

## **THE BASICS for Boy Scout and Venture Leaders and Parents (rev. 2/09)**

To be considered "Trained" for your Troop or Crew Leader position, you must complete:

### **The Troop or Crew Basics**

**For All Parents:** Fast Start, Youth Protection & New Leader Essentials are all recommended, and may be required by your Troop. Visit <http://www.scoutparents.org>

**For Scoutmasters and Assistants:** 1.Fast Start module 2.Youth Protection (YPT) 3.New Leader Essentials (NLE) 4. Boy Scout Leader Specifics (SALT/BSLST) 5.Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS)

**For Troop Committee:** 1. Fast Start module 2.Youth Protection (YPT) 3.New Leader Essentials (NLE) 4.Troop Committee Specifics

**For Venture Crew Leaders:** 1.Advisor Fast Start module 2.Youth Protection (YPT) 3.New Leader Essentials (NLE) 4.Venture Leader Specifics (VLS) 5.Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS)

**For Merit Badge Counselors:** 1.Fast Start module 2.**Youth Protection (REQUIRED)** 3.New Leader Essentials (recommended)

### **Fast Start Training (FST)**

The first step in any Adult Scout Leader training is **Fast Start Training** – E-Learning. There are Fast Start modules for new parents, committee, Boy Scout and Venture Leaders – Choose Boy Scout or Venture Advisor module. Each is a self-study program, which will take 20 - 30 minutes and should be taken ASAP upon adult registration.

To access all online classes: <http://scouting.org> Select "MyScouting" tab. Create your user account and log-in.

Select "E-Learning" tab. Select course tab. Take course. Print certificate.

Anyone may create a user account and view the courses anytime. Registered members of the BSA may provide their member numbers (as part of their user profile) to receive credit. Completion certificates or list should be sent to your Pack or Troop Trainer and me at: [bgardfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgardfox@bellsouth.net) to insure local credit is posted. (Web-site is national in scope and no reports are provided to us)

### **Boy Scout Leader Assessment Tool**

Whether you have been in Scouting for many years or are just starting out, the Boy Scout Leader Assessment Tool is for you. The online assessment will help Scouters of all experience levels discover opportunities to refresh their understanding of Scouting and determine how to update their skills. Specifically, the Boy Scout Leader Assessment Tool will:

- Identify which BSA training courses would be most beneficial to the individual Scouter.
- Allow local council trainer chairpersons to know and understand which courses should be offered.
- Remind long-term Scouters that there are new and interesting skills for them to learn.
- Allow adult leaders to determine their strengths and weaknesses regarding Boy Scout training.
- Help our adult leaders to have the latest and greatest skills to support and mentor our Scouts.

This assessment tool is available on-line at: [www.scouting.org/boyscouts/training/start.jsp](http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/training/start.jsp)

**ScoutParents** is part of the BSA National Parenting Initiative

Scouting with your child, Scouting benefits, Parent Resources, Family Fun, FAQ and more. This resource is to help provide parents with information and tools to help them understand their importance in becoming more involved with their Scouts.

Visit <http://www.scoutparents.org>

### **To offer you the most local opportunities to get the Training you need**

Some Districts share trainers or combine teams to offer joint courses in many nearby areas.

Be Prepared = Register EARLY to secure your space!

Scheduled courses are subject to date/time change and/or cancellation due to minimum advance registrations, or may have "wait-lists" when maximum number is reached

All instructors are dedicated, experienced Scout Volunteers

**For all scheduled sessions – follow the link or instructions provided for that specific class and date**

Many require advance registration and fee payment

Go to listed contact for more information, including pre-registration and other requirements

**You must sign up as the District requires, and confirm attendance, date/time, cost and location details**

### **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**

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This is a classroom/video/discussion format to help you learn about the Boy Scouts policies, guidelines, supplemental safety training, Tour Permits, and "Guide to Safe Scouting" limitations to help protect both our children and adults. This is a must for all registered adult leaders, merit badge counselors and is recommended for all parents. YPT should be renewed every two years, and can be done on-line:

To access all online classes: <http://scouting.org> Select "MyScouting" tab. Create your user account and log-in.

