






Emergency Preparedness

From MeritBadgeDotOrg

Resources include the Emergency Preparedness merit badge worksheet , links, and cross-references to related badges and awards. [◀Prev](#) - [Next▶](#)

	<p>This is the Emergency Preparedness merit badge for Boy Scouts, Venturers, and Sea Scouts. Webelos/Arrow of Light Scouts can earn the First Responder Adventure Pin. Venturers can complete the Ranger Award Emergency Preparedness core requirement Scouts and Scouters at all levels can earn the Emergency Preparedness BSA Award. Units can earn the BSA Ready & Prepared Award.</p>
	<p>Emergency Preparedness merit badge is an option for the Eagle Scout rank. Scouts can choose to earn Lifesaving instead.</p>
	<p>Emergency Preparedness merit badge requires prior counselor approval for requirement(s) #2b, 9a.</p>
	<p>Emergency Preparedness merit badge is an option for the National Outdoor Badge for Adventure.</p>
	<p>Emergency Preparedness merit badge is an option for the Emergency Preparedness BSA Award.</p>

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Emergency Preparedness merit badge



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“ Scouts are often called upon to help because they know first aid and they know about the discipline and planning needed to react to an emergency situation. Earning this merit badge helps a Scout to be prepared by learning the actions that can be helpful and needed before, during, and after an emergency. ”



Emergency Preparedness merit badge requirements

1. Earn the First Aid merit badge.
2. Do the following:
 - a. Discuss with your counselor the aspects of emergency preparedness:
 1. **Prevention**
 2. **Protection**
 3. **Mitigation**
 4. **Response**
 5. **Recovery**Include in your discussion the kinds of questions that are important to ask yourself as you consider each of these.
 - b. Using a chart, graph, spreadsheet, or another method approved by your counselor, demonstrate your understanding of each aspect of emergency preparedness listed in requirement 2a (prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery) for 10 emergency situations from the list below. **You must use the first five situations listed below in boldface**, plus any other five of your choice. Discuss your findings with your counselor.
 1. **Home kitchen fire**
 2. **Home basement/storage room/garage fire**
 3. **Explosion in the home**
 4. **Automobile crash**
 5. **Food-borne disease (food poisoning)**
 6. Fire or explosion in a public place
 7. Vehicle stalled in the desert
 8. Vehicle trapped in a blizzard
 9. Earthquake or tsunami
 10. Mountain/backcountry accident
 11. Boating or water accident
 12. Gas leak in a home or a building
 13. Tornado or hurricane
 14. Major flooding or a flash flood
 15. Toxic chemical spills and releases
 16. Nuclear power plant emergency
 16. Avalanche (snowslide or rockslide)
 17. Violence in a public place
 - c. Meet with and teach your family how to get or build a kit, make a plan, and be informed for the situations on the chart you created for requirement 2b. Complete a family plan. Then meet with your counselor and report on your family meeting, discuss their responses, and share your family plan.
3. Show how you could safely save a person from the following:
 - a. Touching a live household electric wire.
 - b. A structure filled with carbon monoxide
 - c. Clothes on fire.
 - d. Drowning, using nonswimming rescues (including accidents on ice).
4. Show three ways of attracting and communicating with rescue planes/aircraft.
5. With another person, show a good way to transport an injured person out of a remote and/or rugged area, conserving the energy of rescuers while ensuring the well-being and protection of the injured person.
6. Do the following:
 - a. Describe the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command

System (ICS).

b. Identify the local government or community agencies that normally handle and prepare for emergency services similar to those of the NIMS or ICS. Explain to your counselor ONE of the following:

1. How the NIMS/ICS can assist a Boy Scout troop when responding in a disaster
2. How a group of Scouts could volunteer to help in the event of these types of emergencies

c. Find out who is your community's emergency management director and learn what this person does to **prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from** emergency situations in your community. Discuss this information with your counselor, utilizing the information you learned from requirement 2b.

7. Do the following:

- a. Take part in an emergency service project, either a real one or a practice drill, with a Scouting unit or a community agency.
- b. Prepare a written plan for mobilizing your troop when needed to do emergency service. If there is already a plan, explain it. Tell your part in making it work.


8. Do the following:

- a. Tell the things a group of Scouts should be prepared to do, the training they need, and the safety precautions they should take for the following emergency services:
 1. Crowd and traffic control
 2. Messenger service and communication.
 3. Collection and distribution services.
 4. Group feeding, shelter, and sanitation.

b. Prepare a personal emergency service pack for a mobilization call. Prepare a family kit (suitcase or waterproof box) for use by your family in case an emergency evacuation is needed. Explain the needs and uses of the contents.

