

CUB SCOUT PACK 98

SERVICE PROJECTS

HOW-TO GUIDE

1. Job Description. The Service Projects Committee (a) identifies service projects that the Pack will do and (b) organizes these projects. The Chair (i) organizes one service project and (ii) supervises the Committee to make sure that the other projects are properly organized by the other members of the Committee. The service projects should be fun and easy for the Scouts. By converting words into action, this will instill in the boys the instinct to help others.

2. Purpose. This Guide is intended to be a "one-stop" guide to organizing a service project, although it needs to be read in conjunction with (a) Pack 98's "So You Want To Run An Event?" and (b) the BSA's *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

3. Safety. When planning each service project, the Chair should read the BSA's *Guide to Safe Scouting*. A copy of the *Guide to Safe Scouting* should be included in the Resource Book for Service Projects or may be accessed through the Pack Website under "Web Resources." (Keep in mind that the *Guide* is updated from time to time. If you rely on a hard copy, please check the virtual version to identify any changes.)
 - 3.1. Tour Permit. If the service project will occur outside of Scotch Plains/Fanwood, please file a Tour Permit with Council at least two weeks in advance (see "So You Want To Run An Event?" for more details).

4. What is "Service"? "Service" is the practical application of Cub/Boy Scout ethics of Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, developing Values and satisfaction of contributing to our local community. It also helps reinforce the Cub Scout Promise (I . . . promise to . . . help other people") and the Law of the Pack ("The Cub Scout gives goodwill") and shows the boys how they can have an impact on others.

- 4.1. Traditionally we encourage participation in Scouting for Food each November and decorate a "giving tree" at our December Holiday Party. These are wonderful, worthwhile projects, but keep in mind that Service does not always mean "donation." Please try to encourage Service as an action!
5. Den Level Service Projects. We would like to encourage the Dens to incorporate service projects on a Den level as well as to participate in Pack-wide service projects. Ideally, each Den should identify its own service project and make a tradition of it.
 - 5.1. Doing service projects on a Den level takes into account the various levels of ability of the Scouts, and should allow the older Dens to participate in more satisfying Service Projects. As the boys mature, their Service Projects can grow with them!
 - 5.2. A list of specific service projects should be circulated in the Fall, and each Den should be required to select one to perform during the year.
6. Committee Supervision. In addition to organizing one service project, the Chair is responsible for supervising the Service Projects Committee to make sure that the other projects are properly organized by the other members of the Committee.
 - 6.1. Organizational Meeting. In October (after all of the new Scout parents have signed up for positions), the Chair should call an organizational meeting of the Committee. At this meeting, the Chair should:
 - (a) identify all service projects that the Pack is committed to do, such as Scouting For Food;
 - (b) identify ideas for service projects (including those identified herein);
 - (c) ask the Committee members for ideas for other service projects;

- (d) discuss the various possible projects and decide which ones the Pack will do and identify a tentative schedule for them; and
- (e) get each member of the Committee to volunteer to organize one of the agreed-upon service projects.

6.2. Producer Role. Except for the project that the Chair is organizing, the Chair should act as the "producer" of each service project and act as a resource for the other members of the Committee. The Committee Chair should NOT organize additional projects; that's what the members are for. As "producer," the Chair should set specific tasks, including reporting, for the member organizing the project.

7. Things to consider for a Service Project:

- 7.1. Does it serve a real need?
- 7.2. Is it within the boys' ability and understanding?
- 7.3. Does it show dignity and privacy of the people being helped?
- 7.4. Does it make the best use of time and money being spent?
- 7.5. Is it a project that the boys are interested in?
- 7.6. Can it be supervised adequately?

8. Ideas for Service Projects. Ideas for service projects are set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

9. Publicity. Service Projects are excellent subjects of Pack publicity. Be sure to invite the Pack Photographer and provide a story and pictures to the Public Relations Chair. Getting his picture in a newspaper will provide an added incentive for Scout participation.