Select "E-Learning" tab. Select course tab. Take course. Print certificate.

Anyone may create a user account and view the courses anytime. Registered members of the BSA may provide their member numbers (as part of their user profile) to receive credit. Completion certificates or list should be sent to your Pack or Troop Trainer and me at: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net) to insure local credit is posted. (Web-site is national in scope)

**NOTE: Button Gwinnett's Classroom format now includes a supplemental part that includes: on-line, chat rooms, Internet safety discussions & parent resources.**

### **Button Gwinnett will continue to offer live Youth Protection classes in our District - WHY ?**

- A. Without a BSA registration number match, adults may not get a confirmation e-mail or completion card.
- B. On-line version cannot answer "what if questions..." that all new parents have
- C. We spend class time discussing the importance of prevention, "Guide to Safe Scouting", Tour Permits, BSA guidelines & what they mean on the Troop or Crew level, other required safety training & where to get it, etc (not covered on-line)
- D. We talk about the local reporting guidelines & important agencies & contacts to know about in our area (not covered on-line)
- E. We have added new discussion materials to help our parents discuss & keep their children safe while on-line, Myspace, blogs, chat rooms, etc (not covered on-line)
- F. What does "Age appropriate Guidelines" mean to you and your Scouts?
- G. We can introduce new parents to others and provide resources, connections and other available classes designed to help them deliver the best program.
- H. What is the Troop or Crew's responsibility regarding Adult Leader Applications and registrations ? (not covered on-line)
- I. So, we will continue to offer the Youth Protection classes. Please encourage all to attend one ASAP. The on-line version is fine for leader YPT Renewal certification (should be every two years)
- J. Some Pack and Troop Committees have mandated that ALL adults involved in their Scouting Program will be BSA registered & approved and have Youth Protection training (what a great idea)
- K. Youth Protection Training is **REQUIRED** (BSA National Policy as of May 2006), not just recommended as before, for ALL registered Merit Badge Counselors - please promote this, and encourage 100 % participation ASAP in your Troops and Crews ! Only approved BSA Registered & YPT trained Merit Badge Counselors should be working with your boys in your Troops and Crews.

**All parents and all Leaders - Walk-ins are welcome for evening Youth Protection Training (YPT).**

Evening Class times are 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM (None admitted after 7:15 PM) \$1.50 per person donation please to cover hand-outs cost.

### **2009 YPT dates**

**Monday, Feb. 23:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Haven Trust Bank Building, 6340 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Suite 200, Duluth** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Monday, March 23:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1350 Peachtree Ind. Blvd. Suwanee** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Thursday, April 2:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Wesleyan High School #263 & 265, 5405 Spalding Drive, Norcross** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Monday, April 20:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Duluth United Methodist Church, 3208 Highway 120, Duluth** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, July 25:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Youth Protection (YPT), offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). \*\*Requires Advance Registration form & payment by 7/11 to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, August 29:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Youth Protection (YPT), offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). \*\*Requires Advance Registration form & payment by 8/15 to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, October 24:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Youth Protection (YPT), offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). \*\*Requires Advance Registration form & payment by 10/10 to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Your Date Here:** Offered by Button Gwinnett District in Norcross/Duluth/Suwanee area only. <http://gwinnettsa.org/training>  
Contact [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net) to arrange for YPT trainer to come to your location & your Pack or Troop – minimum 6 people please.

### **New Leader Essentials Training (NLE)**

This orientation to the Scouting program covers the Mission, Aims and Methods of the age-based programs – from Tigers all the way through Venture scouts. Learn about Scouting's history, funding, organization, resources, information, leadership positions and basic safety guidelines. Only required one time.

**All parents and all Leaders - Walk-ins are welcome for evening New Leader Essentials (NLE).** Evening Class times are 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (None admitted after 7:15pm), unless stated otherwise. Materials fee.

