

CAMP EMERALD BAY

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



Parent and Leader's Guide 2024

Your guide to adventure at Camp Emerald Bay

Dear Scoutmaster/Unit Leader,

Thank you for choosing Camp Emerald Bay as your 2024 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.

For 100 years Camp Emerald Bay's rich history of servant leadership, stewardship, and personal growth has been the driving force. Our vision as a staff is to help you and your sponsoring organization build men and 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 v e r y well be their first time away from home. Your guidance will be vital to ensure a positive and rewarding outdoor experience. Our camp staff is here to help you achieve success in your role.

By preparing for your camp experience, 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, stewardship, and personal growth 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 2024 and look forward to serving any of your needs during your week at Camp Emerald Bay.

Sincerely,
Camp Staff 2024

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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 to help you prepare for the summer. A spring leader's guide will be published as well with detailed information. The meetings will be online via Zoom to reach as many participants as possible. Expect this meeting to be scheduled during the month of March.

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: Rugged programs are separate from traditional program with additional registration before camp and a unique Leader's Guide. Please visit us on the web at www.campemeraldbay.org for more information.



PRE-CAMP ADMINISTRATION

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PRE-CAMP TIMELINE

January 8th:

Payment of **\$250** per reserved camper with one Troop check payable to WLACC-BSA is due. If payment is not received your Troop's reservation may be cancelled. **From this point all payments are non-refundable.** As such, ensure all campers are still committed to attending camp.

After January 2nd the addition of Scouts to your reservation can only be done via this link:

www.campemeraldbay.org/emerald-bay/summer-registration

March 4th:

Payment of \$250 per person due. Please make all checks payable to WLACC-BSA.

- Ensure that each Scout and leader has made arrangements to complete medical forms.
- Ensure all adults planning to attend camp are registered and have completed YPT.
- Contact camping@bsa-la.org for all registration changes.
- Begin program planning with Troop members.

March:

- **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

May 15th:

Balance of all registration fees is due. Please make all checks payable to WLACC-BSA or use an e-check online.

- Contact camping@bsa-la.org for all registration changes. PRE-CAMP TIMELINE (continued)

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 15th.**
Troops with unpaid fees will not be allowed to board the boat.
- Finalize camp program plans and advancement needs.
- **Make sure all Scouts are registered for Merit Badges via Doubleknot.**
- All physical examinations should be completed.
- All Adult Leaders must be registered with the BSA and have Youth Protection Training complete prior to coming to camp.
- **Medical Forms and Permission Slips** 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:

- Send your Troop's SPL and a buddy to the SPL training (See Page 23), the Thursday before your arrival.
- Hold a personal pack and gear inspection using the **What to Bring to Camp** as a guide.
- Make sure all troop equipment is ready for packing.
- Confirm all transportation plans to and from the Ferry Terminal.
- Print and fill out the Attendance Roster and Manifest, available on the website and in the Spring Leader's Packet.

Upon Arrival to Camp:

- **One Leader from each troop must head to the helm for an Opening Leaders Meeting at 2pm.**
- Turn in all completed forms for review. (Permission forms, BSA Medical)
- Prepare the Troop SPL for an evening meeting in which they will plan your troop's week. This is much easier if your SPL has attended our SPL training program.

SUMMER CAMP DATES

EB 1: June 9—June 15
EB 3: June 23—June 29
EB 5: July 7—July 13
EB 7: July 21—July 27
EB 9: August 4—August 10

EB 2: June 16—June 22
EB 4: June 30—July 6
EB 6: July 14—July 20
EB 8: July 28—August 3
EB 10: August 11—August 14
(Cub Scouts only)

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 will be held twice, is your opportunity to speak directly to the Emerald Bay team prior to arrival at camp. The forms and information discussed during this meeting will be posted online at www.campemeraldbay.org.

Leaders' Meeting Information: Online via Zoom in early March. Your account owner will receive an email with the invitation. One to two adults per unit should attend this meeting.

If you have questions, please contact Patrick Roque at patrick.roque@scouting.org This meeting will be recorded and posted on YouTube and the campemeraldbay.org website.

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.

Attendance Roster and Manifest: Each troop must print and complete the passenger manifest prior to check-in at the boat. Troop will not receive boarding passes until this is completed and received by the designated staff member.

