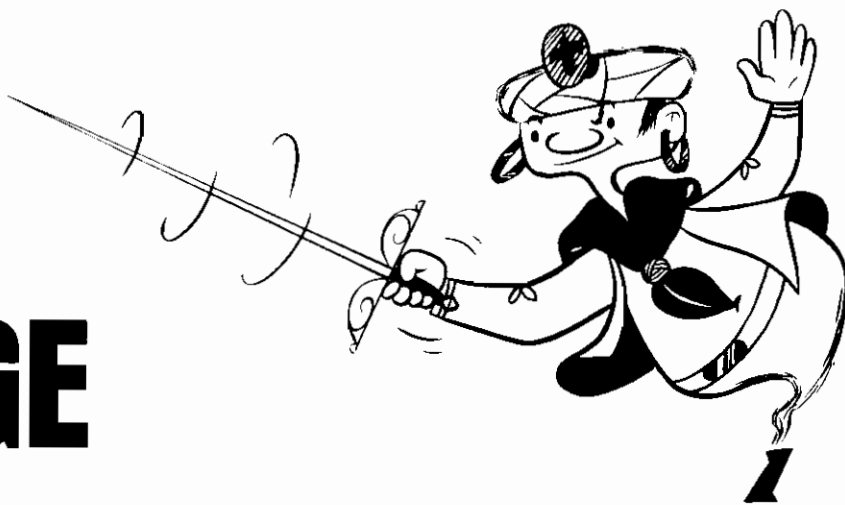




CITIZENSHIP THROUGH SERVICE

**Hundreds of
Service Projects
for
Cub Packs,
Scout Troops,
Explorer Posts
and their Members**

OUR CHALLENGE



America's youth has become increasingly service-minded. They don't want to talk about things—they want to take positive action.

In recent years, the action taken by youth has at times taken a destructive turn in high schools, on college campuses, and in our streets. However, regardless of what has happened as a result of these activities, their driving force is nearly always an idealistic urge to better our society and environment. Misguided and misled at times, a small minority of our youth has warranted publicity which seems to discount this national trend. An important fact for adult leaders to remember, however, is that the overwhelming majority of our youth are concerned and *do want* to serve the organizations they belong to, their communities, and their nation.

Youth's increased desire to serve is of keen interest to the Boy Scouts of America—and should be for you, too. It means that every council, district, and unit has an increased reservoir of energy ready to be channeled into productive service. The question is: Are we smart enough to tap it?

The issue is not really whether we can, but how effectively we can. We have, in the past, successfully inspired youth to service. So the real issue is: How can we capitalize effectively on their increased enthusiasm? Will we be able to provide the inspiration, the know-how, the method, the projects? And if so, can we do it in a way that is meaningful and provides the payoff they expect?

This is our challenge; we must meet it or we lose an important opportunity to help both our youth and our country. Unguided, this reservoir of useful energy may flow into destructive channels. Guided, our Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers will have the soul-satisfying experience of meaningful service.

The opportunities are endless. There is need for service everywhere we look. This booklet details about 150 projects for you. You need only to point the way. Good luck!

Citizenship Through Service

One of the primary purposes of the Boy Scouts of America is citizenship training. From its beginning, more than 65 years ago, the Scout movement has

tried to instill in boys and young adults the qualities necessary for responsible, participating citizenship.

That is why each unit is encouraged to reach decisions democratically, to work as a group where each member learns both how to follow and how to lead, to learn about our American heritage and our social and governmental systems, and to serve their fellowmen. Service projects are the most important ways we have to teach good citizenship, for it is not a passive condition. At its best it means working actively to improve your community, state, nation, and world.

Service, best exemplified by the daily Good Turn that has long been a tradition in Scouting, starts with the individual. Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers—all are directed toward individual service at their own levels. But service in Scouting doesn't stop here. To get the best that Cub Scouting, Scouting, and Exploring offer, the young person must take part in the service projects that his unit plans and conducts. And in the major service efforts for an entire community that are supervised by district and council operating committees and Exploring program teams.

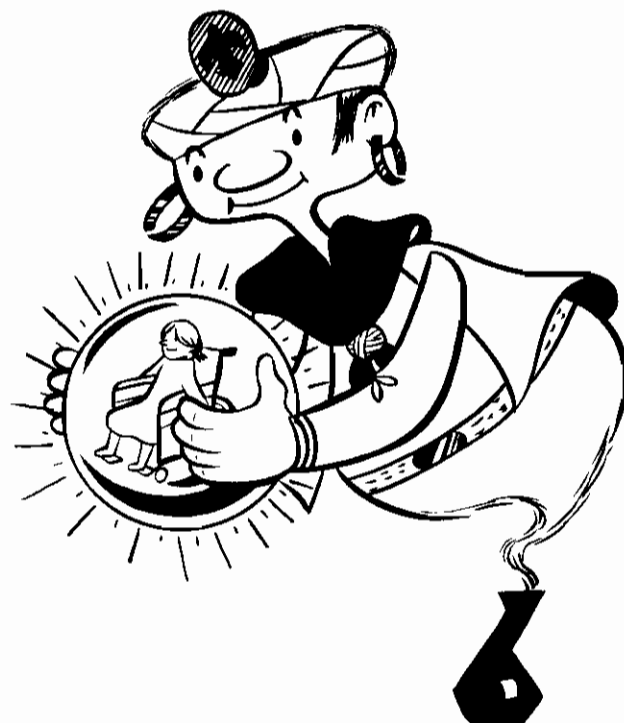
Such council and district projects are the major concern of this pamphlet, written to guide council adult committees in planning and scheduling projects. You will find suggested service projects and the rationale and guidelines for promoting and conducting them.

This pamphlet is designed for use by members of district and council activities committees, commissioners, and Exploring program team members. Council and district advancement committees may also use it as a guide to help Eagle Scout candidates select service projects.

Because many of the suggested service projects can also be used on the unit level, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and Explorer Advisors may find this pamphlet useful. Its primary goal, however, is to aid council and district volunteers in developing a dynamic program of service for their community.

Let's start with a simple premise: The Boy Scouts of America is synonymous with good citizenship, and good citizenship is best exemplified by service in action. This premise can become a launching pad for your community.

SELECTING AND CONDUCTING PROJECTS



Most units do not automatically plan service projects as part of their program; they need prompting. That is partly why you have this pamphlet: to select and promote service projects. You have a selection of more than 150 projects. Some are short term, some long. A few call for funding, but most do not. Some are for young boys of Cub Scout and Scout age, others require older Scouts and Explorers.

The best way to begin selection is to ask, "What do the units want to do for their community?" Remember, the service projects won't be done by council or district Scouters. To be successful, they must attract and then hold the interest of unit members and leaders—and must have their strong, enthusiastic support. For Cub Scout and Scout projects, it is important that the activities committee of the district get recommendations from pack and Scout leaders at roundtables.

Remember that each project should be not only useful but fun. Don't let repetition on one kind of service or of service to one place turn these projects into routine. They should be special. Don't let waiting on tables at the sponsor's dinners, for instance, become a chore like washing dishes at home. Try to select, over a period of time, as broad a range of projects as possible to try to make the process fun for members with all kinds of interests.

The following criteria should help to ensure that service projects do something for the unit members.
Reality: The young people must feel that the project

is worthwhile and must be interested in it. It must be within their abilities and still challenge them. This is especially true for high-school-age people, for their involvement must be adultlike and have significant meaning if it is to impress them. Don't involve them in service projects just because they seemed entirely satisfying to Cub Scouts and younger Scouts.

Democratic Process: In every phase of a project, from its selection to its conclusion, decisions must be shared by the young people involved. This will vary, of course, with the group. For instance, Explorers select, plan, and conduct the entire project with an adult leader as an Advisor. In most projects involving Cub Scouts and Scouts, most final decisions are made by adult leaders.

Significance: Every project should require the young people to apply their knowledge and skills and to get personally involved. The significance of the service should be clear to them and the public. The results should be clear, and they should be given recognition for a job well done. (This could be a tangible award for major projects—like a patch or pin or voiced praise or both.)

Definition: A project should have a definite beginning and ending and specific steps in between. An ill-defined project would be seemingly meaningless and would not give the satisfaction of a completed service.

Preparation: A project would require the participants to read, observe, inspect, survey, discuss, or somehow prepare in advance for the service.

In addition, the district activities committee ought to answer the following questions when selecting a project:

- Do we want a "quickie" project that will take one day of concentrated work or one that may last several weeks, even months?
- How about projects we've done in the past? Will Cub Scouts and Scouts still be enthusiastic, or have those projects become "old hat"?
- Are there projects that will fit nicely into Cub Scout or Scout programs and that can be worked on during meetings?
- Do we want a project in which we cooperate with other organizations such as Goodwill Industries, The Salvation Army, other United Way partners, etc., or shall we do it alone?
- What will it cost? Most service projects don't require a financial outlay from the unit or members. But when they do, the financial outlay should be understood in advance. What is our limit on expenditures? Can we get financial aid if we need it (through the sponsor or through the organization to which the unit's time and effort is being contributed)?
- Does this project duplicate a service being done by another organization? (Some metropolitan areas now have central clearinghouses for ideas on service projects. They help make certain that projects are needed and eliminate needless duplication.)
- What materials will be necessary for the project? Where can they be secured?
- Can the project be supervised adequately? What adult staff is necessary?
- If a similar national project is being considered, will it duplicate or disrupt local planning?

Some Other Pitfalls To Be Avoided

Ignoring Legal Restrictions: Some service projects involve public lands or buildings, health regulations, or zoning restrictions; obviously the proper authorities must give their approval before such a project can be undertaken. In addition, all service projects must conform to the Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America and with the bylaws of the local council.

Conflict With Private Enterprise: If a project encroaches on the service or market of a business or industry, it should be eliminated. For guidance on this, see the Unit Money-Earning Application, No. 4427, available from your local council office.

Health and Safety Guidelines

Check the following guidelines to determine whether your service projects involve hazardous elements:

- They should not require crossing or working on both sides of a major traffic artery. Plan all territories so that boundaries are down the middle of major highways. Frequent crossings should not be necessary to the project.
- Where possible, Cub Scouts and Scouts should be assigned to the vicinity of their homes, thereby eliminating extensive travel. On the other hand, Explorers appreciate the opportunity to travel beyond the community limits and should be encouraged to do so. When travel is required, safe transportation must be provided. For details check *Campways Tours and Expeditions*, No. 3734.
- Care must be taken that service projects do not require lifting or moving items that are too heavy; for example, in distributing posters. Participants should never lift more than one-third of their weight.
- Depending on the nature of the project, the participants should be allowed sufficient rest periods. Where a project extends over a meal period, eating arrangements should be made.