### **NLE 2009 dates**

**Sunday, January 18, 2009:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training (CSLPST), offered by Chattahoochee District (Sandy Springs and Roswell) <http://www.cdbsa.org/Training/> Contact: [dlrundel@bellsouth.net](mailto:dlrundel@bellsouth.net)

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**Saturday, Feb. 21:** offered at Ball Ground UMC, Cherokee-Pickens District, Contact Todd Musgrave: [donegone119@yahoo.com](mailto:donegone119@yahoo.com) or 770-361-6966

**Monday, Feb. 23:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Haven Trust Bank Building, 6340 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Suite 200, Duluth** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, February 28:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training (CSLPST), offered by Foothills District (Marietta & East Cobb) <http://www.foothillsbsa.org/training> , Contact: [wwright376@aol.com](mailto:wwright376@aol.com)

**Saturday, March 7:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training (CSLPST), offered by Mountain Lake District (Kennesaw, Acworth) Contact: [training@mountainlakedistrict.com](mailto:training@mountainlakedistrict.com)

**Wed. March 11:** offered by Chattahoochee District (Sandy Springs and Roswell) <http://www.cdbsa.org/Training/> Contact: [dlrundel@bellsouth.net](mailto:dlrundel@bellsouth.net)

**Monday, March 23:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1350 Peachtree Ind. Blvd. Suwanee** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Thursday, April 2:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Wesleyan High School #263 & 265, 5405 Spalding Drive, Norcross** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Monday, April 20:** offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). **Duluth United Methodist Church, 3208 Highway 120, Duluth** reply to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, July 25:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Youth Protection (YPT), offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). \*\*Requires Advance Registration form & payment by 7/11 to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, August 29:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Youth Protection (YPT), offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). \*\*Requires Advance Registration form & payment by 8/15 to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, October 4:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training (CSLPST), offered by Currahee District, Contact: [mdesing@bsaemail.org](mailto:mdesing@bsaemail.org)

**Saturday, October 24:** New Leader Essentials Training (NLE), then Youth Protection (YPT), offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). \*\*Requires Advance Registration form & payment by 10/10 to: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Your Date Here:** Offered by Button Gwinnett District in Norcross/Duluth/Suwanee area only. <http://gwinnettbsa.org/training>  
Contact [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net) to arrange for NLE trainer to come to your location & your Pack or Troop – minimum 6 people please.

### Chartered Organization Representative (COR) Training:

As a chartered organization representative (COR), you hold a key position in Scouting. While there is honor attached to this position, it is not an "honorary" one. Your primary function is to ensure that the chartered organization's Scouting program succeeds. The COR is head of the "Scouting department" in the organization, and as such the responsibilities of the units and leadership selection is ultimately the COR's responsibility. Offered on-line at: <http://olc.scouting.org>

### Boy Scout Leader Specifics (BSLST aka SALT)

This is a classroom/video/discussion format concentrating on Troop operations. It is required for Scoutmasters and assistants, and recommended for advancement, outdoor and planning leaders. The three parts are: 1. The role of the adults in a boy-led troop. 2. The outdoor and advancement programs. 3. The troop program planning and troop administration. Each part is about 3 hours and can be completed in one full day session, or over three or four evenings.

Go to link below for more information, including pre-registration and other requirements. You **must** sign up as the District requires, and confirm attendance, date & time, cost and location details. Minimum & Maximum class size.

### 2009 BSLST dates:

**Thursday night sessions, Feb. 12, 19, 26, & March 5:** offered by Hightower District (DeKalb County) More Information: <http://www.hightowertrailbsa.com/training.html> Contact: [hightowerslt@gmail.com](mailto:hightowerslt@gmail.com)

**Saturday, March 7:** All day session offered at UGA by Cherokee District, Contact: [gschultz@nega-bsa.org](mailto:gschultz@nega-bsa.org)

**Saturday, March 7:** All day session offered by Mountain Lake District (Kennesaw, Acworth) Contact: [training@mountainlakedistrict.com](mailto:training@mountainlakedistrict.com)

