

Metro Lakes District 2009 Fall Camporee
"Taking History & Nature in Stride"



Fall 2009 Camporee

Metro Lakes District
Fort Snelling State Park
101 Snelling Lake Rd, Fort Snelling, MN 55111
[\(map\)](#)

October 2-3

Metro Lakes District 2009 Fall Camporee
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Metro Lakes Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, and Leaders:

Your Troop/Crew is invited to attend the 2009 Metro Lakes District Fall Camporee. The theme of this camporee is “Taking History & Nature in Stride” and will take place at Fort Snelling State Park river bottom. Troop 262 has volunteered to sponsor the Camporee and events will include activities related to the Nature and American Heritage merit badges.

We have negotiated one night of camping (Friday) and a day of activities with the Minnesota DNR and Park rangers. Each Troop/Crew **MUST CHOOSE TWO OF THE THREE POSSIBLE TRAILS WHEN REGISTERING** (See Descriptions) by Sept 18. The park will need to be empty of Scouts by 9:30 pm Saturday evening. Overnight camping will be limited to 300 Scouts and Scouters but those wanting to participate only in Saturday’s activities may do so; no limit on Saturday attendance.

SPECIAL NOTES: Plan on cooking Saturday breakfast and Saturday dinner. Also plan for snacks Friday night and Saturday throughout the day; there will be a cracker barrel event for Senior Patrol Leaders, Crew Presidents, Staff, and adult Leaders only. Also plan on bagged lunches for Saturday afternoon, complete with drinks. Because of the active nature of the events, a cooked lunch would not be time effective, so plan on eating on the road. As we do not have access to refrigeration, we do not recommend lunch meats; peanut butter or a “Philmont-style” trail lunch is preferred. Please plan on having these individually bagged and labeled for each Scout **BEFORE ARRIVAL FRIDAY**. We will be collecting these to have available at Saturday stations located throughout the park, so your preparation will help us tremendously.

We also encourage everyone to get into the spirit of the “living history” component of this event. As Scouts, we are on the verge of celebrating our Centennial anniversary. Take this opportunity to explore a rich 99 year history of Scouting. You will see some Staff wearing historic official uniforms; we encourage your youth and adults to find creative ways of highlighting our program’s history through similar uniforming. If you have an older uniform, please feel free to wear it. If you do not, but would like to participate, consider checking at thrift stores or second-hand shops for uniform items.

Finally, it is extremely important that you review the Policies for this event (found on pages 3 & 4) with ALL Scouts and Leaders before attending this event. As we are working hard to foster a good relationship with both the State Park and the Historic Fort, good behavior is of utmost importance. Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts are expected to live the Scout Oath and Law, and Venturing Code AT ALL TIMES. Courtesy, kindness, cleanliness, friendliness, and obedience are essential. Please explain this all to your Scouts and Leaders. If we are to be invited back, excellent behavior is required.

Thanks. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Tom O’Mara
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<u>Table of Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Welcome Letter	2
General Information	3
Camporee Policies	3
Patrol Requirements	4
Event Schedule	4
Event Description	5
Pre-Registration Form	6
Registration Form	7
Super Troop/Crew Info	8

General Information

First Aid

First Aid will be available at the Camporee. However, each Troop/Crew should be able to take care of minor injuries. Injuries requiring medical attention should be reported to and attended by the staff at the Thomas Savage Center or the Historic Fort Snelling Visitor’s Center. A first aid station will also be available along the Historic Fort Trail, for minor cuts and blisters. Please have proper medical forms for each person, kept by adult leaders for reference. We will have trained medical personnel on staff for this Camporee.

Permission Slips

Every Scout should have a permission slip signed by their parents/guardians giving permission for any medical treatments, hospital visits, etc. These forms should be kept in the campsite and be readily accessible in the event of an emergency.

