

SDB OUTBACK RANGERS: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER SCOUTS

The Outback Ranger program is designed for those Scouts who are at least 13 years of age or older and in their third year of summer camping. Participants must be in good physical condition, looking for fun, adventure, and challenges in the rugged hills, scenic valleys, and pristine coves on Hohn Scout Reservation and the Lake of the Ozarks.

Program highlights include group initiative games and challenge course to build teamwork; mountain man activities including black powder rifle shooting, tomahawk throwing, cooking and crafts; American Indian activities such as a sweat lodge, games, and crafts; early American skills such as blacksmithing and lumberjacking; aquatic activities like canoeing, sailing, and other high adventure activities like rock climbing and rappelling, backpacking, fishing and swimming.

The goal of this program is to offer the older Scouts an alternative to traditional summer camp while giving him the opportunity to learn and practice group dynamics, leadership, self-reliance and personal achievement. Merit badges or specific awards will not be offered but many activities will fulfill certain merit badge requirements. The staff will serve as advisors rather than directors; the degree of enjoyment and enrichment gained by the Scouts depends on their own attitudes and desires.

Scouts will live in outpost camps in the backwoods of Hohn Scout Reservation and selected undeveloped shorefront property on Lake of the Ozarks. Scouts should plan on carrying all equipment necessary for survival and walking or paddling everyday. Camping will be in shelters constructed by the Scouts and fires will be built using only flint and steel. Some cooking will be on backpacking stoves, the rest on open fires.

The Outback Ranger Program will be offered each week that camp is in session at Hohn, and requires an individual application. Availability is based upon demand. There are a limited number of participant slots available, so please move quickly. An application is located in the appendix.