**Saturday, March 14:** All day session offered by Cherokee-Pickens District, Contact Elliott Segal: [scouts@Lgtcherokee.com](mailto:scouts@Lgtcherokee.com)

**Wednesday night sessions, March 18, 25, April 1:** offered by Chattahoochee District (Roswell, Sandy Springs) Contact: [dlrundel@bellsouth.net](mailto:dlrundel@bellsouth.net)

**March 24, 25 & 31:** Split evening sessions offered at LDS in Cumming by Etowah District, Contact: [training@etowah-bsa.org](mailto:training@etowah-bsa.org)

**Thursday night sessions, April 2, 16, 23:** offered by Foothills District (Marietta & East Cobb)

<http://www.foothillsbsa.org/training> , Contact: [wwright376@aol.com](mailto:wwright376@aol.com)

**Saturday, April 4:** All day session offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). Class size limited/mandatory advance registration & payment required to BG District, <http://gwinnettbsa.org> , [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Saturday, Sept. 26:** All day session offered by Button Gwinnett District (Norcross/Duluth). Class size limited/mandatory advance registration & payment required to BG District, <http://gwinnettbsa.org> , [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

### Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS)

Outdoor skills are critical to the success of the Boy Scout and Venture scouting program. This is an outdoor, weekend course – using the patrol method, focused on introducing the outdoor skills you & your scouts need to know, and building your

confidence and abilities to conduct outdoor camping experiences. ITOLS is required for Scoutmasters, assistants, Venture and Varsity coaches. Requires Class 1 Medical form, advance registration & fees. May also require prior attendance of "matching" BSLST (Specifics) classes.

Go to link below for more information, including pre-registration and other requirements. You **must** sign up as the District requires, and confirm attendance, date & time, cost and location details. Minimum & Maximum class size.

#### **2009 ITOLS dates**

**March 13 – 15:** offered by Hightower District (DeKalb County) More Information:

<http://www.hightowertrailbsa.com/training.html> Contact: [hightowerslt@gmail.com](mailto:hightowerslt@gmail.com)

**March 13 – 15:** offered by Cherokee-Pickens District, Contact Elliott Segal: [scouts@Lgtcherokee.com](mailto:scouts@Lgtcherokee.com)

**March 20 – 22:** offered by Mountain Lake District (Kennesaw, Acworth) Contact: [training@mountainlakedistrict.com](mailto:training@mountainlakedistrict.com)

**April 3 – 5:** offered by Cherokee-Pickens District, Contact Elliott Segal: [scouts@Lgtcherokee.com](mailto:scouts@Lgtcherokee.com)

**April 25: (Orientation required) + May 8 - 10, 2009:** offered by Button Gwinnett District, (Norcross/Duluth),

<http://gwinnettbsa.org> Registration required contact: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

**Oct., 2009: (Orientation required) + All weekend outdoors** offered by Button Gwinnett District, (Norcross/Duluth),

<http://gwinnettbsa.org> Registration required contact: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net)

#### **Troop Committee Challenge**

This is the Leader Specifics course for Troop Committee members. This is a classroom/role-playing format designed to support learning the various support roles and responsibilities for each Committee position. Best delivered on the Troop level, the course is 3.5 - 4 hours. It can be split into two different evenings or one part day session.

**Your Date Here:** Offered by Button Gwinnett District in Norcross/Duluth/Suwanee area only.

Contact [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net) to arrange for a trainer to come to your location & your Troop Committee.

#### **Venture Leader Specifics (VLST)**

The Leader Specifics course for Venture Crew Leaders and Advisors. Includes five sessions designed to provide leaders with a good working knowledge of Crew Operations. Leaders also must attend ITOLS as part of their "Basics".

**Saturday, Feb. 28, 2009:** offered by Atlanta Area Council. Contact 770-898-8820 to register

#### **"Guide to Safe Scouting"**

Always use this as a reference before planning safe activities for your group. Includes "age-specific" guidelines, current policies and procedures, and required training levels for youth and adults. Download the .pdf or .doc at:

<http://www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety.aspx> BSA National updates this at least annually.