Conducting Cub Scout or Scout Projects

Successful service projects don't just happen. No matter how badly it is needed or how carefully it is chosen, a service project can fail if its execution is not carefully planned and methodically carried out.

The council or district activities committee is responsible for the project's success. This committee should, obviously, call upon other Scouters and consultants in the community for help, but the responsibility ultimately must rest with them.

A typical work calendar for a council service project follows which details the kind of scheduling necessary for success. Different steps might be included for a particular project, but this one shows the detailed planning essential for any project.

Although this work calendar seems to contradict the democratic nature of the projects by having the council make the selection, it need not do so. Count on your leaders to know what their units will want to do. And don't forget the law of averages, which means you'll usually get enough voluntary help for whatever project you select.

The Committee's First Meeting

The committee should begin by studying, in addition to the already-mentioned questions, such things as:

- What will be our boypower and manpower needs? How many units can we reasonably expect to take part?
- What about equipment? Can it be borrowed? If not, what must be rented? bought? the price?
- If we will need cooperation from other organiza-

WORK CALENDAR — CUB SCOUT OR SCOUT CIVIC SERVICE PROJECTS

ITEM	DATE DUE	ASSIGNED TO
Include date in council calendar.	At council planning conferences	_____
Secure project chairman or director.	6 months	_____
Prepare project committee specifications.	5 months	_____
Recruit committee members to handle physical arrangements, health and safety, project work assignments, publicity, and unit participation.	4 months	_____
Prepare detailed project plans and present at roundtable.	3 months	_____
Make specific assignments to units and confirm by mail.	2 months	_____
Publicize project in press, radio, and TV.	30 days	_____
Complete arrangements for physical equipment, transportation, etc., required for project.	21 days	_____
Confirm by personal contact project leader assignments.	14 days	_____
Supervise final arrangements at project site.	2 days	_____
Contact press, radio, and TV media for on-the-spot coverage.	1 day	_____
Conduct service project.	0	_____
Follow-up thank-yous	+ 1 day	_____
Critique of Project	+ 5 days	_____
Record and File Project Data	+ 6 days	_____

tions, what should we do to get it? Do we need formal contracts or agreements?

- How will we handle publicity and public relations? Should the council do it through normal channels or should we have a public relations subcommittee?
- What is the time scheduled for this project?
- What kind of record shall we keep? (Some sort of record should be kept for every service project. It should include reports of how the committee organized the project, what funds were spent, and the

committee's evaluation of the project when it is over. Copies should go to every unit that participated and be kept in the council files for the use of committees planning future service projects.)

Promoting a Service Project

No council or district service project can succeed unless everyone involved knows all the whys and hows. And the council will get maximum benefits from the service only if the general public is informed, too. For these reasons, a well-planned promotion campaign is essential.

The promotion effort may be planned and executed by a member of the civic service subcommittee, or it may be undertaken by the council public relations committee. In any case, the Scouter who takes charge of promotion must work closely with the project committee.

Promotion Within the Council or District

Since any council or district service project is really done by packs or troops, the first promotional goal is to tell the full story to units.

Cub Scout—Scout Projects.—Promotion begins at the planning roundtables for these unit leaders. The planning roundtable for Cub Scouters is held in April, and the one for Scout leaders is normally held in August. At these roundtables, council program kits are distributed. They contain program notebooks, council program information, and "ground rules" sheets for each major part of the council and district activities program—including, of course, service projects. See *Balanced Activities Management* booklet for sample kits.

Suppose the council service project for next year is to be construction of a nature trail at a county park. At their planning roundtables, unit leaders would get "ground rules" sheets telling the who, what, when, where, and why of the project. They would thus have full details in time for their annual planning conference in their pack or troop.

From then until the date when the service project begins, there should be regular reminders, progress planning reports, additional details, and a continuing sales pitch. These would be handled by the promotion subcommittee of the civic service subcommittee or the council public relations committee. These "spurs to action" should be applied in these ways:

At regular roundtables.—Promotion of the service project continues, heightening in intensity as the date nears. A member of the subcommittee may be called upon to review progress.

At district commissioner and committee meetings.—A promotion committee member keeps district leaders abreast of progress and urges their support.

Personal visits to units.—Commissioners may be joined by civic service subcommittee members in visiting units to explain how they can participate.

Mail.—Regular and special council newsletters can be used to promote civic service projects along with other council and district activities. Each succeeding issue of the bulletin should have new information about the service project, thus increasing leaders' interest. The council bulletin is probably the most popular way to communicate with unit leaders, but it is not the only way. The promotion committee should not rely on the bulletin to do the whole job.

Telling the Story to the Public

The second part of a service project promotion campaign is directed outside the Scout organization toward the general public. Nothing a council or district can do will make more friends for Scouting than letting the public know when Cub Scouts or Scouts are going to perform a community service.

Promotion of a service project outside of the council channels lets other organizations know what Scouting is doing and helps avoid duplication, helps the public understand the purposes of Scouting, and gives public recognition to Cub Scouts and Scouts and their volunteer leaders.

The project committee should develop a plan for publicity as soon as a service project is approved.

How this is done depends on what the project involves. Every type of community service provides ample opportunities to tell an interesting story to the public. In many cases, publicity can begin months before the project date with announcement of a project leader and an explanation of what it is all about. Publicity should continue right up to the day it happens with frequent progress reports.

The project committee should consider these media:

- Newspapers—stories, photos, editorials
- Radio—spots, interviews
- Television—demonstrations, panels, spots, interviews
- Posters—window cards, car cards, bulletin boards
- Outdoor advertising—signs at site, billboards
- Boy and adult speakers—announcements before other organizations such as service clubs
- Flyers and handouts
- Window and floor displays—at Scout distributors' stores.

The project committee should remember that council and district service projects are in most cases really *local* in nature. They are done by individual units—not by a large district or council. Therefore, in planning publicity, every effort should be made to localize it. Hometown folk are always more interested in what their own boys are doing than in a broad report of the project.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

One of the primary purposes of the Boy Scouts of America is citizenship training. Citizenship training is most effectively achieved through service in action projects which attract and involve Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers. District and council activities and civic service committees and Exploring program teams have both the privilege and responsibility of motivating units to participate in service activities. Some ideas follow.

SUGGESTED SERVICE PROJECTS

In this section are more than 150 ideas for action service projects that can be promoted on a council or district level. For your convenience, the ideas are divided into the following categories:

Children	Pages 5- 6
Community Improvement	6-10
Conservation and Energy	10-14
Emergency Service	14-15
Good Government	15-16
Handicapped	16-18
Health—Hospitals	18-19
Historic—Patriotic	19-20
Holiday Celebrations	20-21
International Goodwill	22
Recreation	22-23
Safety	23-25
Senior Citizens	25-26
Sponsor or Other Organizations	26-27
Youth	27-28
Energy Conservation Checkup	28-30

These categories are not all-inclusive. For example, if you are considering a service project for children, you will also find ideas in the following categories: "Handicapped," "Holiday Celebrations," "Health—Hospitals," "International Goodwill," and "Recreation," as well as under the heading of "Children."

Some ideas will be more suitable for Explorers or older Scouts than for younger Scouts or Cub Scouts. Project ideas are marked with the Cub Scout emblem, Scout emblem, or Explorer big E symbol for ease in spotting them.

Heading each section of projects are a few general aims for all projects in that section. They tend to be about general awareness rather than specific results. After each project we have



given a more specific aim as a way to remind adult leaders that the reason for each project should be clear to the participants. For the pamphlet as a whole, it is good to keep in mind a general aim of giving young people a sense of achievement in contributing to their community.

In the following section, the symbols illustrated below will help you select projects especially designed to interest and involve the entire membership.

◆ **Cub Scout packs**

✦ **Scout troops**

E **Explorer posts and ships**



CHILDREN

General Aims:

- To show the community's responsibility to all its members and the value of concern for others.
- To show that everyone, whatever his circumstances, has needs and desires much like everyone else's. Other people are like you.

Create Picnic Grounds at Institutions

E For one or more children's institutions in your area, prepare land for picnic grounds. Build tables, benches, and fireplaces to make an attractive spot for family picnics.

Aim: To make clear institutionalized children's need for outdoor recreation.

Children's Home Party

◆ Many organizations give parties at children's homes during the Christmas and Easter seasons, but often the children in such institutions are ignored the rest of the year. Plan and conduct parties for these children at regular intervals. A monthly birthday party with all children whose birthdays occur during the month as guests of honor is excellent. Another idea is to plan parties at all children's homes in your area, with different units alternating as hosts. It's wise to include a member of the home's staff on your planning committee. Entertainment may, at times, be provided by both the unit members and the children in the home.

Aim: To show that institutionalized children have fun at parties and need them.

Hosting Children

◆ Each unit plays host for 1 day or weekend each month to a boy from a children's home. A young child may be invited to spend a day with a Cub Scout's family. An older boy is invited to join a troop for an overnight or weekend camping trip. The idea is to give the boy the same type of experience the rest of the unit members have—not simply to entertain him.

Aim: To show that kids from homes like to do the same things Cub Scouts and Scouts do.

Furnish Recreation Equipment for Children's Home

◆ An institution for children needs a lot of playground equipment, games, and sports gear. Often a home's budget doesn't have provisions for these things. Through a money-raising project or a workday, help provide essential equipment for a children's home in your area. If you decide to purchase equipment, it may be best to give money, because the institution may be able to get a discount. If used equipment in good condition is available through unit mem-

bers or their parents, it may be just as easy to put it into first-class condition. This usually gives Cub Scouts and Scouts much more personal involvement.

Aim: To show that all kids like and need exercise and sports.

Outings for Children

◆ Plan and conduct monthly outings for children in a children's home or settlement house. Several packs and troops may cooperate each month to take the children to a ball game, picnic, museum, etc. Provide transportation and plan a full day of activities away from the home.

Aim: To show how children need to go to interesting places and have fun.



COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

General Aims:

- To instill pride in how the community looks and in what it does.
- To show the value of community spirit.

Prune Community Trees

E Trees in every community suffer from severe weather conditions. Why not plan a day of tree pruning in early spring to reduce danger from broken limbs and make curb lawns and parks more attractive and safe? Obviously, the advice of a tree expert is necessary, so secure the aid of an adult consultant. Powersaws and other necessary machinery can probably be borrowed for the day. If powersaws are to be used, it is important to wear hard hats. You will need an adult in charge who has the authority to prune and who can provide the supervision necessary to minimize danger.

Aim: To show the need for continuing concern for the community's trees and other cosmetic features.

Community Cleanup Day

Assist in a community-wide "clean-up, paint-up, fix-up" day. This is especially appropriate for city troops. Prior to the big day, homeowners are advised through the newspaper that Scouts will be available for a modest fee to rake lawns, spade gardens, install screens, wash windows, do simple painting jobs, etc. On cleanup day, the community is divided into geographical areas, with one or more troops assigned to each area.

