



What is Bear Claw?

Bear Claw is an intensive outdoor experience for present and future youth troop leaders, designed to help a Scoutmaster in his responsibility to train his Scouts in being better troop leaders and in maintaining a youth-run Scouting Program. It is based on the BSA National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Program.

The course focuses on teaching advanced leadership skills in a team-building atmosphere based on the patrol method. Participants will be regularly challenged to accomplish activities and projects using the leadership skills taught in the course. Participants will also have opportunities to improve their outdoor skills and apply them.

The course is an example of a boy-led troop as all the teaching is done by youth staff who have attended Bear Claw NYLT. The experience and fellowship received by being with a patrol of other boy leaders from other troops and led by a quality youth staff is significant for the participants. Our objective is for the participants to return to their troops with enthusiasm and ideas that will help make their job a lot easier and improve the troop's program.

Who should attend Bear Claw?

Bear Claw participants must be thirteen years of age by June 1, be in a position of leadership (Senior Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, or will be a candidate in the near future) and be First Class rank before June 1. A Scout must want to attend Bear Claw and have the enthusiasm and desire to participate in this learning experience. Bear Claw will nourish the leadership ability of the Scouts that are counted on to run a troop.

Bear Claw will not help Scouts lacking in Scout spirit or Scouts who are generally not leaders counted on by their troop. Qualifications and maturity will be discussed at the February meeting for Scoutmasters. If you have any questions about the appropriateness of any Scout attending Bear Claw, please contact the Course Director or the Course Scoutmaster.

DUE TO THE INTENSIVE NATURE OF THE PROGRAM, LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DEPARTURES ARE NOT PERMITTED. DO NOT REGISTER IF YOU CANNOT COMMIT TO THE ENTIRE PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE.

Is Bear Claw a week at summer camp?

No. Bear Claw is a leadership training course in an outdoor environment. There are no rank advancement opportunities during the week. The purpose of this course is to develop leadership skills that Scouts will use in their home troop and throughout their lives.

What is the curriculum?

The course models a month in the life of a troop – three meetings (one each day for the first three days) all leading up to a big outdoor experience (an overnight outpost camp). The course uses the patrol method and presents model Patrol Leader Council meetings.

Patrols are challenged early in the week to present to the troop at the end of the week their "Quest for the Meaning of Leadership." While the challenge is designed to have them go through the four stages of team development, it will help patrols and individual Scouts internalize the leadership skills and concepts being presented to them along the way.



Throughout the course, the staff will be modeling the concepts and skills that are the core content of the course. The focus of each session is not only knowledge, but to give the youth a “Toolbox of Skills’ that equips them with the “how of leadership”. Bear Claw has six major aims:

- To give participants the confidence and knowledge to run the troop program;
- To teach and practice key leadership skills and relate these skills to the Scout's troop responsibilities;
- To give Scouts the opportunity to share ideas and experiences that other Scouts have found to be successful and useful in their home troops;
- Give each Scout a varied experience with emphasis on the patrol method and new ways to teach Scoutcraft skills in a fun atmosphere back in his home troop.
- To create an atmosphere where Scouts will experience "Scouting at its best".
- To enhance the relationship between the participant and his home troop Scoutmaster.

What are the skills being taught?

The course begins with the patrols finding their team vision and ends with the individuals refining a personal vision of how to take the skills back to their home troop and communicate what he has learned. A more detailed description will be distributed at the Scoutmaster pre-course briefing.

Communicating	Leading Yourself	Problem Solving
Resolving Conflicts	Preparing Your Plans	Conducting a Troop PLC
Finding Your Vision, Part I	Valuing People	Teaching EDGE
Making Ethical Decisions	Forming Your Team	Leading EDGE
Setting Your Goals	Finding Your Vision, Part II	Creating A Future

Is the home Scoutmaster involved?

Absolutely! Bear Claw is designed to enhance the Scouts relationship with his home Scoutmaster. The home Scoutmaster coordinates and encourages the Scout's completion of his Phase 2 goals. The home Scoutmaster approves the completion of these goals by signing the form. He may also change these goals (one or all of them) to have a better fit to the needs of his troop.

Is Bear Claw complete after the course?

No, Bear Claw is a two phase program.

Phase 1 is the course, and the NYLT certificate is issued at the completion of this phase.

Phase 2 is the completion of the personal vision statements with goals prepared by each Scout in his home troop after he completes the course. These vision statements should be completed within a year of course completion, at which time the Scout will receive his Bear Claw necklace and certificate. The home Troop Scoutmaster approves the completion of these goals by signing the form. He may also change the goals as needed to meet the troop's needs. After completion the signed form and a cover letter should be mailed to the course Scoutmaster.



When does registration close?

Registration and total payment of fee is due on May 1. Send the forms to Theodore Roosevelt Council, 544 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758 attn: Bear Claw Registration. After that date, Scouts are taken IF space is available. No applications will be accepted after Orientation.

To register, mail the following forms

- The application, with Scoutmaster signature along with the registration fee:
- The confidential Scoutmaster evaluation (in a sealed envelope)
- The participant self-evaluation
- The permission form signed by a parent

At the Pre-Course Orientation, the applicant will need to bring a completed Annual Medical Form and the medication and release to treat forms in the camp medical forms appendix. These forms are available at the Health and Safety webpage at www.trcbsa.org.