Uniforms

Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts should be in Class “A” uniforms or Crew uniform upon arrival, at the Friday night opening ceremony and Saturday closing ceremony. During the day on Saturday, Youth and Adults should dress in Troop/Crew t-shirts, or proper uniform (current or historic). Patrols should dress consistently if at all possible.

Fees

The cost for the Camporee this Fall is \$15.00 per Youth or Adult if you camp overnight on Friday; \$10.00 if you come only for the day on Saturday. Access to the Park is \$5.00 per vehicle or an annual MN 2009 State Park sticker – no matter how many people are in the vehicle – so carpooling is encouraged. Vehicle passes should be purchased ahead of time (with your registration) and they will be given to you upon arrival at the gate.

Camping

Camping will be tents only. The open shelters will be limited to staff and activity functions. As this will be slightly more than a 24 hr event it’s a good time to practice “hiking in” what you need. Camporee Staff recommends bringing your most compact tenting equipment, and larger than 4-man tents will not be allowed. Camping will be done in a modified “Jamboree-style” set up, and Troops/Crews will be assigned a specific block of tents.

Camporee Policies

The following rules were made to help us have a successful and safe camping experience. It is the responsibility of the adults in charge to see that Scouts know and understand these rules. Anyone violating them may be asked to leave the camp.

Behavior: Scout Oath and Scout Law – applies to all Scouts and Scouters. Please emphasize the “good sport” and “do your best” aspects of the weekend and Scouting. We’re here to have fun first and foremost

Vehicles: Speed limit is 15 mph

No passengers in back of truck or trailer. Vehicles limited to main roads and parking areas only. Trailers, if brought, must stay with vehicle parking around Picnic Island.

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All liquid fuels and propane must be used with adult supervision.

Campfires: will NOT be allowed. We will have an opening and closing campfire, managed by the Camporee Staff, but personal Troop/Crew or Patrol campfires are prohibited, for space and safety reasons. And NO WOOD may be brought in due to Emerald Ash Borer. The park will be doing some clearing in the weeks ahead of our events so hopefully we can experience a true "Greiling" Closing Campfire.

Firearms: Personal firearms, ammunition (live or expended), explosives, fireworks and toy weaponry are prohibited.

Camouflage: Camo pants; shirts and jackets should be discouraged. National policy does not allow camo.

Conservation: Please conserve our natural resources. No digging, trenching, or raking.

ABSOLUTELY no cutting of brush or standing timber is allowed.

Adults: At least one responsible adult (21 or older) must be in camp at all times. The DNR has asked for a ratio of 1 adult per 10 Scouts. It shouldn't be a problem but please keep it in mind when planning. Also, along with the DNR's requirements, please observe TWO-DEEP LEADERSHIP.

Knives: NO straight bladed knives are allowed in camp.

Lights out: Scouts are not allowed out of their site after lights out with the exception of to and from the latrines.

PLEASE respect others during lights out. Scouters are asked to bring roaming Scouts to the headquarters at Shelter B after lights out.

Radios: No radios, stereos, tape players, headsets, Gameboys or related electronics, etc. are allowed in camp. Cell phone use by youth should be kept to a minimum.

District Trading Post: A trading post will be available at this camporee Saturday. The Trading post will open 1 hour after lunch and close 1 hour before dinner.

Patrol Requirements

Boys should dress/prepare for hiking. Good shoes, pants that aren't "Sunday best", all may get dirty during the day Saturday.

There will be water located at the event sites; however, Scouts should bring AT LEAST 1 bottle with them.

Each Troop should prepare a song or a skit at the closing campfire. The song or skit will be vetted by the OA Chapter Chief and the Camporee Chair. The song/skit must be discussed with the OA CC not later than flag retirement Saturday night. Skits outside of the Scout Oath & Law will not be permitted AND will be stopped if performed.

