

CAMP EMERALD BAY

Rugged Adventurers



Parent and Leader's Guide 2020

For units and individuals participating in

Rugged Adventurers

Dear Scoutmaster/Unit Leader,

Thank you for choosing Camp Emerald Bay as your 2020 Scout Summer Camp. We look forward to your arrival on Catalina Island. From the beauty of the surrounding hills to the incredibly clear waters of the bay and nearby coves, you will soon see why many consider this one of the finest camps in the United States.

Founded in 1925, Camp Emerald Bay has a rich history of servant leadership. Our vision as a staff is to help you and your sponsoring organization build men and/or woman of character in a fun and safe place. We are committed to providing each Scout a program that inspires them to have a genuine interest in protecting the environment, caring for their community, and growing into responsible adults.

Under your leadership Scouts are embarking on an adventure to explore opportunities unlike any other. This may well be their first time away from home. Your guidance will be vital to ensure a positive and rewarding outdoor experience. The camp staff is here to help you achieve success in your role.

By preparing for camp your Scouts will get the most out of their investment. We do ask that you act as a first source of information for the parents of your unit. This book should answer most of the basic questions but, if not, we will be holding a Leaders' Meeting in the spring where you can clarify any remaining questions.

You can also email us any time at camping@bsa-la.org.

The camp continues to build upon the tradition of excellence in servant leadership and will provide youth experiences that they can only have in the BSA and at Camp Emerald Bay. We are very excited about the summer of 2020 and look forward to serving any of your needs during your week at Camp Emerald Bay.

Sincerely,

Camp Staff 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS BOOK</u>	PG. 4
<u>PRE-CAMP ADMINISTRATION</u>	PG. 5
PRE-CAMP TIMELINE	PG. 5
SUMMER CAMP DATES	PG. 6
PRE-CAMP LEADERS' MEETING	PG. 7
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	PG. 7
WHAT TO BRING	PG. 8
GETTING TO CAMP	PG. 10
<u>IN-CAMP ADMINISTRATION</u>	PG. 12
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	PG. 12
CAMP EXPECTATIONS	PG. 12
<u>PROGRAM INFORMATION</u>	PG. 13
RUGGED PHILOSOPHY	PG. 13
RUGGED CANOE	PG. 14
RUGGED EXPLORER	PG. 15
RUGGED SCUBA	PG. 16
RUGGED OCEANOGRAPHER	PG. 17
<u>DEPARTURE AND POST CAMP</u>	PG. 19
THE LAST 24 HOURS	PG 19
POST-CAMP ADMINISTRATION	PG 19
CAMP STAFF OPPORTUNITIES	PG 20
EMERALD BAY ASSOCIATION	PG 21



ABOUT THIS BOOK

This guide is broken down chronologically into sections to help make your preparation for camp as straightforward as possible. We will hold a Leaders' Meeting in the spring where you will receive additional information and paperwork to help you prepare for the summer. The meetings will be held in Newport and Van Nuys, California. **We recommend you attend one of the meetings or watch the video. Follow us on Facebook to watch the video live or watch the recording at campemeraldbay.org.**

While this book will answer questions regarding the process leading up to camp, you may still need to speak with someone. Please feel free to contact the camping department of the Western Los Angeles County Council any time:

Phone (818) 933-0130

Email: camping@bsa-la.org

Just as your troop completes warm-up hikes prior to a week-long backpacking trip, every troop meeting, cook-out, and camping trip helps prepare Scouts for a great summer camp. Please take a moment to read through this book to familiarize yourself and your Scouts with some of our program offerings. Please keep in mind that this book is just a guide and every Scout's summer camp experience should be unique.

PLEASE NOTE: High Adventure programs are separate from traditional program. If you would like information about traditional summer camps, please visit us on the web at www.campemeraldbay.org for more information.



PRE-CAMP ADMINISTRATION

PRE-CAMP TIMELINE	PG. 5
SUMMER CAMP DATES	PG. 6
LEADER'S MEETING	PG. 7
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	PG. 7
WHAT TO BRING	PG. 8
GETTING TO CAMP	PG. 10

PRE-CAMP TIMELINE

January 10th:

Payment of \$150 for Rugged "E"/ \$200 for Rugged "C"/ \$250 for Rugged "S, O, R" per reserved camper with one Troop check payable to WLACC-BSA is due. If payment is not received your reservation may be cancelled. From this point forward, all payments are non-refundable. As such, ensure all campers are still committed to attending camp.

