

Participant's Guide

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills



Belk Scout Camp



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Course Overview

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

This is a fun-filled program of hands-on skills training in the outdoors, designed to help Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to master and teach the basic camping skills required for Tenderfoot to First Class. This Course is required for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to receive the Trained Patch. Instructors will help you learn how to set up camp, cook, work with woods tools, learn about ropes, planning campfire programs, map reading and compass skills, hiking, and packing techniques, nature identification, and Leave No Trace.

Subjects to Be Covered

The subjects to be covered in the course include (but are not limited to):

- The Patrol Method
- The EDGE Method
- Campfire Planning and Program
- Tents and Campsite Selection
- Packing and Hiking Techniques
- Wood Tools
- Knots and Lashings
- Campsite Sanitation
- Outdoor Ethics
- Fire Building
- Orienteering

Important Dates and Times

Please note the following dates and times:

- Our weekend at Belk Scout Camp will begin on Saturday
- Check-in from **6:45 am** until **7:30 am**.
 - **NOTE:** Please eat breakfast prior to arriving to the course.
- The Course will begin promptly at **7:45 am**.
- Please plan to arrive early enough to drop your gear and park before we start at **7:45 am** in the Catawba Shelter. You will need approximately 15 minutes to walk briskly from the parking lot to the
- The Course will end at around **12:00 pm** on Sunday.

You must attend the entire course during this time frame. The schedule is full and you won't want to miss any of the activities.



Registration

To register for the course, please visit www.mccscouting.org/OLSregistration and use the online registration portal. You will need the following information to register:

- Full Name
- Scout Number
- Home Address
- Cell Phone Number
- E-mail Address
- Council and District
- Unit Type
- Unit Number
- Current Scouting Position

The cost for the course is \$50.00 plus a \$1 registration fee and includes all food for the course.

Checking In

Check-in begins at 6:45 am on November 14th, 2026 at the OLS Check-In area just past the Dining Hall and lasts until 7:30 am.

You must arrive with a completed BSA Health Form – Parts A and B.

Once you are checked in, proceed to the gear drop-off at the location you are told (around the parade field). Drop off all personal gear in the designated area and return your vehicle to the parking area near the check-in area. Once parked, return to the Catawba Shelter to meet up with your patrol and Troop Guides.

Recommended Equipment

This checklist covers the minimum equipment you will need to bring to camp. If you do not personally own any of the items listed, you may want to contact other troop or pack leaders or friends to borrow them for the weekend. While we want you to be comfortable, we want to ensure you make the most of this training without shouldering too many expenses.

The Course Quartermaster will provide all the food, including cracker barrels, but if you want to bring your own snacks, please feel free to do so.

Important: Please remember that the weather this time of year can be highly variable and can change quickly. Keep an eye on the weather forecast for the days leading up to the course. Please make sure that you bring plenty of warm layers, and wet weather protection. You will be camping, and most of the course will be held outdoors, rain or shine!

Overnight gear, outdoor essentials and appropriate clothing are the heart of camping equipment. Bring a *light load of only what you need* to keep yourself safe and make a good camp for 1 night; leave all unnecessary items at home. For example, no personal cooking gear will be required.

Uniform

The preferred uniform for the event is the Class "A" Uniform. If you have not obtained a Class "A" uniform, it's OK – we'd rather have you than the uniform.



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Tent

Bring a lightweight backpacking tent (with footprint or ground cloth) for two only – no wall or large recreation types (space is limited in the area where you will be camping). Each participant should bring their own tent. **NOTE:** *Hammocks are acceptable if that is your preference.*

Camp Chair

Bring a camp chair to utilize throughout the weekend.

