

Camp Friedlander

Merit Badge Workshops



Camp Friedlander offers merit badge workshops in the Handicraft and Native American Village program areas. This unique way of instructing badges lets Scouts to try their hand at several different areas they are interested in, while allowing as many Scouts as possible enjoy the handicraft activities. We've prepared this informational page to help you understand what these workshops mean for your Scouts.

Why Offer Workshops?

Some of the less-involved merit badges, such as basketry and art, can be completed in a couple of days rather than the five days scheduled for most merit badges. What we've found is that when handicraft badges are scheduled for five days, Scouts either lose interest in the badge after the first couple of days or have completed all the requirements of a badge and are left with nothing else to do during that time period for the rest of the week! Feedback from our Scoutmasters was that it would be great to find a way for Scouts to use that time more productively. Our solution is to provide workshops instead of scheduled badge times – that way, if Scouts complete one badge early in the week, they can move right on to another one that interests them.

Which Badges will be Offered in the Workshops?

Two separate workshops are offered – one at the Handicraft area and one at the Native American Village. The following badges will be offered at each workshop:

Handicraft:

- Art
- Fingerprinting
- Pottery
- Pulp and Paper
- Sculpture
- Woodcarving

Native American Village:

- Basketry
- Indian Lore
- Leatherwork

How will the Merit Badges be Taught?

Scouts attending the workshops will be divided into the badges that they choose. Several camp staff trained to instruct these badges will teach the Scouts the skills they need and then assist them with their projects. Just like all other merit badges, blue cards will be used to track progress, and staff will sign off the cards as requirements are completed. If a Scout finishes a badge, he can begin work on another merit badge if he chooses.

How Do Scouts Register for Workshops?

Scouts will be registered for the workshops just as they are registered for any other merit badge in the Doubleknot online registration system. If a Scout chooses work on a badge or badges offered in the Handicraft workshop, he should be registered for one of the Handicraft workshop time slots. Similarly, if he chooses to work on badge(s) at the Native American Village, he should be registered for one of the workshop periods available there. In other words, Scouts will not sign up for specific badges, but for the workshop in which the badges they want will be taught.