After January 8th, the addition of Scouts to your reservation can only be done via this link:

[Reservation Change Request](#)

February 23rd:

Attend Spring Leader Meeting (see Pg 7). This is an opportunity to ask any final questions you may have prior to camp attendance. All final steps and required forms will be covered at this meeting. If you are unable to attend, a recorded version will be posted online at www.campemeraldbay.org.

The following will be covered:

- Information packets covering registration for classes and program schedules.
- Scuba and Rugged Adventurers programs/registration.
- Detailed Merit Badges and Schedule.

March 8th:

Payment of \$250 for Rugged "E"/ \$250 for Rugged "C"/ \$250 for Rugged "S, O, R" per reserved camper with one Troop check payable to WLACC-BSA is due

- Ensure that each Scout and leader has made arrangements to complete medical forms.
- Confirm all participants are registered at www.campemeraldbay.org.
- Contact camping@bsa-la.org for all registration changes.
- Begin program planning with Troop members.

May 25th:

Balance of all registration fees is due. Please make all checks payable to WLACC-BSA.

- Contact camping@bsa-la.org for all registration changes.

PRE-CAMP TIMELINE (continued)

Several responsibilities will fall to the leaders for the purposes of planning and implementing a great week at Camp Emerald Bay. The following procedures guide you through the month leading up to your Troop's departure for camp and the first hours of your stay at Emerald Bay.

One Month Before Camp:

- Payment—**Balance of all registration fees is due to WLACC-BSA by May 25th.**
- Finalize camp program plans and advancement needs.
- All physical examinations should be completed.
- **Medical Forms** are gathered by Scoutmaster and ready to be brought to camp. Medical Forms must be in the current form and not less than one year old. Medical Forms can be downloaded from <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx>
- Troop Committee finalizes all transportation needs to and from the Ferry Terminal

A Few Days Before:

- Hold a personal pack and gear inspection using the **What to Bring to Camp** as a guide. **Please do not bring any external frame backpacks or bags larger than 14"x36".**
- Make sure all troop equipment is ready for packing.
- Confirm all transportation plans to and from the Ferry Terminal.
- Update the online roster and merit badge class signups. Confirm final attendance with Camp Staff.

Upon Arrival to Camp:

- **One Leader from each troop must be ready to disembark first and head immediately to the Opening Leaders Meeting. All Rugged Adventurers participants will be directed to their corresponding camp staff members to begin the week's adventure.**
- Turn in all completed forms for review. (Permission forms, BSA Medical)

SUMMER CAMP DATES

EB 1: June 7—June 13	EB 2: June 14—June 20	*Week 4-in addition to the standard Sunday boat-we will have a Monday boat that arrives no later than 9:00am to accommodate Scouts that cannot travel on Sundays.
EB 3: June 21—June 27	EB 4: June 28—July 4*	
EB 5: July 5—July 11	EB 6: July 12—July 18	
EB 7: July 19—July 25	EB 8: July 26—August 1	
EB 9: August 2—August 8		

PRE-CAMP LEADERS' MEETING

Arriving prepared is the best way to ensure that your troop maximizes the opportunities for fun and adventure during its stay at Emerald Bay. To help you with any lingering questions, the Camp Emerald Bay staff hosts a Leaders' Meeting in the spring. This meeting, held in two locations, is your opportunity to speak directly to the Emerald Bay team prior to arrival at camp.

Troops can expect to receive hard copy of all forms. The forms and information will be posted online at www.campemeraldbay.org.

Leaders' Meeting Information:

February 23rd 9am—11:30pm

Newport Sea Base in Newport Beach
1931 W.Coast Hwy, Newport Beach, CA

February 23rd 3pm— 5:30pm

Western Los Angeles County Council Office
16525 Sherman Way C-8, Van Nuys, CA

These meetings will be filmed using Facebook live and posted to the campemeraldbay.org website by March 1st. If you have questions, please contact Linnea Heinstedt at linnea.heinstedt@scouting.org.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following forms are required by all participants attending Emerald Bay. Please ensure your troop has each form ready for submission at the Opening Camp (in camp) Leaders' Meeting.

Troop Forms:

- **Merit Badge Sign-up:** No paper forms are needed, but please ensure all Scouts are enrolled in Merit Badge classes prior to camp attendance. Enrollment choices can be changed at any time while at camp.
- **Troop Insurance:** A copy of your Troop's insurance (often provided by your Council) is required to attend.