Homeowners are asked to call a central headquarters where assignments are made. A small hourly fee is charged (nothing if the homeowner is unable to pay), and this money goes into a special fund for a future service project—thus one Good Turn finances another.

This project may need general safety supervision and may require additional insurance coverage to guard against serious accidents.

Aim: *To show how the community's appearance depends on every single citizen.*

Conduct a Project Concern

A walking route of 20 miles is selected and promoted. The opportunity is given to people of all ages to sign up as walkers on a specific date. Each walker secures the help of a sponsor who agrees to contribute to Project Concern a specific amount of money per mile for each mile its walker covers. The money collected is used for citizenship-oriented service projects.

For example, if a walker covers 15 miles and the sponsor agrees to 50 cents per mile, the sponsor would send \$7.50 to Project Concern. Details for organizing and conducting walks of this nature can be obtained by writing to Project Concern, P.O. Box 2468, San Diego, Calif. 92112.

Aim: *To show one way to finance worthwhile citizenship projects and how such action is vital to a community.*

Business District Cleanup

This is similar to the community cleanup, except that it covers the business district. In addition to doing chores in and around stores, troops may be assigned to make the district more attractive with plantings, painting utility poles, refurbishing street signs, cleaning sidewalks, etc.

Aim: *To show that the business district is as important to the community's pride as the homes.*

Highway Cleanup

Many of our nation's highways have become increasingly littered and ugly. Plan a daylong project of cleaning up the approaches to communities in your area. Each troop might be assigned a section of highway and be responsible for cleaning it. As a demonstration of the litter problem, all the junk and trash they pick up might be brought to a central place for dramatic litter display.

Because of the danger of traffic, a highway cleanup campaign requires close cooperation with police and district adult supervision. A good practice is to check with local police and see if they can provide patrol safety.

Aim: *To show that highways are part of the community for which everyone is responsible.*

Plant Flowers at Street Corners

Build large boxes from heavy lumber, treat them with a preservative, fill them with rich soil, and plant annual flowers in them to beautify the central area of your community. Place a box at each street corner and have a troop assigned to maintain each box during the summer and fall. As necessary, the troop can take the box in during the winter and be responsible for its storage and repair or arrange for the city to maintain it. This project is especially appropriate for city troops.

Aim: *To show that a few plants and some special care can improve the community.*

Make and Place Trash Receptacles

If your community seems littered, you can help the sanitation department by making, placing, and maintaining trash receptacles in parks and playgrounds. Small receptacles may be made from 5-gallon cans obtained from paint or roofing contractors and ice-cream dealers. For larger receptacles, use 55-gallon oil drums. Clean them thoroughly, paint them in bright colors, and label each with a statement like Help Keep Our City Clean. Smaller receptacles may be without lids and with small holes drilled in the bottom to allow rainwater to drain. For larger containers, design and cut out lids from weatherproofed plywood.

Aim: *To show how fighting litter is a simple but continuing process.*

Provide Litter Bags

◆ Campaign for the idea that every motorist should carry a litter bag in his car. At a central place such as a cooperating service station or store, distribute bags to any motorist who desires one. Disposable litter bags with the council or district insignia can be purchased at small cost, or units can use medium-sized grocery bags and stencil their own names on them.

Aim: To show that fighting litter is everyone's problem and that solving the problem means doing little things.

Make a Woods From a Dump

E If your community has an unsightly dump, you might cover it with soil and level it. You may need the help of a contractor who has a bulldozer. Plant trees to make it a place of beauty. Be sure to check your state forestry department to see whether seedlings are available.

Aim: To show how working together can solve major community problems.

Cemetery Fix-Up

◆ In many areas, small cemeteries suffer from neglect. Try to identify unmarked graves, clean and straighten grave markers, cut the grass and remove weeds, and plant flowers and shrubs. Troops should be assigned for periodic maintenance so that cemeteries do not suffer neglect again.

Aim: To make clear the need to make the past an attractive part of the present community.

Plant an Avenue of Trees

◆ Often new suburban communities look bare and unattractive because of too few trees. Add a promise of beauty-to-come by planting an avenue of trees leading toward a municipal building, school, or other public landmark. Get advice from state or county foresters about the type of trees to plant and how to plant them. Troops may be assigned the care of one or more trees to give them a continuing interest in the appearance of their community.

Aim: To show how planning, working, and maintaining cosmetics can improve the community.

Service to Community Council

◆ If your city has a council to coordinate the work of its charitable and service agencies, have Explorers or older Scouts assist in clerical work. Units may be assigned to work there one evening a month to help assemble and mail newsletters and other mailings and to handle clerical duties that match their special skills.

Aim: To foster appreciation for the charitable work done by the community.

Clean Up Vacant Lots

E Littered and unkept vacant lots may be found in main areas of town, particularly in older cities. Posts can be assigned to one lot each and spend a day cleaning it (with the owner's permission, of course). Often attractive vest-pocket parks can be made from such lots with the addition of a park bench or two, some flowers or shrubs, and perhaps a swing or seesaw. (Be aware that such parks are only temporary—they'll last until the lot owner wants to do something else with the land, which may be in a few months.)

Aim: To show that creating even small, temporary spots of beauty can enhance the community.

Plant Shade Trees

◆ A municipal shade tree commission or civic beautification group may be able to use your council's help in planting shade trees on curb lawns and in parks. Consult state forestry experts for the best varieties in your climate. Troops may be assigned to care for the seedlings for a year or more.

Aim: To make clear that the community's appearance is not simply a government responsibility.

Operate Information Booths

◆ Information booths for travelers are very helpful during the peak vacation season. Your council or district might build and man one or more such booths during July and August. No doubt your chamber of commerce will be glad to furnish literature, maps, etc., for free distribution to these travelers.

Aim: To show that a living community needs interested visitors from outside itself.

Flowers for Friends

◆ In areas with new subdivisions, there may be few flowers. Cooperate with garden clubs in getting people to donate flower cuttings and rooted plants and contact seed companies for seed packets at reduced rates. Ask local nurserymen to cooperate by supplying pamphlets about flower care. On an announced day, units fan out through the subdivisions offering cuttings, seeds, plants, and information on flowers to homeowners. If homeowners desire, the boys and young men may also do the planting. Contact your county agent for information and help.

Aim: To show that even temporary, small projects can improve the community.

Aid United Way

◆ Provide office assistance and help at meetings and dinners. Distribute posters and other materials to help your United Way or community chest reach its goal.

Aim: To show that a community works together.

Clean Up Waterfront

◆ If your community has a beach or recreation area along a lake, river, or ocean, plan to have a big cleanup day there in the spring. Improve the area's appearance by removing trash, repairing or marking health hazards, and adding activity interests. Assign troops to keep it in good condition throughout the outdoor season.

Aim: To show how pleasant beaches add to a pleasant community.

Paint Public Buildings or Maintain Their Grounds

◆ Contact local government officials if there appears to be a manpower or money shortage in the department responsible for yardwork or painting at the municipal building, library, hospital, and other public buildings. If so, troops may be assigned to maintain the grounds on a regular basis or to paint and make minor repairs.

Aim: To show that community government jobs are really just community jobs.

Pest Control

In areas infested with a pest or blight such as the tent caterpillar or the Dutch elm disease,

◆ both boy and manpower may be needed to combat it. Contact responsible authorities to find out what Scouts or Explorers can do to help. If your post becomes involved, be sure that expert consultants are secured and that responsible supervision is available to cover all activity.

Aim: To show that community conservation involves the whole community.

Rat Control

◆ In some city areas rats are disease carriers and a menace to babies. City troops may help control them by removing the food and shelter they need. Clean up garbage and trash in vacant lots, alleys, and along street curbs.

Aim: To show how making a healthier community can make a prettier one.

Honor Community Leaders

◆ Many communities have outstanding leaders in service agencies and fine government officials whose efforts are rarely recognized. Plan a dinner or special observance for them. Each unit might select and "adopt" one person to whom it would pay special honor. Packs might invite these persons to their blue and gold dinners.

Aim: To show that the community depends on individual citizens to be great.

Survey Community Needs

◆ Residents in new neighborhoods may lack local interest in their community. To stimulate a feeling of kinship with their neighbors and to get them thinking about the welfare of the community, you can conduct a survey of community needs.

E This could be done by having posts hold man-on-the-street interviews, using a simple checklist. Record the thinking of residents on priorities of community needs—libraries, more schools, hospitals, parks, playgrounds, etc. From these interviews sum up their needs and concerns and publicize them. The results may bring about group meetings by many residents to consider ways and means of securing new facilities for the community — a side effect will be to create community spirit by bringing people together.

Aim: To demonstrate the importance and effectiveness of community spirit.

Organize Snow-Shoveling Brigade

Where the snow flies heavily and often, councils or districts may provide a much needed service by organizing units to keep fire hydrants cleared during the winter. This is a most helpful project, since the clearing of hydrants saves valuable time for firemen responding to alarms and can be responsible for saving lives.

Each unit is assigned to one or two hydrants, and whenever it snows, a Scout promptly reports to clear the hydrants. Assignments might also be made to clear snow from the homes of senior citizens and shut-ins.

Aim: To show citizens can contribute to community maintenance by doing little things.



CONSERVATION

General Aims:

As a result of taking part in conservation activities, boys should develop an understanding of the following:

- The vital importance of natural resources to themselves, our country, and our way of life.
- The interdependence of man and his environment.
- The creation and maintenance of attitudes of concern for the quality of our environment and motivation to action designed to improve our environment.

Scout Camp Projects

Conservation projects may be available for both summer and year-round campers at council camps. These projects are taken from the camp conservation plan and are listed for individuals or groups. Consult the director of camping at the council service center.

Aim: To prevent resource abuse.

Plant Hedgerows

In some rural areas, hedgerows are used to separate fields and act as windbreaks. They are important in supplying habitat—food, cover, nesting sites—for wildlife. Consult local Soil Conservation District office or county agricultural agent about details for improving or planting hedgerows.

Aim: To provide wildlife habitat.

Fish Census

Much information is needed by state fish departments to determine fishing conditions in waters throughout the state. Much of this information can be gathered from fishermen; i.e., number, size, kind, and age of fish caught, and number of hours spent fishing. Check with your local conservation officer or state fish-and-game department to see if this help is needed.

Aim: To learn the importance of and help state fish departments in providing needed information for fisheries and management.

Prevent Streambank and Lakeshore Erosion

Soil washing into lakes and streams may cause serious erosion and siltation problems. Much soil is lost, never to be regained. Siltation makes the waters less suitable for plants and animals in the water and is ugly to see. Consult local conservation departments for assistance to install riprap or plantings to control bank erosion.

Aim: To prevent siltation, a form of pollution.

