

# ***CAMP MATTATUCK WEBELOS RESIDENT CAMP***

***The Camp*** . . . Camp Mattatuck is in Plymouth, CT. Established in 1939, the camp has 500 acres of land that is home to approximately 2,000 scouts a summer, spread over a 6-week period. This includes a Cub Scout Day Camp, a WeBeLoS Resident Camp and a Resident Boy Scout Camp. The 1100 Boy Scouts and WeBeLoS Scouts stay in 2 man wall tents, sleep on beds with mattresses and have 3 square meals served daily in the Dining Hall. The camp has its own private lake for swimming, fishing and boating.

***The Staff*** . . . The staff members are chosen by Connecticut Rivers Council and are highly skilled and trained. The Boy Scouts of America train department directors, as well as the Camp Director, at their National Camping Schools.

***Check-in*** . . . Arrive at 1:15 PM Sunday. Located in the Pine Grove near the north side of the parking lot will be a tree with your Pack number on it. This is where you will meet with your unit. Our Staff Guide will be waiting there for you. Packs will wait there until all scouts and their Staff Guide are present. This will cut down on the confusion. Before going to the campsite, the leader will check in with the Camp Business Manager.

***Sunday Afternoon*** . . . After being guided to the campsite, scouts get into their swim trunks and get ready for check-in.

- They walk down to the Dining Hall porch, with completed Medical Forms (signed by a doctor and a parent within the last year.) in hand for a **medical recheck** by the Camp Nurse. All adults in camp must also have medical forms. They are available at [www.campmattatuck.org](http://www.campmattatuck.org), under "Downloads". There is more on medical forms in the medical form section).
- **At this time all medication must be turned in to the nurse to dispense along with the Pack Medication form (see attached) listing all medications for scouts and adults.**
- After the medical check parents leave.
- Next it's down to the Waterfront for a **boating talk**, and then a **swim check**. This check, covering 100 yards consists of "Jump into the water feet first then swim 100 yards continuously in a strong manner, with 75 yards on your stomach or side and 25 yards on your back in a resting manner." This check is required for all scouts and leaders who wish to go in or on the water.
- 5:50 is flag lowering, followed by dinner at 6:00 with everyone in uniform of course.
- After dinner is orientation for scouts concerning rules of the camp as well as introduction of activity badges being offered.
- Just prior to the campfire is an orientation for the Archery and BB ranges.
- That evening there is a campfire, which all scouts must attend, sponsored by the staff to introduce themselves and to get the scouts acquainted with camp.

***A Typical Day*** . . . The morning starts out with reveille at 7:00 AM, flag raising is at 7:50, with breakfast at 8:00. During the morning, the scouts attend various activities; Nature hikes, Scoutcraft skill sessions, Archery and BB ranges where they learn how to shoot safely. Also during the morning is instructional swimming and boating where every scout can improve their skills or learn new ones. At this time the Camp Commissioner is inspecting the campsites and rates them on how clean, neat and safe they are. Lunch is at 12:30 PM followed by more activities including activity badges that run all afternoon. From 4:00 – 5:00 there is open swimming and boating, a time for cooling off and fun. Open shoot at the archery and BB ranges are just some of the activities going on now to help everyone have fun. 5:50 is flag lowering, followed by dinner at 6:00 with everyone in their scout uniform of course. After dinner, packs enjoy free time and can do things like water polo, open boating, team sporting events, Frisbee, pack campfires, etc. At the end of the evening, after things have slowed down, our Camp Director reminds us that we are all scouts and can still be reverent and respectful after all the excitement has had its place. Prayer Bell is at 9:30pm. The Grover Memorial Bell will toll 12 times at 9:30 every evening, one for each point of the scout law. During this time we ask that the camp stop and reflect in silence about the 12th point of the law. By now, all scouts should be in their campsites. Taps is sounded at 9:45 PM. Lights out - - all quiet. Quiet hours are 9:45 PM till 7:00 AM.