Individual Forms:

- **Health Forms*:** The Boy Scout Annual Health and Medical Record must be completed in its entirety for **ALL** Emerald Bay participants. Please ensure each Scout and Scouter has completed the form and attained the required physician physical within 12 months of attendance. The current health forms can be downloaded at:
<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx>
- ***If you have a scout who will leave camp early you must have a Pre-camp release form**

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS (continued)

- **Permission to Treat*:** Camp Emerald Bay is proud to have a dedicated team of physicians who volunteer their time each summer to care for our Scouts. This form allows those physicians to treat illness and injuries that occur at Emerald Bay.

- **Permission to Shoot:** This form is required for any person under the age of 18 who plans to participate in any of the various Emerald Bay Shooting Sports activities. While Rugged Adventurers participants are out of camp most of the time, they sometimes do have time to use the rifle or shot gun range, so it is recommended to have this form completed.

*Members of the Christian Science faith must have a written statement from a licensed health care practitioner attesting to their health and must complete a request for religious exemption from medical care and treatment form. This form is available at your local Council office. If you opt for this, you must still complete the self-evaluation portion of the medical form.

WHAT TO BRING

MANDATORY ITEMS

Completed forms (see page 7)
Merit Badge Prerequisite Forms
Notebook, Paper, Pens *
Scout Handbook
Mess Kit*
Flashlight*

CAMPING GEAR

Sleeping Bag
Duffel Bag (With name and Troop #)

TOILET KIT

Toothbrush and Toothpaste*
Soap and Shampoo*
Medication (If Needed)
Bath Towels/Washcloth
Deodorant*
Shaving Gear
Comb
Sunscreen*- **VERY IMPORTANT**
Chapstick*

CLOTHING

Scout Uniform (Field) required for travel and evening meals
Pajamas
Sweater/Jacket*
Hat or Visor*
Jeans
T-Shirts (min. 3)
Shorts (min. 2)
Swim Suit
Hiking Shoes
Tennis Shoes
Water Shoes/Old Tennis Shoes
Socks (min. 4 pair)
Undergarments (min. 6 pair)

***Can be purchased from the Ship's Store**

WHAT TO BRING (continued)

MISCELLANEOUS

O/A Sash

Camera

Flashlight Batteries*

Compass*

Scout Knife*

Water Bottle*

Daypack*

Watch

Mask, Snorkel, Fins (rentals available)

Fishing Tackle (camp does not provide)

Spending Money (\$75-85 recommended)

***Can be purchased from the Ship's Store**

The following items are additional necessities specific to each of our Rugged programs. All participants should bring a lightweight tent or other shelter for overnight trips. Please contact the Program Director, Linnea Heinstedt, with questions at linnea.heinstedt@scouting.org.

Rugged Canoers:

- Additional spending money (Scouts will have an opportunity to buy dinner in Avalon if they choose).
- Gloves for canoeing
- Wet Bag (mesh bag or some other bag that can get wet and hold snorkeling gear.)
- Dry Bag (absolutely necessary for Rugged C participants)

Rugged Explorers:

- Additional spending money (Scouts will have an opportunity to buy breakfast in Two Harbors if they choose).
- Day Pack (large enough to hold mess gear, swim suit, jacket, long pants, shirt, and clean underwear. This pack should be comfortable enough to wear while bicycling.
- Padded cycling shorts (optional)
- Gloves for canoeing
- Wet Bag (mesh bag or some other bag that can get wet and hold snorkeling gear.)
- Dry Bag (absolutely necessary for Rugged C participants)

THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME

Please do not bring the following items to camp.

Valuables

Water Balloons

Firearms

Boats

Matches

Radios

Comic Books

Large/Illegal Knives

Gang Paraphernalia

Illegal Substances

Water Guns

Fish Spears

Boogie Boards/Floaties

Fireworks

Music Players

Pornography

Framed Backpacks

Tablets

Alcohol

Pets

Bikes

Ammunition

Footlockers

Televisions

Jewelry

Fuel/Lanterns (available for rent from the Ship's Store)

GETTING TO CAMP

As part of the registration fees Camp Emerald Bay charters a ferry to take you and your Scouts to and from camp. Camp Emerald Bay assumes no responsibility for transportation to and from the ferry terminal. Troops traveling by plane to Los Angeles should fly into LAX or Long Beach airport and arrange transportation with Super Shuttle (www.supershuttle.com) or another transportation service. Units or individuals that drive can park at the terminal. **Parking will be between \$15 and \$18 per day, with no weekly rate.**

Troops that prefer to travel the Saturday before coming to camp can arrange to stay on the USS Iowa the night before boarding the ferry. The USS Iowa offers a discounted Battleship Overnight experience for Scouts coming to Emerald Bay and is located directly next to the ferry terminal. You can reference the flyer for more information on our website under Forms and Packets.