Build Runoff Terraces on Trails

Sometimes trails are improperly placed on a slope, and constant use starts erosion because the plants are removed and the soil becomes compacted. Relocating trails "on the contour" is beneficial. Properly placed terraces will prevent or alleviate trail erosion. Consult your Soil Conservation District office for advice on how to construct and place the terraces.

Aim: To alleviate trail erosion.

Repairing Gullies

✦ E Gullies can occur anywhere that plants are removed from the soil—farmlands, camps, suburban areas—and where water can start erosion. Good planning is the first step to removing or slowing down the *source* of erosion; then, plug the gully with dam and/or vegetation. Needed advice can come from your local Soil Conservation District.

Aim: To prevent soil loss.

Plant Food for Wildlife

✦ Without food and cover, wildlife will not be found in an area. Planting wildlife food plants—shrubs, trees, vines, grains—will help attract wildlife to rural and suburban areas. Also, many landscaping trees and shrubs around homes can attract birds. Get advice from your Soil Conservation District office or state conservation department.

Aim: To supply the needs of wildlife.

Provide Nesting Devices for Wildlife

◆ ✦ Here is a project for city parks, rural, and suburban areas. The following are just a few ideas: squirrel boxes, wood duck and mallard nest boxes, goose nests, bluebird trail of nest boxes, mourning dove nest wires, etc. Correct plans, construction, and placement are important. Check with your state conservation department and Soil Conservation District office.

Aim: To provide nesting devices for wildlife in areas where they are lacking.

Build Brush Piles or Quail Roosts

✦ Brush piles can provide escape cover and shelter for a wide variety of small birds and mammals. A roost on four pipe posts can do the same for quail. It is important to build these structures correctly and place them where they will help. Consult your state conservation department or Soil Conservation District office.

Aim: To provide additional cover for wildlife.

Build and Place Bird Feeders

◆ ✦ Here is a project for city backyards and backcountry acres. Bird feeders come in many sizes and styles to hold seed and include a windowsill tray, roof-covered feeder on a post, hanging half-coconut shell, and a variety of plastic ones. Different suet feeders can be made from a log, hardware cloth, hanging mesh bag, or soap dish. Check the local birds and design of feeders to fit your needs in your locality.

Aim: To provide food during winter months when food is in its shortest supply.

Woodland Improvement Projects

✦ Woodland improvement projects differ depending on part of the country, kinds of trees, and uses for which the woodland is intended. These things must be found out from a forester from the U.S. Forest Service, state forestry department, or industry. Some woodland improvement projects could include cutting for pulp or timber, weeding of undesirables, pruning, tree planting and interplanting, and building and maintaining firebreaks. Check with your forester for recommendations.

Aim: To improve woodlands for their planned uses.

Water for Wildlife

◆ ✦ Wildlife needs clean water in order to survive; the lack of it limits wildlife numbers. The cleaning out of springs and the construction of ponds and guzzlers are often recommended by conservationists. Check with them before a major project, like those above, are undertaken. To attract wildlife to your backyard or certain areas at camp, small water containers, such as birdbaths, can be constructed and put out. Keep them out all year and change the water regularly.

Aim: To provide water or make it more readily available to wildlife.

Park and City Tree Survey

E Many times city and county park or tree departments do not have the manpower to survey the trees under their supervision.

Offer your services to them. If they need assistance, they will tell you what kind of information would be important to them. Using survey forms, boys can cover an entire area and provide that information needed for better management of urban vegetation along streets and in parks.

Aim: To assist the city or county in surveying the numbers, locations, and conditions of trees.

Ecology Trail

◆ ♣ E With the cooperation of the city or county authorities and the assistance from conservationists, design and lay out an ecology trail of one-fourth to one-half mile in length. Local business may make donations of gravel, wood chips, and machinery to build the trail and wooden stakes to hold ecology cards. Use B.S.A. *Ecology Signs*, No. 7167, and mount them behind plastic sheets on the wooden stakes where they would be applicable along the trail.

Aim: To provide an outdoor ecology experience for all people in the community.

Eradicate Ragweed

◆ ♣ E Ragweed grows in abandoned city lots, suburbia, and in rural areas across America. Check its identification in your *Scout Handbook* or with someone who knows it. Cut it off at the bottom of the stem. Do not pull it up by the roots since this will loosen the soil, making it easy for new seeds to start. It may be cut in early to midsummer and again in the fall if it grows back.

Aim: To eradicate ragweed where its pollen becomes a nuisance to those who suffer from hay fever.

Energy Conservation Display

♣ E Use a blowup color design of "Family Tips for Saving Energy" (available from BSA Environmental Teaching Charts, No. 12019) as the basis for an energy conservation display to be placed anywhere—school, store windows, electric and gas company offices, shopping malls, etc. If large areas are available, add to the display with posters, lifelike mannequins and electrical appliances. If possible, have printed a supply of energy conservation tips that people can practice

in their homes and with their automobiles. Use these for pass-out literature.

Aim: To share with people knowledge of the various ways energy may be conserved in the home and automobile.

Clean Up Streams

Many of America's waterways look like open dumps, and some even smell like them. A stream cleanup project will improve appearances. All glass and aluminum collected may be turned in at a collection point for recycling. Make efforts to get radio, press, and TV coverage.

Aims: (1) To attempt to show people that they are the ones who foul our waterways and (2) to clean up a section of stream so people may better enjoy it.

PR for Good Outdoor Manners

♣ E On special occasions—parents' nights, dinners, school assemblies, service club meetings, PTA, or any group gatherings—distribute and have the audience sign the BSA *Outdoor Code* certificate, No. 3428. Troops and school classes can sign the large wall poster, No. 3694A, and hang it on their bulletin boards. This exercise can be the introduction or closing ceremony of meetings where environmental-oriented movies are shown.

Aim: To develop a "conservation consciousness" in our members and outside of our movement.

Promote Clean Waters

♣ E Conduct a survey of the waters within a watershed with the cooperation of a watershed association, state and Federal agencies. As a result of this survey, carry out projects and activities that will improve the streams and acquaint people with problems. Projects could include bank stabilization: vegetation establishment, stone riprap, gabions; a questionnaire survey to all landowners within the watershed; tree planting; stream devices to create more favorable conditions for fish; and the discovery and alleviation of a variety of practices that could damage the water quality within the watershed.

Aim: To focus the attention of the public on the need to improve water quality through watershed planning and improvement.

Pest Control

Since animals need food and cover, many times rats will leave areas if their food supply is cut off or nesting sites are eliminated. Tight lids on garbage cans and the cleanup of debris piles will help. Other pests could include cockroaches, fleas, lice, and bed-bugs. Often city health departments use poisons to combat these pests. This project should be carried out under proper supervision of city or county health officials.

Aim: To eliminate those animals that would be a threat to human health.

Distribute Information about Clean Air and Water

Contact the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Public Affairs, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460 (or the regional office nearest you) for literature that you may receive in quantity for local distribution. Also consult other government agencies and industry for air and water pollution-related pamphlets.

Aim: To acquaint people with pollution problems and how they may help fight them.

Collections for Recycling

A project of collecting paper, glass, and aluminum contributes to the reuse of important natural resources, helps conserve energy, and does not add to the solid-waste management problem. Check the market available for newsprint, glass, and aluminum. Organize collections by geographic area to be a continuous program. There is a shortage of paper which recently has raised the price of used newsprint. Additional help can be given by writing to BSA, Conservation Service, or check with your local Scout council.

Aim: To collect paper, glass, and aluminum as an energy conservation project as well as a worthy moneymaking effort.

Environmental Science and Energy Merit Badge Clinics

Organize the clinics to take place on weekends with an interim period of 1 month for Scouts to complete some requirements on their own. For information, send for "Envi-

ronmental Science and Energy Merit Badge Clinics"—Conservation Idea Sheet from Conservation Service, Boy Scouts of America.

Aim: To encourage the earning of Environmental Science merit badge required for Eagle Progress Award.

Energy Conservation Forum

Conduct energy conservation forums in homes and Scout units. Boys can go home and, with the family, list all the things they can do to save electricity, oil, and gas. A unit may conduct a forum in the partner organization that sponsors the unit. Outside speakers may be brought in, and filmstrips or films may be shown. Collections for recycling may be pointed to as being a worthwhile energy conservation effort.

Aim: To remind people that we still must conserve energy for a long time to come.

Locate Junked Cars for Recycling

The price for junked cars is high. Conduct a survey of a geographical area and map the locations of junked cars. Locate a market and determine means for collecting them. This would make an excellent cooperative project between an industry or business and an Explorer post.

Aim: To reuse the steel and other metals in junked cars and remove an eyesore.

Adopt a Stream, Woodland, Pond, or Park

Somewhere near everyone is a piece of land or water that needs help. With the assistance of a conservation agency or group, a survey can be made to determine how the stream, pond, park, or woodland may be improved through proper planning and subsequent conservation practices.

Aim: To show the process of conservation planning and followup toward completing the plan.

Take Part in Yearly Conservation Events

National Wildlife Week — March
National Wildlife Federation
1412 16th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036
(or state affiliates)

Arbor Day — April
National Arbor Day Comm.
63 Fitzrandolph Road
West Orange, New Jersey 07052

National Hunting and Fishing Day — September

NHF Day
1075 Post Road
Riverside, Connecticut 06878



EMERGENCY SERVICE

General Aims:

- To give a feeling of responsibility for community safety.
- To teach what those who handle community emergencies do and how cooperation can help them.

Serve as Fire Department Trainee or Cadet

Posts may arrange to assist firemen in such auxiliary work as equipment cleaning and repair, fundraising efforts for volunteer departments, messenger service, communications, and as first aid assistants. All members should be given Emergency Service training.

Aim: To show the need for backup systems for fire fighting.

Establish Tornado Watch

In areas where tornadoes are frequent, posts may establish a tornado watch to warn residents. This requires careful planning and good commu-

nications. It also requires coordination of efforts with the weather bureau.

Aim: To show how planning and vigilance are essential to community safety.

“Doughnuts for Firemen” Service

Troops may start a “doughnuts for firemen” service if none already exists. The Scouts would have the responsibility of furnishing doughnuts and coffee for firemen at the scene of a fire.

Aim: To show that even little things can help in community emergencies.

Make Emergency Equipment

Local disaster relief agencies may welcome assistance in assembling or making emergency equipment such as ropes, ladders, first aid kits, emergency lights, and radio communications gear.

Aim: To show the need for constant maintenance of emergency equipment.

Assist Civil Defense Authorities

Civil defense authorities often can use help in distribution of literature, in surveys of equipment and facilities, and in identification procedures—fingerprinting, blood typing, and photos. Posts may be called upon to promote and assist in this work.

Aim: To show the complexities of defense preparation.

