

Freeland Leslie Parent Guide

Dear Parent,

Thank you for supporting your Scouts Scouting experience by sending them to summer camp. For eight weeks every summer, Freeland Leslie becomes a place where youth can experience Scouting at its best. Led by a highly qualified, well-trained staff, Scouts will have opportunities not available anywhere else. They will try new things, meet new people, and learn responsibility, teamwork, and self-reliance.

Because we want your scout to get the most out of camp, we have included some tips to guide you and your scout as you prepare for this summer’s adventure.

CFL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Scout’s Name, Troop #, Campsite

Freeland Leslie Scout

Reservation

105 Fawn Drive

Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

Emergency Phone: 608-586-4312

Fax: 608-586-4762

Website: www.freelandleslie.org

The phone number above is to be used for emergencies only. Your scout will be enjoying the outdoors on CFL’s 470+ acres of forest, so it will take some time to locate him and get him to the phone.

ABOUT FREELAND LESLIE

CFL is located in Oxford, Wisconsin, just east of the Wisconsin Dells, and is situated on more than 470 acres of oak and pine forest. Lake Emrick, our privately-owned lake, is one of the cleanest and deepest in the state of Wisconsin.

Campers stay in a campsite with their home troop, where they sleep and work together to carry out daily tasks like cooking and cleaning. Scouts are responsible for keeping their eating area and gear clean and for keeping their personal gear in order. Camp staff works with each unit to ensure that it meets health and safety standards and works to help plan programs with the troop.

ACTIVITIES

During the day, staff members work with the Scouts to help them earn merit badges and other awards, work towards BSA rank advancement, and explore other opportunities such as hikes and games. Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, said, “Scouting is a game with a purpose,” and at CFL, we make sure every program we offer is exciting, challenging, fun, and educational.

FACILITIES

Camp facilities include a modern shower house, a 24-hour Health Lodge, a well-stocked Trading Post, a dining pavilion, a waterfront for boating and swimming, tree house instructional areas, a human foosball court, a rock climbing wall, a shooting sports range, a hand-on nature center, a welding shop, and a metalworking forge. New improvements for the 2020 camping season include bike friendly operations, black powder shooting, and new merit badge schedule with more makeup time and much more. More improvements are being made each year to CFL, so check on the CFL website to watch us grow.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO BEFORE CAMP?

Talk to your troop leaders about camp fees. They will know when payments are due and will be able to inform you. Your scout will also need a physical examination before camp and must bring a completed medical form. We also recommend that Scouts attend a few troop camp outings before summer camp.

MEDICAL FORMS

The latest [BSA Annual Health and Medical Record \(#680-001\)](#), signed by a licensed medical practitioner within the last year, is required. A photocopy of an insurance card must also be attached. Please keep a copy of this form for your records. Wisconsin state law requires us to keep the form on file at camp, so it will not be returned.



MEDICATION POLICY

All medications brought to camp **MUST** be kept in the original container and the unit leader must be informed. While your Scout is at camp, medications will be kept in a secured container provided by CFL and dispensed by a troop leader approved by the camp health officer. Exceptions to this policy include emergency allergy kits and inhalers, which Scouts may carry with them.

WHAT SHOULD MY SCOUT BRING?

A detailed packing list is included in the Leader Guide sent to your adult unit leaders. Ask your troop leaders for a copy of the list. The Scouts BSA Handbook also contains a packing list for long-term camping. In general, they will need the same equipment as on a typical weekend campout, but also enough clothing to last the week. Please do not send electronics to camp. These items distract Scouts from a fun and true outdoor experience at camp!

WHAT WILL MY SCOUT DO AT CAMP?

A typical daily schedule is:

- 6:30 AM - Wake up and begin cooking
- 7:30 AM - Breakfast
- 9:00 AM - Merit Badges and activities
- 12:30 PM - Lunch and rest hour
- 2:00 PM - Merit Badges and activities
- 5:30 PM - Dinner
- 7:00 PM - Evening activities/campfires
- 10:00 PM - Lights Out

Daily activities include swimming, boating, nature study, outdoor skills, shooting sports, and other outdoor fun. Each troop's program is unique and based on the needs of its Scouts. For more details about your troop's program, ask your unit leader.

WHAT WILL MY SCOUT LEARN AT CAMP?

Scouts at CFL learn many specific skills, like knife safety, swimming, or cooking. However, the most valuable things they learn are not part of any class. At our patrol-method camp, Scouts work together as a team of about eight Scouts to prepare and eat most of their meals, participate in events, and compete in games. Each Scout will have leadership opportunities and sharpen their interpersonal skills. Many of the Scouts who come to camp are leaving home for the first time. This experience will make them stronger, more independent people with the ability and initiative to do things for themselves.

WHAT IF MY SCOUT GETS HOMESICK?

Homesickness is a common problem at camp. Camp staff is trained in counseling techniques, and several staff members are specifically trained to help homesick Scouts. Our first step is always to talk to the Scout about what they like to do at camp, and then get them doing it, which cures most cases of homesickness. More severe cases are usually the result of other problems, such as being teased. Our staff will quickly identify and solve these problems.

Although it might seem like a good solution at first, the reality is that contact with home actually *increases* homesickness. For this reason, Scouts will not be allowed to call home without permission from their troop leader. Calls from home are strongly discouraged.

CAN I SEND MAIL?

Letters and packages received at camp are always appreciated. Use the camp address given on the first page of this guide. You can also send your Scout an email during their stay at Freeland Leslie. Each day our Office Manager will check this email. Just type your Scout's name, troop number, and campsite in the subject line and we will deliver the email to your scout's campsite. To email your scout, click on the "Send Your Scout an Email" in the CFL Contacts list located on the www.freelandleslie.org website.

Some guidelines:

- DO ask about camp
- DO encourage them to try new things
- DON'T offer to bring them home
- DON'T say you are sad that they are gone or that the dog misses them. Please avoid telling them about the exciting things they are missing at home—even if it's true.

CAN I VISIT MY SCOUT AT CAMP?

Absolutely! Many parents come to camp Friday night for our weekly "pig roast", and then drive home with their scouts on Saturday. This is the ideal time to visit. If you plan to stay overnight, please inform us when checking-in to camp. Visitors, can camp in the Family Camping Area, remember to bring a tent!