Terminal Location: All troops depart from The Port of San Pedro. A map as well as check-in times will be provided in the Spring Leaders' Packet. The first boat will leave by 7:30am on Sunday.

Dress Code: In accordance with Boy Scout policies, all troop members are in Field (Class "A") Uniforms for the duration of travel to and from Camp Emerald Bay.

Boat Details: All boats are Coast Guard certified passenger vessels that make for a quick, clean, and safe journey. Participants may be brought directly to the Emerald Bay dock or taxied from the vessel to the dock at Emerald Bay via shore boats. In the event shore boats are used, all gear will be passed onto a floating barge that will then be guided to the docks for unloading. **We ask that all Scouts listen to instructions over the camp P.A. system and assist us in the unloading of gear.**

Luggage: We highly recommend all participants use a duffel bag no larger than 14" X 36" at a maximum weight of 50 lbs. Please remember that others will be handling your bags to unload them from the boat. **External frame backpacks are prohibited as they can break and/or cause damage to handlers.** Any breakable items should be kept in a separate carry-on item. Please do not tie anything to your bag or tie any bags together as it could harm staff who are unloading the luggage. **We request that troops mark all luggage with their Troop Number and Council initials on duct tape so it is easy to identify the bags. Please make the markings large and obvious.**

ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION

There are times when troops must arrange to have alternate transportation to and from camp. While this practice is not common, Camp Emerald Bay is happy to work with troops who need to arrive early or late due to religious or unavoidable circumstances. Please contact us at camping@bsa-la.org if your troop must make alternate transportation arrangements.

Participants with personal boats: Camp Emerald Bay does **not** provide moorings for personal boats. If you would like to bring your boat you may contact the Two Harbors Harbor Department at **310-510-4253**. Loading and unloading at the camp dock is allowed in most circumstances but all vessels must first contact the Emerald Bay waterfront on marine channel 68 for approval.



IN-CAMP ADMINISTRATION

[EMERGENCY PROCEDURES](#)

PG. 11

[CAMP EXPECTATIONS](#)

PG. 12

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Fire and Lost Bather Drill (LBD)

Signal- a series of 2 to 5 seconds wails from the camp siren

All Clear- a single long wail on the camp siren

Just as we will practice in the emergency drill, at the sounding of the siren, all Scouts and Leaders will report to the parade ground quickly and safely. Once each unit has assembled in a line, the Scoutmaster or SPL will report their attendance to the Assistant Business Director. All units will remain on the parade ground until the ALL CLEAR has been sounded.

Major Accidents and Emergencies: In the event of a major accident, health-related emergency, or serious illness, please report the incident to the nearest camp staff member. Be as specific as possible and relay only factual, pertinent information.

If the emergency occurs during the night, please go to the Camp Director's house or any staff housing to seek assistance.

Water Emergencies: If an emergency occurs on the water, please come back to the dock and notify the closest staff member. If unable to return to the dock, contact the closest boat and have them report to camp via phone or on marine channel 69.

Camp Emerald Bay's remote location causes approximately a 15-30-minute delay for EMS response. The closest hospital is 30-45 minutes by helicopter and up to 90 minutes by boat. The Emerald Bay health lodge is staffed by volunteer physicians who are on call 24 hours a day to assist in case of an emergency. The physician will also hold set office hours after breakfast and dinner for all non-emergency conditions, but should not be considered a substitute for troop first aid.

In the event of an extreme emergency or severe injury the camp has an agreement with the hospital in Avalon and the L.A. County paramedic and lifeguards located in Two Harbors. With their help, we can evacuate injured parties to Avalon or, if necessary, helicopter them to the mainland health center for emergency treatment.

Phone: **For Emergencies Only:** 310-510-1795

CAMP EXPECTATIONS

Every community has a set of standards to function safely and comfortably while encouraging a fun learning environment. Below are important points to keep in mind while at camp.

Buddy System: Everyone must follow the Buddy System while in and out of camp. Guests should have a buddy for all activities and may be asked to return to their campsite if found without a buddy.

