distributes them as well as provides them to our webmaster for posting to the Troop 2 website.

To support the Troop's activities, there are many Asst. Scoutmasters and key Committee members who serve in various non-officer roles to assist the troop in doing the "business" side of the Scouting program. These include people serving in medical, program, planning, recruiting, pack liaison and various other roles.

Volunteers operate our troop; people concerned not just for their own children but for others!

## **We need your help!**

For our troop to provide the kind of program essential to the benefit of our boys, we must have people were willing to share some of their time and talents. We need people to camp, work, drive, cook, write, phone, serve on subcommittees, raise funds, work as merit badge counselors, etc.

Many scout units throughout the country deny membership to boys unless their parents agree to work for the troop. We prefer to have parents willingly demonstrate good citizenship and scout spirit to their sons by volunteering. This helps all our sons.

Thus, in order to help us run the troop, we ask your help in filling out the enclosed troop resource survey form and returning it at the next meeting. This will allow us to gauge the "experts" we have available. Your help is always welcome!

We also ask that you consider joining the Troop yourself, as an adult volunteer. Being registered with the Troop allows you to assist us in providing a quality program. Membership allows you to assist us in steering the program in the right direction. Additionally, registration allows you to join us on trips if you like as well as sit on boards of review as part of the advancement process.

Adults with questions about the troop or Scouting in general may contact the Scoutmaster or Committee Chairperson at any Troop Meeting or by contacting via email at [scoutmaster@troop2milford.org](mailto:scoutmaster@troop2milford.org) or [chairperson@troop2milford.org](mailto:chairperson@troop2milford.org).

### **Troop 2 Website** [www.troop2milford.org](http://www.troop2milford.org)

The volumes of information about and regarding Troop 2 is tremendous. To alleviate the paperwork and to be as green as possible, Troop 2 has established a website to communicate various information regarding the Troop and its activities.

Currently under construction is a new revamped website. However, the existing website contains a great deal of useful information for Scouts and parents.

Additionally, on occasion a Scout's name may be included in with comments or pictures and their descriptions or captions on the website. Please be aware that only first names of Scouts are used. At no time is a Scout's last name posted. This includes the "Eagle's nest section of the website. On this section, the Scout will be listed by first name and last initial until such time that he turns 18. Only at that time will his full name be listed on the website.

### **Troop 2 Committee Meetings**

Committee meetings are normally held on the second Thursday of the month during the troop meeting in the cafeteria across from the clubroom at approximately 7:00 PM. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to join us and become a member of the committee. A copy of the meeting minutes will be e-mailed to each scout's home and posted to the Troop website.

### **Troop Meetings**

Troop meetings are held every Thursday night, excluding holidays and Thursdays during school vacations. Other exceptions are Thanksgiving, Thursday after Christmas, Holy Thursday and during the months of July and August. Meetings run from 7:00 p.m. to approximately 8:15 p.m. in the clubroom of the Milford Catholic Elementary School.

Scouts are expected to attend all troop meetings and are required to be in full uniform, unless the scout is coming directly from a sports team practice/game or a job. In either of these cases, it is perfectly acceptable to attend in one's uniform.

Because of the cost of uniforms, new scouts are allowed to obtain their uniforms as they can afford them. If a scout is to be absent, he is to call his patrol leader. The patrol leader advises the Senior Patrol Leader who, in turn, advises the Scoutmaster. The Scribe records attendance at the troop meetings.

**Scouts are required to bring their Scout Handbook, notepaper and a pen or pencil to all troop meetings.** They are responsible for getting the information regarding patrol or troop activities and passing this information along to you (A Scout is Trustworthy).

There is an ongoing program of guest speakers at troop meetings. If you know of anyone who is interested and would be willing to speak, please let us know. This is done occasionally. Parents are welcome to attend.

## Dues

For Scouts presently in troop, dues of \$80 are to be paid once a year in the Fall. This covers the cost of skill awards, merit badges, badges of rank, camporee patches, the following year's registration, Boy's Life Magazine, and insurance.

