

Cole Canoe Base 2024 Prerequisite List

| Merit Badge/ Activity | Requirements to be fulfilled prior to arrival at camp. Independent Study program structure is the same as "By Appointment" merit badge program in prior years. | BSA Requirements updated | Pre-reqs updated |
|--|--|--|---|
| American Red Cross Standard CPR (Adults Only) | None. Cost for course is \$35.00. Sign up at the Sunday Night Program Expo near the Dumas Pavilion. | N/A | N/A |
| Animation | 4a (animation studio tour). Recommended for second year scouts. | 2015 | 1/2024 |
| Archery | None. This badge is not recommended for first year scouts. Scouts should be familiar with local and state laws regarding Archery equipment, ownership, and usage. Arrow Kits are available for purchase in the River Store for approximately \$5.00. | 2023 | 12/2014 |
| Art | 6 (visit a museum, art exhibit, art gallery, artists' co-op, or artist's workshop). Art and Music are instructed at the same time on different days. Scouts are not required to participate in both badges. | 2014 | 12/2014 |
| Astronomy | 8 (observation). It is recommended that scouts complete 4c (Big Dipper), 5b (visible planets), and 6b (moon phases) prior to arrival. | 2022 | 3/2015 |
| ATV Program | Participants must be 16 years old by the first day of the course and have an ATV Hold-Harmless form (https://michiganscouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/ATV-Hold-Harmless.pdf) signed by a parent or guardian. Everyone must also complete the E-Course offered by the ATV Safety Institute. Visit https://atvsafety.org/atv-ecourse/ and select "Register Here" under the ATV E-Course description. Remember to bring your E-Course Certificate Number with you to camp! Participants should have a long sleeve shirt, long pants, and boots that cover the ankle. A bandana is recommended. Gloves, helmets and goggles will be provided. | Link to ATV Hold-Harmless Form | Link to ATV Safety Institute's E-Course |
| Automotive Maintenance | If living outside the State of Michigan, 1g (State's emissions and safety inspection). Scouts should be at least 14 years old. | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| Basketry | One round basket kit and one square basket kit are needed. The correct kits contain a pre-measured piece for the base of the basket. | 2015 | 3/2022 |
| Bird Study | 5 (observe and identify 20 birds). It is recommended that scouts complete 2 (bird sketches), 6 (bird characteristics), and 7 (bird songs). | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| BSA Complete Angler Recognition | Requirements: Earn the three Fishing related merit badges - Fishing, Fly Fishing, and Fish & Wildlife Management. You must also successfully complete one or more of the following projects: 1. Teach a Fishing or Fly Fishing merit badge skill to your troop, or crew as part of a unit program activity. 2. Help instruct Cub Scouts on fishing skills or fishery management as part of a Cub Scout meeting or outing. 3. Participate in a local fishing derby or tournament, either a Scouting or Community event. 4. Complete a conservation project that will benefit a local fishery. | 2021 | 1/2023 |
| BSA Paddle Craft Safety | Independent Study. Participants must have passed the BSA Swimmer Test, be 15 years of age or older, and physically fit. Participants must also have experience with basic water rescue techniques. | 2012 | 12/2014 |
| BSA Swimming and Water Rescue | Independent Study. Participants must have passed the BSA Swimmer Test, be 15 years of age or older, and physically fit. Participants must also be able to recover a 10-pound weight from eight feet of water. | 2012 | 12/2014 |

