



A major concern in this country is vanishing wildlife and wildlife habitat. Some of this loss comes from a lack of knowledge about the creatures of nature.

This program feature will help Scouts in the troop to appreciate wildlife and how it lives, and to develop a sense of what Scouts can do to protect and preserve the animals around them.

If you live in the city, this program feature will give you an opportunity to go to a rural location to observe nature, or to visit a zoo. If you live in a rural area, this feature may reactivate your awareness of wildlife around you and what you can do to protect it.

SCOUTING OUTCOMES

This month's patrol and troop activities should give your Scouts:

- An appreciation for the wonders of nature and possibly a growing feeling of closeness to God.
- A greater understanding of how pollution affects the natural world and how Scouts can help stop it.
- A strengthened resolve to do their "duty to country" through good conservation practices.
- Growing self-confidence.
- A desire to protect the wildlife of our country.

ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

By the end of the month, all Scouts should have met the majority of their basic nature requirements through First Class. Depending on this month's activities, they may also complete all or part of the following rank requirements:

Tenderfoot

- Outdoor—Hiking, camping, nature, cooking
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law
- Physical fitness

Second Class

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping, hiking, nature
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

First Class

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping, nature, hiking
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

Merit Badges. Experienced Scouts can concentrate on the Nature and Camping merit badges this month; they should be able to complete almost all of the requirements. Depending on activities during the campout, they may also complete requirements in Cooking, Mammals, Fish and Wildlife Management, Insect Life, Botany, and Wilderness Survival.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The patrol leaders' council can involve parents in the program feature this month by:

- Asking those qualified to assist with instruction for camping and nature skills.
- Inviting families on the outing.
- Asking them to provide transportation to the campsite.