For new members, the initial cost of joining Troop 2 has been prorated over a twelve-month period.

The following table shows the cost of new Scouts joining the Troop.

Month	New Scout
January	6.70
February	80.00
March	73.35
April	66.70
May	60.00
June	53.35
July	46.70
August	40.00
September	33.35
October	26.70
November	20.00
December	13.35

Checks should be payable to Troop 2, and given to the Troop treasurer.

## Uniforms

Scouts are encouraged to earn money to pay for their own uniforms and individual equipment. (A Scout is Thrifty). The Scout Handbook is a must for scouts. This should be the first item purchased.

Our custom designed troop neckerchief is red with yellow trim. A specially designed troop cap with the Troop 2 patch is part of Troop 2's official uniform. The troop will supply as part of the new scout registration fee and all the necessary patches to sew on the uniform except for the patrol patch. A Troop 2 neckerchief can be purchased for \$5. In addition to the items supplied by the troop, the scout will need a shirt, slacks, belt and socks. Do not purchase the Council patch since the Knox Trail Council executive has given us permission to use our own custom-made town and state patch, which is provided by the troop.

When informal scout attire is worn, the scouts may wear a Class B uniform, which includes a T-shirt with the Troop 2 Logo. These shirts are an option and may be purchased from the Troop 2 Quartermaster.

If scouts have earned the Arrow of Light while in Cub Scouts, they may wear the cloth patch on their uniform shirts on the bottom of the left hand pocket. If scouts earned a Cub Scout religious emblem, it is not worn on the uniform.

However scouts may wear a religious emblem square knot (silver knot on a purple background, No. 5014) centered over the left pocket of the uniform shirt. To indicate the scout emblem as a Cub Scout, a miniature Cub Scout emblem device (No. 5103C) is attached to the knot. The emblems and associated devices are as follows: Light of Christ Emblem: Cub Scout device, No. 5103C, Parvuli Dei Emblem: Webelos Scout device, No. 5103K

If the scout goes on to earn a religious emblem, as a Boy Scout, he attaches a Boy Scout emblem device to indicate a Boy Scout award. They are as follows: Ad Altare Dei Emblem: Boy Scout device, No. 5103D, Pope Pius XII Emblem: Explorer device, No. 5103G. Only one knot is worn, but any combination of devices may be worn on the same knot.

The right hand pocket of the shirt is used for temporary patches (such as summer camp or camporee patches).

The Tot'N Chip patch (Care of woods tools), when earned, is sewn on the shirt on the right hand pocket flap. If a scout is elected to the Order of the Arrow by his fellow scouts, the Order of the Arrow lodge patch is put where the Tot'N Chip patch is located. See the scout handbook front and back flaps for positions of patches.

The World Scout Crest Emblem is the round Purple patch with the Silver Fleur-de-lis is worn above the left breast pocket of your Scout uniform.

Various scouting supplies may be obtained at:

New England Scout Shop  
23 Turnpike Road  
(Route 9 – West Side)  
Southborough, MA 01772  
508-229-2396

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

Troop 2 also has a small uniform exchange. If you need it and we have it and it fits, its yours, no costs, no co-pays... take it and enjoy!

The Knox Trail Council may also have some uniforms. If they do, the cost is minimal since they have been donated and are used. Call 508-872-6551.

## **Shopping for Your Scout**

We all know the great deal of materials that are available to Scouts and for Scouting. Below are a couple of lists of various materials you can/should get for your Scout for various activities throughout the year. Materials can be found at the Scout Store, Scoutstuff.org or at various department stores and camping outlets. If you need help in finding anything, please feel free to ask an adult volunteer for help.