Camporee Schedule

Friday:

- 6:30 – 8:00 Check-in at District HQ on Picnic Island. Signs and Scouts will direct you from the gate
- 8:00 – 9:00 Cracker barrel for Scoutmasters/SPL's. We would like at least one adult from each Troop.
- 9:30 – 10:30 Opening campfire
- 11:00 – Lights out

Saturday:

- 7:00 Reveille
- 7:00-8:15 Breakfast in your sites
- 8:30 District formation and flag raising in the parking lots by Thomas Savage Center
- 8:40 Welcome-Explanation of Events.
- 9:00-12:00 Complete Morning Trail
- 12:30 Lunch in Fort Snelling Field (or other site dictated by your morning Trail.)
- 1:30-4:30 Complete Afternoon Trail
- 5:00-7:00 Dinner and time in sites. Breakdown camp & pack.
- 6:15 Flag lowering (units may attend or stand at attention in site)
- 7:30 – 9:00 Campfire, Closing Ceremony & OA Callout
- 10:00 All Scouts gone from Park

Saturday Camporee Events

Troops and Crews are asked to select **TWO** of the following options for participation in at the Camporee. Every Trail will be offered twice, once in the morning and once in the afternoon, and Troops/Crews will be assigned to one or the other session. Units **WILL** be given the two Trails they request, though Units **MAY NOT** specify a morning or afternoon session. If possible, Troops/Crews will be kept together, though some division by Patrol may be required, as space dictates. Detailed rotation info will be given at the Friday Cracker Barrel.

Fort Snelling Historic Trail



Hike the Fort Snelling Historic Trail. Travel between Minnehaha Falls and the Historic Fort, exploring the natural beauty along the Mississippi River. As you go, learn about the history of the area, its first settlers and native peoples, and investigate our own Minneapolis urban “jungle”. When paired with one of the other Trails, this Trail becomes your chance to complete requirements along the way. If paired with the “American Heritage Trail” Scouts should be able to nearly complete the Historic Trails Patch, along with most of the American Heritage Merit Badge. If paired with the “Nature Trail” Scouts can complete most of the collections and exploration requirements for Nature Merit Badge. This Trail finishes at the Historic Fort.

American Heritage Trail



Explore the Historic Fort and learn about our area’s history and its first settlers while completing requirements for the Historic Trail patch and the American Heritage Merit Badge. Experience “living history, watch films about local and national history, and explore the Declaration of Independence through readings and group discussions, Meet military veterans and local political leaders, learn about American citizenship (past and present) and see how our local history was shaped while touring this urban landmark. This Trail’s activities center on the Historic Fort Snelling area.

Nature Trail



Explore Fort Snelling State Park and learn about the natural world alive within the borders of our city. See birds, mammals, plants, and rocks, all in their natural habitat. Trail includes fishing, birding, plant identification and soil and rock study. Learn about biology, geology, the natural habitats of birds and mammals native to Minnesota, and enjoy the great outdoors in our city’s local State Park. This Trail’s activities center on the Fort Snelling State Park area.

Metro Lakes District 2009 Fall Camporee
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Pre-Registration Form

This form along with the roster on page 7 must be received at the West Council Scout office by Friday, September 18. As the overnight camping capacity is limited to 300 people (youth and adults), slots will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis. There is no limit on "Saturday Only" participation.

Troop/Crew # _____

Scoutmaster/Crew Advisor: _____

of Youth _____

of Adults _____

Overnight Total Paid (\$15.00 per person) _____

Saturday Only Total Paid (\$10.00 per person) _____

Parking Passes (\$5.00 per vehicle) _____

Our Troop/Crew would like to register for the following TWO Trails to participate in at this Camporee:

Fort Snelling Historic Trail **American Heritage Trail** **Nature Trail**

Note: There will be a morning and afternoon session for all three Trails. Your session will be assigned depending on group size, popularity of Trail, etc. You may NOT specifically request morning or afternoon, only what two Trails you would like to participate in.

Although we will do our best to give Units their preferred Trails, Units registering late may be assigned according to Trail capacity and availability.