Honor Box: Two Honor Boxes exist at Camp Emerald Bay; one on the dining hall porch and the other at the entrance to the Waterfront. These boxes are used as Camp's Lost and Found. Please turn in any found items to these areas. **Valuable or delicate items should be turned in to the Ship's Purser next to the Ship's Store.**

Hazing: Hazing is prohibited both at Camp Emerald Bay and by law. Defined as any action taken or situation created which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property in order to initiate, admit into, or affiliate a person with an organization or membership; hazing will not be tolerated at Camp Emerald Bay and may be grounds for immediate dismissal from Camp.

Off-Limits Areas: We ask that all attendees of Emerald Bay avoid certain areas of camp. Those areas include:

- Staff areas: lounge, cabins, laundry area.
- Any area that is designated as closed: Waterfront, Pennington Marine Science Center, Field Sports.
- Other troop campsites: please only send an SPL or adult into another campsite if necessary.
- Adult and Scout showers are labeled and to be kept separate.
- The camp water tank and helipad is strictly off-limits.
- The camp maintenance yard and the wash area (unless with a class).

Damaged Property: A troop will be charged for any equipment its members damage or destroy. When the week begins camp commissioners inspect, circle, and initial all new rips and holes in tents. At the end of the week camp commissioners will again come through campsites to inspect for any new damages. These damages will be recorded and charged to the unit using that tent. We recommend you report any unmarked damages directly to camp staff within 24 hours of your arrival. Any rips in tents will be charged to the troop at a cost of \$10 per inch.

Cleanliness: Please help us to keep camp clean. Troops are responsible to keep their campsite, tent platforms, and other used areas clean throughout your stay. Please make sure Scouts use trash cans and recycle when possible. For any major cleanliness issues please contact the maintenance crew as soon as possible.

Smoking Area: Smoking is absolutely forbidden for any Scouts in camp. Adult smokers may partake in one area of camp only. This area will be designated during the Opening Leader Meeting and we ask that you help us maintain vigilance. **EMERALD BAY IS AN EXTREME FIRE DANGER ZONE AND WE ASK EVERYONE'S HELP IN MINIMIZING RISK.** You can do so by ensuring all who smoke do so only in the designated area.



PROGRAM INFORMATION

[RUGGED PHILOSOPHY](#)

PG. 13

[RUGGED EXPLORERS](#)

PG. 14

[RUGGED CANOERS](#)

PG. 15

[RUGGED SCUBA](#)

PG. 16

[RUGGED OCEANOGRAPHERS](#)

PG. 17

RUGGED PHILOSOPHY

Camp Emerald Bay offers the Rugged Adventurers programs for youth 12 years of age and above. Our programs offer young men and women a chance to apply the basic outdoor skills and Scouting values they have already learned and discuss how those values can be applied to real ethical dilemmas prevalent in today's world. Leadership of each activity will be the responsibility of a member of the crew, with the exception of actual dives in the Rugged S, Rugged O, and Rugged R programs. We emphasize leadership development and practice of Scouting Values under challenging circumstances.

All four of the programs are physically difficult. Each of them offers an opportunity to visit parts of Catalina Island seen by only a very few tourists. Each location has an environment for fun, excitement, and many challenges. They are not for the faint of heart. If you have concerns about your abilities to participate in the strenuous activity, or have questions about specifics, please contact our Program Director, Linnea Heinstedt, at linnea.heinstedt@scouting.org.



RUGGED EXPLORERS

(Rugged ‘E’)

In Rugged Explorers, your Scout’s adventure will start the moment he or she sets foot on Catalina Island. Orientation and team-building activities begin their week as all Explorers divide themselves into boat crews.

Their adventures will range from practicing advanced route-finding techniques as they lead the crew to one of the highest peaks on Catalina Island, to rolling down hills on mountain bikes. On their first day of canoeing, they will cook all their own meals and sleep under the stars. They will be rewarded with making new friends and taking in breathtaking scenery. They will explore their limits and develop important leadership skills.

Every participant will find himself leader of the day at some point throughout the week. He/she will be mentored by our experienced staff to make decisions based on the Scout Oath and Law. Their abilities to lead their peers will be honed using our ethical-decision making curriculum to accomplish the week’s activities. They will be responsible for planning and carrying out the week’s activities. Our staff will be there to answer questions and to ensure that the program and safety guidelines are followed. Most of the success of the week, however, will depend on the decisions made by the crew and that day’s leader.

