

Fly Fest 2020 Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge Outline

The first day of the program is scheduled for March 14 (during TRWD Flyfest). It will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at approximately 3:00pm. Please arrive promptly at 9:00am so the class can start on time. Meet at the Boy Scout registration tent near the pavilion at the Boy Scouts check in table. Please note: the ending time is just a guesstimate. We aim to be complete by 3:00pm but with the size of the class, we don't want to promise that. The second day will be on April 25, 10am- 2pm at Marine Creek Lake at 2700 NW Loop 820, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 from 10:00AM until your individual scout has completed the last three stations. All scouts **must be pre-registered online** to participate on both days. Go online at www.trwdflyfest.com to sign up.

We will provide all equipment needed to complete requirements for the merit badge. The boys just need to show up wearing their uniform and ready to learn! The certified troop leaders will be taking the scouts through a rotation of several activities customized for the merit badge class. There will be other programs taking place that they are more than welcome to join once they have completed the merit badge class. Blue cards for Fly Fishing and Fishing will be distributed at the beginning of the course and initialed for each station completed.

Parking will be at 3100 Bryant Irvin Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76109. Parking will be \$5, but admission into the event is free and we encourage you to come enjoy the festival while your scout takes the class. If you cannot stay, you can drop your scout off. I have attached a map of where the check in will be. If you have trouble finding it just ask someone wearing an official event t-shirt and they'll take you straight there!

Day of Outline (March 14th)

There will be three stations rotating every 30 minutes with a 15-minute buffer in between each station starting at 9AM ending at approximately 3:00PM

Each Station will cover a part of merit badge requirement listed in the Boy Scout Merit Badge Handbook

Station #1 – Q&A Session (Located inside...)

We will have a copy of the fishing guidelines on hand that they will be able to take home and also answer question g. of this requirement. This will be the Question and Answer part of the Requirements, The questions needed to be asked and answered are as follows:

- a. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in fly-fishing activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards. Name and explain five safety practices you should always follow while fly-fishing.
- b. Discuss the prevention of and treatment for health concerns that could occur while fly-fishing, including cuts and scratches, puncture wounds, insect bites, hypothermia, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, and sunburn.
- c. Explain how to remove a hook that has lodged in your arm.
- d. Explain the importance of practicing Leave No Trace techniques. Discuss the positive effects of Leave No Trace on fishing resources.

- e. Discuss the meaning and importance of catch and release. Describe how to properly release a fish safely into the water.
- f. Discuss what good outdoor sportsmanlike behavior is and how it relates to anglers. Tell how the Outdoor Code of the Boy Scouts of America relates to a fishing enthusiast, including the aspects of littering, trespassing, courteous behavior, and obeying fishing regulations
- g. Obtain and review a copy of the regulations affecting game fishing where you live or where you plan to fish. Explain why they were adopted and what is accomplished by following them.

Station #2 – Fly Tying (Located inside...)

The requirements needed in this part of guidelines are as follows:

Explain how and when each of the following types of flies is used: dry flies, wet flies, nymphs, streamers, bass bugs, poppers, and saltwater flies. Tell what each one imitates. Tie at least two types of the flies mentioned in this requirement.

Station #3 – Fishing Knots (Located inside Acme Brick Room 2 at table designated for Boy Scouts)

The requirements needed in this part of guidelines are as follows:

Demonstrate how to tie proper knots to prepare a fly rod for fishing:

- a. Tie a backing to a fly reel spool using the arbor knot
- b. Attach backing to fly line using the nail knot
- c. Attach a leader to fly line using the needle knot, nail knot or a loop-to-loop connection
- d. Add a tippet to a leader using a loop-to-loop connection or blood knot
- e. Tie a fly onto the terminal end of the leader using the improved clinch knot

Station #4 – Casting (Located in the parking lot behind the pavilion)

All equipment will be provided for the casting area, the guidelines for this part of the requirements are as follows:

Demonstrate the ability to cast a fly 30 feet consistently and accurately using both overhead and roll cast techniques.

Demonstrate how to match a fly rod, line and leader to achieve a balanced system. Discuss several types of fly lines, and explain how and when each would be used. Review with your counselor how to care for this equipment.

DAY TWO: April 25th

Station #1 – Fly Fishing

All equipment will be provided for this requirement (except waders) the requirements for this part are as follows:

Go to a suitable fishing location and make observations on what fish may be eating both above and beneath the water's surface. Look for flying insects and some that may be on or beneath the water's surface. Explain the importance of matching the hatch.

Catch at least one fish.

Station #2 – Cleaning a Fish

All filet knives and cutting boards will be provided for the requirement in the guidelines

In this area the Scout must clean a fish properly

Ziploc bags will be provided to contain their fish once the fish has been cleaned

Station #3 – Cooking a Fish

All skillets and cooking utensils will be provided for this requirement in the guidelines

In this area the Scout must cook a fish properly

Ziploc bags will be provided to take their cooked fish home once it has been cooked