



Date: January 1, 2025
To: National Camping School Participant
From: Michael Wilson, NCS Course Director (Michael.Wilson@Scouting.org)
Jim Castro, NCS Local Council Liaison (Jimmy.Castro@Scouting.org)
Subject: Welcome to National Camping School at Alpine Scout Camp

Congratulations, your National Camping School application has been received! On behalf of the faculty, we look forward to serving you at Alpine Scout Camp. The following information will help you prepare for NCS, please read carefully.

Critical information about your National Camping School participation

LOCATION:

Alpine Scout Camp
441 Route 9W
Alpine, NJ 07620

COURSE DATES:

February 15 - 21, 2025

CHECK-IN:

When you arrive at Alpine Scout Camp, please proceed to Reeves Lodge (can be found on the attached camp map) for check-in. All participants should plan to arrive between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on Saturday, February 15th, 2025. Driving directions are listed below and a camp map is attached to this letter. Any registration-related questions may be directed to the Scouting America National Office (ncs@scouting.org).

EARLY ARRIVALS*:

If you need to arrive on Friday, February 14th due to travel arrangements, please select "Early Arrival" in the online registration system. The early arrival fee of \$55* includes dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday. Early arrival check-in will be at Reeves Lodge. *Note: For those who are not registered as early arrivals, your first meal will be lunch on Saturday, February 15th, 2025.*

TRANSPORTATION (Additional Fee):

The most convenient airport for attending the Alpine Scout Camp NCS is Newark Liberty International Airport [EWR]. For an additional fee of \$50 each way, the host council will provide shuttle transportation to and from EWR. To register for this service please visit <https://alpinescoutcamp.org/ncspickup/>. The average Uber fare from EWR to Alpine Scout Camp is approximately \$80 each way.



**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:**

Driving directions to Alpine Scout Camp are attached to this letter. Please use 441 Rte. 9W, Alpine, NJ when entering the address into your GPS. Do not search for Alpine Scout Camp.

ANNUAL HEALTH & MEDICAL RECORD:

Your camp health screening will take place at check-in. Please make sure Part C of your Annual Health & Medical Record has been signed by a Medical Doctor, Physician's Assistant (master's degree) or a Licensed Nurse Practitioner within 12 months of the last day of this NCS session. Those without a current Annual Health & Medical Record will be required to obtain one at their own expense before being allowed to remain in camp. The Annual Health and Medical Form can be found at: [Annual Health & Medical Record](#)

DIETARY NEEDS:

If you have special dietary requirements, please let the host council liaison know in advance either through the registration process or by emailing Alexander.Peck@scouting.org. At NCS, meals are varied, and there is always a salad/fruit bar, cereal with milk, and peanut butter and jelly available for sandwiches. Refrigeration is available in the Health Lodge for medications.

PREREQUISITES:

Please note that there are pre-requisite training courses which you MUST have before you attend NCS. Please ensure you bring support materials (certificates) with you as proof. Those participants who arrive without their prerequisites completed may not be certified.

- **Long-term Camp Director and Long-term Camp Program Director:** Online NCAP and Unlawful Harassment Prevention Training is available at on the NCS page at <https://www.scouting.org/outdoorprograms/national-camping-school/>
- **ALL:** Scouting America Youth Protection Training

WEATHER:

Some of the scheduled programming will take place outdoors. Daytime temperatures in New Jersey are expected to be in mid-30's, it may drop below freezing at night. Please bring suitable warm clothing, rain gear, and a hat.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Housing will be in two person rooms or heated cabins. Bedding and linens are not provided. Flush toilets and showers are available in Reeves Lodge and other comfort stations nearby. The telephone number at Alpine Scout Camp is (201) 768-1910, in case of emergency. If you need access to electricity for a CPAP machine, please bring a small extension cord.