#### **Youth Protection: Training for the Adult Venture Leader**

This training provides an overview of the developmental transition experienced by young people of Venturing age and how those transitions relate to the personal safety concerns of the Venturing program.

Available on-line: <http://olc.scouting.org/info/yptv.html>

#### **Hazardous Weather Training**

Effective January 1, 2009, Hazardous Weather training is mandatory for at least one adult on each trip or tour.

The on-line course includes training, testing, and additional resources on weather conditions that may be encountered during BSA activities, including lightning, flash floods, tornadoes, hot and cold weather, hail, and hurricanes. Participants who complete the course earn a Weather Smart Certificate of Completion (info. required for Tour Permit).

The Hazardous Weather course content is appropriate for Boy Scouts and Venturers as well as all adult leaders.

To access all online classes: <http://scouting.org> Select "MyScouting" tab. Create your user account and log-in.

Select "E-Learning" tab. Select course tab. Take course. Print certificate.

Anyone may create a user account and view the courses anytime. Registered members of the BSA may provide their member numbers (as part of their user profile) to receive credit. Completion certificates or list should be sent to your Pack or Troop Trainer and me at: [bgrdfox@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgrdfox@bellsouth.net) to insure local credit is posted. (Web-site is national in scope)

**Don't forget to "PRINT" your certificate and notify your Unit and District Trainer. Keep a copy in your "Travel Book" with medical forms & Tour Permits.**

Use and submit only the new Tour Permit form (dated 2008 rev.) as of January 2, 2009.

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34426.pdf>

You can now submit Tour Permits Online using your MyScouting portal.

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### **Roundtables**

A roundtable is a monthly presentation of unit program ideas, inspiration, and additional training for all leaders. Roundtables are fun and convey many practical ideas for adult leaders to use. The monthly program is geared towards Scout leaders at every level. It is highly recommended that all attend. We encourage you to bring someone who hasn't been to a roundtable and see how it can help your program. Try to have at least two leaders attending from your unit – a “uniformed” leader and a committee member. Each District area has their own schedule for roundtables. See your District web-site link for details.

### **Button Gwinnett District Roundtables**

Held on the THIRD Tuesday of each month at Christ Church Episcopal, located at 400 Holcomb Bridge Road in Norcross. Join us in fellowship at 7 – 9:30 PM. We offer both Cub Scout and Boy Scout roundtables on the same night. Adults only please.

### **On-line Supplemental Training Modules from National BSA**

Supplemental training modules are designed to provide orientation beyond the basic training offered in New Leader Essentials and leader-specific training. Each module is a unit of training that can be used as an outline for a group, for personal coaching, or for self-study. Most of the outlines should require about an hour to complete. Consider each unit of study to be an introduction to the subject. Scouters are welcome to download subjects that are of interest for personal or unit use. There are no training credits associated with the completion of these units of study. Additional training units are being developed and will be continually added to these sites.

Boy Scouts Youth and Leaders, Go to: <http://www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/TrainingModules.aspx>

Venture Adults and Youth Leaders, Go to: <http://www.scouting.org/Venturing/Training.aspx>

### **Merit Badge Counselor Instructors Guide**

This module will guide new and potential merit badge counselors through their responsibilities in the role and will give them an understanding of the methods of counseling Scouts. It is intended as a short orientation course for new merit badge counselors before they begin working with Scouts. Available on-line at: <http://scouting.org/BoyScouts/TrainingModules.aspx>

**To Search for training classes by MONTH in all surrounding areas of Atlanta,  
go to the Atlanta Area Council Training Calendar  
<http://www.atlantabsa.org/openrosters/Calendar.asp?orgkey=1459>**

To find additional or supplemental courses not listed here, please check the links found on our District site:  
<http://www.gwinnettbsa.org/training>

“Supplemental Courses”, “Health and Safety Training”, “Training for Youth Leaders” or try the Council site:  
<http://www.atlantabsa.org> Use “Search” box for training.