9. Do ONE of the following:

- a. Using a safety checklist approved by your counselor, inspect your home for potential hazards. Explain the hazards you find and how they can be corrected.
- b. Review or develop a plan of escape for your family in case of fire in your home.
- c. Develop an accident prevention program for five family activities outside the home (such as taking a picnic or seeing a movie) that includes an analysis of possible hazards, a proposed plan to correct those hazards, and the reasons for the corrections you propose.



The official source for the information shown in this article or section is:
2018 Boy Scout Requirements, No. 33216, 2018 Edition (BSA Supply SKU #641568 (<http://www.scoutshop.org/2018-boy-scout-requirements-book-641568.html>))

View the change list (history) (http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Emergency_Preparedness/req&action=history) of these requirements. The text of these requirements may be locked. In that case, they can only be edited (http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Emergency_Preparedness/req&action=edit) by an administrator.

Please note any errors found in the above requirements on this article's Talk Page.

Notes



A FREE workbook for Emergency Preparedness is available here! 

with the maps, charts, links, diagrams, and checklists you need!

Or click here to print just the Emergency Preparedness requirements (http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Emergency_Preparedness/req&printable=yes) .

meritbadge.org has PDF and DOC versions of Boy Scout merit badge workbooks, Webelos workbooks, Cub Scout workbooks, and Nova Award workbooks.

- Per the BSA: "You should read the merit badge pamphlet on the subject." Pamphlets (books) are at local Scout Shops (<http://www.scoutshop.org/storelocator>) and online at ScoutShop.org (<http://www.scoutshop.org/books/for-scouts/merit-badge-pamphlets.html>) .
- "Get a signed Merit Badge application from your Scoutmaster." An online, printable Word doc file version is available.

1. Emergency Preparedness merit badge is on the Eagle Scout required list (requirement 3.g.). It is one choice of a group of two merit badges (or Lifesaving) on the list.
2. The BSA Emergency Preparedness Troop Program Feature offers meeting and activity plans to include Emergency Preparedness as one of your monthly themes.
3. Emergency Preparedness is a popular summer camp merit badge.

Requirement resources

Program Features

- Useful information and practical ideas for planning and conducting Emergency Preparedness-themed troop meetings, outings, and other activities :
 - Troop Emergency Preparedness Monthly Theme (2009)
 - Program Feature: Emergency Preparedness (<https://troopleader.org/program-feature-emergency-preparedness/>) (2016) — TroopLeader.org

1-9 General Resources:

- How to Prepare for Emergencies (<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies>) (American Red Cross) — RedCross.org
- Emergency Preparedness and Response (<https://emergency.cdc.gov>) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) — CDC.gov
- Resources for Emergency Preparedness (http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/tags.resource.html?tag=pubs_ext_vt_edu:emergency-preparedness) (Virginia Cooperative Extension) — VT.edu
- Ready Campaign (<http://www.ready.gov>) (U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security) — Ready.gov Launched in February 2003, Ready (www.ready.gov) (<http://www.ready.gov>)) is a National public service campaign designed to educate and empower the American people to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies, including natural and man-made disasters. The goal of the campaign is to promote preparedness through public involvement.

Each U.S. State and Territory has its own *Ready* information specific to its own needs and circumstances:

States: AL (<http://www.ready.gov/Alabama>) - AK (<http://www.ready.gov/Alaska>) - AZ (<http://www.ready.gov/Arizona>) - AR (<http://www.ready.gov/Arkansas>) - CA (<http://www.ready.gov/California>) - CO (<http://www.ready.gov/Colorado>) - CT (<http://www.ready.gov/Connecticut>) - DE (<http://www.ready.gov/Delaware>) - DC (<http://www.ready.gov/District-of-Columbia>) - FL (<http://www.ready.gov/Florida>) - GA (<http://www.ready.gov/Georgia>) - HI (<http://www.ready.gov/Hawaii>) - ID (<http://www.ready.gov/Idaho>) - IL (<http://www.ready.gov/Illinois>) - IN (<http://www.ready.gov/Indiana>) - IA (<http://www.ready.gov/Iowa>) - KS (<http://www.ready.gov/Kansas>) - KY (<http://www.ready.gov/Kentucky>) - LA (<http://www.ready.gov/Louisiana>) - ME (<http://www.ready.gov/Maine>) - MD (<http://www.ready.gov/Maryland>) - MA (<http://www.ready.gov/Massachusetts>) - MI (<http://www.ready.gov/Michigan>) - MN (<http://www.ready.gov/Minnesota>) - MS (<http://www.ready.gov/Mississippi>) - MO (<http://www.ready.gov/Missouri>) - MT (<http://www.ready.gov/Montana>) - NE (<http://www.ready.gov/Nebraska>) - NV (<http://www.ready.gov/Nevada>) - NH (<http://www.ready.gov/New-Hampshire>) - NJ (<http://www.ready.gov/New-Jersey>) - NM (<http://www.ready.gov/New-Mexico>) - NY (<http://www.ready.gov/New-York>) - NC (<http://www.ready.gov/North-Carolina>) - ND (<http://www.ready.gov/North-Dakota>) - OH (<http://www.ready.gov/Ohio>) - OK (<http://www.ready.gov/Oklahoma>) - OR (<http://www.ready.gov/Oregon>) - PA (<http://www.ready.gov/Pennsylvania>) - RI (<http://www.ready.gov/Rhode-Island>) - SC (<http://www.ready.gov/South-Carolina>) - SD (<http://www.ready.gov/South-Dakota>) - TN (<http://www.ready.gov/Tennessee>) - TX (<http://www.ready.gov/Texas>) - UT (<http://www.ready.gov/Utah>) - VT (<http://www.ready.gov/Vermont>) - VA (<http://www.ready.gov/Virginia>) - WA (<http://www.ready.gov/Washington>) - WV (<http://www.ready.gov/West-Virginia>) - WI (<http://www.ready.gov/Wisconsin>) - WY (<http://www.ready.gov/Wyoming>)

Territories: AS (<http://www.ready.gov/American-Samoa>) - GU (<http://www.ready.gov/Guam>) - MP (<http://www.ready.gov/northern-mariana-islands>) - PR (<http://www.ready.gov/Puerto-Rico>) - VI (<http://www.ready.gov/US-Virgin-Islands>)

1. First Aid Merit Badge - First-Aid Kit
2. General resources:

- Preparedness Factsheets (<https://ncdisaster.ces.ncsu.edu/disaster-factsheets/preparedness/>) (North Carolina State Extension) — ncsu.edu
- Types of Emergencies (<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies>) (American Red Cross) — redcross.org
- Preparing for Natural Disasters (<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Emergency-Preparedness/Natural-disasters>) (National Fire Protection Association) — nfpa.org
- Information on Specific Types of Emergencies (<https://emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-specific.asp>) (Centers for Disease Control) — CDC.gov

2b.

- A fillable chart is in the Emergency Preparedness Worksheet.
- Know the Facts Disaster Factsheets (<https://www.ready.gov/kids/know-the-facts>) 15 downloadable factsheets with information about what to do before, during, and after specific disasters — Ready.gov
- Be Informed (<https://www.ready.gov/be-informed>) (learn what to do before, during and after each type of emergency.) — Ready.gov
- Natural Disasters and Severe Weather (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/>) (Centers for Disease Control) — CDC.gov
 Earthquakes (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/earthquakes/>) • Extreme Heat (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/>) • Floods (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters>)

/floods/) • Hurricanes (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/>) • Landslides and Mudslides (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/landslides.html>) • Lightning (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/lightning/>) • Tornadoes (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/tornadoes/>) • Tsunamis (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/tsunamis/>) • Volcanoes (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/volcanoes/>) • Wildfires (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/wildfires/>) • Winter Weather (<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/>)

2c. Family Emergency Kit and Plan

- Family Emergency Kit - Major Disaster Preparedness Items
- Family Emergency Kit and Major Disaster Preparedness Items (<https://boyslife.org/outdoors/outdoorarticles/16727/create-an-emergency-pack-or-kit/>) (*Boy's Life* 2010 article) — BoysLife.org
- Helping Your Family Prepare Before a Disaster (<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/helping-your-family-prepare-before-a-disaster>) (North Carolina State Extension) — ncsu.edu
- Preparedness Planners (<http://en.readynova.org/>) (ReadyNOVA) — ReadyNOVA.org
- Make A Plan (<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>) — Ready.gov
- Call a Family Meeting and Make a Plan! (<https://www.ready.gov/kids/make-a-plan>) — Ready.gov

3a. Emergency Situations: If someone touches a live electrical wire (<https://www.srpnet.com/safety/emergency.aspx>) — SRPNet.com

3b. How to Save Yourself (or Someone Else) from Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (<http://www.meditrenz.com/how-to-save-yourself-or-someone-else-from-carbon-monoxide-poisoning.html>) — meditrenz.com

