



Troop 154
Boy Scouts of America
Durham, New Hampshire

Dear Parent and Scout:

Welcome to Boy Scout Troop 154. Our Troop is chartered by the Community Church of Durham located on Main Street in Durham, NH. Troop 154 has been an active Boy Scout troop since 1924. We are the oldest chartered troop in the Abnaki District of Daniel Webster Council.

Our Scout Troop meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the Community Church of Durham. We have a year round program but only meet weekly during the school year. A few highlights from previous years include: Abnaki District Camporees; winter cabin campouts; trips to Battleship Cove, West Point, Gettysburg, Mystic Seaport, and the Coast Guard Academy; Meade Base campout; several local area campouts; day trips (skiing, hiking, cross country skiing, etc); and a week at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation (Summer Camp). This year's program is attached and additional information is available on our web site at: www.DurhamNH.com/bsa154

Our Troop participates in local Abnaki District activities as well as Troop sponsored activities. District activities include: "Scouting for Food", District Camporees, Popcorn Sales, and "Hike-a-thon". Some Troop sponsored activities include: local campouts, Saco River canoe trip, other canoe trips, troop swims, local clean-up projects, local parades, Eagle Scout project work days and maintenance days, and local fun day activities.

Our primary Troop fundraiser occurs from the Thanksgiving weekend through the last weekend before Christmas. The Troop loads and transports Christmas trees to Durham as part of a weekend campout before Thanksgiving. The trees are then sold on the Thanksgiving weekend (most years) and following weekends in December at the Durham Plaza. All Scouts and parents are requested to participate in this activity. This is our primary fundraiser to fund troop needs for the whole year. Popcorn sales help, but most of the funds are returned to the boys to purchase camping equipment, uniforms, and pay summer camp fees.

In the Boy Scout program, the boys complete activities and earn advancement through participation in scout meetings. At the meetings senior scouts and registered adult leaders provide training activities and demonstrations. Parents are invited to become involved in the scouting program as Assistant Scoutmasters, Troop Committee members, and Merit Badge Counselors. These opportunities are open to both male and female parents. Scout program and leader training is available. **Parents are encouraged to join our troop campouts and other troop activities and many times you are needed for these events to occur.**

The Scout registration fee for the Boy Scout program is \$8.50 per year including insurance. Boys are encouraged to purchase a subscription to Boy's Life Magazine for an additional \$9.00. Adult registration is also \$8.50 and includes a subscription to Scouting Magazine and the New Hampshire Scouter paper. These rates are subject to change each year. Normally the Troop covers the cost of Adult registration each year and part of the cost of registering each boy depending on fundraiser participation. If you need additional information, please contact me at 868-2176 or the Committee Chairman, Ron Strelman at 868-5604.

Yours in Scouting,

Ken Hochgraf, Scoutmaster

Troop 154 Policy
(Summarized Version)

The Boy Scout Oath and the Scout Law should guide the activities of all scouts. Sometimes it is difficult to make the correct application. The following information is intended to be a guide in certain situations both at meetings and on campouts:

1. Weekly attendance at the Troop Meetings is expected. All Scouts are expected to wear their uniforms to the meetings. A Scout should attend a minimum of three Troop meetings per month and especially the meetings before a campout.
2. Each Scout is expected to be prepared for the Troop Meetings by bringing his **Scout Handbook, Merit Badge Book** (if needed), **notebook, and a pen or pencil**.
3. Scouts are expected to be prepared for a Board of Review for a rank advancement by appearing in a full required uniform which includes as a minimum: shirt with required patches, neckerchief, slide, scout hat, and scout belt. Pants are optional except for Eagle Scout candidates.
4. Any use of illegal drugs or alcohol by scouts will be cause for dismissal.
5. Smoking and un-scoutlike literature are not permitted at meetings or campouts. These will be confiscated and destroyed or returned to the scout's parents.
6. BSA policy is that no sheath knives are allowed to be carried by scouts. Only folding knives are allowed after receiving proper training in their use.
7. Although BSA and Troop 154 encourage the practice of low impact camping, parents are requested to refrain from purchasing chemical stoves and lanterns until the scout achieves the rank of First Class. This allows the scout to learn the basics of cooking on an open fire and scout fire building along with safety techniques.
8. ***Portable radios, cassette or CD players ("walkman" type devices) and hand held games*** have no place at troop meetings and campouts. Our adult leaders will not be responsible for these devices. They also detract from Scouting activities. "Walkman" devices become a communication inhibitor even though they emit no external noise and could be a safety hazard in an emergency.