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| BSA World Conservation Award | Scouts BSA members can earn this award by earning the following merit badges: 1. Environmental Science OR Sustainability merit badge 2. Soil and Water Conservation OR Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge 3. Citizenship in the World merit badge AND participate in a conservation project as part of an approved Scouting program totaling at least three hours that addresses a conservation need common to more than one country | 2019 | 1/2023 |
| Camping (Eagle Req.) | 4 (Patrol campout), 5e (pack inspection), 7 (pack for campout), 8c (camp menu), 8d (cook menu), 9a (camp 20 days and 20 nights), and 9b (camping activities). | 2024 | 2/2019 |
| Canoeing | 2 (BSA Swimmer test) will be conducted at the start of camp. Scouts should be First Class rank and at least 13 years old due to the physical demands of this badge. | 2024 | 1/2023 |
| Chess | It is suggested that scouts bring a chess set. If this is not possible, a limited amount of equipment is available at camp. | 2013 | 1/2023 |
| Citizenship in the Community (Eagle Req.) | 2 (map and govt. chart), 3 (meeting), 4 (community issue), and 7 (research and volunteer). Scouts are also expected begin preparations for requirement 8 (presentation) prior to coming to camp. | 2016 | 12/2014 |
| Citizenship in the Nation (Eagle Req.) | 5 (national news for 5 days); Do Two: 7a (visit landmark), 7b (visit state capitol), 7c (visit federal facility), 7d (national monument). It is suggested scouts bring a speech to discuss for 6. If scouts have already written the letter for requirement 8 please bring any response to camp. | 2022 | 3/2022 |
| Citizenship in the World (Eagle Req.) | None. It is suggested that scouts research current world events for requirement 3 to be prepared for discussion. | 2016 | 12/2014 |
| Climbing | None. Scouts need appropriate clothing and footwear (closed-toed shoes). Participants should be at least First Class Rank, age 13, and fit to belay. | 2022 | 12/2014 |
| Communication (Eagle Req.) | 5 (meeting). Scouts are encouraged to do requirement 3 & 8 prior to arrival, but it can be done in campsite with unit leadership approval. | 2019 | 12/2014 |
| Cooking (Eagle Req.) | 2c (track your daily activity and caloric needs for 5 days), 4 (3 day menu, shop, cook), 5 (2 day camping menu for patrol), and 6 (hiking menu). From the BSA Advancement Team: Cooking requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class do not count toward Cooking Merit Badge Requirements. You must not repeat any menus for meals actually prepared or cooked in requirements 4, 5, and 6. | 2024 | 1/2023 |
| Crime Prevention | 4 (neighborhood checklist), 6 (raise awareness), and 7a (Neighborhood Watch) OR 7b (jail visit). It may be easier to complete requirements 2, 5, and 8e before arriving. 9am Crime Prevention and Fingerprinting are instructed at the same time on different days. Scout are not required to enroll in both badges. | 2020 | 2/2023 |
| Digital Technology | 1 (view BSA Digital Safety video) and do internet research for 7c (legal dispute), 8 (recycling), & 9 (careers or visit). It is recommended that scouts begin working on some of Req. 6 options prior to camp, or that can be completed during free time. Scouts can view the Digital Safety video at scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/ | 2024 | 1/2024 |

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| Electricity | 2 (home safety inspection), 8 (electrical floor plan), and 9a (electric meter and bill). Recommended for second year scouts. Electricity and Fire Safety are instructed at the same time on different days. Scouts are not required to participate in both badges. | 2021 | 3/2019 |
| Emergency Preparedness (Eagle Req.) | 1 (First Aid Merit Badge), 2c (family meeting), 6c (community emergency management director info), 7b (troop mobilization plan), 8b (personal emergency service pack). | 2023 | 2/2016 |
| Environmental Science (Eagle Req.) | Scouts are encouraged to complete 3c (water pollution), 3d (land pollution), 3e (endangered species), 3f (pollution), 3g (pollination), and 4 (observations) prior to camp. | 2023 | 2/2019 |
| Fingerprinting | None. Fingerprinting is a one session merit badge, and is offered at 9 AM Monday morning, or at 10 AM and 11 AM Friday morning. 9am Crime Prevention and Fingerprinting are instructed at the same time on different days. Scout are not required to enroll in both badges. | 2004 | 1/2024 |
| Fire Safety | 1c (community hazardous substances disposal), 6a (home evacuation plan and drill), 6b (home smoke alarms), 11 (fire station visit), 12 (smoke detector requirements), and 13 (research a career). Fire Safety and Electricity are instructed at the same time on different days. Scouts are not required to participate in both badges. | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| First Aid (Eagle Req.) | 1 (first aid knowledge from Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class), 5a (home first aid kit), and 7e (identify locations of AEDs). This is a two hour session per day merit badge. | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| First Class Emphasis Program | None. This class is intended to teach young scouts some of the skills required for rank advancement through First Class. Camp staff will not sign off requirements in a scout's handbook, but documentation of the skills covered will be provided. It is at the discretion of the unit leader to sign off requirements. This course is instructed in two daily two-hour blocks. Scouts should sign up and attend both sessions (total 4 hours per day) to cover the maximum available requirements. The 2023 FYC Program Schedule is available at https://scoutingevent.com/attachment/BSA272/document_16718246600_9981.pdf | N/A | 3/2019 |
| Fish and Wildlife Management | 7 (Fish age, census, stomach contents, or aquarium). Scouts are encouraged to complete requirement 5 (construct or design). Recommended for second year scouts. | 2021 | 1/2021 |
| Fishing | Scouts are encouraged to attempt requirements 9 and 10 prior to camp. Please bring your state's fishing regulations. It is recommended that scouts bring fishing gear to camp. If this is not possible, a limited amount of camp equipment is available. | 2021 | 12/2014 |
| Fly-Fishing | Recommended for second year scouts. Scouts are encouraged to attempt requirements 10 and 11 prior to camp. It is suggested that scouts have some casting experience, and bring fishing gear to camp. If this is not possible, a limited amount of camp equipment is available. | 2024 | 12/2014 |
| Game Design | 8 (meet with a game development professional). It is suggested that scouts complete 5a (design), 6 (prototype), and 7a (instruction sheet) prior to arrival, but this can be completed at camp. | 2023 | 1/2023 |
| Geocaching | 7 (local caches), 8a (cache to eagle) OR 8b (travel bug) OR 8c (public geocache) OR 8d (CITO), and 9 (geohunt). It is suggested that scouts bring a GPS. If this is not possible, a limited amount of equipment is available. | 2019 | 12/2014 |
| Geology | None. Recommended for first year scouts. It is suggested that scouts complete requirements 4 (geology careers) and 5 (resource / history options) prior to camp. | 2023 | 12/2014 |