Given the rugged nature of the Explorers program, it is important that the all participants arrive in good physical condition and be able to accomplish 50 miles in a one-week time. Participants will need to be able to hike, bicycle, and canoe for several hours at a time. It is likely that everyone will struggle at some point during their week, and often those who struggle the most gain the most from their experience. Your week on Catalina will be full of activities that are likely to tire even the strongest participant at some point. Be sure to prepare appropriately.

Participants in Rugged Explorers must be 14 years old to participate.



RUGGED CANOERS

(Rugged ‘C’)

The principal difference between Rugged C and Rugged E is that once we begin the voyage on Monday, Scouts will not see Camp again until Friday. They will pack their **dry bags**, organize the crew and set out on the canoe expedition of a lifetime. Rugged Canoers use the same ethics and leadership curriculum as Rugged Explorers, while the challenge and scenery change.

Rugged Canoers will navigate the crew’s eight-person war canoe through ocean swells and breaking surf, passing cliffs that soar straight out of the ocean, and Bald Eagle habitats. Participants will stretch out on deserted beaches and pass by many breath-taking scenes. They will get a good look at an endless horizon at land’s end, and stop in or speed by the tourist destination of Avalon on their canoe expedition around Catalina Island.

In Rugged C, Scouts will be doing a lot more than canoeing; they will explore many of Catalina’s famous snorkeling destinations. Catalina Island consistently rates among the top dive destinations in the world. They will lead the crew along the back side of the island, passing cliffs and coves accessible only by boat and observing destinations explored by very few people. As canoers make the grand loop of Catalina Island, they will be crossing heavily trafficked dolphin migration routes, and if they are lucky, pods of thousands of dolphins may surround their boat and delight their eyes with natural acrobatics.

At some point, they will find themselves serving as the day’s leader. They will be mentored by our experienced staff to make decisions based on the Scout Oath and Law. Their ability to lead their peers will be honed using our ethical-decision making curriculum to accomplish the week’s activities.

Participants will be responsible for planning and carrying out the week’s activities. Our staff will be there to answer questions and to ensure that the program and safety guidelines are followed. Most of the success of your week however, will depend on the decisions made by the crew leader of the day and the crew.

Given the rugged nature of Rugged C expedition, it is important that all participants arrive in good physical condition. Scouts’ week around Catalina will be full of activities that are likely to tire even the strongest participant at some point. Be sure to prepare appropriately. While most of the gear will be provided for the experience, there are many important personal items they must bring. Please be sure to pay attention to the required and recommended items in the **What to Bring** section of this guide.

Rugged Canoers is a physical and mental challenge designed for older Scouts. Participants will need to be able to canoe and hike for several hours at a time. While not quite as physically intensive as Rugged E, it is likely that everyone participating in Rugged Canoers will struggle at some point during their week. Often those who struggle the most, gain the most from their experience. That being said, a moderate level of fitness is required of anyone wishing to participate in Rugged Canoers.

Participants in Rugged Canoers must be 14 years old to participate.

RUGGED SCUBA (Rugged 'S')

There are few better ways to earn the Scuba merit badge and/or basic open-water dive certification than through Rugged Scuba Divers (Rugged S). We don't have a pool for training—that would be a waste of the world-class diving that begins at the shores of the Emerald Bay base camp. Divers from all over the world come to Catalina Island to experience what will be your underwater classroom. Participants will learn the essential dive skills required for the PADI certification and complete all tasks for the SCUBA merit badge as they explore the kelp forests that consistently rank Catalina as one of the top ten dive locations in North America. Scouts will have the opportunity to swim with sea lions, barracuda, bat rays, moray eels, leopard sharks, and the occasional octopus, just to name a few. Get dive certified as a Rugged S participant on Catalina Island and dive the world over.

Because Camp Emerald Bay is dedicated to practicing Scouting's values as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law, participants will have an opportunity to discuss those values as they apply to the underwater world. This opportunity leads to a better understanding of the environmental issues facing the world's oceans today. We also have added a leadership component to this program. Participants will be assigned leadership roles during the week. While the technical and safety aspects will be handled by PADI certified instructors, the class members will be organized according to the Patrol method with appropriate leadership positions and responsibilities.

Rugged S assumes that Scouts have no prior knowledge of scuba diving before registering for this program.

All Scouts must complete the Swimming merit badge prior to participating in the Scuba merit badge program. They will need to complete the assigned coursework before coming to Catalina. Once on the island, the Rugged S participants will work with our professional dive staff and merit badge counselors to learn the finer points of scuba diving and will spend much of their week in the ocean practicing your skills and exploring the waters of Catalina Island's Emerald Bay. Scouts will leave camp with a lifetime Scuba certification and the Scuba merit badge!