Orientations:

SCOUTMASTERS: A Scoutmaster briefing will be held March 1 to review the course syllabus and application procedures; attendance is strongly recommended. One application per troop will be confirmed for the course; up to three additional applications will be placed on a wait-list and confirmed after the registration deadline on May 1.

A Bear Claw Orientation meeting (**MANDATORY**) will be held in May. Accepted participants, parents and Scoutmasters are required to attend. The meeting will review course activities and requirements. The orientation meeting will be 60 - 90 minutes although staff will remain to answer specific questions.

Arrival at the Course:

DO NOT BRING FOOTLOCKERS; THIS IS NOT A SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM. Participants that bring footlockers will not be enrolled and will be asked to leave.

Each Scout should have one backpack with all of his items and be in a full Class A Scout summer uniform (with Scout shorts, Scout socks, Scout shirt and Scout belt). A hike of ½ mile to 1 ½ miles will be made to the course site.

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How will Scouts live during Bear Claw?

In order to accomplish the objectives, the participants upon arrival, are placed in a patrol composed of 6 (Scouts from the same home troop will be in different patrols). A Troop Guide (Youth Staff Member) is assigned to each patrol to advise and to be a resource to the participants throughout the learning process. The patrol method is used extensively at the course. Patrols are on their own to set up campsites, cook meals, construct patrol projects and plan and carry out other activities without direct adult supervision.

Is any special equipment needed?

Each Scout is required to have at least one complete summer Scout uniform. A complete uniform includes



the following; Scout shirt, Scout shorts, Scout belt and Scout socks. This is known as the Class A uniform and will be worn at breakfast and dinner during the week. Most other times the Scouts will wear a Class B uniform which consists of the NYLT T-shirt (provided on the first day of the course) along with Scout shorts, Scout socks and Scout belt. More information is given at the Orientation meeting.

How do I contact my son?

Scout's Name

Bear Claw NYLT
 Onteora Scout Reservation
 Rt. 1, Box 261
 Livingston Manor, NY 12758

What is the NYLT Participant cost?

The course fee is \$ 355.00 (\$100 deposit paid by March 15, balance paid by May 1). All payments must be made at or to the Council Service Center. *Make all checks payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Council. Please write 1-6801-047-20 Bear Claw in the check memo field.* No payments will be accepted at pre-course meetings.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR BEAR CLAW NYLT

Registration Starts February 1, 2012
 \$ 100 Deposit Due March 15, 2012
Registration Deadline and total fee paid May 1, 2012

No payments will be accepted at the pre-course orientation.

KELLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL	Briefing for Leaders	March 1, 2012	8:00 PM
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KELLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL	Course Orientation (MANDATORY) for Participants/SM/Parents	May 20, 2012	2:00 PM
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ONTEORA SCOUT RESERVATION COURSE

Participant Arrival:	August 5, 2012	10:00 AM
Closing Ceremony:	August 12, 2012	11:00 AM
Participant Departure:	August 12, 2012	11:30 AM

How can I get additional information?

More information is available at www.trcbasa.org/Welcome/NYLTHome.htm. I will be glad to answer any questions that you have. Based on the principles of the course, potential and registered participants should be encouraged to make inquiries to take responsibility to understand the goals and to get registration information. Please feel free to write to me: **Dwight Rosenstein**, Course Director, Bear Claw NYLT Email: bearclaw@trcbasa.org



Youth Attending Camp (please print)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Town: _____ ST: ___ Zip _____
 Email: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Troop: _____ Ldrship Position: _____
 Current Rank: (circle one) 1st CI Star Life Eagle
 District or Council (circle one) : IQ PQ RR SR
 Out of council _____
T-shirt Size (circle one) S M L XL XXL

Parent or Guardian (please print)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Town: _____ ST: ___ Zip _____
 Email (required): _____
 Home Phone () _____
 Parent's Cell Phone: () _____
 Unit Leader: _____

At the Pre-Course Orientation, the applicant will need to bring a completed Annual Medical Form – parts A, B and C with the specific forms for medication and releases for emergency treatment by camp. The form must be signed and stamped by a physician. These forms can be downloaded at www.trcbsa.org at the E-Forms menu – click Health and Safety.

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Application and Statement of Qualifications

On my honor as a Scout, I promise that I will faithfully live according to the Scout Oath and Law during the National Youth Leadership Training Conference and thereafter. I will represent my troop with honor and do all I can to pass along my new knowledge and skills to my fellow Scouts. I certify that I am at least a First Class Scout competent in all scout skills required for attainment of the rank, 13 years of age by June 1, and a troop youth leader (Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, or capable of filling those positions). I also understand I will be sent home if I violate standards appropriate to Scout behavior or if I am homesick and disrupt the ability of the staff to administer the course program.

(Scout's signature) Signed _____

Approval of Parent or Guardian

I approve the attendance of my son named above at the Theodore Roosevelt Council National Youth Leadership Training course (Bear Claw NYLT) and will see that he has the necessary equipment and uniforms to meet the requirements for the course and we will attend the Orientation Meeting. I understand that if my son violates course norms or becomes homesick, his Scoutmaster will be contacted to have you pick up your son so that the staff will be able to attend to the delivery of the course to the remainder of the participants.

Signed _____

Scoutmaster Approval

Name _____ E-Mail Address _____

Home Phone () _____ - _____ **Attach: SM Evaluation (sealed envelope) & Participant Self Evaluation.**

Signed _____

In case of emergency during the course, please notify:

Name _____ Relationship to Scout _____

Home Phone () _____ - _____ Business Phone () _____ - _____