### **To Start:**

- Scout Handbook
- Scout Shirt

### **Phase 2 – Basic Needs:**

- BSA Pants
- BSA Belt
- BSA Shorts
- BSA Socks
- Troop 2 or BSA Cap/Hat
- Class "B" Shirt or plain T shirts

### **Phase 3 – Weekend Camping:**

- Backpack with padded hip belt or duffel bag
- Hiking boots/shoes
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- 2 1 liter water bottles
- Lightweight Dishes/Utensils
- Rain Gear
- Flashlight
- Extra Flashlight Batteries
- Extra Flashlight bulbs
- Bandana/Handkerchief
- Lip Balm
- Biodegradable Soap
- Insect Repellant
- Compass

### **Phase 4 – Summer Camp:**

- Footlocker
- Cable Ties
- Dowels for Mosquito Netting
- 4 Tennis balls you do not need back
- Clothes line
- Clothes pins

- Duct Tape
- 2 Hangers
- Mattress Cover
- Light Sheets (twin)
- Mosquito Netting
- Rope
- Sun block
- Trash Bags
- Pocket Knife (only after earning Totin' Chit)
- Swim suit
- Toiletries
- Cheap Watch

### **Phase 5 – Winter Camping:**

- 0 degree mummy-style sleeping bag
- Non-cotton clothing;
  - Socks
  - Underwear
  - Undershirts
  - Pants
  - Shirts
  - Sweatshirt/Fleece top
- Winter gloves (2)
- Winter shoes/boots (2)
- Winter Jacket
- Hand warmers
- Foot warmers

### **Patrols**

The troop is made up of patrols. Each patrol may have a maximum of eight scouts. For the patrol method to work properly, the members of a patrol should know and accept each other well enough to work together as a team. (A Scout is Loyal). Therefore, if possible, scouts should choose a patrol with members familiar to him.

Patrol meetings are held frequently in conjunction with troop meetings on Thursday night. Occasionally, the patrol may wish to meet in order to complete tasks not able to be done at the troop meetings.

## **Advancement**

As part of the Scouting program, Scouts are encouraged, but not required, to complete various tasks and advance in rank. The Scouting program is "For the boys, by the boys." **Each Scout must decide what the program is to be for himself.** Though Troop 2 is proud to have over 100 Eagle Scouts to its name, this is not the primary goal of the program. The goal is to provide an environment where the boys can learn, relax and have fun all at the same time.

Should the Scout decide that to be an Eagle Scout is their aim, we, as volunteers, will do all we can to provide him with the opportunities to reach that goal and encourage him along the way. However, if a Scout decides that being an Eagle Scout is "not for him," that his choice is to enjoy the program, go on campouts and activities and enjoy the ride... well that is perfectly acceptable as well. We are here to provide the program to meet his desired targets and goals.

Scouts are required, as part of their advancement, to perform service projects in the community. (A Scout is Helpful and Friendly).

Even though advancement is the responsibility of the scout, parental encouragement is a plus. Reviewing the scout handbook can help you understand the program.

We have an excellent roster of merit badge counselors serving the troop. Occasionally a counselor will donate his/her time to run a merit badge class. We encourage scouts to take advantage of these opportunities.

Scouts should keep signed copies of their merit badge applications and rank advancement cards in a safe place. They are valuable when making applications for the Eagle Scout rank.

Advancement is an important part of our program, and each scout is encouraged to work on those merit badges, which are of interest to him.

## **Library**

Scouts may borrow merit badge pamphlets from the library. The troop librarian is responsible for maintaining the troop library, which is "normally" available at troop meetings.

**Behavior/Disciplinary Policy**

Scouts of Troop 2 are required to be at their best behavior at all times. (A Scout is Courteous). They respect the outdoors and all God's creatures – including other scouts. Hazing and harassment of younger scouts is forbidden in Troop 2. (A Scout is Kind). They also respect and follow orders of their parents, Scoutmaster, and troop leaders. (A Scout is Obedient). We always try to have a good time and FUN in everything we do. (A Scout is Cheerful).

