



## Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Workbook

# SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity, whether online or in person, should consider using the Fly-Fishing merit badge pamphlet for discovery and knowledge, along with the class preparation pages for clarifications, insights, and expectations.

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/fly-fishing/fly-fishing-pamphlet.pdf>

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/fly-fishing/fly-fishing-cpp.pdf>

**REQUIREMENT 1a:** Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in fly-fishing activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.

### HAZARD #1

Description:

Anticipate:

Help Prevent:

Mitigate:

Respond:



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## HAZARD #2

Description:

Anticipate:

Help Prevent:

Mitigate:

Respond:



HAZARD #3

Description:

Anticipate:

Help Prevent:

Mitigate:

Respond:



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## HAZARD #4

Description:

Anticipate:

Help Prevent:

Mitigate:

Respond:



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HAZARD #5

Description:

Anticipate:

Help Prevent:

Mitigate:

Respond:



HAZARD #6

Description:

Anticipate:

Help Prevent:

Mitigate:

Respond:



**REQUIREMENT 1a:** Name and explain five safety practices you should always follow while fly-fishing.

Safety Practice #1:

Safety Practice #2:

Safety Practice #3:

Safety Practice #4:

Safety Practice #5:



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**REQUIREMENT 1b:** Discuss the prevention of and treatment for the following health concerns that could occur while fly-fishing: cuts and scratches, puncture wounds, insect bites, hypothermia, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, sunburn.

## CUTS & SCRATCHES:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:

## PUNCTURE WOUNDS:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:





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## INSECT BITES:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:

## HYPOTHERMIA:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:



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## DEHYDRATION:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:

## HEAT EXHAUSTION:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:



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## HEATSTROKE:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:

## SUNBURN:

Prevention:

Symptoms:

Treatment:



## Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Workbook

# SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

**REQUIREMENT 2:** Demonstrate how to match a fly rod, line, and leader to achieve a balanced system.

Consider using the [Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Pamphlet](#) for preparation information

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 2:** Discuss several types of fly lines, and explain how and when each would be used.

Floating Fly Line:

Sinking Fly Line:

Sinking Tip Fly Line:

Other Fly Line:

**REQUIREMENT 2:** Review with your counselor how to care for this equipment.

Consider using the [Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Pamphlet](#) for preparation information

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

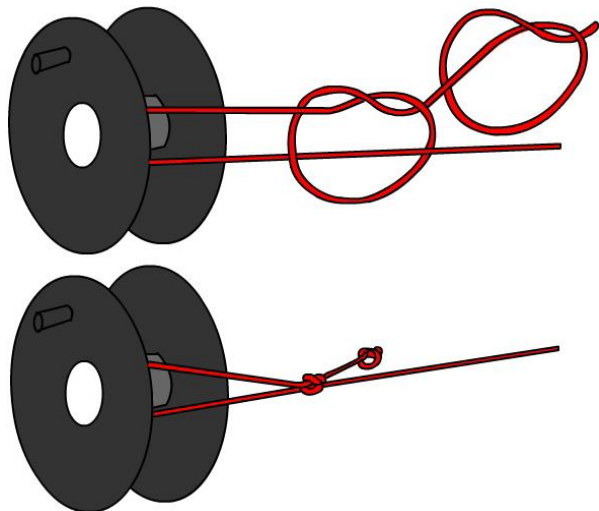


**REQUIREMENT 3:** Demonstrate how to tie proper knots to prepare a fly rod for fishing:

**REQUIREMENT 3a:**

Tie backing to the arbor of a fly reel spool using an arbor knot.

**ARBOR KNOT**

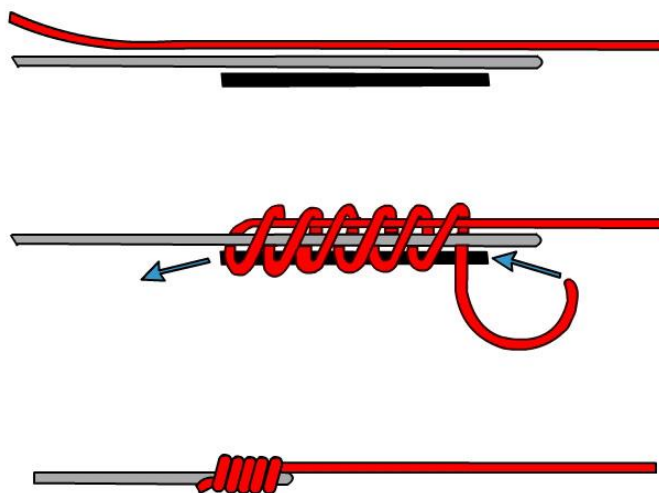


This is a skill-based requirement and does not require any workbook entry. You will need to be able to demonstrate this requirement to your counselor

**REQUIREMENT 3b:**

Tie backing to the fly line using a nail (tube) knot

**ARBOR KNOT**

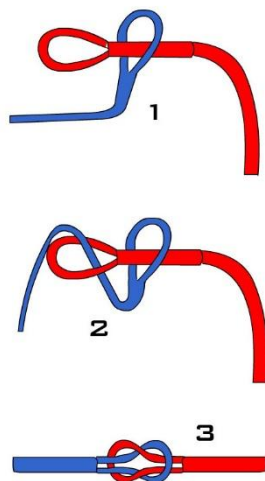


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**REQUIREMENT 3c:**

Attach a leader to the fly line using a nail (tube) knot or a loop-to-loop connection.