Individual Forms:

Health Forms*: The BSA 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**

Pre-Camp Release Forms:** A form to be signed by parents and/or guardians on behalf of all youth participants prior to or immediately upon their arrival in camp. Provides a firearms permission and release, consent to full program, rules of the camp, and an exculpation and indemnity provision. The firearms section is required for all Scouts who wish to participate in any shooting sports activity

- 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.

****A separate Release Form for all adults is also required**

WHAT TO BRING

Troop Gear List

Your campsite will be your home away from home. Each troop or patrol will need to set up its area within the conservation plan of the Camp. Please refer to the following lists to ensure you are well prepared.

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT BROUGHT BY TROOP

Troop Flag

First Aid Kit

Games, skit supplies, costumes, musical instruments, songbooks

ADVANCEMENT

Merit Badge Pamphlets

Troop Advancement Record

Paper, notebooks, clipboards

Pens/pencils

Program Planner

Felt-tip pens/pencils

Poster board

Adult Leader Resource Form

Teaching Aids

Push pins or thumbtacks

Other handbooks and guides

Camp Records Cards

SCOUTMASTER NEEDS

Copy of Online Troop Roster

Notebook Paper

Claim Form

Padlock

Scoutmasters' Handbook

Troop Insurance Information

Passenger Manifest

Optional: Laptop

COVID Forehead

Thermometer

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE CAMP

Picnic Table

Bunks and Mattresses

Fire Extinguisher

Broom

Platforms and Tents

Bulletin Board

Trash Barrel

NOTE: This equipment list is meant to serve as a general guide. Use your own discretion in choosing what to take and what to leave. DO NOT BRING PROPANE OR FUEL.

WHAT TO BRING (continued)

MANDATORY ITEMS

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

CAMPING GEAR

Sleeping Bag
Sleeping Pad
Duffel Bag (With Troop #)

TOILET KIT

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

CLOTHING

Scout Uniform (Field) Req. for Dinners
Pajamas
Sweater/Jacket*
Hat or Visor*
Long Pants
T-Shirts (min. 4)
Shorts (min. 2)
Swimsuit (min. 2)
Hiking Shoes
Tennis Shoes
Water Shoes/Old Tennis Shoes
Undergarments (min. 6 pair)
Socks (min. 4 pair)

MISCELLANEOUS

O/A Sash
Camera
Flashlight Batteries*
Compass*
Scout Knife*
Water Bottle*
Daypack*
Watch
Mask, Snorkel, Fins (available at camp)
Fishing Tackle (camp does not provide)
Spending Money (\$75-85 recommended)

THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME

Please do not bring the following items to camp.

Valuables	Gang Paraphernalia	Alcohol
Water Balloons	Illegal Substances	Pets
Firearms of Any Kind	Water Guns	Bikes
Personal Archery Equipment	Fish Spears	Ammunition
Boats	Boogie Boards/Floaties	Footlockers
Matches	Fireworks	Televisions
Radios	Music Players	Jewelry
Comic Books	Pornography	Fuel/Lanterns
Large/Illegal Knives	Framed Backpacks	

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Passenger Manifest: The United States Coast Guard now requires all cross-channel carriers to have a comprehensive Passenger Manifest for all trips to and from Catalina Island. The Catalina Express Company has asked that we provide to them a list of all our passengers for each crossing. Therefore, we require that each unit bring with them to the boat terminal two copies of the unit roster for whom will be traveling to and from Catalina Island through our chartered runs. These lists must reflect any unit members who will be making midweek or other alternate travel arrangements.

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 around \$20-25 per day, with no weekly rate. Plan on arriving at the terminal no later than 6:00 AM.**

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 Documents](#).

Terminal Location: Port & Dock location is being finalized by our partners and will be updated and posted as soon as possible.

GETTING TO CAMP (continued)

Dress Code: In accordance with BSA 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. 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. 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.



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THE FIRST DAY

The adventure begins the second you step off the boat at Emerald Bay. The first day's activities will set the tone for your Troop's week at camp. Make sure to ask plenty of questions and please have your Senior Patrol Leader prepared to sign your troop up for the week's activities. **We recommend your SPL attend the SPL training which starts the Thursday before your troop comes to camp.**

First Day Activities

Adult Leaders' Meeting (required): When the boat arrives at Emerald Bay one adult leader from each Troop should attend the Opening Leaders' Meeting in the Helm (staff will be available to show you the way). The time for the In-camp Leaders' Meeting will be announced at the Pre-camp Leaders' Meeting.. The Camp Director and a team of staff members will cover important camp information and answer questions about your week at camp. We will also review camp policies and procedures and detail the rest of the day's schedule.

Ranger Introduction & Gear Line: Your troop will be assigned a Ranger, or Troop Guide, to work with your SPL to ensure your troop gets the most out of their Emerald Bay experience. The Rangers will gather your troop as you exit the docks and walk you through the process of unloading gear. From here your Troop will be dismissed and shown to your campsites where a campsite host will welcome you and help with the move-in process. Swim checks will promptly follow the move-in process as your campsite host will give you a tour and bring you to the Waterfront.

Camp Tour: Camp Emerald Bay's Area Directors are on hand at this event to welcome everyone to camp and give an orientation at each of our program areas. We will cover camp rules, area introductions, and program offerings. Be sure to be in your swimsuits and ready to jump in the deep end.

Emergency Drill: Right before dinner you will hear the camp siren (a loud wailing sound) announcing an emergency drill. Please be prepared to bring your Troop, in full uniform, quickly and safely to the main parade ground. There the Troop will line up in front of your sign and await further instruction.

OPENING DAY TIPS

Sun: Sunday can be a long day and you will be in the sun quite a bit. Be sure to keep Scouts well hydrated and help remind everyone that sunscreen will be an important safety tool throughout the week!

Campsites: All located along both sides of the main camp road in a beautiful valley setting. Each campsite is equipped with tents and cots for all attendees, a picnic table, bulletin board, and some form of shade.

NOTE: To ensure that all Scouts who want to come to Emerald Bay can, your campsite may be shared with another troop. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us provide this opportunity to so many Scouts!

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Fire and Lost Bather Drill (LBD) Signal—a series of 2 to 5 second 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 designated staff member. 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 68.

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 a volunteer physician who is 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-emergent conditions but should not be considered a substitute for troop first aid.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES (continued)

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 paramedics and lifeguards located in nearby Two Harbors. With their help, we can evacuate injured parties to Avalon or, if necessary, helicopter them to a mainland health center for emergency treatment.

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

This number is not for reaching troops or troop members except during emergencies. Phone service will be made available for Troop Leaders upon request.

DINING HALL PROCEDURES

The central dining hall at Camp Emerald Bay can feed over 800 people; please help us by following these procedures to ensure a safe and efficient mealtime.

Waiters—Troop waiters are an important part of meals at Emerald Bay and a lesson in service to others while at camp. Waiters are responsible for setup before and cleaning after each meal. Please send one waiter per 8 troop participants to the dining hall thirty minutes before each meal; all waiters check in with the Dining Hall Manager upon arrival and out before dismissal.

Announcements—Please ensure your troop assembles at least five minutes prior to listed mealtimes for announcements, colors (breakfast and dinner).

Grace— Grace is said at each meal. Troops are encouraged to volunteer for grace at the beginning of the week during the SPL meeting on Sunday night. Troops can volunteer throughout the week by meeting with our Announcer at mealtimes.

Colors— As a camp we will gather to post and lower the colors each day before breakfast and before dinner. We encourage troops to volunteer for this ceremony and offer instruction for those new to the practice or looking to refine their skills. Sign up is at the SPL meeting on Sunday and available throughout the week.

Entry—The Camp Emerald Bay Dining Hall Manager will call troops in immediately following grace. We try to be fair to everyone on order of entry, so no troop should always first or always last. Please address any concerns to the Dining Hall Manager or, if the problem persists, the Emerald Bay Program Director. Hand washing stations are provided upon entry. We will ask each participant to make use of these before entering for each meal.

DINING HALL PROCEDURES (continued)

Seconds—At most meals, seconds will be called after a short delay from the time the last person was served. Please be respectful and responsible when lining up for seconds. We never expect anyone to go hungry at camp!

Uniform—Please make sure all Scouts wear their field uniform for dinner.

Dietary restrictions—Please fill out the [Special Request Form](#) at least 3 week in advance to your arrival. If you have any questions, please contact the Camp Director, Linnea Heinstedt, at linnea.heinstedt@scouting.org.

MAIL SERVICE

One of the best parts of the camp experience for all Scouts is receiving mail and care packages from home. Very little mail is delivered directly to camp so our staff will pick mail up each day and have it ready for your troop by 4:00 PM. **All mail must be picked up by an Adult Leader at our Purser (Camp Office).** No Scout will be given mail by our staff.

Mail sent after 5:00 PM on Tuesday may not arrive until after Scouts have left camp. Outgoing mail is to be deposited in the mailbox at the Purser's Office no later than 11:30 AM each day.

Mailing Address:

(Name of person) Troop #, Council, Session #
Camp Emerald Bay, B.S.A.
P.O. Box 5066
Avalon, CA 90704-5066

U.P.S, DHL, and Fed Ex Air delivery for packages:
(Name of person) Troop #, Council, Session #
Camp Emerald Bay, B.S.A.
1 Cove Road
Avalon, CA 90704-5066

Note: Mail sent to Catalina Island by U.S. Postal Service, including Express Mail, takes 1-2 days longer than normal. For faster service please use UPS or FedEx Air.

MIDWEEK TRAVEL

Emerald Bay is a full week-long camping experience. **There are no partial week rates. Camp Emerald Bay assumes no responsibility for the arrangement, safety, or guarantee of mid-week travel.**

Late arrivals and those who travel to and from camp using alternate transportation do so at their own cost in addition to the camp fee. **There will be no fee reduction for one way travel on our scheduled ferry.** Mid-week travel arrangements can be made via Catalina Express (www.catalinaexpress.com).

Two Harbors is the closest main port on Catalina Island. Transportation to camp from Two Harbors is by shore boat—costs can trend as high as \$110.00 for a group of four. Please contact the Harbor Department for more information or to schedule transport (310-510-4253). Transportation from Avalon or the Catalina Airport is difficult to arrange and can be very expensive. **We recommend you travel only via Two Harbors.**

Mid-week Travel (Scouts): All Scouts traveling to or from Camp during the week must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Minors leaving the property for any reason must be supervised by an adult in accordance with BSA “Two Deep Leadership” policies (minimum of two adults and two youth unless the Scout is with a parent).

SHIP’S STORE

The Emerald Bay Ship’s Store is your one stop shop for all your in-camp needs. From snacks, drinks, and candy to camping sundries, Scouting supplies, merit badge items, and souvenirs the Ship’s Store has everything you need to make your week at camp a memorable one. In addition, the Ship’s Store provides rental locks and lanterns help make your week a success.

We recommend that Scouts bring between \$85 and \$95 each to pay for souvenirs, snacks, supplies during the week. Many troops have an adult leader supervise a banking system to help Scouts control their spending. While we have no requirements for the use of a banking system it is recommended. The camp has a limited number of lockers available for troop use as well as locking boxes that can be checked out free-of-charge from the Ship’s Store.

In the spring, we will announce details of our Ship’s Store pre-order program. By preordering your shirts and other items you can ensure your troop is fully outfitted for Camp. If your troop has any special requests for souvenirs or other items, you would like to see featured in the Ship’s Store please email ebclerk@gmail.com

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.

Uniform: The uniform helps to establish a sense of belonging and a certain measure of safety in the camp environment. As such Scouts and leaders must wear the field uniform for evening colors and the activity uniform for breakfast and lunch. The activity uniform can be any Scout t-shirt and shorts. During the day, all Scouts are requested to wear a Scout shirt. Open-toed sandals, while not suggested, can be worn during the day for waterfront activities.

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.**

Note: We do not keep any lost and found items at the end of the summer.

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 to initiate, admit into, or affiliate a person with an organization or membership; hazing will not be tolerated at Camp Emerald Bay and 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. We recommend you report any unmarked damages directly to camp staff within 24 hours of your arrival. **Troops will be billed the total cost of the tent for any damages found** during the end of week inspection.

CAMP EXPECTATIONS (continued)

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.

Cell Phones, Pagers and Walkie-Talkies: We allow the troop to use their own discretion if Scouts can bring phones and other electronics with them to camp. We recommend leaving cell phones off and stored safely in the Troop locker or lock boxes. Scouts will be asked to put any such devices away by the Emerald Bay staff during instructional time. For adults, if you maintain possession of your cell phones, please keep it on silent or vibrate if you are near camp programming.

Internet Access: Camp has three desktop computers with internet access that are in the helm for adult leader use. There will be **limited wireless internet access** for adult leaders that is available **for purchase** in the trading post. Emerald Bay has various access points located around the front of camp with good signals around the helm and dining areas. There is currently no wi-fi signal in the campsites. Internet service is provided by a wireless link to the mainland and occasionally we experience outages for short periods of time.

Wi-Fi vouchers are sold in the trading post and will authenticate a single device for 7 days. When purchasing a voucher, you will be given a password to connect to the guest wireless network. After connecting to the guest network your device should automatically redirect to a hotspot portal where you can enter your voucher number to enable internet access. · No data limit · Speed capped at 1.5MB/s · Currently priced at \$30/week ·

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.

Study Areas: Studying is an important part of many merit badges earned at camp. For night study, Scouts may use the Dining Hall porch, rear Dining Hall pavilion, or their campsite. **No Scout should study in another Unit's campsite.**



PROGRAM INFORMATION

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PLANNING YOUR PROGRAM

A well-planned Troop program helps to ensure that Scouts get the most from the unique opportunities at Camp Emerald Bay. Please take the time to carefully plan your program and educate the Troop SPL. We are always available and happy to answer any questions that remain after you read through this guide. Work with each Scout to set summer camp goals based on the achievements listed here and which will be detailed in the Spring Leaders' Packet.

Online Registration: Scouts should be registered online for all merit badges before coming to camp. Changes can be made through Monday at Lunch, but we recommend all schedules be established prior to arrive at Camp. We require each Scout participating in traditional program to take at least two merit badges or BSA awards while at Emerald Bay.

The following pages provide a brief overview of Camp's various program areas. Each section breaks the program into merit badges, area activities, older scout programs, and awards. A complete chart of merit badges, together with any prerequisites and their schedule, will be provided online and in the Spring Leaders' Packet.

If you have questions about planning your program prior to your trip, feel free to contact the Program Director at Patrick.Roque@scouting.org.

Senior Patrol Leader Training

We recommend each troop send their camp SPL to the Emerald Bay Senior Patrol Leader Training. SPLs arrive on Thursday prior to their troop's week and will experience leadership and camp program in Emerald Bay's high adventure setting. Scouts who attend undergo experiences such as: overnight camping, leadership challenges, patrol method discussion, and the opportunity to work alongside other SPLs from troops who will be at Camp during your week. Reviews from SPL trainings are stellar, and troops find themselves better prepared for a week at Emerald Bay. **For more information on the Emerald Bay SPL Program please see page 24.**

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

The purpose of the Emerald Bay merit badge program is to offer programming that is not readily available at home and utilizes the outdoor experience. Each merit badge is assigned an area in camp that is responsible for its instruction. All in-camp questions about specific Merit Badges should be brought to the attention of the Area Director.

The day is divided into morning and afternoon sessions. Most merit badges are offered during the first four sessions of the day, with many troop or individual activities being offered during the after-noon and evening sessions.

Some merit badges can only be completed if certain requirements are done **prior to camp**. If a Scout has not completed these requirements the merit badge will have to be completed at home.

Merit Badge Sign-up: The form available online is provided to help Scouts plan their merit badge week. Once completed, Scouts give the forms to the adult leader responsible for registration who enters the information online. Details on how to register Scouts for merit badges will be available at the Spring Leaders' Meeting. **Please make sure registration is done prior to arrival at camp.**

Impacted Badges: Several merit badges have limited space and we ask that you make sure that Scouts meet the requirements listed in the Spring Leader's Packet prior to arrival. These merit badges are Sailing, Rifle, Shotgun, Archery, Motorboating, and Oceanography.

The next few pages will offer a brief overview of Merit Badges and Activities at Camp Emerald Bay. For more information, please visit www.campemeraldbay.org.

SUMMARY OF PROGAMS & ACTIVITIES

MERIT BADGES

Aquatics

Canoeing*
 Lifesaving*
 Motorboating*
 Rowing*
 Small Boat Sailing*
 Swimming

>SCUBA**

Field Sports

>Archery

>Rifle

>Shotgun

Handicraft

Art
 Basketry
 Leatherwork
 Woodcarving
 Pottery

Nature

Astronomy
 Bird Study
 Environ. Science
 Geology
 Mammal Study
 Nature

Soil & Water Conservation

>Energy

Fish and Wildlife Conservation

Scoutcraft

>Camping

Orienteering

>First Aid

Pioneering

Wilderness Survival

Marine Science

Oceanography

ACTIVITIES

Aquatics

Canoeing
 Kayaking
 Rowing
 Small Boat Sailing
 Snorkeling
 Swimming
 SCUBA Diving

Field Sports

Open Range Time (Archery,
 Shotgun, Rifle)

Handicraft

Basketry
 Leatherwork
 Woodcarving
 Pottery
 Art

Nature

Conservation Projects
 Hiking Programs
 Nature Trail
 Island Ecology
 Star Hikes
 BSA Naturalist

Scoutcraft

Knot Tying
 Orienteering
 Totin' Chip
 Firem'n Chit
 Trail to First Class

Marine Science

BSA Oceanographer*
 BSA Aquarist
 ROV Ocean Exploration

CAMP AWARDS

Buffalo Run
 Emerald Patrol
 War Canoe (camp overnight)
 Pirate Program
 Sea Lion Swim
 Silver Peak Hike

BSA PROGRAMS

>BSALifeguard*

Snorkeling BSA
 Mile Swim BSA

CAMP PROGRAMS

Rugged Explorers
 Rugged Canoe
 Campfires & Cookouts
 Order of the Arrow
 Parson's Beach/ War Canoe
 Unit-Get-Togethers
 Troop Colors

*Need prerequisite Merit Badges
 >Some pre-camp work required
 **SCUBA Merit Badge can only be earned as part of the Rugged SCUBA Program or if the Scout already has a SCUBA certification.

UNIT ACTIVITIES

The Emerald Bay program is structured to give all participants the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful location and countless opportunities for adventure at Camp. Please discuss with your troop the possible activities and prepare your SPL. These activities are signed up for after your arrival to camp by your SPL in conjunction with your assigned Staff Ranger. Most activities take place during sessions A (early morning), Five A and B (before dinner), or Six (after dinner).

Campfire: Opening and closing campfires are run by the Camp Staff. The mid-week campfire will be the responsibility of the troops themselves. Plan to participate with a skit, song, or chant!

Conservation or Service Project: The purpose of a troop project is to teach Scouts the value of working and contributing within a community. Please speak with your troop Ranger about Conservation and Service Project opportunities ranging from fennel eradication to helping with camp clean up.

Hikes: There are many thrilling and breathtaking hikes for your troop to experience. Talk to your Ranger about seeing Arrow Point, Silver Peak, or Sandy Beach. See the High Adventure staff if your troop is looking for a real challenge.

Star Hikes: On Tuesday and Wednesday nights a staff guide will lead a tour of the night skies above Emerald Bay. You will see the star-filled views and unbelievable skies above Catalina Island.

Bird Party: On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings (A-session) a staff guide will lead a tour of the birds throughout Emerald Bay. You will see unique birds only found on Catalina Island.

Troop Colors: Colors are held for the entire camp daily before breakfast and dinner on the parade ground. Each troop is encouraged to conduct camp colors at least once during the week and will have optional training from an Emerald Bay staff member.

Unit Get Together: An opportunity for your unit to have a cook-out at camp with a menu planned by you and your Scouts.

Troop Mountain Biking, Stand-up Paddle Boarding, Kayaking, or Snorkeling: These trips are led by your Troop Ranger. Sign up Sunday night during your Ranger/SPL meeting.

Free Time: Your troop's chance to relax. Play cards, Ultimate Frisbee, or take a nap!

LEADER ACTIVITIES

Adult Leader Trainings

If you are serious about impacting the lives of your Scouts, Emerald Bay offers multiple programs to help maximize your time and learning while at camp. Leaders can complete the following trainings at Emerald Bay: Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. To complete these requires almost a full day of work each day at camp.

Also available at Camp Emerald Bay are leader-specific computers with internet access for any online training.

Leaders' Lunch: During lunch on Wednesday you will have the opportunity to check in with camp staff leaders to answer any questions you may have. Check on your Scouts' progress with their various Merit Badges, ask general questions about camp, or simply swap stories with camp leadership!

Leaders' Porch: Hot coffee and tea, 24/7. Please enjoy but help us to make sure no Scouts partake.

Leaders' Shoot: An opportunity for adults to shoot a different sport each night at the Field Sports Area. Occurs during 6th Session on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. This event will have a \$10.00 fee to participate, due to the national ammunition shortage, paid via Doubleknot.

Leave No Trace (LNT): Learn the ethics of what it takes to be an environmental outdoorsman. We will cover the seven points of LNT Camping and how to implement them in your own Troop outings.

Mountain Biking: Mountain Bikes area available throughout the week for Scoutmaster and Troop outing use. Riding outside of scheduled troop activities will be limited. Participants **may not** bring their own mountain bikes from home.

Safe Swim Defense & Safety Afloat: All troops must have a certified Leader to run a Scout safe aquatic program. This program teaches participants the necessary precautions and methods for keeping Scouts safe in the water.

Youth Protection: All adults are required to take Youth Protection Training in order to run a safe Scouting program. **This training, good for two years, must be completed online at www.myscouting.org prior to camp attendance.**

OTHER PROGRAMS

Order of the Arrow Service Project: OA members can participate in camp improvements on Thursday evening. The projects last an hour and help to improve the physical facility. We encourage all members to wear their sashes during the evening meal on Thursday.

Pirate Program: Individual-based program with a variety of challenges depending on the number of years a Scout has attended Camp Emerald Bay. Upon completion of the challenges the participants join an elite group and earn the right to wear the Emerald Bay Pirate Patch.

Emerald Patrol: Through this week-long program Scouts can help develop teamwork by learning more about and using the Patrol Method in Camp. It will require them to visit most of the program areas to engage in as many activities.

War Canoe: This is the Camp Overnight and will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday night. Any Scout who is a swimmer will depart from the Emerald Bay beach in one of our own canoes and make the one hour paddle to Parson's Landing, a remote and rustic beach where the troop will spend the night. Activities at Parson's will keep you busy, and the troop will make their own Dutch oven dinner after a long and tiring day. All of the Emerald Bay merit badge classes are designed with this trip in mind (so you won't miss a beat!). Every troop is automatically scheduled a War Canoe day. Your troop Ranger (troop guide) will inform you of your War Canoe day upon arrival to the camp.

SPL Training: Mentioned before, this is the opportunity for your Troop's SPL and one buddy to come to camp on Thursday before your troop arrives to participate in a comprehensive training program focusing on key elements of leadership, the Patrol Method, and Camp Emerald Bay. Scouts will take the 12:30 PM Catalina Express boat with an Emerald Bay staff member on Thursday to participate.

First Year Rank Advancement: Scouts who earn their First Class rank within the first year of Scouting are far more likely to stay in scouting and become Eagle Scouts. Newer Scouts can participate in our First Year Rank Advancement program with the goal of completing many of the requirements needed for First Class. Taught by a combination of our Scoutcraft staff and Rangers, this program offers high quality instruction and engaging activities. Scouts who need only a few requirements completed can come later in the day for a shorter, more customized lesson.

Sea Lion Swim: Each morning, Tuesday through Saturday, participants can hop in the Pacific for the Emerald Bay Sea Lion Swim. Four lengths of the swim area must be completed on three different days in order to attain this award.

Buffalo Run: On Tuesday morning, everyone has the opportunity to take part in a two-mile run up and over the hill to and from Parson's Landing. There's no time limit, we only ask that you complete the task.

OTHER PROGRAMS (continued)

Mile Swim: Much like the Sea Lion Swim this is a program that runs each morning Tuesday through Saturday. A Scout must complete progressively longer swims working up to the final swim of one mile.

RUGGED ADVENTURERS

Camp Emerald Bay offers many challenging High Adventure programs for older Scouts who may be growing past the normal summer Scout camp experience. The Rugged Adventurers programs have been designed for Scouts ages 14+ as a provisional Scout program (troops are also encouraged to participate) that serves as a combination High Adventure and Leadership Training week. Scouts participating in the various Rugged programs will find themselves tasked with various challenges both physical and mental throughout the week. **Registration is completed through Doubleknot for all Rugged Adventurers programming.**

Rugged Explorers: Experience all that Catalina Island has to offer in this trademark High Adventure program at Emerald Bay. Bike, hike, kayak, and canoe all over beautiful, rustic Catalina while learning about leadership fundamentals and teamwork from our trained staff.

Rugged Canoe: One of our most grueling and rewarding experiences. Participants will canoe the entire circumference of Catalina Island (approximately 60 miles) during their week of camp, stopping to hike and camp out on many of the island's remote beach locations.

Rugged Trek: A program as rugged as the island of Catalina itself. Hike long climbs to peaks and ridgelines, snorkel in pristine waters at Little harbor, and maybe come across a few local Bison grazing the hillsides in the clouds. This adventure is about 40 miles long, and not for the faint hearted.

SCUBA PROGRAMS

Open Water Diver Certification (Scuba Merit Badge): This week-long SCUBA certification program is for Scouts ages 12 and up who are interested in becoming a life-time certified diver through PADI. Participants will spend their week learning to dive in the beautiful waters surrounding Emerald Bay and learn to face challenges unlike any others.