Should situations require attention, the following Behavioral and Disciplinary Guidelines will be followed;

*All incidents will be dealt with in a timely manner!!*

If the Scout has a problem, he should use the following order to address his concerns:

1. The Scout should explain the situation to the SPL. The SPL will talk to offending scout and explain why his actions are not in line with "Scout Spirit." If the offended scout doesn't think the SPL handled the situation effectively, the scout should talk directly to the Scoutmaster.
2. SPL informs the Scoutmaster of the situation and asks for any additional help if needed. SPL then talks to offending scout again.
3. If the situation isn't resolved, the Scoutmaster talks to offending scout. Explains that his actions are not in line with what is expected of a scout. Explains that if the actions continue, it will affect his chances of rank promotions.
4. Scoutmaster asks the scout's parents to meet with the Scoutmaster to explain to them their scout's conduct problems and possible remedies.
5. Scoutmaster brings the problem before the Chartered Organization Representative (COR), Troop Committee chair(s), Advancement chair(s), and Treasurer, for their advice with this scout's conduct. Scoutmaster then reports back to the parents with recommendations. (If any scout involved is the child of one of the above Troop members, that parent is not allowed in the discussions.)
6. Scoutmaster contacts District Council to apprise them of the situation and the action taken.

7. This process may be repeated, depending on the severity of the situation. If at any time, the situation warrants dismissal from the Troop, that decision is made by the Chartered Organization Representative, under the advisement of the committee members and the Scoutmaster. Chartered Organizational Representative makes the final decision.
8. In the case of a severe incident involving a Scout or Scouter (e.g. physical violence, alcohol or drug use), the above steps will be forfeited and the Scoutmaster informed immediately. The Scoutmaster then has the authority to remove the Scout or Scouter from any and all activities until the Scout's parents, committee members previously identified and the Chartered Organization Representative are involved

Each Scout's parent must sign the enclosed Disciplinary Acknowledgement and Acceptance form and return it to the Scoutmaster for retention. The form confirms the Scout and his family have discussed and accept the policy as explained above.

### **Courts of Honor**

Courts of Honor are those occasions where the Troops holds and official ceremony to distribute to the Scouts the Merit Badges, Ranks and Awards they have earned since the previous Court of Honor. Courts of Honor are scheduled several times a year, usually in January, April, and at summer camp. Mother's pins will be presented for all rank advancement. Parents and family are encouraged and expected to attend all Courts of Honor to support their sons and the other scouts of Troop 2.

### **Eagle Scout Courts of Honor**

Exceptions to the regularly scheduled Courts of Honor are the Eagle Courts of Honor which are scheduled on special days when needed in coordination with the Eagle Scout's family. Traditionally these Courts are held on Saturdays in the Chapel Room of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Ceremonies usually begin at 1 PM and a reception follows at 2 PM. However these arrangements/times are at the consent/desire of the family and will be communicated as arrangements are made by the family.

If a family is honored by having their Scout achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, they should contact the Scoutmaster/Committee Chairperson and obtain an Eagle Court of Honor planning packet to assist them in completing all the arrangements necessary for holding an Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

## **Scout Leadership Positions**

Scouts at various times in their career will need to hold a leadership position. Requirements for this position vary by rank and will be coordinated between the Senior Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster and Advancement Chairperson to ensure that each Scout has held the required positions for each rank advancement.

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is elected by all the scouts in the troop. He is responsible for the operation of the troop meeting and the troop in general during activities. The Senior Patrol Leader reports directly to the Scoutmaster.

He will also name his Assistants (ASPLs) and will name with the assistance of the Scoutmaster and Advancement Chairperson Scouts to various other positions with the Junior Leadership. This team of young adults is responsible for running the Troop meetings and various Troop activities. This team coordinates these efforts with the adult volunteers of the Troop.

The patrol leaders and other scouts in leadership positions report to the Senior Patrol Leader. Patrol leaders in the troop are given responsibility through the patrol election process. They are responsible for the operation of their patrol. This is all part of the leadership opportunity made available to scouts through scouting.

Scouts are responsible for their personal actions in and out of uniform. (A Scout is Brave).

## **Religion**

We make every effort to accommodate religious preferences during camporees. When services are available, rest assured that the Scoutmaster strongly encourages participation. (A Scout is Reverent).

Each year, Scout Sunday is celebrated with a Mass at Sacred Heart Church (our chartering organization) on the Sunday on or before Scouting's Anniversary day, which is February 8.

The Catholic Committee in Scouting offers classes during the year for religious emblems for scouts. The Ad Altar Dei Emblem is offered to scouts who are Catholic and an active member in the troop for 6 months. The Pope Pius XII is offered to registered youth members of Boy Scouts of the Catholic faith who have started the 9th grade. It is recommended that Boy Scouts previously have earned the Ad Altare Dei Emblem before beginning work on the Pope Pius XII.

The classes run approximately every other week for four months and culminate in a ceremony held in April at St. Paul's Cathedral where the Bishop presents the awards. For information, the Scout and/or his family can contact the Knox Trail Council for more information on the next available classes.

Religious emblems for other faiths are also available.

## Camping

Camping is one of the major activities of any scouting program. Basic individual camping equipment should include a backpack, sleeping bag, sleeping pad (preferable closed-cell foam), eating utensils, comfortable hiking boots or sturdy shoes, pocket knife (sheath knives are forbidden), compass, ground cloth, scout handbook, and personal hygiene supplies. The troop has its own backpacking tents for camping.

### Troop 2 Spring Campout

Each spring Troop 2 holds its spring recruitment campout. During this event young boys from throughout Milford are invited to the campout to see what Scouting has to offer. All youngsters are invited. The goal is to recruit new scouts, at whatever level for whichever pack/Troop they wish. We refer parents to the unit of the proper level and that meets on compatible nights.

### Summer Camp

Troop 2 attends summer camp each year at Resolute Scout Camp, Bolton, MA. The Troop usually goes to summer camp (one week) during the month of July. (See this year's calendar for the exact dates).

Directions to Resolute: From 495 take Exit 27 to Route 117 East heading towards Stow. Take the first right that is Route 85 South. Follow route 85 two tenths of a mile and turn right at the green entrance sign to the "E Paul Robsham, Jr. scout Reservation".

The summer camp fees and payment due dates are established by the Knox Trail Council. The Scoutmaster will announce these in February. If a family has financial difficulty, please inform the Scoutmaster. A number of confidential camperships are available.

Scouts are required by the Boy Scouts of America camp rules and by state law to have a physical examination. If a scout has had a recent physical (within one year), have his doctor fill in the form. There is a form included with this packet. New forms will be issued each June with the summer camp information. If you need a form earlier, contact the Scoutmaster. This form must be filled in completely and must have the doctor and parent's signature at each place indicated. If the form is not filled out correctly, scout will be denied entrance to camp until the form is filled in correctly. Scout leaders who stay over night at Resolute are also required to have a physical examination and form.

The scouts camp together at the same campsite. The Scoutmaster stays with the troop the entire week and other leaders are also present to assist.

On Sunday, the week of summer camp, the troop meets in the parking lot at Camp Resolute on Sunday in uniform. It is help to bring a dolly, wagon, wheelbarrow, etc to carry gear to the campsite. A footlocker is recommended (but not required). See list of things to pack.

After the health check and swimming test, scouts have the remainder of the afternoon to settle in. The camp provides tents, cots, and all food (which is cooked and served in the dining hall). A mosquito netting is highly recommended. Spag's in Shrewsbury has a type of mosquito netting that reaches the floor of the tent and works best for mosquito protection. If you need to purchase this, it would be wise to buy it as soon as possible since Spag's runs out. Tent City in Boston also carries this type of mosquito netting.

Scouts will be very busy during the week, and parental visits are not encouraged. For emergencies, contact the Administration Building at 978/779-2777.

The troop has a color 10x13 picture, similar to the one above, taken by a photographer during the week, and the scouts may purchase copies. The cost for one copy is approximately \$10 dollars. It is fun to watch them grow each year!

On Thursday there is an Apache Relay Race. It is very exciting for the scouts. Parents, families, and friends are welcome to attend to support and cheer on our scouts. The race begins promptly at 7:15 p.m. (weather permitting.) The race last approximately 10 to 12 minutes.