**LOOP-TO-LOOP CONNECTION**

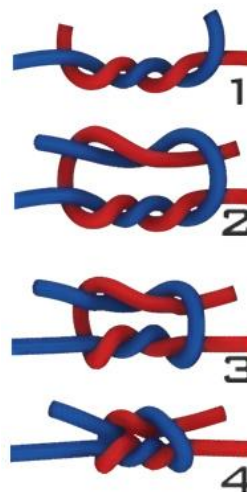


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**REQUIREMENT 3d:**

Add a tippet to a leader using a surgeon's knot or loop-to-loop connection.

**SURGEON'S KNOT**



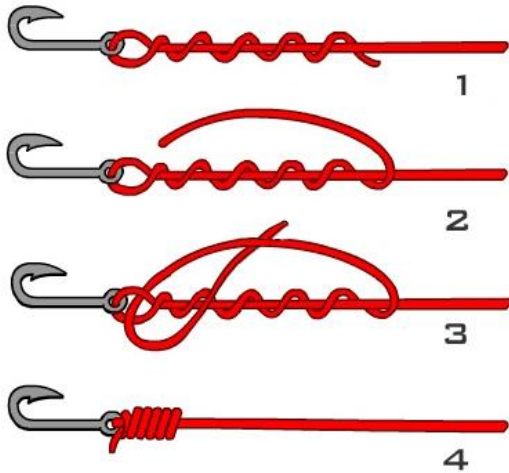
This is a skill-based requirement and does not require any workbook entry. You will need to be able to demonstrate this requirement to your counselor



**REQUIREMENT 3e:**

Tie a fly onto the terminal end of the leader using an improved clinch knot.

**IMPROVED CLINCH KNOT**



This is a skill-based requirement and does not require any workbook entry. You will need to be able to demonstrate this requirement to your counselor.



**REQUIREMENT 4:**

Explain how and when each of the following types of flies is used: dry flies, wet flies, nymphs, streamers, bass bugs, poppers, and saltwater flies. Tell what each one imitates.

**DRY FLIES:**

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:



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## WET FLIES:

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:

## NYMPHS:

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:



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## STREAMERS:

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:

## BASS BUGS:

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:





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## POPPERS:

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:

## SALTWATER FLIES:

How it is used:

When it is used:

What it imitates:



## Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Workbook

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**REQUIREMENTS 4 and 5 CONTAIN ELEMENTS THAT ARE SKILL-BASED. SCOUTS WILL NEED TO SHOW BY DOING THE SPECIFIED TASKS OVERSEEN AND REVIEWED BY A MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR.**

**SCOUTS NOT ABLE TO PHYSICALLY PERFORM THESE SKILLS WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO COMPLETE.**

**REQUIREMENT 4:** Tie at least two types of the flies mentioned in this requirement.

**REQUIREMENT 5:** Demonstrate the ability to cast a fly 30 feet consistently and accurately using both overhead and roll cast techniques.

Only Scouts that are mentally and physically able to perform the tasks will be considered for sign-off. Some instructors / counselors may be able to provide some coaching, but there is no guarantee that the required skills to successfully accomplish these requirements can be developed enough for success.

**These requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

**REQUIREMENT 6:** Go to a suitable fishing location and observe what fish may be eating both above and beneath the water's surface.

Details of Selected Location:

Notes:



**REQUIREMENT 6:** Explain the importance of matching the hatch.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Explain the importance of practicing Leave No Trace Seven Principles.

Notes:

## THE 7 PRINCIPLES of Leave No Trace

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Explain the importance of practicing the Outdoor Code.

Notes:

## Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to-  
Be Clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be Careful with fire,  
Be Considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be Conservation-minded



**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Discuss the positive effects of the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and the Outdoor Code on fishing resources.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 7b:** Discuss the meaning and importance of catch and release.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 7b:** Describe how to properly release a fish safely to the water.

Notes:



## Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Workbook

# SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

**REQUIREMENT 8:** Obtain and review a copy of the regulations affecting game fishing where you live or where you plan to fish. Explain why they were adopted and what is accomplished by following them.

Consider using the [Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Pamphlet](#) for preparation information

Be sure to bring the regulations you found or obtained to share with your merit badge counselor

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 9:** Explain what good outdoor sportsmanlike behavior is.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 9:** Explain how good outdoor sportsmanlike behavior relates to anglers.

Notes:



**REQUIREMENT 9:** Tell how the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and the Outdoor Code relate to a fishing sports enthusiast, including the aspects of littering, trespassing, courteous behavior, and obeying fishing regulations.

## THE 7 PRINCIPLES of Leave No Trace

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Littering:

Trespassing:

Courteous Behavior:

## Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to-  
Be Clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be Careful with fire,  
Be Considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be Conservation-minded

Obeying Fishing Regulations:



**REQUIREMENT 10:** Catch one fish and identify it.

Type of Fish Caught:

Date and Time of Day Fish was Caught:

Location where fish was caught and type of bait/ lure that was used:

Consider using the [Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Pamphlet](#) for preparation information

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

**REQUIREMENT 11:** If regulations and health concerns permit, clean and cook a fish you have caught. If you are unable to catch a fish for eating, acquire a fish, clean the fish you acquired, and cook the fish you acquired. (It is not required that you eat the fish.)

Consider using the [Fly-Fishing Merit Badge Pamphlet](#) for preparation information

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

Type of Fish:

