



## Scout Programs at the Watershed Reserve

The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association offers guided scout programs designed for specific age groups and interests. Our Teacher-Naturalists can help your scouts earn badges while exploring different habitats of the Watershed Reserve. Workshops can accommodate a maximum of 15 scouts at one time. A minimum of two adult chaperones is required to accompany your group, but more adults are welcome at no extra charge. We encourage carpooling to our Reserve. Scout programs run from 1 ½-2 hours. *Badges for Scout programs are NOT included and must be purchased by troop leader.*

Scouts will have time to visit the Buttinger Nature Center before or after the workshop, with the exception of programs that are conducted at the Pond House. The Buttinger Nature Center has a small animal collection, hands-on displays and gift shop, where nature-themed items such as field guides, insect nets and bug boxes can be purchased.

Reservations for workshops are required. For more information or to book a program, contact the Nature Center Manager at (609) 737-7592. Please have several dates in mind to book your visit – we conduct badge workshops on weekdays (Tuesday through Friday) and Saturdays. The Buttinger Nature Center is closed on Sunday and Monday.

### **Program Fees:**

Weekday Program - \$50 plus \$2 per scout

Saturday Program - \$75 plus \$2 per scout

Nature Center Visit - \$65

*Note: We reserve the right to charge for participating siblings in all programs.*

### **Cub Scout Programs**

#### Tiger Cubs

##### *Nature Center Visit*

An introductory discovery program held in our Buttinger Nature Center. Boys will meet our resident animals and use their senses to learn more about nature. Weather permitting, a short nature hike is included. Duration: 1 hour

##### *Let's Go Outdoors – Achievement #5 (Req. d, f, g)*

Take a hike with one of our naturalists to watch the weather and make a leaf rubbing. Afterwards, visit the Nature Center.

#### Wolf Cubs

##### *American Indian Lore – Elective #10 (Req. a, d)*

Learn about the Lenni Lenape peoples of New Jersey through stories, games and a hike. We will also make a native tool.

### *Birds – Elective #13 (Req. b, d, e)*

Explore the fields and forests of the Watershed Reserve for the birds that make their homes here. We will identify species, compare their habitats, discuss their lifestyles and examine their nests. For an added fee, ‘make and take’ a birdfeeder.

### Bear Cubs

#### *Sharing Your World With Wildlife – Achievement #5 (Req. a, c, d, e)*

Hike a trail at the Watershed Reserve with one of our naturalists to enjoy the season and discover the many animals and plants that make their homes here. Find out what a wildlife conservation officer does and why animals become extinct.

### *Weather – Elective #2 (Req. c, d, e)*

Learn the clues to forecast the weather, identify cloud types and take a hike to find the effects the weather has on the environment. Find out how a barometer works and make a rain gauge measuring tool.

### *Nature Crafts – Elective #12 (Req. a, b, c, e)*

Create track booklets and use them to identify animal footprints on the Reserve. While hiking, collect leaves and seeds then return to the Nature Center to make a creative craft and solar print.

### *Water and Soil Conservation – Elective #15 (Req. d, e)*

Find out how your den can help with a Watershed Association reforestation or stream bank restoration project in your community. Note: No fee for this program

### *American Indian Life – Elective #24 (Req. a, b)*

Learn about the native peoples of New Jersey—the Lenni Lenape. We will take a silent hike to help us understand their culture and play some Native American games.

### Webelos

#### *Forester Badge (Req. #1, 2, 3, 4)*

Take a hike around the Watershed Reserve and learn to identify trees and plants that are useful to both humans and wildlife. We will discover the secret lives of trees and their life cycle through games and role-play.

### *Naturalist (Req. #3, 4, 5, 6, 7)*

Discover the plants and animals that call the Watershed Reserve home, as we take a hike of discovery. We will learn about the web of life and visit the field and forest to see what animals are making their homes there.

## **Girl Scout Programs**

### Daisy Girl Scouts

#### *Nature Center Visit*

An introductory discovery program held in our Buttinger Nature Center. Girls will meet our resident animals and use their senses to learn more about nature. Weather permitting, a short nature hike is included. Duration: 1 hour

## Brownie Girl Scouts

### *Animals Try-It*

We will observe local wildlife on a guided hike of the Reserve trails. Discover how animals move, learn more about adaptations for survival and play a game about animal communication.

### *Outdoor Adventurer Try-It*

Discover the fun of nature and the outdoor world. We will explore using our eyes, ears and noses as we make our way down the trail. A nature scavenger hunt tops off our day.

### *Watching Wildlife Try-It*

Take a hike to find the animals that make the Watershed Reserve their home. We'll listen to animals communicating, observe earthworms and ants, and find out what the Watershed's animals eat.

### *Water Everywhere Try-It*

Meet at the Watershed Pond House to explore the pond and the critters that live there. We will find out why water is so important, the journey that it takes and what lives under its surface. *Available April through October only.*

## Junior Girl Scouts

### *Eco-Action*

Find out how your troop can help with a Watershed Association reforestation or stream bank restoration project in your community. Note: No fee for this program

### *Finding your Way (Req. #1, 5, 8, 9)*

Learn to travel through unknown territory. We will learn how to read a map, use a compass and interpret trail signs.

### *Water Wonders (Req. #1, 2, 4, 5)*

Explore the watery world of the Watershed Pond. We will learn about the water cycle and use a seine OR plankton net to explore life in the pond. *Available April through October only.*

### *Wildlife (Req. #2, 3, 5, 6, 7)*

Travel the trails of the Watershed Reserve to learn what plants and animals make their homes in the field and forest. We will identify and observe animals in their habitats and learn how they are adapted to their environment. We will also learn which animals and plants to avoid.

## **Projects and Badges for Older Scouts**

A limited number of opportunities are available for Boy Scouts seeking an Eagle Scout project or Girl Scouts seeking an Interest Project. Boy Scout badge workshops in various topics are also scheduled throughout the year. Please contact the Nature Center Manager for more information, (609) 737-7592.