



GILWELL

GAZETTE

What To Expect from Wood Badge

Wood Badge, the Piedmont Council's premiere training course will be held in the spring of 2015. Are you curious about Wood Badge? Here's what you can expect.



When is Wood Badge being offered?

The 2015 course is a six-day course held over two weekends. It will run Friday mornings through Sunday evenings on **March 20 - 22, 2015 and April 17 - 19, 2015 at Camp Bud Schiele.**

Friday mornings? Not starting on a Friday night? I may need to miss a day due to scheduling conflicts. Is that a problem?

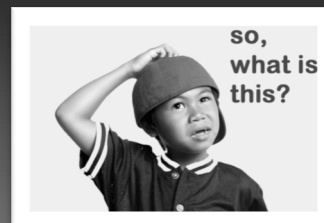
Yes, it's a problem. Let me say that again. YES, it's a problem.

You must attend the entire course. Wood Badge weekends are not about sitting in a classroom for an entire weekend and then leaving "trained". Wood Badge is not just learning, it's an experience that is uniquely essential to the training.

In addition to the two Wood Badge weekends

The Gilwell Gazette

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 0



The Gilwell Gazette is the daily newspaper published during the Wood Badge course weekends. It has news and information on the daily events of the course, as well as photos and historical articles on Scouting and Wood Badge.



This is a special issue 0 intended for Scouters that are interested in learning about the Piedmont Council's upcoming Wood Badge course in 2015.

in March and April, you'll have additional commitments. You'll be placed in a Patrol which will have a meeting in-between the two course weekends.

By the end of the second weekend, you will create five goals that lead toward a personal vision of success. You will then use the leadership skills learned in Wood Badge to complete those goals. You then have 18 months in which to finish them and in doing so complete Wood Badge.

Continued...

What to Expect from Wood Badge (continued)

Two full weekends, a Patrol meeting, and 18 months to finish five goals? This doesn't sound like any of the Scout leadership training I've had before.

It's not. Wood Badge is Scouting's premier training program for all adult leaders. The quality of the Scouting experience for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers depends on the quality of those leading the units and those working in the districts and council.

The Boy Scouts of America offers leaders a progression of training opportunities to give them the skills they need to provide leadership for Scouting and leadership for America.

Here's how it works:

Youth Protection Training

Orientation and Fast Start: the introduction to the Scouting organization.

This Is Scouting: Short overview of the mission, vision, and values of the BSA.

Leader-Specific Training: How to Guide for particular leadership roles in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing, or as district/council volunteers.

Outdoor Skills Training: Training opportunities are targeted to enhance the outdoor skills needed by leaders in Scouting's various programs.

Wood Badge: The BSA's ultimate leadership training for adults.

Philmont Leadership Challenge: Hones the skills taught in Wood Badge in an outdoor experiential learning environment at Philmont Scout Ranch.



What would I gain from taking Wood Badge?

Wood Badge participants will:

- Gain a global view of Scouting.
- Learn contemporary team leadership concepts.
- Experience the stages of team development.
- Have FUN in the company of interesting, like-minded individuals.
- Develop a renewed commitment to provide Scouting with the best possible leadership.

What if I'm new to Scouting? Should I wait a year before I take Wood Badge?

No. The training has been tailored to those who are relatively new to scouting as well as those with years of experience. You should take it as soon as you're eligible. Wood Badge will open up a whole world of Scouting to newcomers and seasoned veterans alike. For Cub, Boy Scout, or Venturing leaders, the best time to take Wood Badge is now.

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What to Expect from Wood Badge (continued)

You are considered trained and eligible once you have completed:

Cub Scouting

Youth Protection Training
Leader Specific Training

Boy Scouting

Youth Protection Training
Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster
Position Specific
Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
Troop Committee Challenge (committee members)

Venturing

Venturing Youth Protection Training
Venturing Leader Specific Training
Crew Committee Challenge (committee members)



Am I eligible? What are the prerequisites to take Wood Badge?

Wood Badge is open to all registered adults who have successfully completed the basic training requirements for their primary position. You can find a summary of the training you need in the left column. For more details, go to

www.piedmontscouting.org/get-started.

Cub Scout leaders may want to consider taking Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos or Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills. These are not required for the course, but will be beneficial to you in the long run.

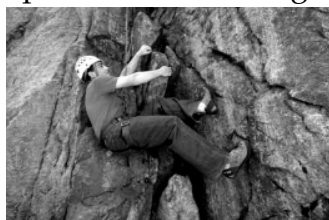
Since the Wood Badge weekends are an outdoor experience, what equipment do I need?

You provide your own personal gear such as a tent, sleeping bag, backpack, daypack, and full scout uniform. Once enrolled, a detailed personal equipment list will be provided.

Health & Safety: The Wood Badge training team adheres to the Guide to Safe Scouting. Each person must have a current BSA medical form before they can attend the course. Each participant must be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. There will be a staff medical officer present who will administer first aid and assist with any health issues that may arise.

If you have any physical limitations make certain that we are

aware of it, so that we may assist as needed. We will also be asking about your dietary restrictions. All medical information supplied is kept confidential and is available only to the staff medical officer who will advise the course director.



**GUIDE TO
SAFE SCOUTING**
A GUIDE FOR CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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What to Expect from Wood Badge (continued)

Will we be walking? Camping? Sitting in a classroom? Working outdoors?

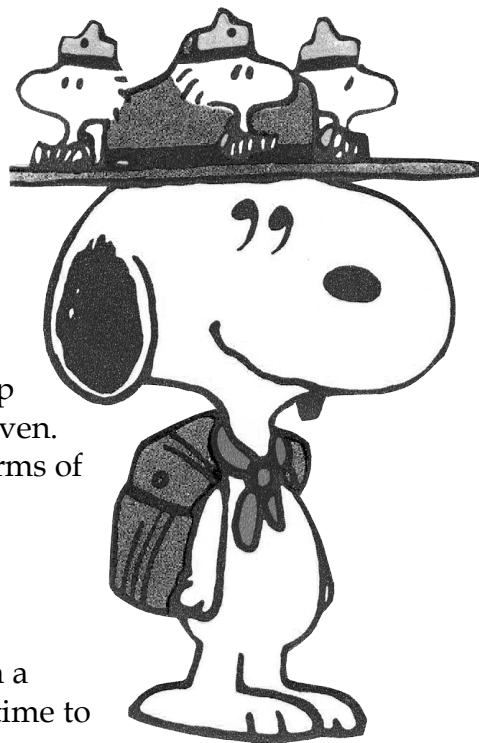
Yes, yes, yes ,and yes! We will be doing some of each. Plus, you'll enjoy singing, campfire programs, great food, firing rockets, watching a movie, backpacking, being a game show contestant - you know - FUN STUFF - and LOTS of it!

I don't know anyone taking the course. Will I fit in?

Are you given to outbursts of laughter? Do you enjoy an immense sense of accomplishment? Most of the people who attend Wood Badge are there "on their own". Don't worry! You're around fellow scout volunteers, and the program is set up so you'll be making new friends the first few hours — minutes even. We also design the patrols to provide the best of all worlds in terms of experience, background, and skills.

What's the most important thing I should know about Wood Badge?

Ask anyone who has taken it and they will tell you that it is both a "Mountaintop Experience" and FUN! And - if you've taken the time to read this far: You SHOULD be a Wood Badger!



Okay, so how do I register for Wood Badge?

Registration will be available through the Piedmont Council's website at:
www.piedmontcouncilbsa.org

Details and info will also be posted on the Council's training website at:
www.piedmontscouting.org/training/wood-badge/