Clothing Drive

Often after a fire, flood, or other disaster, many people will be without sufficient clothing. Generally, local authorities coordinate a campaign to get used clothing in fairly good condition for distribution to the victims. Councils and districts should cooperate with local authorities and not attempt to set up an independent project.

Aim: To show the need for preparation for emergencies.

Disaster Cleanup

A major tornado, flood, or fire leave a community with a king-sized cleanup job—the kind of job which Explorers can usually handle. Encour-

age posts to establish their own mobilization plan so that they will be ready if called upon to help in a disaster.

Aim: *To show how a coordinated, prepared effort can help in a disaster.*

Become an Emergency Service Unit

†E The BSA has a long, and proud tradition of service during, as well as after, natural disasters. Scouts and Explorers have served well as messengers in communications, as first-aiders, and in actual rescue work. Units could work to achieve the training level and the ability to mobilize quickly. Once this is achieved, practice is needed to maintain their status.

Aim: *To show the need for training and practice in preparation for emergencies.*

Lost-Person Searches and Mountain Rescues

E Some posts have become experts at finding lost persons and at participating in mountain rescues. Excellent training in related skills is a must. Only units prepared for such emergencies should be assigned, for untrained groups tend to create rather than solve problems.

Aim: *To encourage development and maintenance of rescue skills.*

Set Up Facilities for Disaster Control

†E In cooperation with the American Red Cross and local civil defense authorities, Explorers or older Scouts make a survey of public buildings and develop a plan for their use during a disaster. They help distribute lists of needed equipment and help collect supplies and equipment the community is willing to donate. They may assist in publicizing the location of disaster facilities.

Aim: *To show the need for updated information in disaster preparation.*

Plan for Emergency Service

†E Working with their advisers and local civil defense authorities, Explorers or older Scouts conduct a survey to find areas in which youth can serve in an emergency. They develop a plan based on the results of their survey and present

it to the American Red Cross, civil defense officials, and community leaders.

Aim: *To show the need for coordinated teamwork in community safety.*



GOOD GOVERNMENT

General Aims:

- To show that our society depends on coordinating the concerns of its citizens — and that each citizen has the duty to be concerned.
- To increase knowledge of and appreciation for the complexities of a democratic government.

Voter Registration Campaign

E In your own community, probably thousands of potential voters may not vote because they are not registered. Posts may encourage greater registration by providing information about registration dates and voter requirements. This is done through the use of posters, flyers, talks before civic groups, and door-to-door work. The campaign should start several weeks before the final date of registration for the next election. Explorers must be well informed about registration dates, places, and voter requirements.

Aim: *To show the need for citizens to be prepared to help decide community issues.*

Get-Out-the-Vote Campaign

◆† A natural follow-up to a registration campaign is an effort to get every eligible voter to actually vote. This calls for an educational and promotional campaign aimed at reminding citizens of their rights and duty to vote. Obviously, the campaign must be nonpartisan. Before the election distribute get-out-the-vote materials. On election day, Scouts may be stationed outside polling

places to "baby-sit" young children, hold packages, assist elderly or handicapped people, and provide "I have voted" badges to voters, leaving them as a reminder to others.

Aim: To underscore the responsibility of each citizen to vote.

Welcome New Citizens

Some councils participate in ceremonies welcoming new naturalized citizens. In some communities impressive ceremonies are held in the courthouse after the new citizens have taken the oath. Ceremonies may include a brief address, patriotic songs, presentation of miniature U.S. flags, and light refreshments. Units may be assigned to take an active part in the program.

Aim: To show that citizenship is valuable.

Provide "Interns" in Government

In some cities, young people of Explorer age have worked as volunteers in city government, spending one or more afternoons a week at city hall. Their duties range from accompanying officials on duty assignments to mapping the results of traffic surveys. They performed a service to their city while taking part in government work. In some councils, a single day is set aside as "Scout government day," with Scouts and Explorers spending the day learning and working in local government.

Aim: To provide insight into the complex processes of government.

Fly the Colors

Help other groups put on and help the public enjoy their parades. Have a representative from each unit bring their U.S. flag and march in a bloc.

Aim: To show how community celebrations require cooperation.

Assist at Parades

For large parades and celebrations, troops may provide services to those in charge. Members may serve as orderlies, messengers, or traffic and crowd control aides or help clean up afterward.

Aim: To show, through active involvement, the need for discipline and order in large gatherings.

Conduct Citizenship Program

Posts plan, write, and conduct a radio or television program that dramatizes the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship. Schedule the presentation for Citizenship Day, September 17, if possible. Program may also be given in a grade school or high school auditorium.

Aim: To stimulate thought about what citizenship involves.

Special Projects

At times, the council or district may be called upon for assistance on special projects by government officials or community leaders. These projects may be simple surveys of community needs, distribution of literature, posting of safety signs or markers, etc. When possible, the district council should accept such assignments even if the planning period is short.

Aim: To show that each part of the community has a responsibility to help the rest.

Organize Community Celebration

In many cities and small towns, Scouts participate in parades and observances marking such holidays as Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. If celebrations of this nature are lacking in your community, the council or district may undertake to organize and conduct them. Units may be given the job of publicizing the event, marching in parades, preparing floats, etc. They can also take a prominent part through a uniformed participation in the observance.

Aim: To show the value of community celebrations and the planning required to hold them.



HANDICAPPED

General Aims:

- To demonstrate the community's responsibility to all its members.
- To show that the handicapped, even with their special problems, are more normal than they are different.

Charts for Deaf Children

- ◆ ♦ Clinics for children with hearing disabilities may be able to use picture charts made by Cub Scouts or Scouts as reading aids. Pictures are clipped from newspapers and magazines, mounted, and identified by lettering. Check with a local agency or clinic dealing with the deaf to locate them and for advice on how best to help them.

Aim: To make clear the special problems of deaf people.

Toys for Retarded Children

- ◆ ♦ Have Cub Scouts or Scouts contribute one soft toy each for children at a school or institution for mentally retarded children. The boys wrap them and deliver them to the school authorities. Toys should be soft and simple.

Aim: To show that mentally retarded people are just mentally younger than normal people.

Aid in Starting Scout Units for the Handicapped

- ◆ ♦ Mentally retarded and physically handicapped boys get at least as much benefit and fun from Scouting as normal children. Scout executives and the organization and extension committees should be urged to have packs and troops assist in the formation of new units for the handicapped. A normal unit may "adopt" a new pack or troop for the handicapped and help it get started.

Aim: To show that the handicapped can enjoy Scouting and be good Scouts, too.

Visit Handicapped Children

- ◆ ♦ Severely handicapped children confined to their homes usually have few contacts with other children. Units can establish a "friendly visitor" service with such children. Each week a Cub Scout or Scout unit visits the handicapped child's home to work on arts, crafts, or hobbies or to read or to play games. Visiting boys should be coached beforehand on the proper approach and behavior to a handicapped child.

Aim: To show how handicapped children are like normal children.

"Packaged" Birthday Parties

- ◆ Cub Scout dens or packs can be asked to "package" birthday parties for handicapped children in special schools or institutions. Many of these children miss the fun of a birthday party. The den or pack makes up birthday kits with favors, party hats, and small gifts. By prearrangement with the school authorities, they visit a patient on his birthday and give him a party. If this project is started, it should be continued so that all the children in the school are given birthday celebrations.

Aim: To show that handicapped children in special schools like parties just like normal kids.

Mark Invalid's Homes

- E In cooperation with fire departments, install amber reflectors (or other distinctive devices) over the front doors of homes where handicapped persons live. Then if a fire breaks out, the firemen will know immediately that a handicapped person lives there. A similar device may be placed on the door of his room to help firemen find it in an emergency.

Fire departments generally provide the big "I" insignia that is usually placed on the front downstairs window near the door or on the glass of the front door. A similar device is placed on the window of the invalid's room. Caution: Be sure you have the approval of everyone living in that home before placing the markers.

Aim: To show how each member of the community depends on the others.

Aid Shut-Ins

- ◆ ♦ Many partially handicapped persons live alone and have difficulty in dealing with the day-to-day task of living. Units may "adopt" one or more of these people and visit them regularly to run errands, read, help write letters, shop, or just visit.

Aim: To show that shut-ins are friendly and are like everyone else except for their limitations.

Good Turn Day

- ◆ ♦ Good Turn Day is the major service project in many councils each year. It is a council-wide collection of used clothing, shoes, and household items that are given to handicapped workers to clean, repair, and sell. In large councils, the drive of this nature may provide a great deal

of employment for the handicapped. About 2 weeks before Good Turn Day, units distribute special Good Turn Day collection sacks to homes in their neighborhoods. They ask that householders fill the sacks with items that are used but still serviceable. The boys return on Good Turn Day to collect the sacks and deliver them to a central place. The sacks then go to cooperating agencies such as the Goodwill Industries, The Salvation Army, Volunteers of America, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and similar organizations.

Aim: *To show that the handicapped can be part of the healthy community with some cooperation from others.*

Write Letters for the Blind

Blind persons who have not had special training may be unable to write their own letters or read those they receive. Troops may volunteer to do this for one or more blind persons in their community on a regular schedule. Consult the local welfare service or agency to aid the blind.

Aim: *To show that, despite their special problem, blind people are fairly normal.*



HEALTH—HOSPITAL

General Aims:

- To underscore the interdependence of all members of the community.
- To create compassion for the sick or poor.

Brighten the Lives of Cardiac Children

Children with serious heart ailments often must be confined to bed in cardiac hospitals for a long time. Units can brighten their stay by forming an "in-bed club" for them. Each month the

Cub Scouts or Scouts gather a collection of puzzles, stories, and games and send them to the hospital. In addition, it is great to remember cardiac children on their birthdays and Christmas with cards and presents.

In this as well as in all similar projects, medical advice must be closely followed to avoid overstimulation which may be injurious.

Aim: *To show that people need people — and that sick people are like everyone else in this way.*

Aid Blood Collections

Have packs and troops cooperate with the American Red Cross or community blood bank to promote blood donor programs. They can make posters to help promote the bloodmobile program and handle simple clerical work, ushering, etc., on the blood donor day.

Aim: *To show the need for cooperation to maintain the community's health.*

Entertain at Hospital

The Cub Scout program is ideally suited to present a show at the hospital. The month after a Cub Scout theme such as magic, music, or circus acts, packs can visit hospitals in the area and stage special shows for the patients. They need not be professional, for many hospital patients are cheerless and lonely, and any act using fresh-faced, fun-loving boys will buoy up low spirits. Clear, of course, with hospital officials.

Aim: *To show that everyone, even hospitalized people, like to have fun.*

Hospital Service

Explorers and older Scouts with proper training can give direct services to hospitals in your area. In some hospitals, Explorer-age young people help prepare surgical supplies; aid therapists in teaching patients to walk, speak, and read; and play games with patients. They also write letters for patients, do clerical work, and handle many other routine chores. It is essential that they receive training from the hospital personnel before giving regular service.