DAY ONE CAMP-WIDE SCHEDULE (Saturday, February 15th, 2025):

7:15 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Staff Preparation in Section Areas
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Check-in, Registration, Section Interviews and Campsite Check-in
12:00 pm – 1:00pm	Lunch & Mealtime Presentation
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Course Instruction
5:00 pm - 5:45 pm	Personal Time
5:45 pm - 6:00 pm	Assembly & Retreat
6:00 pm - 6:45 pm	Dinner
6:45 pm – 7:00 pm	Mealtime Presentation
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Course Instruction
8:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Welcome Campfire
9:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Cracker Barrel
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Personal Time/Study Time

DRESS CODE:

National Camping School graduates set the example when it comes to wearing the right uniform at the right time in camp. Scouting America Field Uniform will be required for meals, formations and campfire. Scouting America Activity Uniform will be worn at all other times. Please be sure to bring enough activity uniform polos and T-shirts to get you through the week. You do not need to arrive in field uniform, but you will need it for the Opening Lunch on Saturday, February 15th.

EQUIPMENT/GEAR NEEDED BY PARTICIPANTS:

Please see a list of equipment and gear required for your week at National Camping at the following link: [Equipment Needed for NCS.pdf](#). Many sections require that you bring program items or copies of Council documents in addition to your personal camping gear.

VISITORS:

Please do not plan to have visitors or additional attendees such as spouses or children. Only participants and faculty are permitted on property while the course is in session.

DEPARTURE:

Departure will be after graduation on Friday, February 21st. Participants who are enrolled in recertification sections will be able to depart after lunch on Tuesday, February 18th.

TRADING POST

National Supply will not have a trading post on-site at National Camping School. If you are interested in purchasing National Camping School branded items you may view them at: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/>. All items purchased online will be shipped to your home.





If you have any questions before you arrive, please feel free to reach out to me at Michael.Wilson@Scouting.org. As a member of your council's long-term camping leadership team, you will be providing Scouts with an experience they will remember for a lifetime. Thank you for making the decision to attend National Camping School. I look forward to seeing you at Alpine Scout Camp!

Yours in Scouting,

Michael Wilson

Michael Wilson
NCS Course Director

** The early arrival fee is handled through the event registration system. Do not pay the early arrival fee to the host camp. You may or may not be expected to cover it personally (discuss with your local council). The fee includes lodging the night prior to the start of the course, dinner Friday night and breakfast Saturday morning. No activities are planned for early arrivals as the staff is busy with preparations.*

Attachments:

Driving Directions & Camp Map

Links:

Annual Health & Medical Record: [AH&MR](#)

Unlawful Harassment Prevention Training: <https://www.scouting.org/ncs>

Equipment Needs List: [Equipment Needed for NCS.pdf](#)



Directions to Alpine Scout Camp

The address of Alpine Scout Camp is:
441 US Highway 9 W, Alpine, NJ 07620

By Bus from New York City:

Take the Coach USA (#9A) from the George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal (175th St.) or (#9AT) Port Authority Terminal (42nd St.) to 9W & Orbach Way - Alpine, NJ. (the schedule is available on Coach USA's website).

By Car from New York City:

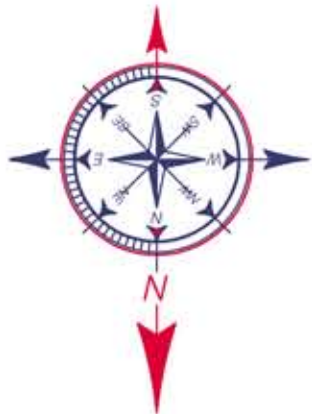
Travel to the George Washington Bridge taking the upper level. Take the first exit on your right in New Jersey (Palisades Interstate Parkway North). Travel for about 9 miles to exit 2 - Alpine Approach Road. Follow the exit around and under the parkway to a traffic light (this will be Route 9W). Make a right hand turn and travel north for about 1-1/4 miles. Alpine Scout Camp will be on your left hand side.

By Car from New Jersey:

From southern or mid-New Jersey, you can take either the New Jersey Turnpike or Garden State Parkway to Interstate 80. Travel on I-80 to the last exit before the George Washington Bridge toll (this will be in Fort Lee). The exit will say Route 9 and Palisades Parkway. You may then take either Route 9W for 10 miles to Alpine Scout Camp (it will be on your left), or get on to the Palisades Interstate Parkway and travel for about 9 miles to exit 2 - Alpine Approach Road. Follow the exit around and under the parkway to a traffic light (this will be Route 9W). Make a right hand turn and travel north for about 1-1/4 miles. Alpine Scout Camp will be on your left hand side.

