

Adopt-A- Campsite/Cabin Unit Guidebook



For Use by Units
Adopting a Campsite/Cabin
In the Cradle of Liberty Council

Dear Scouting Unit,

We are in need of people who want to help revitalize Musser Scout Reservation at any of its three camps: Delmont, Hart, and Garrison. We want our campsites and cabins to be the place that you can come and enjoy, a place of fellowship and respite and a place that can help grow and nurture your unit to be the best it can be.

How can you help improve a campsite or cabin?

- Clean the ground of debris and trash. Which gives the site a pristine beauty that will make us all proud
- Weed whack and mow the campsite or cabin grounds
- Complete a conservation project in or around the campsite or cabin
- Clean up/prepare the campfire ring(s)
- Perform trail maintenance and brush control
- Repair and level the tent platforms making them safe and comfortable
- Perform maintenance on the cabin
- Build a gateway and entrance sign
- Repair or build a flag pole, tool rack and bulletin board
- Build picnic tables, log seating, and/or a shelter
- Improve the latrine
- Stain/Waterproof the tables
- Make a plaque telling the story of the name of the campsite
- Report to the Camp Ranger or Campmaster any aspects of the site that need more attention and care

This is just the beginning of a list that ends only with your unit's creativity. In order to allow your unit's personal touch and still maintain a standard level of quality, you will work with our Camp Ranger before beginning a project. This will help ensure all projects align with the goals of Musser Scout Reservation and the Cradle of Liberty Council. Thank you for considering this adoption! Please review the information in this Guidebook, and when you are ready to Adopt-a-Campsite/Cabin, simply follow the directions in the section labeled...*How does it work?*

Thank you for all you do for Scouting, and Happy Camping!!

Ted McDonald
Camping Chairman

Brian Lynn "Ranger Lynn"
Musser Scout Reservation Camp Ranger

Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Program

Purpose:

Maintaining excellent facilities for scouts and leaders is a top priority for Musser Scout Reservation and the Cradle of Liberty Council. This program will help us achieve the goal of building and maintaining Musser Scout Reservation and additionally help scouting units and their scouts have an enjoyable time on the reservation. This program will help instill a sense of ownership and pride in our reservation and campsites/cabins. It will encourage attendance at and use of our property. Being good stewards of our environment is a responsibility of all Scouts, and this program will help improve the environmental health across Musser Scout Reservation. The projects will meet volunteer hour requirements for advancement, build skills and create a renewed sense of ownership and enthusiasm within the Pack, Troop, Crew, or Ships.

What are the benefits for the Unit?

- You have the pleasure of knowing you made a difference in the reservation and made the camping experience better for others.
- You will strengthen your unit through fellowship and teamwork while learning important stewardship, building and conservation skills.
- Your Scouts could earn service or conservation hours towards advancement. You will be allowed use of your campsite or cabin twice during the months of September-May with approval as available, free of charge. District events **CANNOT** be used for a free weekend.

How does it work?

1. Re-adoption is open Aug.1. Open Adoption (which is for anything that was not re-adopted/not adopted) starts Sept.1.
2. Contact the Musser Scout Reservation Camp Ranger Lynn at Brian.Lynn2@scouting.org to check availability of sites for adoption.
3. If a campsite or cabin is available that you or your unit would like to adopt, and you agree with conditions outlined in the Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Agreement, you will then review and sign the agreement.
4. Then return Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Agreement to Ranger Lynn at Brian.Lynn2@scouting.org or 5505 Upper Ridge Road, Pennsburg, PA 18073.
5. Your Agreement will be reviewed and approved by the Camping Committee and Camp Ranger. This review can take 2-3 months to happen.
6. Begin working with the Camp Ranger to begin work on your campsite or cabin.
7. Once projects are figured out the Camp Ranger will take it to the Camping Committee to get approval. This can take 2-3 months.

This program can be customized at the discretion of the Council Camping Committee to include adopting other areas of camp such as buildings, trails, or program areas.

Conservation-minded:

As you maintain and improve your campsite or cabin, here are conservation-minded ways you can help mitigate impacts to the environment so that we can provide a pristine camping experience for generations of scouts to come:

- Control of non-native or Noxious Weeds (Japanese Stiltgrass, Privet, Wineberry, Bittersweet, Japanese Honeysuckle, phragmites [Common Reed], Spicebush, and Grapevine)
- Seeding and sowing of grass seed (seed should be approved by Camping Committee. Some common grasses, i.e. Fescue, are considered invasive)
- Erosion control
- Reforestation/Regeneration (plant/transplant trees, plant and care for a small nursery, close of unneeded areas and trails) should be approved by Camping Committee.
- Trail improvements (switchbacks, railings, bridges, signs, rest stops seats)
- Wildlife habitat construction (bat and bird houses, pocket meadows for deer bedding, brush piles for small animals, grouse stands, fish habitats)
- Brush free fire zones (clean up debris in forested areas, thinning, and pruning)

Eligible Campsites and Cabins:

Delmont Cabins		
Delmont Campmaster Cabins (1 - 4)	Castle Rock	Dan Beard
Woods Lane	Knollbrook	Lucian Maxwell
OA Totem / OA Lean To's	Delmont Shelter	Pioneer Lodge
Pioneer Dining Hall	Schweiker	Sevier
Delmont Campsites		
Algonquin	Carlson (Old Campsite 1)	Sutton (Old Campsite 2)
Delaware	Lake Front	Twin Cedars
Mohawk	Wilbur	Wilderness
Brooksdale	Birch	
Hart Cabins		
Dick Smith	Gold Stag	Green Turtle
Korman	Perry Long	Red Fox
Yellow Bear	Park Lodge (Old Health Lodge)	
Hart Campsites		
Dick Smith	Gold Stag	Green Turtle
Hawk	Owl	Pheasant
Red Fox	Turkey	Yellow Bear
Garrison Activity Areas		
Safeguard Castle	Fort Akela	Native American Village
Handicraft Pavilion	Ship – USS Cradle of Liberty	

Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Agreement

Unit "Adopting" the Campsite Agrees to:	Cradle of Liberty Council Agrees to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the campsite/cabin to the specifications required by Musser Scout Reservation and the Cradle of Liberty Council Dedicate at least eight (8) hours of work annually to perform maintenance, repairs and improvements to campsite/cabin repair/improvement. * Understand and abide by the Terms and Conditions outlined in this Agreement which are in effect for one (1) year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow the use of your campsite or cabin twice during the months of September-May with approval as available, free of charge. Provide guidance to the unit as they complete the work to the campsite or cabin.

***Units must schedule both work day/weekend the unit is going to work with this Agreement. The work needs to be performed between September 1 and May 31.**

Additional terms and conditions for Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Agreement:

- Adoption of a campsite/cabin does not imply any form of ownership or special privilege or legal rights. Musser Scout Reservation, including campsites/cabins, is owned and operated by the Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA.
- Units that have adopted a campsite are required to follow the standard procedures for reserving the use of the campsite/cabin for weekend camping, summer camp, and all other occasions.
- All BSA safety rules and standards, as well as camp-related rules, must be adhered to at all times. All equipment and tools will be in safe working condition. Power equipment will be operated by properly trained and authorized adults. Scouts will not be allowed to climb above shoulder height. Chainsaw use is prohibited except for individuals who meet the requirements outlined in [BSA Chainsaw Safety](#) and/or validated by the Camp Ranger.
- Misconduct by unit participants while at Camp; including but not limited to violation of these rules, terms, and conditions or vandalism, may result in termination of the Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Agreement.
- The Cradle of Liberty Council is not responsible for damages to the campsite or cabin done by others who use the Reservation.
- The Cradle of Liberty Council maintains the right to de-activate, relocate, remove or rename a campsite or cabin.
- All projects must be pre-approved by the Council Camping Committee and the Musser Scout Reservation Camp Ranger. This can take 2-3 months to get approval please submit projects with this in mind.
- Units are encouraged to supply materials for use in projects, provided that the materials meet the requirements specified and approved by the Council Camping Committee and Musser Scout Reservation Camp Ranger. The Cradle of Liberty Council may supply some of the necessary project materials, provided the purchase has been pre-approved by the Director of Outdoor Adventures.
- The Cradle of Liberty Council reserves the right to discontinue this program at any time.

Unit Type & Number:			
Contact Person:		Unit Position:	
Mailing Address:			
City, State Zip:		Phone Number:	
Email Address:		Alt. Number:	

Our unit will adopt _____ campsite or cabin at Musser Scout Reservation. We agree to the guidelines stated in the Adopt-A-Campsite/Cabin Agreement. The dates we have for work days are _____ and _____.

	_____/_____/_____
Signature of Contact Person	Date
	_____/_____/_____
Signature of Committee Chair	Date