***Pictures*** . . . Unit pictures are taken on Tuesday at 5:00 PM in the amphitheater. All packs must sit for a photo for the camp records, but you need not order any. Orders and money are due at registration. Pictures are in camp by Friday Afternoon. This year's price will be \$10.

***Parent's Night*** . . . Wednesday night is Parent's Night. Because camp and unit programming is going on other times during the week, we ask that visitors and parents only come up on Wednesday night. Parents are invited to come up anytime after 5:00 PM. Picnic tables are available in the Picnic Grove on a first come-first serve basis. Scouts can eat with their parents at these tables, but there is only enough room in the dining hall for scouts spending the week. Afterward at 8:00, the scouts and staff put on a campwide campfire for the parents. Come up and join in on the fun, singing, cheers, stunts, and skits. You never know what lunacy the scouts and staff might be up to; plus you're never too old to embarrass yourself. This campfire will be held in the amphitheater.

***Hawaiian Shirt Thursday*** . . . Thursday is Hawaiian Shirt day at camp, make sure you bring yours! During the morning and afternoon, everyone can wear their loud, colorful shirt throughout camp.

***Youth Protection*** . . . For adults, Youth Protection Training is offered on-line by the National Council any time year round. ([www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org)) Please take this training at home so that you can spend time at camp doing all the great outdoor activities that Camp Mattatuck has to offer.

***Blue and Gold Ceremony*** . . . Friday afternoon, before departure, is the camp Blue and Gold Ceremony. This event is where camp and departmental awards, as well as any unit awards are given out. It's also a great place to tell your parents to meet you to pick-up their scouts. Pick-up time should be planned for 4:00pm.

***Health Lodge*** . . . Camp Mattatuck's Health Lodge is covered 24 hours a day by a registered nurse. If a scout or adult has to take medication during camp, the Camp Nurse must dispense it (State of CT rules for youth camps). All medication for scouts and adults is to be checked in during the medical recheck on Sunday. The Nurse will dispense any medication in camp. Immediately after meals is the normal time for routine medical problems, giving out medication or changing a bandage.

**Emergencies . . .** If a serious problem occurs outside camp and a scout or adult needs to be reached, the Camp Office should be called. The number is (860) 283-9577 and a message will be given to the person when they are located.

**The Trading Post . . .** A Trading Post is available at camp. We sell toiletries, scouting supplies, patches, candy, soda and ice cream. Due to unit leader requests, the trading post will not sell candy, soda, or ice cream before lunch and closes 1 hour before meals. Items stocked are on a first come, first serve, while they last basis.

**Dining Hall . . .** Seating arrangements in the dining hall are generally 6 scouts to a table with 1 unit leader and 1 camp staff member. Table assignments and the operation of the dining hall will be covered at the Sunday 4:30 PM meeting. Should any scouts have any dietary restrictions (medical, religious, and allergic), we will accommodate them. During check-in Sunday, they should inform the Camp Nurse of any such restrictions and she will notify the dining hall.

**Showers . . .** There are hot water showers at camp and we hope the scouts use them. Many campsites have showers with individual stalls attached to their latrine; these are for the use of that unit only. Others can use the central shower house behind the Dining Hall.

**Restrictions . . .** There are certain things not allowed at Camp for the health and safety of everybody, including:

- No pets (This includes check-in)
- No alcohol or drugs
- No mini-bikes or personal bicycles
- No smoking in front of scouts
- No personal firearms, ammunition
- No personal archery equipment
- No fireworks
- No bare feet walking around camp

**Valuables . . .** Camp Mattatuck, its Staff and Connecticut Rivers Council will not be responsible for individual camper or troop valuables while in camp. Here are some tips:

1. Advise Scouts to bring as few valuables as possible (leave the electronics home).
2. Advise your Scouts they are not to walk through another unit's campsite. Also other scouts should not be walking through your campsite.
3. Tells the Scouts that storing money & watches in their shoes at the waterfront is not the best place to store them.
4. Don't leave personal or troop objects lying around the site to give anyone temptation.