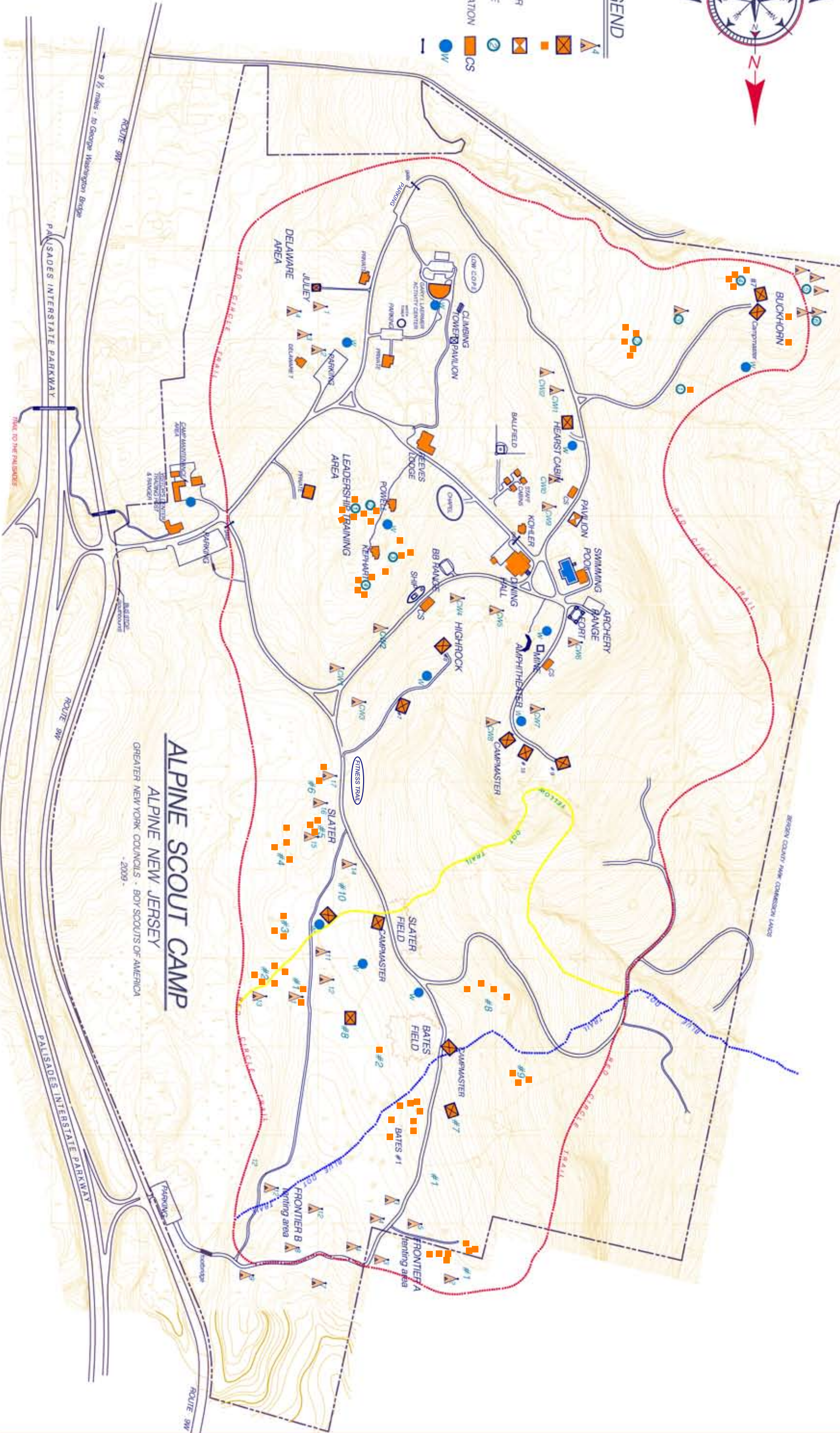


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