

Troop 101 Camp Buck Toms Summer Camp Information

When: Troop 101 attends Camp Buck Toms during week 2 of camp. As a rule, this week always falls during the week starting with Father's Day Sunday.

Where: Camp Buck Toms is located on 750 acres with six miles of shoreline on Watts Bar Lake, south of Rockwood. Going through Rockwood past the last traffic light to Nelson Rd. (there is a Camp Buck Toms sign right there), turn left and follow the signs to CBT. A better way, if you are fairly familiar with the area, goes through Midtown and out Post Oak Road, turning left onto Pump House and left again when you arrive at the Volunteer Fire Station (I believe the road will be Abel Valley).

Fees, extra costs, spending money: A week at summer camp currently costs \$120.00, if fees are paid early (by May 1), and \$130.00 after May 1. Additional costs apply to C.O.P.E. (\$30.00 extra) and Mountain Man (\$85.00 extra). Some merit badges and camp activities have extra costs as below:

Climbing- \$10	Muzzle Loading- \$20	Woodcarving- \$6
Leatherworking- \$8	Rocket kit- \$8	OA Brotherhood- \$10
Waterskiing- \$20	Indian Lore- \$5.00	Belt night- \$10
Motor Boating- \$10	Basketry- \$7	Radio/Electronics- \$20
Shotgun Shooting- \$20	Art- \$5	Rifle- \$5
Archery- \$2.00	Aviation- \$2.00	Guest meals- \$3

Scouts attending Dan Beard will do several of the above activities and will need to have about \$21.00 additional money with them to cover the cost of some activities, such as wood carving, basket making, and rocketry; if these items are used, they will be purchased at the trading post by the scout. Scouts will want to have extra spending money for the trading post. Scouts who have worked the minimum number of hours at troop Christmas tree sales will have a portion of their fees paid by the troop; the amount that the troop pays will be determined on an annual basis by the troop committee. Scholarships are available for scouts who need assistance with camp costs; please see Roger Richmond, if you wish to apply for financial assistance through BSA.

Medical Forms: All scouts must have a current "Class 1" physical form (filled out annually by parents) and "Class 2" (completed every three years by physician). Adults over age forty must have a "Class 3" physical exam annually. *Scouts will not be permitted into camp without proper medical exams.*

**** Medical forms fees are due to the troop no later than June 1. In order to receive the early discount rate, all fees must be paid in full at least two weeks prior to the May 1st due early discount fee date. Late fees must be paid in full by June 1st in order to attend camp. Any medical or medication issues must be indicated in writing on the medical form; a verbal reminder at the start of camp would help us assure the need is met adequately.**

Arrival: We will meet at camp at 1:00 PM on Sunday. Scouts need to wear a scout T-shirt and shorts, with swim trunks under their shorts, as we will be participating in swim tests during check-in. Scouts are required to have at least two Troop 101 t-shirts (“Class B shirts”) with them at summer camp. If you need shirts, please see Roger Richmond. We also prefer that only scout-related shirts be worn while at camp (*see camp uniform).

Check-in/vehicles in camp: Upon everyone’s arrival, we will be checked in by Administrative staff, after which we may transport our gear to our campsite. We will load everyone’s gear onto one or two vehicles and proceed together to our campsite. Personal vehicles are not allowed in camp, except to transport troop gear. ***CBT policy is that only a limited number of vehicles may be in camp during this arrival time.*** Please help us adhere to this policy and be mindful that you cannot take your cars into our campsite and stay there. Vehicles that do travel in camp may not exceed 7 MPH, and must have emergency flashers turned on. BSA policy forbids scout from riding in the open bed of a truck at any time.

Swim Test: In order to swim, scouts must pass the BSA swim test and receive a buddy-tag. The CBT swimming area is partitioned off into Swimmer, Beginner, and Non-swimmer areas so that all scouts may enjoy water activities. Non-swimmers will be categorized as such, and will remain in a shallow roped off area when in the water. Beginners will work on basic swimming skills while at camp. They may take the swimming test at any time during camp in order to qualify as a swimmer. A team of life guards is on duty at all times.

Campsite: We do not know which campsite we will be using until the Information meeting, ten days prior to arrival. Troop 101 will be strictly adhering to the patrol method in our campsite. No scout may move his gear into a tent until patrol assignments are made- if he does so, he may be asked to move to another tent, regardless of any improvements that have been made upon his arrival.

Tentage: Camp Buck Toms uses cabin style tent set up on wooden platforms. Each tent, equipped with two cots, will be shared by two scouts. A small piece of carpet is useful to place on the floor of the tent to avoid having small things drop below the flooring as well as for comfort.

Departure: Although camp “officially ends on Saturday, we ask that you to join us for campfire on Friday night and take your boys home afterwards. There are no further activities and leaders would like to get home on Friday night for a weekend of “rest”. We discourage early departures.

Visitation: Parents are welcome to visit camp at any time; visitors must sign in at the Administrative office. Family members may join us for any meal at a cost of \$3.00 per person. Parents of new scouts are discouraged from visiting (see below). By letting us know prior to camp, we can arrange to reserve a tent if a parent wishes to join us for a night or more.