Aim: *To show how hospitals depend on the coordinated work of many people.*

Canned Food Campaign or Clothing Campaign

To assist organizations and agencies aiding the poor, troops can gather canned foods for free distribution to the poor through charitable agencies. Each troop sets up a neighborhood collection center or conducts a house-to-house canvass for canned foods. For clothing, collect, sort, clean if necessary, and then distribute it to the institutions. This takes some of the strain off of the budget of the cooperating charitable agency.

Aim: To show how the community can help all its members by sharing.



HISTORIC-PATRIOTIC

General Aims:

- To give historical identity through the past of the community.
- To show the richness of our heritage and create the desire to carry it forward.

Restore Historic Sites

Very often a place of importance in local or national history falls into neglect and is gradually forgotten. Explorers or older Scouts may research the site to find out all they can about it and then reconstruct it. A reconstructed historic site may become a tourist attraction and a source of pride to the community. It is important in a project like this that thorough research and an adult consultant be secured before the reconstruction starts.

Aim: To show how the present comes from the past.

Refurbish Monuments

Honor rolls listing men from a community who served in the Nation's wars are sometimes neglected and become eyesores rather than effective memorials. Other monuments may also

suffer from inattention. Explorers or older Scouts can tackle the job of cleaning them up or of conducting a campaign to replace them. Posts should be urged to accept the job of maintaining the monuments for a year after refurbishing.

Aim: To show the value of remembering the past for living in the present.

Publish History of the Community

Explorers or older Scouts may contribute to their community's pride in its historical background by compiling and publishing a history of the community. The local and state historical societies may be called upon for help. The result can be a printed or mimeographed booklet distributed throughout the community. Regardless of how it is done, a few copies should be presented to the local library.

Aim: To show where their community came from to become what it is.

American Heritage Display

Remind people of their nation's heritage by asking troops to make displays of various important documents and symbols of our past. For example, with the help of a local historian or librarian, collect facsimile copies of the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Liberty Bell, the flag-raising on Iwo Jima, and other easily recognized scenes from American history. Mounted on a large board, this display can be placed in a city hall, library, or other public building.

Aim: To show our national heritage is part of the present.

Historical Map of the Community

Explorers or older Scouts may enjoy making a historical map illustrating important events that happened in their community. They can consult old maps and newspapers to locate the first home, early trails, old canals, etc. Later they may present their findings with a series of dramatized episodes for a parents' night or service club presentation. An especially valuable project might be to map the contributions of one or more ethnic groups to the community.

Aim: To show the interrelationships of many traditions in even small communities.

Survey Need for Museum

✦ When Explorers or older Scouts become fascinated by their exploration of local history, they may wish to help create a local historical museum. Once they have accumulated sufficient information about the community's history, they can present their findings to civic groups or government officials and ask their support. This is the type of project that can be started modestly and expand if the interest and enthusiasm grows.

Aim: To show how an awareness of the past can be preserved.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS



General Aims:

- To foster a desire to share the holiday spirit.
- To give practice in working together for a community event.

Holiday for Foster Home Children

✦ Units may "adopt" one or more children in foster homes for Christmas or Hanukkah and give them gifts. Before selecting gifts, they should discuss the child's needs and desires with the foster parents. Gifts for children in foster homes should be given to the parents to present; these children generally prefer gifts from their foster parents rather than a group of strangers.

Note: These are not adopted children nor are they in institutions. They are children who have been temporarily welcomed into foster homes and are, therefore, fully aware of their status as outsiders. Secure their parents' permission first.

Aim: To show that making friends is a central part of life.

Christmas Party at a Mental Hospital

✦ Many patients in mental hospitals face a bleak Christmas each year because they are forgotten or ignored. Scouts can brighten the holiday for them by filling Christmas stockings with small gifts—combs, playing cards, puzzles, paperback books, etc.—and delivering them a few days before Christmas. They may bring cookies and fruit juice to serve in the ward.

Aim: To show that everyone likes Christmas parties and that no one should be left out.

Collect Christmas Toys

✦ In many communities new and used, but still usable, toys are collected for distribution to needy children at Christmas. Packs and troops may assist by making pickups of toys, making posters to advertise the campaign, helping to stockpile toys, cleaning and repairing used toys, and delivering toys to the agencies that distribute them to poor children. Each Cub Scout and Scout may also be asked to contribute one usable toy. If your community does not have a Christmas toy collection, such as Toys for Tots Collection, and if agencies serving the poor agree that it would be a valuable service, your council or district might spearhead such a campaign. This means creating a detailed plan, cooperating with other organizations that want to participate, and selecting a coordinator, who must spend a great deal of time supervising the project.

Aim: To show that sharing is part of the holiday spirit.

Assisting the Christmas Bureau

✦ Many cities have a Christmas Bureau to coordinate the work of organizations that have special holiday projects. The bureau's purpose is to eliminate duplication of effort and to make sure that no one is forgotten over the holidays. Explorers may volunteer to serve at the bureau during the holiday season. Young men and girls can be useful in answering the telephone, doing simple clerical jobs, and helping to operate the toy shop for less fortunate parents who wish to select gifts and wrappings for their children.

Aim: To show that community holidays need planning to include everyone.

Christmas in Nursing Homes

Nursing homes can be forlorn-looking places at Christmas. Cub packs can cheer them up with one or more of the following ideas:

- Make tray favors (clear with nursing staff if food is included). Practical items such as decorated comb cases or eyeglass cases are best.
- Make Christmas cards and have the boys deliver them.
- ◆ Make flameproof decorations for the lobby, lounge, cafeteria, individual rooms, place mats for holiday meal, table Christmas trees.
- Fill stockings for patients with soap, toothpaste, pens, nail files, etc.
- Give a caroling program.
- Conduct skits, possibly using prerecorded tapes or a microphone if lines are spoken (many patients are hard of hearing).
- Demonstrate simple crafts that could be used by patients for occupational therapy.

Aim: To show that holiday cheer is made by people doing little things for other people.

Christmas in Children's Homes

Packs and troops may bring Christmas to children's homes or Head Start centers in these ways:

- Collect and donate toys in good repair.
- Make bookends, small shelves, stools, benches or weave rest pads.
- ◆✦ Donate craft kits (one for each child) with crayons, pencils, paper, small tube of glue, scissors, and ruler.
- Collect and donate magazines with colorful pictures (sports and women's magazines, not newsweeklies).
- Make posters, calendars, wall plaques and decorate containers for pencils.
- Visit in small groups and present skits, games, planting projects, parties.

Aim: To show that holidays mean being friendly and helping others.

Halloween Window Decorating

✦ If your community does not have a window-decorating contest for Halloween, the council or district might consider sponsoring one. This special Halloween event calls for school students to decorate outside store windows with waterpaints in a Halloween motif. Art teachers are asked to judge the most original. Troops may be called upon to make posters for display in schools to advertise the contest. They may distribute rules and be put in charge of supplies. The day after Halloween, troops are assigned the job of cleaning all windows.

Aim: To show that cooperation makes better community holidays.

Sharing Trick-or-Treat Candy

◆✦ Candy collected by Cub Scouts and Scouts on trick-or-treat night can be sent to children in Head Start centers or children's homes as a special treat. Unit leaders may inspect the candy to see if it is safe, but the responsibility for distributing the candy and its safety must rest with the administrators of the homes or centers.

Aim: To share with the less fortunate.

Conducting Halloween Celebration

E Halloween mischief can lead to property damage, but it has been found that most children would rather have fun than make trouble. The answer can be a special celebration for Halloween. It might include a parade, judging costumes, and treats for all children. The council or district may take the lead in organizing such a celebration, calling on Explorers for leadership, crowd control, and other phases of the planning and work. Precautions should be distributed regarding inflammability of costumes, impaired vision through masks, and desirability of putting reflective materials on each costume to make the wearer visible at night. If possible, provide places for controlled mischief. Erect an artificial wall to be painted or let kids paint one which will later be painted over by the unit. Or set up a carnival booth for breaking old china and glassware with baseballs, with appropriate safety precautions, of course. The debris can later be recycled.

Aim: To demonstrate how planning and control can improve a community celebration.



INTERNATIONAL GOODWILL

General Aims:

- To encourage concern for the needs and desires of people everywhere.
- To show how to help the unfortunate of the world through specific agencies.

World Friendship Fund

The World Friendship Fund of the Boy Scouts of America provides an exciting opportunity for every Cub Scout, Scout, and Explorer to help his friends in the free world. Through individual contributions and unit money-earning projects, Scouting literature, uniforms, badges, camping equipment, maps, compasses, and tents are provided to Scouts in less-fortunate countries. These gifts help make Scouting as exciting, rewarding, and worthwhile for them as it is in our country.

Each year during the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas, and again during anniversary month in February, a special appeal is made for each unit to participate in this important goodwill program.

Your council, district, or unit can schedule this event at any time during the year. The need is always present. Special project material is available through International Division, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, TX 75062-1296

Aim: To reinforce the idea of Scouting as a world brotherhood.

Support CARE

CARE is a fund that provides help to children in other lands. CARE stands for Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe. Through this nonprofit organization, food, clothing, medical supplies, books, and other items go to groups of individuals abroad. Units can have fundraising events for this cause. Information may be se-

cured by writing CARE, 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Aim: To create understanding of the need for CARE.

Help UNICEF

UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) does important work in aiding needy children in many nations. This agency specializes in providing food and medical attention for children. Units can collect funds for UNICEF by placing decorated containers in stores. They should be placed near cashiers so that shoppers may drop in their change. This is usually done just before the Christmas holidays. Information may be secured by writing UNICEF.

Aim: To show that the world's children can help each other through UNICEF.

Aiding War Orphans

Some units have sent clothing, food, or money to war orphans' institutions around the world.

Since such disasters occur in different places from time to time, the best contact sources for districts or councils are CARE and the International Red Cross.

Aim: To show our responsibility to help lessen the ravages of war.



RECREATION

General Aims:

- To give a sense of responsibility for public property.
- To make it clear that each community needs good places to play.

Building Park Picnic Areas

Funds allocated to city or county parks are sometimes too slim to permit full development of a park. A council or district can supplement

park development by building a picnic area. Troops may be assigned to construct fireplaces or grills, build picnic tables and benches, provide trash containers, and clear a parking area.

Aim: *To show how Scouting skills can help the community build places of recreation.*

Improving Picnic Areas

Many city and county parks have public picnic areas that are in need of cleanup, repair, and improvement. Troops can be asked to contribute work toward improvements selected and financed in cooperation with park officials.