SERVICE PROJECT IDEAS

(this list is in no way complete - use it as a starting point to stimulate your own ideas)

1. First United Methodist Church. So many of Pack 98's activities occur at the First United Methodist Church. The least we can do is a couple of service projects each year. Doing this will help our relations with the Church, so this is a must. Some ideas:
 - 1.1. Plant shrubs or flowers.
 - 1.2. Clean up around the outside of the Church.

For more information, or to coordinate a Church service project, call the Church Secretary (Nancy) at 322-9222.
2. Coles School. Can we do something for Coles School?
3. Senior Clean-Ups. Is there a senior citizen who needs help around the house?
4. Food Drive. What about a food drive in the Spring? After all, people aren't hungry only at Thanksgiving.
5. Food Pantry. Can we help a food pantry?
6. New Park at the Old Terry Loo Zoo. Can we help with the new park being built at the site of the old Terry Loo Zoo?
7. World Friendship Fund. The BSA's World Friendship Fund raises money for cooperative projects that help Scouting associations in other countries to strengthen and extend their Scouting programs. Types of projects include providing funds for eastern European nations to help reorganize Scouting and for acquiring 100 tents for Scouts in Kenya.
8. Watchung Reservation. We can adopt a trail or section of trail in the Watchung Reservation. For more information, contact Trailside Nature Center (908) 789-3670.

9. Helping Local Organizations. Many local organizations can use our help. Feel free to contact any of the following and find out how Pack 98 can be of assistance:

Plainfield Action Services

Lattimore Building
510 Watchung Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07061

Phone: 753-3519

Contact: Rick Smalley (9 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.)

This organization helps the poorest citizens of Plainfield. Special efforts are targeted at children, the unemployed, youth, elderly and Hispanics.

Suggestions: _____

Welfare Dept. of Scotch Plains

Phone: 322-6700

Contact: Maria Santo (Tuesday & Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

Suggestions: Food drive, toy drive. *Older scouts - clean & stock pantry.

Salvation Army

615 Watchung Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Phone: 756-2595

Contact: Donald Nichols (9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

Suggestions: Clothing, food or toy drives. Halloween treat bags.

Union County Social Services

317 East Front Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

This organization helps pregnant women and young mothers.

Phone: 791-7044

Contact: Jacqueline Casey (9 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Suggestions: They accept both new and gently used clothes, blankets & toys - so boys of all levels can clean out those closets and see what can be useful!

The Chelsea of Fanwood

295 South Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023

Phone: 654-5200

Contact: Denise Cucinello, Recreation Director

Suggestions: Make holiday cards, decorate paper placemats, sing songs
- all levels - Tiger through Webelos!

Ashbrook Nursing Home

1610 Raritan Road
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

Phone: _____

Contact: Betty Jo Horning, Margaret Paleri

Suggestions: Bake cookies, sing songs or make cards, simple jewelry items and/or holiday favors. Make sure your group (especially younger boys) is prepared for the possibility of seeing sick and handicapped residents - which may be emotionally upsetting for some but very rewarding for others - know your group!

Scotch Plains Senior Citizen Complex

2002 Old Lake Avenue
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

Phone: 654-1313

Contact: Steve Barboe

Suggestions: Table decorations; "Adopt-a-Resident" program

Trailside Nature Center

New Providence Road
Mountainside, NJ

Phone: 789-3670

Suggestions: We all know about their great classes - did you know we can reciprocate by providing a Service? One example was "Free the Trees from Alien Invaders," where a naturalist taught the boys about vines that are natural to our area. Boys then ripped the "alien invaders" off the trees. This was an excellent adventure and provided a service. They also need help weeding - call for more ideas!

Scotch Plains/Fanwood Spring Clean-ups

Phone: _____

Both towns give complimentary T-shirt to all participants. In addition, Scotch Plains "pays" - maybe that income can be used to finance another Service Project or be donated to a good cause.