

# FORGE ON!

## Scouting Adventure

September 26-28, 2025



## Forge On! Cardboard Boat Races

**Fun Trivia Fact:** Cardboard canoe races were invented in Illinois!! The oldest documented cardboard canoe race was held in 1974 at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

Now you can join this Illinois tradition at the Forge On! event on September 27, 2025, at the Lemont Quarry Forge Adventure Park.

For those up to the sea faring challenge, your mission will be to build a boat out of cardboard, then race it against others for bragging rights as the first Three Fires Council Cardboard Boat Race winner!

**Here's the catch!!** Your canoe must be built using only:

- paper-based cardboard
- tape
- glue, and
- paint.

No wood, plastic or other materials may be used. Be creative, The Fox Valley race had boats designed to resemble excavators, pirate ships, NASCAR racers, ducks and all sorts of other creative ideas.

Each boat must hold at least two scouts. All paddling scouts must have a current Swimmer qualification. The Forge will provide paddles and life jackets.

**Prize categories include:**

1. Fastest Time
2. Forge On! Award: Best Themed Boat
3. Guppie Award: Best Sinking
4. People's Choice Award: Audience votes for the boat that wins their heart.

The event is open to Webelos, Arrow of Light, Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts, Explorers and adults. Each will compete against their own age group.

Get started planning today! You will need to make your cardboard boat and bring it to the event, whether it fits on a roof or needs its own trailer, you need to get it to the shore. Oh yes--wear a swim suit just in case.

**Good luck!**  
**TFC Aquatics Committee**

Register Your Team Here