3c. What should I do if someone catches on fire? (<https://www.sharecare.com/health/fire-safety/if-someone-catches-fire>) — sharecare.com

3d. 4 types of non-swimming rescues (in priority order) (<https://quizlet.com/124420347/4-types-of-non-swimming-rescues-in-priority-order-flash-cards/>)

4. Attracting and communicating with rescue planes/aircraft

- Survival: Signaling for Help (<http://www.sarbc.org/sarbc/pdfs/Signalingforhelp.pdf>) (Search And Rescue British Columbia) — SARBC.org
- Signaling Techniques (<http://www.wilderness-survival.net/chp19.php>) — wilderness-survival.net
- Signaling for Help <<broken link>> (<https://www.wilderness-survival-skills.com/signalingforhelp.html>) (Archived copy (<https://web.archive.org/web/20180111213933/https://www.wilderness-survival-skills.com/signalingforhelp.html>)) — wilderness-survival-skills.com
- Know the Ground-To-Air Emergency Code for Rescue Signaling (<https://www.thoughtco.com/rescue-signaling-ground-to-air-emergency-code-3157501>) — thoughtco.com
- Signaling for Help (<http://www.survivaloutdoorskills.com/signaling.htm>) — survivaloutdoorskills.com
- How To Signal For Help While Stranded (<https://modernsurvivalblog.com/survival-skills/how-to-signal-for-help-while-stranded/>) — modernsurvivalblog.com
- Wilderness Survival Priorities and Signaling
- Methods for Signaling Search-and-Rescue (<http://www.dummies.com/sports/camping/methods-for-signaling-search-and-rescue-teams/>) (from *Wilderness Survival for Dummies* (<http://www.dummies.com/sports/camping/wilderness-survival-for-dummies/>)) — dummies.com

5. How to Carry an Injured Person Using Two People (<https://www.wikihow.com/Carry-an-Injured-Person-Using-Two-People>) — WikiHow.com

6a. National Incident Management System / Incident Command System

- National Incident Management System (NIMS) Factsheet (<https://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/NIMSFactSheet.pdf>) — FEMA.gov

- An Introduction to the National Incident Management System, IS-700.B (<https://training.fema.gov/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-700.b>) (FEMA Independent Study Course) — FEMA.gov
- Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100, IS-100.C (<https://training.fema.gov/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c>) (FEMA Independent Study Course) — FEMA.gov
- Incident Command System (ICS) Review Material (<https://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/icsresource/assets/reviewmaterials.pdf>) — FEMA.gov

7a. Amateur radio Field Day (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>)

7b. Here is a sample copy of a Troop Mobilization Plan.

8a.

(1) CERT Traffic and Crowd Management Module (<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/28662>) — FEMA.gov

(2) CERT Emergency Communications Module (<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/28059>) — FEMA.gov

8b.

- Personal Emergency Service Pack
- Personal Emergency Service Pack for use in a troop mobilization (<https://boyslife.org/outdoors/outdoorarticles/16727/create-an-emergency-pack-or-kit/>) (*Boy's Life* 2010 article) — BoysLife.org
- Family Emergency Kit

9a. A sample Safety Checklist is in the Emergency Preparedness Worksheet

9c. A blank accident prevention program template is in the Emergency Preparedness Worksheet.

Books

- American Red Cross. *American Red Cross Water Safety Handbook*. StayWell, 2004
- _____ . *First Aid/CPR/AED for Schools and Communities* (participant's manual). Staywell, 2006
- _____ . *Responding to Emergencies* (participant's manual), Staywell, 2007
- Forgey, William W. *Basic Essentials: Wilderness First Aid*. 3rd. ed. Falcon Guides, 2007
- Keily, Kate. *Living Safe in an Unsafe World: The Complete Guide to Family Preparedness*. New American Library Trade, 2000
- Meyer-Crissey, Pamela, and Briand L. Crissey, Ph.D. *Common Sense in Uncommen Times, 2nd ed.* Granite Publishing, 2013
- U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. *First There First Care: Bystander Care for the Injured*. DOT HS 809 853, 2005.