On Friday, the scouts are involved in waterfront activities. Parents are welcome to come and watch. After the waterfront activities, the boys finish packing and take their gear to their cars. After the afternoon activities are complete, at about 5:30 PM the Troop has a Court of Honor at the campsite where the boys are presented their many awards that they have earned during the week and since the last Court of Honor.

After the Court of Honor the camp holds a chicken barbecue. Parents and family may join in if they wish (tickets must be purchased in advance, scouts eat free). You do not have to purchase barbecue tickets. You may bring a picnic lunch – scouts can get their dinner and join you.

After the barbecue the camp holds its "final retreat" where all of the Troops in camp for the week hold their final parade and closing ceremony. After the final retreat, all scouts are required to attend the closing campfire. The staff works very hard to put on this closing campfire in order to end camp with a fun filled time for everyone. Close to the end of the campfire, an impressive ceremony with Indian Chief Taunkacoo is held. By secret ballot, the scouts of each troop voted for the "Honor Camper" for the week they attended camp. Chief Taunkacoo calls out all the Honor Campers in this ceremony. The campfire is usually over by 9 p.m.

Scouts are responsible for their own transportation to and from summer camp.

A more detailed package/communication concerning summer camp will be sent to all out Scouts under a separate cover.

### **Winter Trek**

The Troop 2 Winter Trek is normally held in January. It is a fun camping trip usually held at the Nobscot Scout Reservation, Sudbury, MA. We stay in a large cabin. Scouts gather wood for cooking and heat, although the cabin does have a central heating system. The adults cook for the entire troop on this trip.

Directions to Nobscot: Take route 495 to Route 9 East. Take the Edgell Road Exit (Framingham State College). Turn left on to Edgell Road and follow this about four miles, through Nobscot Commercial Center to the Sudbury town Line. The Nobscot Scout Reservation parking lot is on the left.

### **Freeze Out**

Troop 2 each year also attends the Knox Trail Council's Winter Freeze Out. Traditionally held at the end of January each year, the weekend is full of outdoor activities and features the Scouts camping out in tents... yes in the winter. So for this campout, a gear check is held and only those Scouts with the correct gear for such adventurous activities will be allowed to attend.

### **Other Camping Trips**

Other than winter and summer camp, Scouts cook in patrols. The patrol members decide what they will eat, and the patrol leader usually purchases the food. The cost of the food is divided among patrol members attending the camping trip. The Scouts split up the food to carry to the campsite. Usually Scouts are asked to bring a "bag supper" for the first night since it is difficult to cook and set up camp.

The Troop schedules a number of these other camping trips throughout the year. These trips may include Camporees with other council troops in a nearby scouting reservation. The troop also has other traditional campouts including the Boston Harbor Islands trip each September and the Troop 2 recruitment extravaganza held each spring.

Cod rail trail, hiking on historical trails, canoe trips on the Saco River in Maine, or perhaps a simple overnight backpacking trip in a nearby park to work on Scout camping skills. Every several years, the troop may go on a "big trip" to more distant locations. In the past, the troop has camped at the West Point Military Academy in New York State, and in Gettysburg, PA near the historic Gettysburg National Military Park. Such trips require extensive planning, significant fundraising and help from parent volunteers.

For older Scouts in the troop, there are opportunities to attend major events such as the Boy Scout National Jamboree held every 4 years, or perhaps take a challenging trek through Philmont, the National Boy Scout reservation located in Cimarron, New Mexico.

### **Scouting Activities**

The Troop also goes on various other outing and activities throughout the year for the Scout's enjoyment. Past activities include the traditional December Swim night, PINZ night, indoor climbing activities and more.

### **Personal Hygiene**

For your peace of mind, be advised that personal hygiene is part of scouting and is required of all while on camping trips. (A Scout is Clean).