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| Graphic Arts | 6 (visit options). | 2012 | 12/2014 |
| Journalism | 2a (print journalism/visits) OR 2b (radio and television/ visits). 3b is suggested to be completed before camp. | 2023 | 3/2019 |
| Kayaking | 2 (BSA Swimmer Test, can be completed at camp). | 2020 | 12/2014 |
| Leatherwork | 5a (commercial tanning process) OR 5b (tan a skin) OR 5d (visit leather related business). If none of these options have been done, scout may complete 4 (a vinyl or leather braid) at camp. This badge is not recommended for first year scouts due to skill level. Kit(s) for requirement 3 are available in the River Store for approximately \$8.00 | 2017 | 1/2021 |
| Lifesaving (Eagle Req.) | 2a (earn the Swimming merit badge). Scouts will need to pass the 400 yard lifesaving pre-test administered by the camp instructor. Young scouts often find that this badge is more physically demanding than they anticipate. | 2021 | 1/2021 |
| Mammal Study | None. It is suggested scouts research for requirements 3c (nongame mammal), unless they choose to do 3a at camp OR 3b prior to camp. Recommended for first year scouts. | 2023 | 3/2015 |
| Metalwork | None. Scouts must be at least 14 years old and have close-fitting long sleeve shirt and long pants made of natural fibers. Leather work boots are also required (steel toe preferred). | 2008 | 12/2014 |
| Motorboating (Independent Study) | 2a (BSA Swimmer Test, which can be completed at Aquatics) and, for requirement 4a, complete the online DNR Boating Safety course (cost of \$29.50, more information at https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79119_79144_79642---,00.html). Participants must be at least 14 years old. This merit badge may include a supervised trip out of camp. It is recommended that scouts have an approved form of CPR Training prior to arrival. | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| Moviemaking | None. It is suggested scouts bring their own camera. If this is not possible, a limited amount of camp equipment may be available. | 2014 | 12/2014 |
| Music | 3a (attend a concert) OR 3b (interview a family member) OR 3c (member of band, choir, or music group for 6 months). Scouts must do two of the four (3a-d). 3d can be completed at camp. If a scout does not complete 4b (compose music) the scout must complete 4a (teach 3 songs) OR 4c (make an instrument). Please be prepared to use the voice option for Req.1 if you are not bringing an instrument to camp. Music and Art are instructed at the same time on different days. Scouts are not required to participate in both badges. | 2017 | 3/2023 |
| Nature | 4a (birds) OR 4d (insects and spiders) OR 4f (mollusks and crustaceans). Scouts may find it easier for requirement 4 to collect items or identify species prior to camp. Recommended for second or third year scouts. | 2023 | 2/2020 |
| Orienteering | 7 (events), 8 (set up course), and 9 (officiating). | 2013 | 3/2015 |
| Painting | None. Painting and Sculpture are instructed at the same time on different days. Scouts are not required to participate in both badges. | 2020 | 1/2023 |
| Personal Fitness (Eagle Req.) | 1b (dental exam), 6 (initial tests and eating log), 7 (12 week fitness program), and 8 (execute program for 12 weeks). Please note religious exemption for requirements. | 2023 | 12/2014 |
| Personal Management (Eagle Req.) | 1 (large family purchase), 2 (budget with 13 week record of income and expenses), 8 (to do list/ schedule for 7 days). It is suggested scouts prepare for 9 (project) prior to camp. This badge is recommended for second or third year scouts. | 2019 | 2/2019 |