Personal Overnight Camping Gear

Living Essentials

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☐ Tent or Hammock | ☐ Sleeping Bag 20 Degree F | ☐ Sleeping Bag Pad |
| ☐ Backpack w/Rain Cover | ☐ Daypack | ☐ Watch |
| ☐ Clothing for weather | ☐ Gloves | ☐ Mess Kit/Eating Utensils |

Outdoor Essentials

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ☐ Pocket Knife | ☐ First Aid Kit | ☐ Extra Clothing |
| ☐ Stocking Cap | ☐ Rain Gear | ☐ Water Bottle |
| ☐ Flashlight/Head Lamp | ☐ Extra Batteries | ☐ Matches and Fire Starters |
| ☐ Sun Protection/Lip Balm | ☐ Compass | ☐ Camp Chair |

Additional Material

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| ☐ Boy Scout Handbook | ☐ One Clothespin | ☐ Camera |
| ☐ Pencil or Pen | ☐ Personal Toiletries | |
| ☐ Sunglasses | ☐ Notebook or Paper | |

Directions to Belk Scout Camp

Address: Belk Scout Camp, 9408 Belt Rd, Midland, NC, 28107 Phone: (704) 545-0958

Via Albemarle Road

From I-485, take exit 41, NC 24/27 Albemarle Rd east toward Albemarle. Go 1.6 miles and turn right on Cabarrus Road. Go 2.7 miles and turn right on Ferguson Road. Go 0.8 miles and turn left on McManus Road. Go 1.2 miles and turn right on Belt Road. Go 0.6 miles to the camp entrance on the left.

