

WELCOME TO TROOP 251

We're glad you've decided to join us here at Troop 251 of Winslow. You've made a great choice in picking us as your scout begins their journey in the Boy Scouting program! We're an active unit in the community with a 20-year history and reputation of service and fun. We hope this flyer will help you and your scout make a smooth transition into the exciting adventures of Boy Scouting!

1. **Uniform** (called "Class A" and is required for troop advancement nights, Court of Honors, and as otherwise indicated by the Scoutmaster)
 - BSA Khaki Shirt
 - If used for Cub Scout Webelos, remove all Cub Scout insignia, including den number, patrol patch, pack number, and Webelos Rank badge. The Arrow of Light Award should be placed at the bottom tip of the left pocket. Green shoulder tabs, troop numbers, and neckerchiefs will be distributed upon joining.
 - Green Pants with belt (Official BSA pants are preferable but not required)
2. **Advancement**
 - Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class involve basic Scout Skills and are mostly completed with guidance from the Scoutmaster (the goal is "First Class in the First Year")
 - Star, Life, and Eagle required Scouts to earn merit badges, serve in leadership roles, and plan and execute a service project
 - More information on advancement can be found in the Boy Scout Handbook
3. **Merit Badges**
 - Over 120 merit badges in a wide variety of subjects (a full list can be found at scouting.org)
 - Must fill out an official merit badge application or "Blue Card," complete requirements, and review your work with the Scoutmaster or a Merit Badge Councilor to receive credit
4. **Equipment** (Don't go overboard and spend too much)
 - Sleeping bag (preferably one that can withstand cold weather)
 - Stainless Steel Mess Kit (lasts longer than aluminum)
 - Flashlight
 - Duffel bag
 - DO NOT BUY A POCKET KNIFE YET. The Totin' Chip is required before Scouts can use knives.
5. **Get Involved!**
 - We encourage that parents get involved in their Scout's journey in the Boy Scouting program at the leadership level.
 - Positions are available such as Assistant Scoutmaster (direct involvement or field leaders) or Troop Committee member (planning and implementation of program or administrative leaders)

Have questions? Feel free to reach out!

Jim Latimer, Scoutmaster

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