Aim: *To show that everyone needs to help maintain public places.*

Build a Children's Zoo

Many communities are not large enough for a municipal zoo. There are large cities, also, where a trip to the zoo requires a long excursion. In these areas, Explorers can be helpful by establishing a small zoo in a park for the enjoyment of young children. With the advice and support of conservationists and wildlife experts, they can build cages and animal houses for woodchucks, squirrels, rabbits, and other small animals. If the project generates enough interest in the community, it may be expanded to include larger animals such as deer.

Continuing care of the animals can be a problem. If it cannot be done by the municipality, Explorers and adult leaders may be able to do it. However, it is important that the maintenance problem be discussed and solved before the project is started.

Aim: *To demonstrate how planning and building public recreation areas improves the community.*

Spruce Up City Parks

If city park equipment is badly in need of paint, troops may be asked to provide the labor for the job. Generally, special skill is not required to paint benches, fences, baseball backstops, and playground equipment. Paint and brushes should be supplied by the park department or a civic organization.

Aim: *To show that as the public wears down its recreation areas it needs to repair them.*

Beautify County Parks

Activities committees have, in the past, cooperated with county park departments in a one-day project of conservation and beautification.

Scouts and Explorers have been assigned to the park nearest their home to work on projects such as tree pruning, planting, litter cleanup, and repairing and painting equipment. In large councils, as many as 50 parks have been given this instant rehabilitation in a single day.

Aim: *To show how many people, working together, can improve public areas.*



SAFETY

General Aims:

- To teach skills and attitudes needed to meet community problems.
- To create concern for good safety regulations.

Bicycle Safety Education

Several methods may be used to teach children and parents about bicycle safety practices. Troops may cooperate with local licensing officials in setting up bike checking stations and explaining ordinances related to bikes. As a community service, troops can provide reflective tapes for all bikes in the community. They can also organize a bike circus or rodeo or lead several long bike trips for younger boys and girls. Contact the Bicycle Institute of America, 122 East 42d Street, New York, N.Y., and ask their cooperation.

Aim: *To teach what's needed for safe bicycling.*

Citizenship at the Wheel

Explorer posts find service projects involving driver safety relevant to their skills and interests. They can conduct a safe-driving campaign by

making posters for display in schools and speaking before youth groups. They can arrange for defensive driving courses for licensed drivers (information is available through the National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60611) and give safety inspections for cars owned by teen-agers. Explorer Safe-Driving Road Rallies are open to all young adults with a driver's license.

Aim: *To show that safe driving requires training, skill, and maintenance.*

Safe-Boating Program

Sea Explorer ships and Explorer posts can assist a city or county recreation department and the U.S. Coast Guard in promoting safe boating. They can arrange to appear at boat ramps and piers on weekends to distribute boat-safety literature and litter bags to boat owners. Sea Explorer ships have often volunteered to clear harbors of logs and other debris to safeguard boats.

Aim: *To encourage spreading skills and knowledge for safer boating.*

Rifle-Safety Programs

Explorers can help conduct rifle-safety programs in cooperation with a rifle or sportsmen's club. Explorers, especially those who hold the Rifle and Shotgun Shooting merit badge, may help around the range. They can do this by setting targets, loading and cleaning guns, and, when qualified, assisting in giving instructions.

Aim: *To show the need to spread expertise to make shooting safer.*

Fire-Prevention Program

Troops may participate in Fire-Prevention Week in October by conducting poster and essay contests, providing speakers on fire prevention for youth groups, and cooperating with local fire departments in displays and demonstrations of fire fighting and firesafety.

Aim: *To show that fire fighting is everyone's responsibility all the time.*

Conference on Traffic Safety

Explorer posts, working together, can organize for all youth in their area a conference on traffic

safety. The program could include discussions, lectures, exhibits, and demonstrations.

Aim: *To show how bringing people together to talk about safety can help the community.*

Traffic Study

Explorers may save their communities considerable money by conducting in cooperation with traffic engineers and police a traffic survey. Such surveys usually involve charting the traffic movements at intersections and checking hazards for pedestrians and bicycles. The assistance of engineers and law-enforcement personnel is essential, for the information gathered must be accurate and relevant.

Aim: *To demonstrate city governmental problems and how they can be solved.*

Traffic-Safety Education

In cooperation with law-enforcement personnel, troops can distribute bumper stickers bearing legends like "Don't Follow Too Closely" and "Don't Tailgate" in cooperation with the local safety education council. They can also establish and make a monthly presentation of an award to a school crossing guard or patrol member as the "Crossing Guard of the Month."

Aim: *To show how publicity contributes to safety.*

Distribute Reflective Safety Strips

Troops can distribute to all motorists in the community illuminating tapes to be placed on the inside of the trunk lid of a car. Then, if the motorist has a breakdown on the highway, he need only raise his trunk lid to have the reflector tape as a warning signal for passing traffic.

Aim: *To show that new safety ideas ought to be shared with the community.*

Educate Pedestrians

With cooperation from local law-enforcement officials, troops may undertake a pedestrian education campaign. It might be aimed particularly at school children and could include stories in school newspapers, safety posters, painting of pedestrian guidelines, slogans on streets and curbs.

Aim: *To show that traffic safety includes people who walk.*

Distribute Safety Literature and Films

✦ Rather than concentrating on one phase of safety, units may promote safety in general. They can collect and distribute literature on home safety, firesafety, and traffic safety. In addition, they might have a file of films on various phases of safety that are available through insurance companies. For film sources, check the National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60611, local law-enforcement offices, and insurance companies.

Aim: To show the need for distributing safety information.

Sponsor Poster Contest

✦ To help youth become more safety conscious, troops can conduct a safety or energy poster contest for all children in the local school system. Ask an art teacher to judge the results and award prizes to the best posters in each grade. Display the winning posters in a public place.

Aim: To show that safety education can be fun.

Provide Lifeguards and First Aid Stations

E Where local waterfronts and other swimming facilities lack sufficient safeguards, Explorer posts can provide lifeguards and first aid stations. Service efforts of this type must be under a qualified sponsor such as the recreation department, American Red Cross, or park department who has legal responsibility. Only qualified Explorers and adults can be involved in safeguarding roles.

Aim: To show the need to share lifeguard skills with the community.

Poison Control Centers

E If your community does not have a poison control center, the council and district can consult with the county medical society and pharmacists about the need for one. Posts can help establish a center by publicizing the need through speeches, leaflets, and posters. In communities that have a poison control center, Explorers can distribute stickers bearing the center's telephone number which can be placed on or near the phone for fast reference. Explorers may also volunteer for clerical service at the center.

Aim: To show the need for an information center on dangers like poison.

Clear "Blind" Intersections

E Many traffic accidents are caused by drivers' carelessness at "blind" intersections where trees or shrubs obscure the driver's view. Posts may undertake a publicity campaign to urge property owners to trim trees and shrubs at these intersections. Explorers may also volunteer to help the owners eliminate the hazard.

Aim: To show the potential private property has for public danger.

Destroy Christmas Trees

E Dried-out Christmas trees can be a real fire hazard after the holidays. Their disposal can be combined with conservation by filling large gullies with used trees that will catch silt and resist erosion. Units should check with their local forestry department about such projects.

Aim: To show how planning can combine two types of service.



SENIOR CITIZENS

General Aims:

- To show that older people, despite their differences, are like the rest of us.
- To show the community's responsibility for *all* of its citizens.

Give Show at Home for Aged

◆ After preparing a show with a theme like Cub Scout Musicians or Cub Scout Magic, packs may take it "on the road" to homes for the aged and to nursing homes. Many of the residents of these homes have few visitors and very little live entertainment and will welcome an all-boy show.

Aim: To show that older people like to see other people and have fun, too.

“Adopt” a Nursing Home

Residents of nursing homes and other institutions for the aged often lack contact with anyone other than the staff and other old people. Packs and troops can add variety to their daily lives by scheduling frequent visits by groups of Cub Scouts and Scouts. Units may plan occasional parties to mark birthdays, and boys can perform small errands for the residents.

Aim: To show that all people need to meet other people.

“Adopt” an Aged Couple

Some old couples prefer to live by themselves rather than go to a nursing home. Often they need assistance in such things as shopping, getting books from the library, care of the yard, etc. Scouts may “adopt” such a couple, offering them companionship as well as small services. Check senior citizens’ centers, social agencies, and churches for names of aged couples.

Aim: To show that older couples may be limited in what they can do, but are still like everyone else.

Patients’ Aides at Hospital for Aged

Units may schedule regular services to patients at a county hospital for the aged. Scouts and/or Explorers can work as kitchen and dining room assistants, wheelchair pushers, shoppers, and telephone callers for those who are bedridden.

Aim: To show that we need to take care of the aged — that they don’t stop needing things when they’re in homes.

Landscape Work at Homes for Aged

If a home for the aged in your area has grounds that are neglected, Explorer posts may help by planning and conducting a landscaping project. This project will require cooperation with home authorities and the advice of a skilled gardener or landscape architect.

Aim: To show that the aged enjoy natural beauty, too.

Senior Citizens’ Centers

Units may provide volunteer services for senior citizens’ centers, which often need receptionists, clerical workers, and program leaders. Scouts or Explorers who are skilled at a hobby

or craft will find that their talents and help are appreciated by senior citizens.

Aim: To show the need to share skills in taking care of the aged.



SPONSOR OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

General Aims:

- To give practice in dealing with others.
- To show how to tangibly express appreciation.

Service at Big Sports Events

Explorers and Scouts in some councils serve as ushers and emergency squads at university football and basketball games. They not only usher, but raise the U.S. flag, escort wheelchair-bound spectators, guard the field or court after the game, and operate a lost-and-found bureau. Explorers are also trained to bring injured or ill people to the first aid treatment center.

Aim: To show the need for voluntary order at large events.

Service at Sponsor’s Big Events

Explorers can serve their chartered institutions at major events by working as parking directors, ushers, setup crew, table waiters, cleanup crew, color guard, cloak room attendants, and messengers.

Aim: To show how thanks can be expressed by offering skills.

Sponsor Grounds and Building Work

A troop may volunteer for all types of cleanup and maintenance work for the sponsor, including grounds cleanup, simple painting and repair,

and planting shrubs and trees. This project is best when conducted on a unit level. However, some chartered institutions may not need or want these services.

Aim: To show how voluntary projects express thanks tangibly.

Publish Sponsor's Bulletin, Baby-Sit, or Do Clerical Work

Explorers or older Scouts may volunteer to publish their sponsors' bulletins or newsletters—doing stencil typing, mimeographing, collating, and distributing.

✦ Sometimes a baby-sitting service would be helpful at meetings of the chartered institution. Troops may provide it, but adult supervision is required.

Some chartered institutions may welcome assistance with simple clerical work that can be done by Explorers or older Scouts. Supervision must be provided.

Aim: To show how voluntary service is part of a friendly relationship.