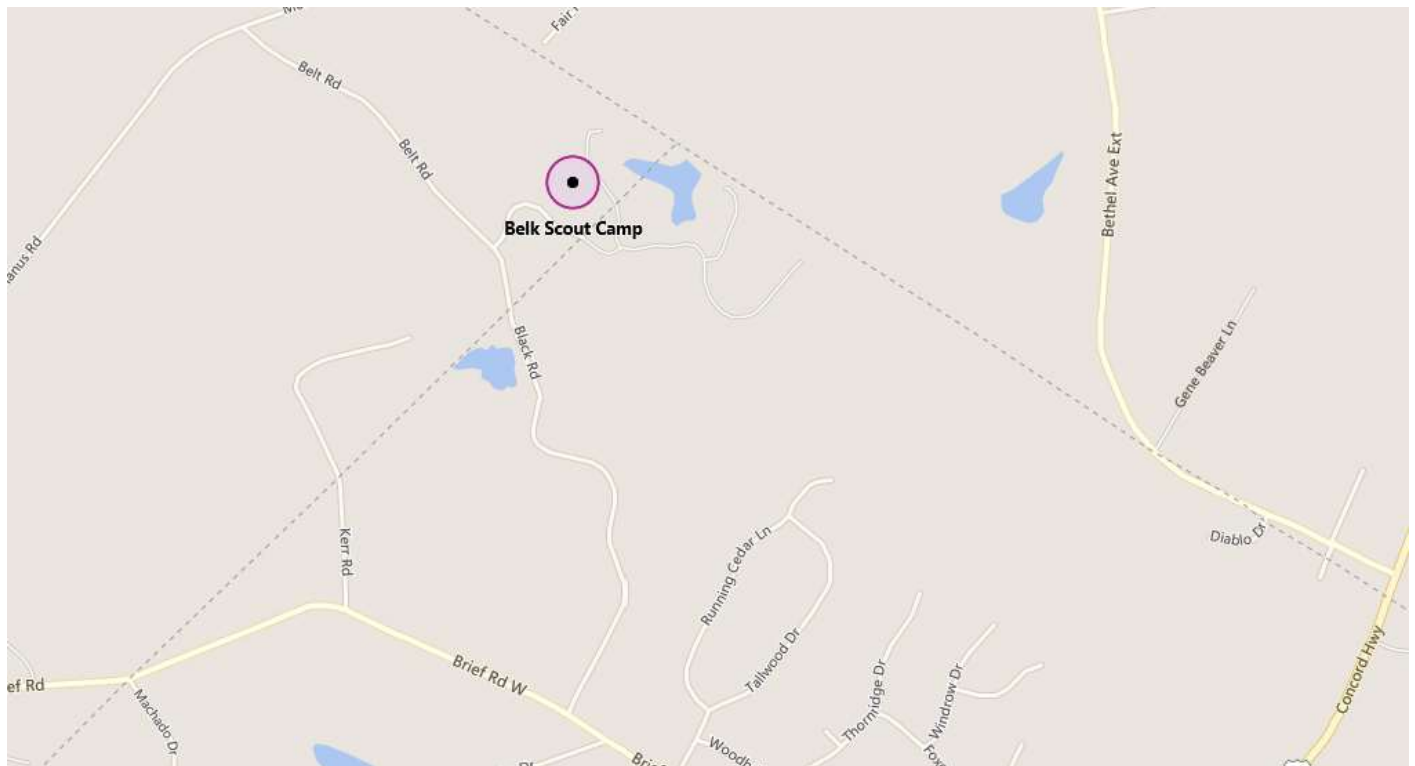
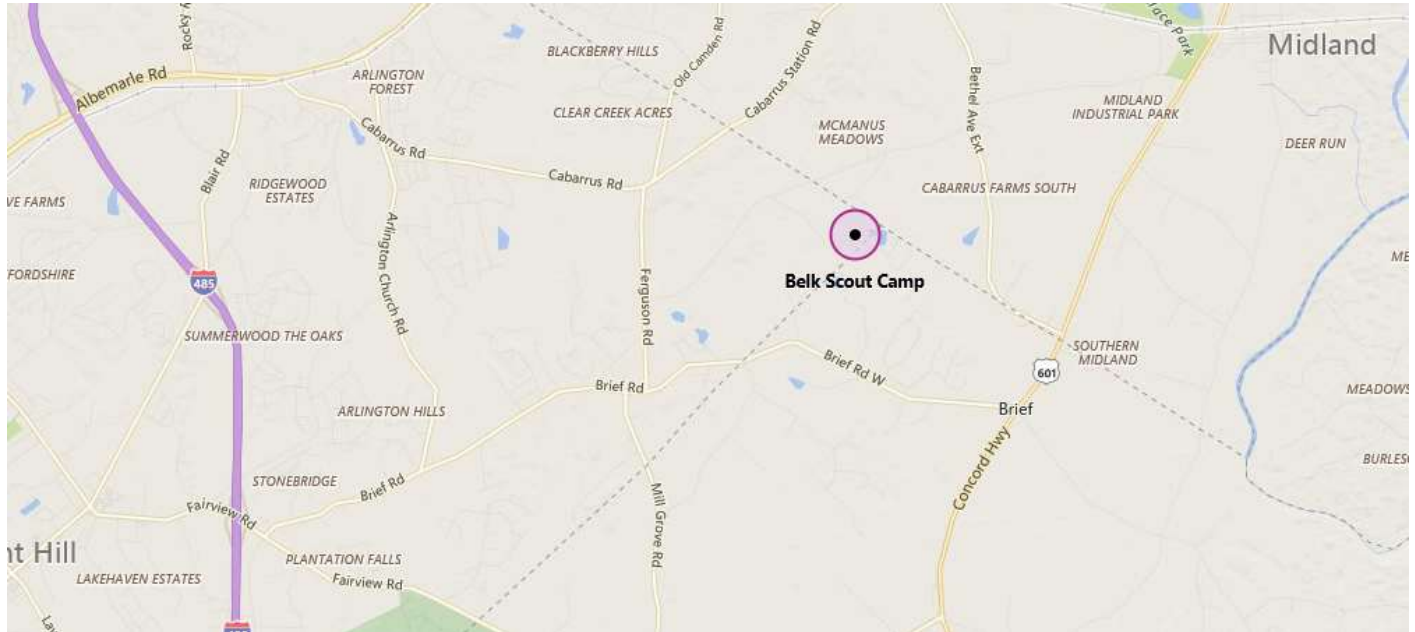
Via Brief Road

From I-485, take exit 44, NC 218 east toward Fairview. Just past the 485 interchange, turn left on Brief Road. Go 4.5 miles and turn left on Black Road. Go 0.9 miles to the camp entrance on the right.



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Belk Scout Camp Map

Please refer to the section of the map of Belk Scout below for the location of the Check-In area and the Gear Drop area.

