

If you plan an overnight camp enroute, you might arrange to have Scouts who are not eligible to go on the trip join you at the campsite so that they can take part in the fun.

Start your planning for a water expedition by reading "Canoe Tripping and Safety Afloat" in the Canoeing merit badge pamphlet. That section gives details for planning a safe, enjoyable expedition.

Special Aquatics Awards

Scouts who are already good swimmers may begin to work toward any of four special awards this month. Although they are not advancement awards, they will encourage Scouts to improve their skills and have some additional fun. The awards are:

Mile Swim, BSA. Requires the Scout to swim a mile over a measured course after 4 hours of training and to know safety rules for swimming in open water.

Snorkeling, BSA. Requires the Scout to demonstrate the use of mask, fins, and snorkel in deep water, know diver's signs and signals, and understand hyperventilation and hypothermia. Full requirements are outlined in Application for Snorkeling, BSA, No. 19-176.

BSA Lifeguard. Requires the Scout to know the requirements for the Swimming, Lifesaving, Rowing, Canoeing, and First Aid merit badges, the Safe Swim Defense, and Safety Afloat, and to be able to demonstrate them. Full requirements are outlined in Application for BSA Lifeguard, No. 4435.

50-Miler Award. Scouts are eligible if they take part in a canoe or boat trip (or wilderness trek) of at least 50 consecutive miles in at least 5 days and do conservation work enroute. Full requirements are outlined in the 50-Miler Award Application, No. 4408.