

## VENTURING RANGER AWARD ECOLOGY ELECTIVE

Additional requirement sheets and helps are available from [ScouterMom.com](http://ScouterMom.com).

a. Explain the basic natural systems, cycles, and changes over time and how they are evidenced in a watershed near where you live. Include the four basic elements, land use patterns, and at least six different species in your analysis and how they have changed over time. Discuss both biological and physical components.

b. Describe at least four environmental study areas near where you live. Include the reasons for selecting these areas, their boundaries, user groups, past inventories, any outside forces that interact with them, and a list of what things could be studied at each of them.

c. Plan a field trip to each of the above areas, including detailed plans for conducting various investigations. Follow all of the requirements such as trip permits, safety plans, transportation plans, equipment needs, etc.

d. Do the following:

d-i. Under the guidance of a natural resources professional, carry out an investigation of an ecological subject approved by your Advisor. Inventory and map the area. Conduct a detailed investigation providing specific data for a specific topic.

d-ii. Teach others in your crew, another crew, a Cub Scout or Boy Scout unit, or another group how to carry out an ecological investigation. Use the steps in requirements (b) and (c) above with the group so that they may also learn by doing.