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| Photography | 1b (BSA Digital Safety video). It is suggested scouts bring their own camera and begin working on 7 (visual story or topic). If scouts cannot provide their own camera, a limited amount of camp equipment may be available. Scouts can view the BSA Digital Safety video online at scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/ | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| Pioneering | None. Recommended for second or third year Scouts. | 2022 | 3/2017 |
| Plumbing | 2 (home hot and cold water supply). | 2017 | 12/2014 |
| Programming | 1a (BSA Digital Safety video) and 5a-d [scoutlife.org/programming]. Scouts can view the BSA Digital Safety video online at scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/ | 2024 | 1/2024 |
| Public Speaking | None. Requirement 4 is suggested to be finished, but can be completed at camp. | 2003 | 12/2014 |
| Reptile and Amphibian Study | 8a (maintain reptile) OR 8b (observe reptile). | 2023 | 12/2014 |
| Rifle Shooting | 1f (Complete Hunters Education course, or obtain a copy of your State's hunting laws). Scouts are strongly encouraged to obtain a Rifle Shooting merit badge pamphlet. | 2019 | 2/2019 |
| River Ranger Program | Participants must be 16 years old by the first day of camp and pass the BSA Swimmer Test. This is a course that teaches scouts how to plan and lead river treks. Trek Safely, as it relates to open water, as well as some open water rescue techniques are covered in this course. | N/A | 2/2019 |
| Sculpture | Do two of the following: 2a (head), 2b (mold), or 2c (art exhibit). Sculpture and Painting are instructed at the same time on different days. Scouts are not required to participate in both badges. | 2018 | 12/2014 |
| Search and Rescue | Requirement 8 occurs at camp outside of scheduled time. First Aid merit badge is highly recommended. This badge is not recommended for first year scouts. | 2019 | 12/2014 |
| Shotgun Shooting | First-Year scouts are strongly discouraged from taking this badge due to difficulty of handling shotguns and aiming. Bring a copy of your State's hunting laws. | 2014 | 12/2014 |
| Signs, Signals, & Codes | Scouts should work on requirement 7 prior to camp. Recommended for second year scouts. | 2015 | 3/2015 |
| Small-Boat Sailing | 2 (BSA Swimmer Test). This is a two-hours per day badge. Scouts must be at least 12 years old. | 2023 | 2/2021 |
| Soil and Water Conservation | None. Scouts are encouraged to work on their 500 word report (requirement 7) prior to camp, if choosing that option. | 2019 | 2/2019 |
| Space Exploration | Please bring rockets and engines for two launches to complete requirement 3, ensuring they are stored safely with an adult. | 2020 | 3/2022 |
| Swimming (Eagle Req.) | 2 (BSA Swimmer Test) and 3 (150 yard swim) need to be completed at camp. Young scouts often find that this badge is more physically demanding than they anticipate. | 2024 | 3/2015 |
| Theater | 1 (review 3 plays) and 3 (theater participation). | 2021 | 12/2014 |
| Traffic Safety | 5 (interview, research, or organize). | 2022 | 3/2022 |
| Water Sports (Independent Study) | 2b (CPR) and 3 (BSA Swimmer test). Scouts should be at least 14 years old and be prepared to go on Motorboating off-site trip. | 2016 | 2/2016 |
| Welding | None. Scouts must be at least 14 and have close-fitting long sleeve shirt and long pants made of natural fibers. Leather work boots are also required (steel toe preferred). Recommended for second or third year scouts. | 2012 | 12/2014 |

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| Wilderness Survival | 5 (survival kit). Scouts must be 14 years old or older. This badge requires an on-site low impact overnight trip. Scouts should come to camp equipped with the supplies necessary to complete requirement 8 (spend a night in your improvised natural shelter). | 2018 | 12/2022 |
| Wood Carving | 2a (Totin' Chip). This badge is not recommended for first year scouts due to skill level required. Wood carving kits are recommended and available in the River Store for approximately \$4.00, or scrap pieces are available at the Crafts Pavilion. | 2017 | 12/2014 |