

From Life Scout to Eagle

A Scoutmaster's Guide

Summer 2008

What Is Unique About The Eagle Rank?

The trail to Eagle is about

- *Process*
- *Planning*
- *Performance* as a leader

Eagle Scouts Are An Investment!

- They take adult leadership, time and effort
 - To actively guide the eagle candidate
 - In the background, to insuring the troop and community respond when the eagle candidate asks for support
- The Scoutmaster must maintain a balance between
 - the Troop Program for the many Scouts
 - the individual Eagle Candidate's needs
- Eagle Scouts fly with the help of many.

Requirements Beyond Life Scout

- Demonstrate scout spirit for at least six months
 - Live the scout oath, law, motto, and slogan
- Complete a total of 21 merit badges
 - Twelve Eagle required merit badges teach life skills
- Plan, develop and give leadership to a approved project of recognized benefit to the community
- Serve for 6 months in an approved position of responsibility
- Complete the requirements above before one's 18th birthday

The Scoutmaster's Role

- The Scoutmaster should discuss the Eagle process with the Scout not later than
 - the Scoutmaster's conference for Life Scout
 - Or the Scout's 16th birthday
- The focus is on “What is the Scout's plan in key advancement areas?”
 - For completing all required merit badges
 - For completing all leadership requirements
 - For completing the eagle project
- Establish goals and priorities in these key areas

The Eagle Project

- It is:
 - Unique to each scout
 - For the benefit of the community
 - A demonstration of leadership skills
 - Done outside the sphere of scouting
 - Approved before work starts
- It is not:
 - A fund-raiser
 - A commercial venture
 - Routine labor or service

The Scout Climbs His Trail

The Eagle Candidate must:

- Identify a representative of the project's beneficiaries and contact that community leader
- Document the project using the Eagle Scout Service Project book

Eagle Scout Service Project Book

- Documents an agreement between
 - The Eagle candidate
 - The Troop acting as the agent for the Boy Scouts of America
 - A representative of the people who will benefit from the completed project.
- Records project plans, approvals, and modification
- The back page formally details what National expects

Use the booklet from Council, not the web.

Climbing Higher

The Eagle Candidate must:

- Present his plan to the project stakeholders
- Get formal approvals from representatives of the community, the troop, and the district
- Execute the approved plan, but be prepared to adapt and change
- Document the work done

Reaching The Top

The Eagle Candidate must:

- Complete his project
- Complete the Eagle application
- Get personal references
- Have Scoutmaster's conference
- Pass an Eagle Board of Review

Eagle Package

- Available from Council
- Contents
 - Eagle Scout Service Project book
 - Eagle application
 - Three blank Eagle personal reference forms
 - More information

Web Resources

- Use these resources to supplement, not replace Council provided resources
- Sites include:
 - <http://www.eaglescout.org/>
 - <http://www.nesa.org/>
 - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eagle_Scout_\(Boy_Scouts_of_America\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eagle_Scout_(Boy_Scouts_of_America))
 - http://www.scouter.com/compass/Advancement/Eagle_Scout/
 - <http://www.amazon.com/Go-Eagle-Achieving-Scoutings-Highest/dp/0882905848>