Organizations and Websites

- American Red Cross (<http://www.redcross.org>)
- American Veterinary Medical Association (<http://avma.org>)
- Citizen Corps (<http://www.ready.gov/citizen-corps>)
- Community Emergency Response Teams (<http://www.ready.gov/community-emergency-response-team>)
- Environmental Protection Agency (<http://www.epa.gov>)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (<http://www.fema.gov>)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (<http://www.noaa.gov>)
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (<http://www.usraces.org>)
- Ready.gov (<http://www.ready.gov>)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (<http://www.dhs.gov>)
- U.S. Department of Transportation, NHTSA Office of Emergency Medical Services

(<https://one.nhtsa.gov/Driving-Safety/Office-of-Emergency-Medical-Services>)

- U.S. Geological Survey (<http://www.usgs.gov>)

Related awards

- Search and Rescue merit badge requirements #3.c.2, #3.c.3, #5, and #8 are related to **Emergency Preparedness** requirements #6.a and 6.b. (National Incident Management System / Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) and to Emergency Preparedness BSA Award requirement #4 (*Complete IS-100.b (or later), Introduction to Incident Command System (see <http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>)*).
- Radio requirement #9.a.6. to *carry on a 10-minute amateur radio contact* and **Emergency Preparedness** requirement #7a to *take part in an emergency service project, either a real one or a practice drill, with a Scouting unit or a community agency* can be met by participating in the annual amateur radio Field Day (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>) on the fourth full weekend of June each year.

See also

- Emergency Kit

Emergency Preparedness-related awards

- All Scouts and Scouters Awards: Emergency Preparedness BSA Award
- Boy Scout merit badges: Backpacking - **Camping** - Canoeing - Climbing - **Cooking** - Crime Prevention - **Cycling** - Dentistry - Electricity - **Emergency Preparedness** - Fire Safety - **First Aid** - **Hiking** - Home Repairs - Kayaking - **Lifesaving** - Medicine - Motorboating - Nature - Orienteering - Pioneering - Public Health - Radio - Rowing - Safety - Search and Rescue - Signs, Signals, and Codes - Small-Boat Sailing - Snow Sports - **Swimming** - Traffic Safety - Water Sports - Weather - Wilderness Survival
- Webelos: Webelos Adventure: First Responder - Webelos-AoL Elective Adventure: Castaway
- Venturing: Ranger Award-Emergency Preparedness Requirement
- Unit Awards: BSA Ready & Prepared Award
- Others Links: First-Aid Skills - First-Aid Kit - Emergency Kit - Safe Swim Defense - Safety Afloat - *Guide to Safe Scouting*

General Merit Badge information

- An Introduction to Merit Badges - how to get started, who chooses the counselor, etc.
- Merit Badge revision dates - latest revision dates of each merit badge pamphlet.
- Merit Badge Worksheets & Requirements - with the revision dates, diagrams, charts, checklists, logs, and links you need.
- Merit Badge Application - offers online resources to let you print "Blue Cards," etc.
- Merit Badge FAQ - answers dozens of questions like: Who can be a counselor? Can requirements be added or removed?
- Merit Badges Requiring Prior Approval - Certain requirements need prior approval. Most do not. Here is the list.
- Also see: List of how many boys have earned each Merit Badge - Merit Badge policies - Merit badges required for the Eagle Scout rank - Merit Badge Days
- Additionally: List of Merit Badges by Field of Study - Merit Badge



Boy Scout portal



Venturing portal



Sea Scout portal

Pamphlets & Libraries

- Merit Badge Counselors must complete Youth Protection Training, file an Adult Application (and Merit Badge Counselor Information Form); and be approved by the local council. (See the Guide for Merit Badge Counselors for additional details.)
- See Submitting New Merit Badge Ideas for guidance on how to submit suggestions for new merit badges to BSA.

External links

- Create an emergency pack or kit (<https://boyslife.org/outdoors/outdoorarticles/16727/create-an-emergency-pack-or-kit/>) (*Boy's Life* magazine article) — BoysLife.org
- Lightning & Storm Safety (http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/profbvr/lightning_safety/index.html) — usscouts.org
- Surviving out in the Desert Southwest (<http://www.usscouts.org/safety/safe-desert.asp>) — usscouts.org
- Stop Disasters! (<http://www.stopdisastersgame.org/>) A disaster simulation game from the UN/ISDR
- FEMA Independent Study Program List (<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>) — If you have an older Scout working on this badge, FEMA self-study units can be converted to college credits. The courses from FEMA are free; there is a small charge to convert them to college credits.

Merit badges required for the Eagle Scout rank



First Aid • Citizenship in the Community • Citizenship in the Nation •
 Citizenship in the World
 Camping • Communication • Cooking • Family Life • Personal
 Fitness • Personal Management
Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving • Environmental Science **OR**
 Sustainability
 Swimming **OR** Hiking **OR** Cycling



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