**Leaving Camp . . .** When the pack checks-in on Sunday, the leader should hand in a list of any scouts and/or adults that will be coming up or leaving, and what day and time. Also, remember that anyone (that includes adults), staying in camp for even one night must have a current (in date) medical form filled out and on file at the Health Lodge.

The State of Connecticut, Camp Mattatuck, Connecticut Rivers Council and Boy Scouts of America are very concerned with the safety of the youth in our care, so . . . We must insist that when a scout is signed out of camp, a unit leader is **present** with the scout in the camp office so the staff sees that the pack is aware that the scout is leaving and to help verify who is picking up the scout. Also, the person picking the scout up may be asked to present a picture form of ID (driver's license). Please let parents know about this policy so that nobody is surprised by it or the time it may take. After all, it is for the *safety* of the scouts.

**Checkout . . .** Pickup is at Camp Mattatuck about 4:00 pm Friday after the Blue and Gold Ceremony. The Staff Guide who checked you into camp on Sunday will check you out of your site. When a pack knows all of its scouts have a ride home, the Unit Leader must sign-out the unit at the office, so we know you have left.

**Directions . . .** Camp Mattatuck is on Route 262 / Mt. Tobe Road in Plymouth CT.

From Rt. 6 in the Center of Plymouth, it's 3 miles south on Route 262 on the left, just past the Waterbury Airport and just before Gentile's Campsites.

From I-84, take Route 8 North in Waterbury and take the Route 6 East, Exit 39. At the bottom of the ramp, turn right. Follow till the 1st traffic light/top of the hill; turn right on Route 262, Camp is 3 miles on the left past the Waterbury Airport and just before Gentile's Campsites.

**Mail . . .** Mail is delivered every day to camp (usually in the afternoon). Scoutmasters may check anytime.

**The mailing address is:**

(Scout's name)  
(Campsite), Pack 6  
Camp Mattatuck  
221 Mt. Tobe Road  
Plymouth CT. 06782

## ***Program Description***

***The Nature Center . . .*** The Nature Center is open all day for scouts and units to visit at their leisure. Our staff works hard at setting up displays and activities that get the scouts really involved with nature and conservation. Activities such as nature hikes, slime walks, trees and shrubs, edible plants, deep woods hike, and Leave No Trace are available. The Nature Trail is open year round. Go to the Nature Center mailbox to get a guide map. See our Nature Staff if you don't see what you want or if you don't know what you see. We'll do everything we can to make it happen for you.

***Aquatics . . .*** Here scouts are instructed in safe and proper swimming techniques. Rowboats, canoes, and funyaks are the watercraft available for use for Webelos on the boating side.

***Shooting Sports . . .*** For these program areas, scouts are instructed on the safety of shooting. Scouts must have an annual orientation at each range before they are allowed to use the equipment. On the Archery Range, scouts are shown the proper and safe use of archery equipment. For a number of reasons, scouts and adults are **not** allowed to bring any kind of bow or arrow to camp. The BB range offers 8 bays for scouts to improve their marksmanship. Under **NO** circumstances can anyone bring firearms or ammunition to camp. Hints from our trained staff will certainly improve a scout's aim. The BB range is located between Barnum and Gesner Cabins.

***Scoutcraft . . .*** The Scoutcraft area offers a wide range of skills and demonstrations for scouts and units. Stop by to see what's going on.

***Handicraft . . .*** This department offers individuals and packs the chance to paint, draw or create just about anything. This is where Leatherwork and Woodcarving activities are taught. How about scouts coming down and making a keepsake for their favorite Cubmaster or Den Leader?? There is a small charge for the kits for each of these badges (about \$3.00 - \$5.00), which are available in the Trading Post. All scouts must earn the Whittling Chip before woodcarving is taught. **Whittling Chip will be offered on Monday and Tuesday only.** Scouts that have already earned their Whittling Chip must have their card available for inspection before woodcarving activities can be started.