### **Fund Raisers**

The troop normally holds one major fundraiser every two years. This is our bi-annual Silent Auction/Pasta Dinner. Scouts typically are also given the opportunity for a Spring fundraiser. This fundraiser exists solely for the Scouts to defray their costs of attending Summer Camp There may be other fundraisers from time to time. Fundraisers are the major source of the troop's income, which is used to pay for necessary camping gear and supplies. These fundraisers help keep the costs of the various camping trips at a minimum amount to the scout. Therefore, all scouts are encouraged and expected to participate in all fundraisers.

### **Troop Rosters**

A roster of Scouts and adult leaders is maintained. A copy of the most current roster will be available upon request to Adult volunteers the Committee deems appropriate.

## E-Mail

Please provide your e-mail address to the Scoutmaster or the Committee Chairperson. While the Troop leadership communicates information to your son at troop meetings from the Scoutmaster/ Senior Patrol Leader/ Patrol Leader and finally to the individual scouts, sometimes it is more efficient to send information directly to you through e-mail. We are happy to do so if we have your e-mail address.

Please note that Troop 2 does not sell nor distribute our email listing outside of Troop personnel members.

Troop 2 has established many email address to assist the Troop and its member in conducting business and communicating important troop information. Below is a listing of general troop addresses that all adults, Scouts and parents may use/contact to locate any required information and/or assistance;

Chartered Organizational Rep:	<a href="mailto:cor@troop2milford.org">cor@troop2milford.org</a>
Committee Chairperson:	<a href="mailto:chairperson@troop2milford.org">chairperson@troop2milford.org</a>
Scoutmaster:	<a href="mailto:scoutmaster@troop2milford.org">scoutmaster@troop2milford.org</a>
Senior Patrol Leader:	<a href="mailto:spl@troop2milford.org">spl@troop2milford.org</a>
Activities Coordinator:	<a href="mailto:activities@troop2milford.org">activities@troop2milford.org</a>
Advancement Chairperson:	<a href="mailto:advancement@troop2milford.org">advancement@troop2milford.org</a>
Fundraising Coordinator:	<a href="mailto:fundraising@troop2milford.org">fundraising@troop2milford.org</a>
Pack Liaison:	<a href="mailto:packliaison@troop2milford.org">packliaison@troop2milford.org</a>
Parent Contact (New to Troop):	<a href="mailto:parentcontact@troop2milford.org">parentcontact@troop2milford.org</a>
Publicity Coordinator:	<a href="mailto:publicity@troop2milford.org">publicity@troop2milford.org</a>
Secretary:	<a href="mailto:secretary@troop2milford.org">secretary@troop2milford.org</a>
Training Coordinator:	<a href="mailto:training@troop2milford.org">training@troop2milford.org</a>
Treasurer:	<a href="mailto:treasurer@troop2milford.org">treasurer@troop2milford.org</a>
Webelos Contact:	<a href="mailto:webelosinfo@troop2milford.org">webelosinfo@troop2milford.org</a>
Webmaster:	<a href="mailto:webmaster@troop2milford.org">webmaster@troop2milford.org</a>

An important contact for new Scouts and their parents is the parent contact. This person can assist the new Scouting family and guide them as they acclimate to the Troop 2 program.

## Knox Trail Council

Troop 2 is a part of the Tri-River District of the Knox Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America, located at 490 Union Ave, Framingham, Massachusetts. The telephone - number is 508/872-6551.

## Scholarships

College scholarships are available to high school seniors. Contact either the Knox Trail Council office or the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA – for eligible Eagle Scouts) for more information regarding these opportunities.

## Forms

Yes, unfortunately Troop 2 also has its various forms of paperwork that are either required by the Troop, Council or BSA of each registered Scout/Adult Volunteer. Attached/enclosed with this packet are a number of forms we require that each Scout complete and return at their earliest possible convenience so that we can process their application accordingly.

