

Thunderbird District presents:

Pioneering Merit Badge Weekend

May 2-4, 2014

Pioneering Merit Badge Weekend was designed to give your Scouts the full benefit of a top level, hands-on, pioneering program. The Venture Crew staff has helped teach this weekend program since 2003 and have helped several hundred scouts to achieve this merit badge.

We do expect a scout to work hard during the weekend to complete the requirements. Pioneering Merit Badge Weekend is a very in-depth program, with little time for play.

Our purpose is to send your scouts back to your unit with a skill that he can share with the troop and help teach the skill to others in your unit.

We also recommend that adults come to participate in the program as well. Well-trained leadership complements trained scouts and provides balanced guidance.

Your scouts will learn:

- Rope making and whipping
- Basic knots and lashings
- Advanced knots and lashings
- How to splice rope
- How to identify rope
- How to use rope tackle

They will build:

- Camp gadgets
- Gateways
- Bridges

And get hands-on pioneering experience!

Registration begins December 2013.

\$25 per participant.

Merit Badge Program: 60 youth maximum

Advanced Program: 15 boys maximum

Adult Program: No maximum

Registration and fees are due by March Roundtable.

****After March Roundtable, fee is \$27.****

Need more information? Contact:

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More Information...

Accommodations: This year the course will be at Butte Creek -- tent camping, bring all of your usual gear. Please be prepared to haul gear up the hill or into the lower field; *no driving beyond the parking lot will be permitted.*

Adults: Adult leaders are encouraged to go through the same program on this weekend. All adults attending the weekend will be charged the participant fee, regardless of whether or not they choose to go through the course. Two-deep leadership is required at all times.

Advanced Program: The Advanced Program is designed for boys who have already earned the merit badge and wish to further their pioneering skills. They will learn how to engineer new projects, then build them on Sunday.

Arrival and Dismissal: Plan to arrive around 6 pm Friday for set up and leave around 4 pm Sunday. Program will begin about 8 pm on Friday.

Clothing: Work gloves, jeans & boots are recommended. Rain gear is almost always needed for Pioneering Weekend. Class A uniform is only needed for flag.

Food: Bring your own. A light cracker barrel will be provided on Friday and Saturday nights. A sack lunch will be needed for Saturday.

Girl Scout Troops: Girl scouts can participate in this program as well if our registration cap of 60 youth has not been met. Boy Scouts will be given first priority for an opportunity to earn this merit badge.

LDS Units: The program is designed to allow LDS units to participate in this weekend. LDS scouts have to work a little harder, but they *can* complete the requirements by Saturday evening. If you are registering an LDS unit, please let us know at registration and at check in. This allows us to have your merit badge cards ready and to give your scouts priority for finishing requirements.

Photographs: Due to safety issues, we cannot permit photography during program time. Please take photos only during free time, such as meals and breaks. Each unit will receive a CD full of photos taken by our staff photographer.