YOUTH

General Aims:

- To show how the community depends on sharing opportunities, skill, and knowledge.
- To show how maturity includes moving into the adult world.

Camperships for Non-Scouts

✦ The council or district or individual units may provide camperships so that non-Scouts or needy Scouts may enjoy a week at Scout camp. This program has been growing in recent years and, probably, will continue to do so.

Aim: To share camping opportunities with those who couldn't otherwise go to camp.

Improve Non-Scout Camps

Many troops and posts help clean up and improve council Scout camps each year. This Good Turn idea may be extended to camps operated for other youths—for example, asthmatic or crippled children. Posts and troops may volunteer to assist in opening a camp for the summer or to do a conservation project or any other project designed to improve the camp.

Aim: To show the need to share camp improvement skills.

Compile Camp Directory

✦ In some areas, there is a wide variety of camping and hiking trails, sites, special attractions, and facilities about which little is known. Troops can help compile a directory of these outdoor opportunities and distribute it through the chamber of commerce, recreation department, and other organizations.

Aim: To show the need to share special knowledge.

Welcome Newcomers

✦ Each year, usually hundreds of new young men move into your district or council. Posts should welcome them by planning a special outing just before school opens. Secure the cooperation of the Girl Scouts, YMCA, YWCA, Campfire Girls, and Boys' Clubs so that the event does not appear to be merely an Explorer recruiting meeting. Names can be secured from high-school registration lists.

Aim: To show the need for maintaining an open community.

Recognize Youth Achievement

✦ Cooperating with other organizations for youth, the council or district may organize a special event to recognize the achievements of young people in the area. Each organization submits names of young adults whose achievements, related to scholarship, civic activity, athletics, and other fields, have been outstanding. They are recognized at a dinner or other suitable occasion.

The Young American Awards—first presented in 1968, are given to young adults between the ages of 15 and 22 who have achieved exceptional excellence in the fields of science, religion, government, business, athletics, art, music, literature, or humanics and have involved themselves in service to their community, their country, and to the quality of life.

These awards are presented by local councils and the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America on behalf of the 5-million-member youth organization. The program is under the auspices of the Exploring Division of the Boy Scouts of America. Exploring is the young-adult program of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients do not have to be members of the Boy Scouts of America, for they are honored to help focus attention on the many great accomplishments of young people in the nation.

Request additional information and application, No. 23-232, from your council service center.

Aim: *To show that the community appreciates contributions from its youth.*

Provide Vocational Guidance

Most young men and women of Explorer age are concerned about future vocations. The council or district may provide a job counseling service by assembling material on occupations and recruiting a group of business, professional, and tradesmen to talk with young people about their fields of interest. Explorers and older Scouts may do much of the preliminary work by gathering occupational information and securing counselors.

Aim: *To start thinking about adult occupations.*

Conduct Parent-Youth Conferences

Explorer posts, in cooperation with parents and their leaders, may organize a series of meetings in which parents and young people discuss mutual problems and misunderstandings. They may invite other young people to take part and may submit summary reports of the discussion to the local newspaper. The idea is to interpret the desires and interests of each generation to the other.

Aim: *To show the need for openness between the generations.*

Draw Up Behavior Code

Explorer posts are urged to draft a post code that serves as their own self-imposed code of behavior. This idea may be extended to all youth

in the community through discussion with other young people, their leaders, and parents. Posts might cooperate with other youth groups to reach agreement on matters that concern them. It should be understood at the outset, however, that such a code is only a guide to the Explorers and other youthful participants and does not alter the local or adult regulations.

Aim: *To initiate self-government.*

Conduct Drug Abuse Workshops

The council or district may organize a series of workshops on drug abuse if schools or other agencies are not providing similar educational programs. It is absolutely essential that only factual information be given. Young people will respond to authorities and to people who have seen the drug scene firsthand. They will be turned off by hand-wringing and emotional pleas about the danger of drugs.

Aim: *To show the need to openly share information and knowledge about serious community problems.*

Teaching Swimming or Other Skills

Sea Explorer ships and Explorer posts have conducted swimming and lifesaving instructions for Scouts who wished to pass advancement tests. This idea may be extended to all youth in a community and could include other skills.

Both training and qualification tests for advancement must be conducted using the safety measures in Safe Swim Defense.

Aim: *To show the need to pass skills from one to another through instruction.*

ENERGY CONSERVATION CHECKUP



General Aims:

One of the most important citizenship services this year and for years to come is education in energy conservation:

The energy conservation activities on these pages should be discussed in unit meetings so that all unit members may go home and put them into practice.

The energy-use-measurement project involving meter reading may be taught in unit meetings so that members may measure their own home energy use.

Home Energy Checks

Most homeowners pay higher-than-necessary fuel bills because their house does not use energy efficiently. With this checklist, you'll discover where your home is wasting fuel and what simple improvements can help reduce your utility bills. The "home energy check" will take you about 60 minutes, but it will pay off with permanent savings. You'll need these tools: flashlight, ruler, candle, gloves, pad and pencil. Let's begin.

IN THE ATTIC

Insulation—consult a building supply dealer to find out how much insulation in the attic is recommended for your area. Use a ruler to measure depth of insulation in your home. If it is insufficient, consider adding more.

Vents—adequate venting reduces build-up of moisture in winter, of heat in summer. This minimizes temperature transfer into living areas and allows insulation to work better. About 1 sq. ft. of venting is recommended for every 150 sq. ft. of attic. Consider installing a thermostat controlled attic fan which exhausts air as it reaches a certain temperature.

IN THE LIVING AREAS

Air Leakage—cracks allow heat to escape in winter, enter in summer. To test, hold lit candle by window and door frames, window air-conditioning units, attic door. If flame flickers, you need weatherstripping, caulking and perhaps storm windows. Refer to "Outside" section of checklist, and consult a building supply dealer.

Wall Insulation—to test, put a thermometer on outside wall of room, another at room center. Check after 4 hours. If wall reading is 5 degrees below room center reading, you need wall insulation. Consult an insulation contractor.

Fireplace—close damper when fireplace is not in use. Otherwise, heating and cooling is lost up the chimney.

Thermostat—set at 68 degrees in winter (turn down 5 degrees more when sleeping), 78 in summer. Turning thermostat on and off throughout the day uses more energy.

Drapes—during winter, open drapes and shades to let sunlight in. During the summer, close drapes and use opaque, light-colored ones to keep sun out.

Unused Rooms—close heating and cooling vents, doors in areas seldom used.

IN THE KITCHEN

Seals—to test, close a dollar bill in the door of freezer, refrigerator, and oven. If the bill removes with little resistance, the appliance is leaking energy...replace the seal.

Appliances—major appliances use major energy. Use washers and dryers during the morning and later evening hours, and on weekends, when energy requirements are not at their peak. Some utilities are charging a higher rate for energy used at peak hours.

Lights—install fluorescent light bulbs whenever possible...they use less energy.

IN THE BASEMENT

Heating/Cooling system—clean or replace furnace and air-conditioner filters once a month. Dirty filters make equipment work harder, use more energy. Have unit serviced once a year.

Water Heater—this is the #2 energy user in the home. Set temperature between 140-160 degrees...drain sediment 3-4 times per year.

Ducts/Pipes—hot water pipes plus heating and cooling ducts should be insulated, particularly if your basement is unheated.

Floors—heat is lost through poorly insulated floors. If you have a crawl space under your house, install batt-type fiberglass insulation underneath floors...6" (R-19) is recommended.

Venting—washer-dryer units should be vented directly to the outside to prevent heat and moisture build-up. In an air-conditioned home, close off laundry and kitchen areas when they are in use...cool with a fan only.

ON THE OUTSIDE

Windows—storm windows and double-paned glass can reduce energy usage up to 15%. Keep direct sunlight out during summer, but let in as much as possible in winter. This can be

done with drapes, shutters, awnings, and shade trees that lose their leaves.

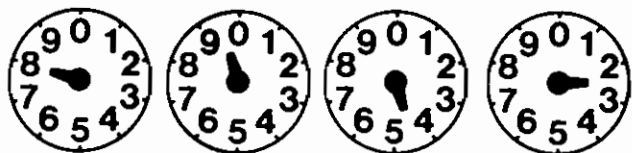
Weatherstripping and Caulking—as discussed under "Air Leakage," caulk the cracks around windows, weatherstrip around doors. These improvements can lower your energy consumption by as much as 10%.

Three key home improvements—(1) attic insulation, (2) storm windows and doors, (3) caulking and weatherstripping — can cut your energy usage dramatically. These improvements will pay for themselves in utility bill savings. And all improvements suggested on this checklist will add to the value of your home and will allow you and your family to live more comfortably. The Home Energy Check is a Search for Savings...and It's Your Money!

Measuring Energy Used

1. In order to know how much energy is being used, keep an accurate record of gas and electrical consumption in your home. To do this, read the gas and electric meters weekly and write down in your records the numbers on the dials. These records should be kept for 2 months.

Electric meters measure the amount of electricity used in kilowatt hours. Meters have four or five dials numbered from 0-9. To read a dial, read the number at the end of the pointer. Note the dials as to whether they read clockwise or counter-clockwise. Read the four meters and multiply by 10. This is done by simply adding a 0 to the numbers.



The meter reading is 79,420 KWH

Gas meters are read in the same way, only you must remember that natural gas is measured in thousand cubic feet (MCF). After reading the meter, you must multiply by 1,000. This is done by adding zeros to the numbers. To find out how much you have used in 1 week or 1 month, you must subtract your last reading from your first reading.

2. In order to find out how much energy you are using at home, you must change KWH of electricity and MCF of natural gas into a common measurement. British Thermal Units (BTU) are the most common measurement of energy. In changing your KWH's and MCF's use the following formula:

KWH of electricity X 3413 = BTU's of electricity

MCF of natural gas X 1030 = BTU's of gas

Complete your chart and find out how many BTU's of energy your family is using a month.

3. To measure how well your family is using energy in your home, follow the formula given. Measure the outside dimensions of your house and then find out how many square feet are in it.

Length of living space X width = square feet in your home

Add up the BTU's of electricity and gas used in a month. Divide the total BTU's in one month by the square feet in your home.

Example:

12,000,000 BTU's = 8,000 BTU's per
1,500 square feet square foot per month

Conservation	5,830-7,830
Average	7,170-10,580
Wasteful	9,750-15,830

MONTHLY ENERGY CHART

Month	Current Meter Reading		Previous Meter Reading		Actual Use		BTU Conversion		
	Electric KWH	Gas MCF	Electric KWH	Gas MCF	Electric KWH	Gas MCF	Electric BTU's	Gas BTU's	Total BTU's
Last day of previous mo.									
First week									
Second week									
Third week									
Fourth week									
Last day of this month									
					TOTAL BTU's:				