Homesickness: We have one or more very homesick young scouts every year. *It is strongly advised that parents refrain from “giving in” and taking their sons out of camp early.* Experience has shown that boys who leave camp early rarely stay in scouting; typically they are embarrassed that they didn’t “make it” like the other boys did, and they drop out. Camp Staff and troop leaders have a great deal of experience in dealing with homesickness and can handle the problem. The best approach for parents of homesick boys is to allow them to “tough it out”. Parents of groups of boys have been known to join together in a “pact” of agreement to not bring their boys home! Often these parents

will say it was harder on them than the boys, but in the long run, it is for the better. It is usually best if parents of new scouts do not visit during the week, as it typically makes things worse for them if they see their parents and hear of activities at home, but do not get to leave with them. Parents of boys who have not stayed a week at CBT might wish to talk with parents of boys who have been there (support groups can be helpful!).

Behavioral issues: Troop 101 has been fortunate to have had very good young men participating in the program over the years, and we do not expect any problems, but parents should be aware that the possibility exists that Troop Leaders or Camp Administration can ask that they be taken home for serious behavioral issues. We have seen other scouts over the years dismissed from camp for vandalism and destruction. These issues will be dealt with on individual basis.

Parents are asked to alert the scoutmaster if they suspect problems. A message can be left at the administrative office (354-4740), and we will call you. Sometimes you may hear problems that we have not seen, and we can often use your input as to what kinds of things your son responds to best. Roger Richmond's cell phone number is 604-7864 and will be checked periodically while at camp. Best method of contact would be to call both numbers and leave messages, to assure contact as quickly as possible.

Health Lodge and Medications: CBT has a first aid lodge with a physician available 24 hours a day for temporary care of sick scouts and leaders. In cases of severe illness or injury, scouts are taken to Roane Medical Center; a leader will travel with the scout, and parents are called to meet us at RMC. BSA has insurance that covers the first \$150.00 of emergency room costs for injuries that occur at camp. The Health Lodge is also linked by video to UT Hospital for any needs that might arise.

All prescription medications must be left with the Health Lodge upon our arrival at camp. Please make sure all medications are clearly and properly labeled with scouts name, name of medication, and time of administration. Scouts (with a buddy) will go to the health lodge to receive their medications. Troop leaders will not handle medications. We will do our best to remind boys of their medications, but please remember that we have many responsibilities while at camp- your boy needs to keep up with when he needs to take his medications.

Buddy System: Please remind your son that BSA policy requires that we use the buddy system at all times. Any time scouts are traveling outside our campsite, they will be expected to have a buddy with them. This includes going to the first aid lodge, walking to classes, going to the trading post, and any other place at camp to which they might be going.

Emergency calls: For emergency, scouts and leaders may be reached at (865) 354-4740.

Smoking, alcohol: BSA policy requires that *all scout properties and activities remain "smoke free zones"*. **Adults who smoke may not do so in the presence of scouts at any BSA activity**, but are required to remove themselves from the presence of scouts while they are smoking. Remember, youth look to adults as role models, it is very important that we set a proper example for them. Obviously, alcoholic beverages are strictly forbidden at any scouting events.

*** Camp Uniform and gear:** Scouts will be required to wear a BSA field uniform (at least consisting of a “class A” uniform shirt; preferably including khaki colored shorts- not blue jeans) at evening meals and Friday Campfire. At other times scouts should have a “class B”, which is any scout-related T-shirt. We understand that new scouts may be limited in their supply of scout T-shirts (we sometimes have a supply of free shirts available in the troop- ask us, if you need scout shirts). Cub scout event T-shirts may be worn. The trading post offers a variety of T-shirts every year; previous summer T-shirts are often sold at a discount, and can be a very good buy. Non-scouting shirts determined to be inappropriate for scouting will not be allowed. All scouts should have at least two pairs of shoes and appropriate rain gear (flip-flop type sandals are prohibited, except when showering). Gear should be as recommended on the personal equipment checklist. Footlockers are recommended for each scout for storing gear. These should be equipped with locks- preferably combination locks, with the combination number submitted to the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. Key locks should have an extra key, with the extra key given to SM or ASM.

Meals: Meals will be served cafeteria-style in the dining hall. Scouts are encouraged to eat at every meal, and are encouraged to drink plenty of water during their time at camp. We also discourage drinking excessive soft drinks during scouting activities; outdoor activities tend to be dehydrating in nature and soft drinks do contribute to dehydration. Please instruct your sons to drink water throughout every day at camp.

Trading Post: A good selection of shirts, cups, mugs, knives and patches, along with candies, ice cream, soft drinks and other assorted goodies are offered in the trading post. Again, we encourage scouts not to spend excessive amounts on junk food, but we do not monitor their purchases- parents are requested to strongly advise their sons prior to camp in this respect.

Electronics and personal items: Game Boys, Walkmans, and other electronic equipment will be allowed at summer camp, but not on other scouting activities. ***Any electronic devices taken to camp will be the responsibility of the scout.*** Although scouts are supposed to be trustworthy and honorable, whenever many scouts from many different areas are together, things do occasionally happen. If an expensive item is lost or broken, Troop 101 will not be responsible for replacing the item. Scouts are discouraged from bringing expensive pocket knives or equipment for the same reason: they often get lost. *Scouts who do bring personal electronics to camp will only be allowed to listen to them using headphones.*