

# THE 50-MILER PROGRAM



The primary objective of this program is to stimulate Scouts BSA, Sea Scout, and Venturer interest in the ideals of the movement and to promote activity that will result in personal fitness, self-reliance, knowledge of wood lore, water trek, and/or outdoor experience.

Chartered unit participation is most desirable; however, provisional Scouting units are eligible. This award does not apply if any other BSA award is available for a trip.

The Scouts BSA, Sea Scout, or Venturing unit or provisional group must follow these rules for a 50-Miler trip:

- Select a suitable trail or waterway.
- Two-deep leadership must be in effect at all times. Adult leadership should utilize and follow the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.
- Groups shall complete the 50 miles / 5 day trip by sailboat, canoe, on foot, by horse, or by bicycle.

## Award Requirements

The 50-Miler Award is presented to each qualifying individual for satisfactory participation in an approved trip. In order to qualify for the award, the group of which the individual is a member must fulfill all of the following requirements:

1. Make complete and satisfactory plans for the trip, including the possibilities of advancement, conservation, leadership, and service.
2. Cover the route of not less than 50 consecutive miles; take a minimum of five consecutive days to complete the trip without the aid of motors for the qualification of the 50-mile distance. For example, in the case of water treks and the use of motors, qualification distances exclude maneuvering in or out of slips or ports, safety/weather transverse, managing tidal currents, and accessing the open water. (In some areas pack animals may be used.) **Note:** Qualification for the 50-mile distance does not have to be continuous, provided the primary purpose objective is met.
3. During the time on the trail or waterway, complete a minimum of 10 hours each of group work on projects to improve the trail, springs, campsite, portage, or area. If, after checking with recognized authorities, it is not possible to complete 10 hours each of group work on the trail, a similar project may be done in the unit's home area. (There should be no unauthorized cutting of brush or timber.)
4. Unit or tour leader must then file the 50-Miler Award application with the local council service center.

Detach and send the report below to your local council service center.

## 50-MILER AWARD APPLICATION

To: Local Council Only (Do not send to national office.)

Unit No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Provisional Scouting Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Local Council Action  
 Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of trail or waterway \_\_\_\_\_  
Give state and nearest town.  
 From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (minimum of five consecutive days required)  
Date Date
2. Trip was (check appropriate terms)  by boat  by canoe  on foot  by horse  by bicycle
3. Trail or waterway covered: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Starting point Finishing point  
 Total qualifying mileage \_\_\_\_\_ (must be at least 50 applicable en route mileage)
4. This group completed 10 hours of trail work, as follows. (Give details as to type of Good Turn, such as clearing trail, cleaning up shorelines, improving waterways and/or structures, cleaning up campsites and springs, leaving wood supply, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Total Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts, Venturers, and leaders eligible for the 50-Miler Award \_\_\_\_\_
6. Enter our order for \_\_\_\_\_ decals, No. 32261 \_\_\_\_\_ embroidered awards, No. 191 \_\_\_\_\_ staff shield, No. 14131

(Contact your local council service center for current prices.)

(NOTE: Embroidered and leather awards are not worn on uniforms but may be attached to tents, packs, or blankets. Decals may be used on canoes, paddles, or plaques.)

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit or tour leader

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_