Given the immersive nature of Rugged SCUBA Divers, it is important that everyone arrive in good health. Prior to participating, you must answer the 34-question Divers Medical Questionnaire available as a download on our High Adventure page of our website. If any question is answered "yes," it means you have a pre-existing condition that could affect your ability to dive safely. An exam by a physician is then necessary to ascertain the risks of these conditions. The physician must then sign the PADI Medical Release Form found at <http://www.campemeraldbay.org/emerald-bay/high-adventure-program>.

Included in the cost of the Rugged Scuba Divers program are all necessary study materials, as well as a basic personal scuba equipment package Scouts get to keep. This includes a mask, snorkel, gloves, booties, and fins. The rental fees for the wetsuit, regulator, buoyancy control device, scuba tank, and weights are included in the overall cost of the program. While most of the gear will be provided, there are many important personal items Scouts must bring to camp. Please be sure to pay attention to the required and recommended items in the **What to Bring** section of this guide.

Rugged Scuba Divers is a program designed for active Scouts who have already attained their swimming merit badge. Participants must be willing to complete multiple hours of coursework prior to coming to Catalina. Those who do not complete their studying will not be able to earn their certification. Participants must be able to walk 100 yards in full dive equipment weighing between 50 and 100 lbs.

Rugged Scuba participants must be 12 years old by the start of their week of programming.

RUGGED OCEANOGRAPHERS

(Rugged 'O')

Catalina Island has far too much incredible diving for just one underwater program. In Rugged Oceanographers, participants will learn about and explore all of Catalina's unique underwater environments as they earn their PADI Advanced Open Water Certification. Our dive boats speed Rugged O participants to the best dive locations on Catalina Island. Scouts will learn and practice advanced dive techniques, including: precise underwater navigation, deep dives beyond 100 feet, search and recovery dives, night dives lit only by your dive light and the glowing algae that swirls around you, and much, much more.

Rugged Oceanographers are more than just advanced divers, they are also experts in Catalina Island's unique marine ecology. In Rugged O Scouts will use the multi-million dollar Pennington Marine Science Center as their base of operations for the week. Here they will study the various underwater ecosystems that they will be exploring in Rugged "O" through the Pennington Center's various habitat exhibition tanks. The recreated ecosystems feature over 70 different species of animals collected in our local waters. The Pennington Center exhibits include a kelp forest tank, rocky reef exhibit, surge tank, shark tank, moray eel tank, octopus habitat, invertebrate touch tank, and a plankton lab. All Rugged Oceanographers marine science curriculum is supported by the full-time resident marine biologist.

Because Camp Emerald Bay is dedicated to practicing Scouting's values as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law participants will have an opportunity to discuss those values as they apply to the underwater world. This opportunity leads to a better understanding of the environmental issues facing the world's oceans today. We have also added a leadership component to this program. Participants will be assigned leadership roles during the week. While the technical and safety aspects will be handled by PADI certified instructors, the class members will be organized according to the Patrol method with appropriate leadership positions and responsibilities.

Given the advanced and immersive nature of Rugged Oceanographers, it is important that everyone arrive with their basic open water scuba certification already completed. Prior to participating, everyone must answer the 34-question Divers Medical Questionnaire available as a download on our High Adventure page of our website. If any question is answered "yes," it means one has a pre-existing condition that could affect his or her ability to dive safely. An exam by a physician is then necessary to ascertain the risks of these conditions. The physician must then sign the PADI Medical Release Form found at [http:// www.campemeraldbay.org/emerald-bay/high-adventure-program](http://www.campemeraldbay.org/emerald-bay/high-adventure-program).

Included in the cost of the Rugged Oceanographers program are all necessary study materials. Participants are expected to bring their personal scuba equipment including mask, snorkel, gloves, booties, and fins. A wetsuit, regulator, buoyancy control device, scuba tank, weights, are provided as a part of the program. While most of the gear will be provided for their experience, there are many important personal items Scouts must bring. Please be sure to pay attention to the required and recommended items in the **What to Bring** section of this guide.

RUGGED OCEANOGRAPHERS

(Rugged 'O') (continued)



Whether you are an aspiring marine biologist, a certified diver looking to take the next step, or simply want to use our dive boats to get to the best diving on Catalina Island, Rugged Oceanographers is an experience of a lifetime.