Forms and Fees should be mailed to:

Northern Star Council, BSA
Attn: Metro Lakes 2009 Fall Camporee
5300 Glenwood Ave
Golden Valley, MN 55422
Acct Code: Metro Lakes 392

Unit Registration Form

(Please send a copy of this in with your pre-registration before September 18.
Please also bring a copy of this form with you to the event. Make copies as needed.)

Troop/Crew # _____

Scoutmaster/Crew Advisor _____

SPL/Crew President _____

Trail Selection (indicate the TWO trails you selected for pre-registration)

Fort Snelling Historic Trail American Heritage Trail Nature Trail

Youth:

1 _____ 14 _____ 27 _____

2 _____ 15 _____ 28 _____

3 _____ 16 _____ 29 _____

4 _____ 17 _____ 30 _____

5 _____ 18 _____ 31 _____

6 _____ 19 _____ 32 _____

7 _____ 20 _____ 33 _____

8 _____ 21 _____ 34 _____

9 _____ 22 _____ 35 _____

10 _____ 23 _____ 36 _____

11 _____ 24 _____ 37 _____

12 _____ 25 _____ 38 _____

13 _____ 26 _____ 39 _____

Adults:

1 _____ 4 _____ 7 _____

2 _____ 5 _____ 8 _____

3 _____ 6 _____ 9 _____

Total Participation _____

Registration Fee: \$15.00/Overnight; \$10.00/Saturday Only

Payment Method: Unit Check _____ Cash _____ Personal Check _____

Total Due _____

"SUPER TROOP - SUPER CREW AWARD"

Every Troop/Crew that completes 6 of the 9 items below and is checked off by District Chair Tim Jopek will receive special recognition at the closing campfire Saturday night. Units completing ALL 9 will receive bonus recognition. Troop Senior Patrol Leaders and Crew Presidents should use meal times as times to check off items with event Staff. More information will be given at the SPL/CP cracker barrel Friday night.

- _____ Have all Scouts/Venturers and Leaders preregistered before September 18th.
- _____ All Scouts/Venturers and Leaders arrive in Scouting Field (Class "A") uniforms or appropriate Venture Crew Uniform. Scouts are encouraged to wear historic (past) official Scout uniforms as well.
- _____ All Scouts/Venturers and Leaders have a Troop/Crew or Scouting themed T-shirt to wear Saturday.
- _____ All Vehicles used by the Troop/Crew have an annual MN State Parks Sticker.
- _____ Scouts/Venturers use alternate forms of transportation to arrive at camp.* This includes hiking, biking, skating, light rail, etc. (at least two adults must accompany the group of Scouts/Venturers). Must have a minimum of 2/3 of your attending youth traveling to qualify for this item.
- _____ Scouts/Venturers "pack in" their equipment for the overnight (no trailer). This includes tents, stoves, food. Make this event a practice backpacking expedition.
- _____ Troop/Crew practices "Leave No Trace" camping by doing the following:
- Use low-impact backpacking stoves to cook your meals.
 - Use backpacking style meals to minimize cook-time and waste. Pack out your trash.
 - If sleeping overnight, limit total footprint of tents by using compact tents, but also by using as few tents as possible.
- _____ Fill at least one "litter bag" throughout the day's activities, picking up trash around the park area.
- _____ Follow the Scout Oath and Law throughout the weekend, and leave the Park area better than you found it.
- _____ Print ALL required materials from our website, and come prepared with copies to the Camporee.

Unit # _____ **Approved by District Chair** _____

*Units choosing this option must only travel TO the event by special means of transportation. For return travel on Saturday night, Units should arrange a pick-up crew to meet them at the new Northern Star Council "Base Camp" location, near Fort Snelling across HWY 55. There is a short walking path to get there; a shuttle services will be used to get Scout's gear to the Base Camp site. If traveling by bike, make sure the pick-up crew can accommodate bikes. Plan pick-up time for between 9:30 and 10:00 pm.