Below is a listing of the required forms for each registered Scout and/or Adult Volunteer (instructions for various forms follow);

### **Required Forms – Scout / Youth**

- BSA Youth Application
- Medical Form (3 copies please)
- Copy of Medical Insurance Card (3 copies please)
- Massachusetts Immunization Form
- Troop 2 Registration Form
- Troop 2 Photograph Authorization
- Troop 2 Permission Slip
- Troop 2 Disciplinary Acceptance Form

### **Required Forms – Adult**

- BSA Adult Application
- Massachusetts CORI Form
- Copy of State/Federal Picture ID
- Medical Form (3 copies please)
- Copy of Medical Insurance Card (3 copies please)
- Massachusetts Immunization Form
- Troop 2 Registration Form
- Troop 2 Photograph Authorization
- Troop 2 Vehicle Information Form

### **Applications**

To fully register with Troop 2, BSA and allow your Scout to begin his trail in Scouting, we require that you please complete a BSA Youth Application on his behalf. Please include a phone number and email address so that we may contact you as needed.

Adults wishing to register with the Troop should obtain/complete a BSA Adult Registration form and complete it fully, including phone, email address and the reference information located on the right hand side of the primary application. Without all of this information, Council will reject the application.

### **CORI Form**

The state of Massachusetts requires that any adult having contact with children consent to a background check to ensure the safety of the child. BSA fully abides by this requirement and asks that you please complete this form and supply a copy of a state or federally issued picture ID card. Without this completed form any adult registration will be rejected.

### **Medical Forms**

By experience, we find it necessary to carry a medical emergency permission slip for each scout on each camping trip. This authorizes the leader to obtain a medical assistance in emergency situation if a parent cannot be contacted.

A form must be submitted by **EVERY** Scout, and any adult wishing to attend overnight Council events. New forms must be submitted every year by each Scout and adult. The form needs to be filled out completely and sign by the person's primary medical doctor.

In addition to the form please complete the Massachusetts Immunization Form and supply us with a copy of the person's medical insurance card (**FRONT AND BACK**).

### **Troop 2 Registration Form**

It is required that Troop 2 obtain a registration form for each child/adult registered with the Troop so that we can gather the required contact information for the individual form. Please complete this form to assist us in this endeavor.

**Troop 2 Photograph Authorization Form**

It is required that Troop 2 obtain permission for each scout to have their picture taken and posted on our web site. We ask that you complete the attached form and either allow or deny Troop 2 this privilege. If you choose to deny Troop 2 this privilege your Scout may be included in pictures on our website, however his face will be obscured in order to deny recognition of the Scout.

Additionally, on occasion a Scout's name may be included in with descriptions or captions on the website. Please be aware that only first names of Scouts are used. At no time is a Scout's last name posted. This includes the "Eagle's nest" section of the website. On this section, the Scout will be listed by first name and last initial until such time that he turns 18. Only at that time will his full name be listed on the website.

**Troop 2 Annual Permission Slip**

It is required that Troop 2 obtain permission for each scout to attend the various Troop activities throughout the Scouting year. Please complete this form to inform us that indeed your Scout is permitted to attend our various meetings and Troop activities. Separate sign-up forms may be distributed at various times for the Scouts/adults to sign up to attend our many events.

**Troop 2 Vehicle Registration Form**

If an adult is registering with the Troop we ask that he/she please complete this form to allow us to add there respective vehicle(s) to our roster. This will enable them to travel with the Troop and if need be supply transportation to other Scouts/adult volunteers.

**Troop 2 Disciplinary Acceptance/Acknowledgement Form**

Scouts of Troop 2 are required to be at their best behavior at all times. (A Scout is Courteous). They respect the outdoors and all God's creatures – including other scouts. Hazing and harassment of younger scouts is forbidden in Troop 2. (A Scout is Kind). They also respect and follow orders of their parents, Scoutmaster, and troop leaders. (A Scout is Obedient). We always try to have a good time and FUN in everything we do. (A Scout is Cheerful).

Each Scout's parent must sign the enclosed Disciplinary Acceptance/Acknowledgement form and return it to the Scoutmaster for retention. The form confirms the Scout and his family have discussed and accept the policy as explained.