***Climbing Tower . . .*** The Camp Mattatuck Climbing Tower is one of the most famous in the country. Webelos scouts will participate in bouldering climbs, where they climb around the tower yet never climb higher than their own shoulder height above the ground. Units Leaders are welcome (sometimes goaded) to participate and we even have an extra large harness to accommodate big egos.

***Fishing . . .*** Fishing is great at camp. Poles can be signed out at the Nature Center or scouts can bring their own. Fishing is allowed all around the lake except near the swimming and boating areas or along the dam. Scouts may want to bring their own bait or try finding some in the woods around camp (always traveling with a buddy!).

***Conservation /Service Projects . . .*** While at camp we encourage all units to sign up with us to perform a conservation / service project. This helps us keep the camp green and clean. Furthermore, scouts can use it toward their World Conservation Award. The Camp has a list of many projects to choose from or your unit could suggest one for possible inclusion. Possible undertakings include trail clearing, rock removal from campsites and trails, making brush piles for animals or water erosion control.

## ***A word on medication in camp. . .***

The Connecticut Department of Public Health is very stringent with what campers may and may not have in their possession while at camp. All prescription medications must be in original pharmacy containers labeled with name of patient, date prescription was filled, pharmacy phone number, name of medication, dosage and schedule for taking, prescribing doctor and expiration date of medicine. This is especially important for controlled drugs like Ritalin and mood-changing drugs like Prozac. *NO MEDICATION* is allowed in zip-lock bags or little jars or envelopes with the scouts name and “*take yellow pill once a day*” labeled on it. This is for prescription and over-the-counter drugs alike. Scoutmasters should also have a dosage schedule for each scout so that they can remind the scout to take his medicine.

Pharmacists are very good about making a labeled pill bottle for parents who prefer to send only what is needed for the camp period - both over-the-counter and prescription drugs.

State regulations require that no prescription or non-prescription medication be administered without current, annual, written, parent and MD permission. Parent permission and other state-required information such as allergies, side effects, and start/stop dates must be obtained for each medication.

**Please fill out a separate State of CT “Authorization of Medication” form for each medication taken at camp;** it is similar to those used by most schools and may be found at [www.campmattatuck.org](http://www.campmattatuck.org) under “Downloads”.

**We ask that those with serious allergies requiring emergency medications have an action plan completed by their physician.** Most allergists are familiar with these plans. If the doctor does not have a standard form for this purpose, a sample can be downloaded from the above website also. It must contain the MD and parent permissions mentioned above.

Scoutmasters may have first-aid kits at the campsites but the nurse, with no exceptions, **MUST** see all injuries.

# *What To Bring To Camp*

Here is a suggested list for scouts. Double check the list carefully. Add any items you feel are important. We suggest that each item of clothing be labeled with name and Pack #.

## CLOTHING and BEDDING:

Complete Scout Uniform  
Comfortable Hiking Shoes  
Extra Shorts or Pants and Shirts  
Daily Change of Underwear and Socks  
Handkerchiefs  
Swim Suit  
Raincoat or Poncho  
Pajamas  
Sweater or Jacket  
Sneakers

## TOILET ARTICLES:

Tooth Brush and Paste  
Hand Towels  
Bath Towels  
Wash Cloth  
Comb, Brush and Mirror  
Soap & Shampoo

## MUST'S for a HAPPY WEEK:

Sleeping Bag or 3 Warm Blankets Flashlight  
w/ extra batteries  
Pillow WeBeLoS Handbook  
Sheet or Mattress Cover  
Pencil, Pen, & Pad  
Compass

## OPTIONAL:

Camera  
Insect Repellent  
Musical Instrument  
Mess Kit and Canteen  
Bible or Prayer Book  
Fishing Tackle  
Sewing Kit  
Day Pack

**Please leave at home radios, comic books, game systems, MP3 players, TV's, cell phone etc. Articles such as these tend to detract from the scouting atmosphere that should prevail in a Boy Scout Camp.**