



# Camp Independence

## 2010 Parent's Guide

Camp Independence is a camp set aside exclusively for Cub Scouts and Webelos at Heritage Reservation, the main summer camp facility of the Greater Pittsburgh Council.

### 2010 Theme:

Load your wagons and join us in our adventure west. As settlers you will join us as we embark on our journey of over 2,000 miles to the Pacific Ocean on the Oregon Trail. You will join a group of pioneers during the 1840's who have pulled up stakes and headed West to farm and to the Gold Fields.

Camp Independence is ready for a rip-roaring time to be had by one and all. Come join us as we prepare for our journey in the Camp-wide Games. Search the areas provided until you find the necessary supplies to begin your journey.

You may be lucky enough to meet Native Americans, Lewis & Clark or settlers on their way to the West. Take a dip or drop your fishin' line in the Great Pacific Ocean (Lake Courage).

Camp Independence is continuing on the journey to undergo changes in programming. You and your scout will find education programming for each rank of Scouting. Come join us at Independence Ranch - Gateway to the West as we deliver the promise.

### Camp Dates:

We are signed up as a group for:

Session and Dates \_\_\_\_\_

### What's Unique About Camp...

- Camp Independence utilizes a dining hall
- Camp cycles through four themes, this year, we welcome you to Independence Ranch as we present the Wild West.
- Camp helps develop character, introduce new friends, teach valuable life skills and helps boys discover new interests.
- Campers are assigned to a campsite and stay in platform wall tents, with toilets and hot shower facilities nearby. Adults and youth sleep on cots.
- Homesickness is rare because the program is packed full of activities. If it does happen, the staff is trained and ready to give extra individual attention.
- If parents cannot take the entire time off from work, their son can still attend. Scouts want to come! Parents are encouraged to rotate their stay with other parents in the unit.
- For your swimming experience, we have beautiful Lake Courage (no pool).



## The Adventure of Camp...

There are many program areas at Camp Independence and we have built a schedule so you can see them all.

### ***Aquatics Adventure***

The Aquatic Adventure Area is designed to test a Scout's "Endurance and Courage" as they focus on activities surrounding Lake Courage and in Independence Cove. Please note that most activities require taking the National Boy Scouts of America swimming ability test. This test will classify you at a particular swimming ability level. Certain activities in this area require specific swimming ability levels.

- Huck Finn Raft (Cubs only)
- Swimming
- Row Boating
- Fishing Piers
- Aquanaut (Webelos only)
- Canoeing (Webelos only)
- Funoeing (Webelos only)
- Polar Bear Swim (Webelos only)



### ***Ecology Adventure***

The Ecology Adventure Area is designed to test a Scout's "Knowledge and Honor" as they participate in adventures in the outdoors.

- Bouldering (Cubs only)
- Nature
- Mini Golf
- Zoo
- Service project
- Climbing (Webelos only)
- Leave No Trace (Webelos only)

### ***Outback Adventure***

The Outback Adventure Area is designed to test a Scout's "Survival and Energy" as they participate to learn the basics of camping in the outdoors and survival. The Scouts will also have their energy and enthusiasm tested as they take the physical challenges of the Outback.

- Sports
- Frisbee Golf
- Sponge War
- DisAbility Awareness (Webelos only)
- BMX Bike Course (Webelos only)
- Whitl 'N Chip (Webelos only)

### ***Frontier Adventure***

The Frontier Adventure Area is designed to test a Scout's "Skill and Marksmanship" as they are introduced to range activities including safety, accuracy and positioning.

- BB Gun
- Archery
- Sling Shot Range
- Rock Throwing
- BB Sports Belt Loop
- BB Sports Pin (Webelos only)
- Action Archery (Webelos only)



## Advancement

During each camp session, there will be opportunities for advancement. Check the schedule online to see what we offer in your session. Staff members will lead Scouts in learning with a twist of fun.

## Dietary Needs

Please notify us of any special dietary needs or restrictions two weeks prior to your arrival using the form available online.

## Medical Policies & Forms

- Every participant must provide a copy of their annual health and medical form and a Heritage Supplemental Medical Form
- Parts A and C are required for 2 and 3 day sessions.
- Parts A, B and C are required for 4 day sessions.

## Can't join your unit but still want to go?

If you are not able to attend with your Den/Pack, camp welcomes you to attend on your own. Register online at [www.heritagereservation.org](http://www.heritagereservation.org) or call the Camping Department on (412) 325-7921.



## Honor Necklaces

On the first day in camp, each Scout and adult will make their own Honor Necklace. The rounder, beads and claws will take on special meaning. In addition, returning Scouts may transfer their beads and claws from previous years.

## Boy Scout Camp Hike

Second year Webelos have the option of hiking to one of the Boy Scout Camps. You may select either Freedom or Liberty, not both. You will be provided with a lunch at the Boy Scout camp and will receive a tour of the program that you will experience next year. The hike will take all morning and part of the afternoon, you must forfeit a few other scheduled programs.

## Camp-wide Programs

Join us in the Wild West as we gather necessary supplies, search for treasure maps and travel to the Gold Fields of the 1840's American West!

- Wild West Training
- Gold Rush
- Star Gazing
- Campsite Cookout
- Closing Campfire

## What Campers Should Bring

- Sneakers/Hiking Shoes
- T-Shirts
- Underwear & Socks
- Jeans
- Long-Sleeve Shirts
- Pajamas
- Shorts
- Sweatshirt or Jacket
- Official Scout Uniform
- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Personal Hygiene items
- Sleeping Bag
- Pillow
- Hat
- Watch
- First Aid Kit
- Pocket Knife
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Rain Gear
- Insect Repellent (non aerosol)
- Flashlight
- Spending Money
- Fishing Gear
- Camera/Film (optional)

## More Camping Opportunities

Visit [www.heritagereservation.org](http://www.heritagereservation.org) to learn more about these exciting opportunities:

- Fishing Derby
- Rookie Camp
- Winter Weekends
- Beaver Weekend

## Pack Specific Information

*Throughout our history, we have been providing the best quality programs, and have become a home for many units, Scouters, Scouts and staff. This year, we will maintain the commitment to excellence, Heritage is known for, while going above and beyond with several new programs and services.*

*Delighted that your unit has chosen to take part in this experience, the directors and key leaders are busy planning an incredible program. We have an exceptional group of staff and directors returning, along with some new faces, to ensure we exceed your unit's expectations.*