



SCOUT SERVICE PROGRAM

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Mackinac Island State Park Commission Policy

Scout Service Program

Minutes: December 6, 1976, p. 1635
August 12, 1989, p. 2475
September 27, 2002, p. 3433
September 18, 2003, p. 3522
September 25, 2015, p. 4213
September 26, 2025, p.

Effective: October 1, 2025

Preamble

The Scout Service Program was originally established in 1929 when a group of Eagle Scouts came to conduct guided tours of the fort visitors. Today, scouts help raise and lower flags in Mackinac Island State Park and perform guide duty at Fort Mackinac and Historic Downtown. The program is an important part of scouting in the State of Michigan and is an iconic part of the visitor experience on Mackinac Island.

General Policy

Applications from Girls Scouts of the USA or Scouting America are accepted between September and December, at the discretion of the Director. Up to fourteen troops are selected depending on the weeks available, plus alternate troops. A mix of Girl Scout and Scouting America troops is maintained.

The Director will establish a fee per participant per week, payable upon selection for the purpose of providing a patch, administration of the program, and maintaining the scout barracks.

The Commission has established a \$20.00 fee per person per night for rental of the Scout Barracks for non-Scout events.

Troops must meet the following requirements to be considered for selection:

1. Only established, currently chartered troops based in Michigan are eligible.
2. Troops must be endorsed by their council and sign a liability form provided by the Commission
3. The Troop must provide an adequate number of scouts to perform the duties of the program.
4. Troops must have an outstanding record of community service and long-term camping experience.
5. Troops must supply a minimum of four experienced adult leaders.
6. Preference is given, whenever possible, to troops that are from an area not previously represented.

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7. Troops will now be considered as regional troops, with preference for selection as follows:

- a. No more than 50% of the scouts can come from the organizing troop. Preference for selection will be given to the regional troop whose roster of remaining scouts are from areas of the lowest present representation. The regional troop will be responsible for submitting a roster.

Services performed:

1. Each Scout provides approximately ten hours per week of Scout duties.
2. There are approximately two other hours of service, such as raising and lowering flags.
3. Special projects, such as work on the Scout Barracks, litter pick up, etc., are encouraged.

Mackinac Island State Park Commission provides the building and utilities and hires a Scout Coordinator to give day-to-day supervision. The Commission publishes an annual handbook, *The Mackinac Manual*, which establishes procedures for troops at the Scout Service Program.

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