Advanced Open Water Diver Certification: For certified PADI Open Water Divers only, this program builds on the diver's comfort and qualifications. Deep dives, Night Dives, and Underwater Search and Rescue are just some of the skills a diver will learn from a week in Rugged Oceanographers. All who complete the course receive PADI Advanced Open Water certification.

Rescue Diver Certification: A special program offered only one week during the summer. Scouts and Adult Leaders who are already PADI Open Water certified can spend their week learning to become a Rescue Diver. This program has very limited availability, so please contact camping@bsa-la.org for more information.

SCUBA BSA: A half-day experience for non-certified divers to experience their first breaths underwater. This popular program gives Scouts and Scouters a chance to experience a dive without committing to a full certification program. Our SCUBA staff will walk you through the safety requirements and take you on a tour of our own Doctor's Cove. Bathing suit and towel required, all other gear provided.

PADI Discover Local Diving (DLD) - Certified Divers Only: DLD's allow certified divers to enjoy the underwater beauty of Emerald Bay under the guidance of an Instructor or Dive-master from the Dive Staff. Dives are scheduled throughout the week and rental equipment will be provided. **An in-water skill review is required for all divers prior to the first dive. Divers who have not been in the water for 5+ years may want to participate in the SCUBA BSA program before a DLD.**

Dive-master Internship: Offered by Malibu Divers, the Dive-master Internships allow participants to work at Emerald Bay as part of our dive team instructing groups throughout the year. The position is not paid, but participants will receive Dive-master certification during their time at Emerald Bay.

ADDITIONAL SCUBA PROGRAMS

SCUBA BSA: A half-day experience for non-certified divers to experience their first breaths underwater. This popular program gives Scouts and Scouters a chance to experience a dive without committing to a full certification program. Our SCUBA staff will walk you through the safety requirements and take you on a tour of our own Doctor's Cove. Bathing suit and towel required; all other gear provided.

PADI Discover Local Diving (DLD) – Certified Divers Only: DLD's allow certified divers to enjoy the underwater beauty of Emerald Bay under the guidance of an instructor or Divemaster from the Dive staff. Dive are scheduled throughout the week and rental equipment will be provided. **An in-water skill review is required for all divers prior to the first dive. Divers who have not been in the water for 5+ years may want to participate in the SCUBA BSA program before DLD.**

Important information regarding all SCUBA Programs

- All additional SCUBA programs are scheduled around the requirements of the Open Water SCUBA Programs.
- Participants must be age **12 or older (This is a National BSA policy, NO EXCEPTIONS)**
- SCUBA information and sign-up instructions will be included in the Spring Leader's Packet
- Reservations are made separately from normal camp registration. Contact camping@bsa-la.org or visit www.campeemeralbay.org for more information.
- All participants must have a signed Scuba Medical Form. Some medical conditions, including but not limited to asthma and diabetes, can disqualify someone from SCUBA Diving at Emerald Bay. Please contact In2Deep for details and to see if you will need physician clearance to dive.
- **PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN SCUBA TANKS OR WEIGHTS.**

DEPARTURE AND POST CAMP



[THE LAST 24 HOURS](#)

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[POST-CAMP ADMINISTRATION](#)

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[CAMP STAFF OPPORTUNITIES](#)

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[EMERALD BAY ASSOCIATION](#)

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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.
- **Troop Records Distribution:** At the end of the campfire on Friday night the Camp Director will ask one adult leader from each Troop to come down and form a semi-circle around the campfire rings. The Director will then hand out packets containing the various preliminary merit badge completion sheets, camp patches, and other items earned during the week. **Scoutmasters should take time between the end of campfire and Saturday morning to review records and ensure everything is in order.** It is much easier to make corrections before leaving camp.

Saturday

- **Merit Badge Check and Balance:** Before breakfast all Area Directors will be available in the Helm and on the Dining Hall Porch with skill sheets to review merit badge print-outs. The purser will be in the office to correct any patch errors and other issues. **Any problems found after camp should be addressed to the Program Director at patrick.roque@scouting.org.**
- **Loading at Emerald Bay:** Please bring your gear down **before breakfast** to the assembly area. Once we begin loading you will be instructed on where to place your gear on the vessel.
- **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 Emerald Bay: is also available for weekend camping trips in the spring and fall seasons. We welcome Scout Troops, as well as Girl Scouts, YMCA's and other youth programs to participate. Contact us at the number above for more information.

CAMP STAFF OPPORTUNITIES

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 or email patrick.roque@scouting.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 March.

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.



**EMERALD BAY
ASSOCIATION**

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!