Rugged Oceanographers is a program designed for older Scouts. Participants must be willing to complete multiple hours of coursework prior to coming to Catalina. Those who do not complete their studying will not be able to earn their certification. Participants must be able to walk 100 yards in full dive equipment weighing between 50 and 100 lbs. and pull themselves up onto a ledge at water level from water that is over their head in depth.

Rugged Oceanographer participants must be 12 years old by the start of their week of programming.



DEPARTURE AND POST CAMP

[THE LAST 24 HOURS](#)

PG 19

[POST-CAMP ADMINISTRATION](#)

PG 19

[CAMP STAFF OPPORTUNITIES](#)

PG 20

[EMERALD BAY ASSOCIATION](#)

PG 21

THE LAST 24 HOURS OF CAMP

Friday

- **Friday Afternoon Leaders' Meeting:** Covers many of the day's activities including Aquacade, Campfire, and Merit Badge Reports. Discussions will include departure procedures, an evaluation of camp and camp investment opportunities.
- **Camp Appraisal:** Used to help camp improve week to week and summer to summer. One copy is to be completed by the adults and one by the Scouts. Please return to the Purser before departure.

Saturday

- **Loading at Emerald Bay:** Please bring your gear down **before breakfast** to the waterfront and load it on the barge (unless instructed otherwise).
- **Off-Loading in San Pedro:** Off-loading procedures will be organized on the boat. Leaders are responsible for oversight as there is no Council representative waiting in San Pedro. Again, it is important to have special troop-specific marking on luggage. Clearly marked luggage is easier to recognize when unloading the boat. **Please ensure every camper has all luggage before leaving San Pedro.** Please call the Western Los Angeles County Council office to report any baggage lost or found after leaving camp: 818-933-0130.

POST-CAMP ADMINISTRATION

Blessed with some of the finest camp properties in America, the Western Los Angeles County Council offers opportunities to develop practical outdoor skills in a variety of locations. Call or email the Council office for further info: 818-933-0130, camping@bsa-la.org.

Camp Josepho: Located in the Santa Monica Mountains near the Pacific Palisades area of Los Angeles. Olympic-sized pool, lodge and kitchen. Capacity: 300 campers. 110-acre year-round camping facility open to use by all groups.

Camp Whitsett: WLACC's summer mountain camp located just outside of Kern County, CA. Offers High Adventure, rock climbing, white water rafting, and more! Troop and provisional registration available, visit www.campwhitsett.org for more information.

CAMP STAFF OPPORTUNITIES

An Envable Reputation

Camp staffs in the Western Los Angeles County Council have earned an enviable reputation. Leaders in industry and government consider camp staff service to be an important learning step in a youth's career.

It is doubtful that any other summer job provides the management and personal growth experiences of summer camp staff. Summer camp staffers are planning major activities, preparing class outlines, instructing, leading, and becoming familiar with some of the fine points of leadership, general business, facilities construction, and maintenance.

Procedure

Interested Scouts and adults (15 and older) of outstanding character should visit us on the web at www.campemeraldbay.org. Positions available include full-summer paid positions, Counselors-in-Training, or Camp Volunteer Staff. All staff must register as members of the Boy Scouts of America and must be able to complete all demands of such a membership. Interviews take place in January.

Attention Scout Leaders

All Scout leaders can help improve the quality of their own camp experience by directing qualified youth applicants to the attention of the Council Office's Camping Department.





Welcome to the Emerald Bay Association!

The Emerald Bay Association is an all-volunteer, independent non-profit organization whose mission is to provide Camp Emerald Bay with volunteer, material, and financial support through the fellowship of current and former staff, scoutmasters, campers, and friends of the camp.

In recent years, we have supported Emerald Bay with various capital improvement projects, including the new Campfire Circle, docks at the waterfront, tents with platforms cots and mattresses, contributions towards the new Rifle Range, and purchasing mountain bikes and kayaks.

We also hold several fellowship events throughout the year, such as the summer reunion and our spring wine tasting event, fall barbeque, winter ski trip, SCUBA dive events, -- and we send out "The Emerald Bay Chronicle," our quarterly newsletter.

To learn more, please visit our website at www.emeraldbayalumni.org.

For ongoing updates, become a "fan" on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/emeraldbayalumni.

Finally, please join our mailing list at eba.donortools.com.

We hope you and your troop have a terrific time at Emerald Bay this summer!