



To: Scoutmasters and Troop Committee Chairs

Thank you for your interest and support of the Merit Badge Challenge. Enclosed is the Registration Information.

Before you delve into the details, the Merit Badge Challenge leadership at each of the four locations needs your help and support with the following:

We realize that not all merit badges offered at MBC are equal in their requirements. Some require a higher level of mental maturity or physical strength than a new Scout generally possesses. Based on feedback from our MBC counselors, we have suggested age appropriateness for a number of the badges offered.

But we can only offer these as suggestions.

Your help is truly needed during the registration process to make sure each of your youth is capable of meeting the requirements.

As part of the registration process we need your support to validate the appropriateness of each badge selected. This should be done before you sign up a youth electronically or sign his individual registration form.

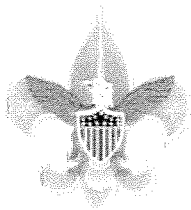
The MBC event averages about 50-60% merit badge completion rate. Having our youth undertake a badge within their capabilities is the first step for improvement.

Feel free to visit the Dan Beard Council web Site at www.danbeard.org, Youth Advancement, here you will find additional information on this year's event. The merit badge pre-work requirements are located here as well as frequently asked questions.

Thank you for your support and feedback as this event moves forward.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Fitzsimmons
Event Chairman



Merit Badge Challenge 2013

Rules of the Road...

Location:

Fairfield High School – January 26, February 16, March 16, 2013

Bethel High School – February 2 & 23, March 9, 2013

Sycamore High School – February 23, March 16 & 23, 2013

Dixie Heights High School – March 2 & 23, 2013

Merit Badge Challenge is available to all registered Boy Scouts. This popular event improves advancement for all attending troops and provides our youth the opportunity to explore vocations and new hobbies. Each Scout has the opportunity to earn up to three merit badges. Emphasis is placed on those merit badges that lend themselves to an indoor or wintertime activity such as Chemistry, Law, Computers, Communication, and Citizenship badges. Merit badges usually offered at summer camp are excluded from this event. The meeting dates at the four schools differ with each location. Be sure to circle the correct school when registering on a paper form.

Registration Fee:

- \$15.00 per scout: Scouts may register online at www.danbeard.org, under **Parents-Activities** (credit card, paypal, or electronic check required).
- Each Scout **MUST** have his merit badges approved by his Scoutmaster.

This website also includes the necessary Prewrite for Merit Badges, responses to Frequently-Asked-Questions, and a copy of the registration form.

Attendance at each school is limited based on the fire capacity codes for each school.

Therefore the registration at one or more schools may close out before the published deadline. Attendance and availability of Merit Badges is limited so early registration is strongly recommended.

Additional fees: Some merit badges require additional materials with fees. Some of the merit badges that have additional fees are First Aid, Pulp & Paper, Railroading, and Wood Carving. There may be others. Look for additional fee information in the Prewrite. *This fee will be paid directly to the counselor of that class on the first Saturday.* Cash is the preferred method. **Do not include with Merit Badge Challenge registration fees.**

Registration is non-transferable to any other Scout.

Website:

- Includes the necessary **Prewrite** for Merit Badges (using 2012 Requirements).
- Responses to **Frequently-Asked-Questions.**
- Information Packet

Merit Badge Class Confirmation:

- Each unit should appoint **one person** as the Unit Contact. This person **must** have an email address.
- The Registration material and each Scout's schedule will be sent **via email** to the Unit Contact. It will confirm schedules for all applicable registered Scouts in the Troop, and include a list of additional fees due by Scouts.

Registrars for 2013:

Dixie Heights High School - Andy Fine, trailblazermbc@gmail.com

Fairfield High School – Tom Montgomery, montgota@fuse.net or 513-844-8930

Sycamore High School – Hal Wood, halwoodmbc@yahoo.com

Bethel High School – Cassie Anderson, cassiea1@roadrunner.com

General Information for Registration:

1. Up to two Eagle* required Merit Badges may be taken by First Class Scouts and above, at the time of registration, the third must be a non-required Merit Badge. Scouts below the rank of First Class may take only one Eagle* required merit badge.
2. Some Merit Badges have guidelines, which will be strictly followed for this event. Guidelines may be restrictions in age or rank. Although these are not officially required for earning the badge, due to this venue, they are in place to increase success for the Scout. (Scouts who do not meet these guidelines at this venue and wish to earn the badge are encouraged to meet with their Scoutmaster to discuss their ability to complete the badge and Scoutmaster will then refer them to a counselor for that badge.)
3. Emergency Preparedness and First Aid Merit Badges are 3-hour classes (no other badges can be earned). Astronomy, Aviation, Electronics, Railroading and *OTHER* Merit Badges are 2-hours each (one other badge can be earned).
4. Scouts taking First Aid Merit Badge must bring proof of completing all First Aid requirements for Tenderfoot, 2nd, AND 1st class to the first Saturday of the Challenge.
5. Scouts taking Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge must bring proof of completion of First Aid Merit Badge (e.g., copy of First Aid blue card) to the first Saturday of the Challenge.

6. If a Scout is physically or mentally challenged, it is suggested the registration be a postal registration and include a signed statement describing any special needs. This confidential information will be provided to the event registrar. In advance of the event, the lead counselor for each of the youth's badges will all be given a copy of the document.

How to Register:

- Merit Badge Challenge will be held at four different Schools:
 1. Dixie Heights
 2. Fairfield
 3. Sycamore
 4. Bethel
- Decide which site you want to attend.
- Badges are selected from the list below.
- Each location varies in the number and type of Merit Badges offered.
- Look for the school's name following the Merit Badge. Classes will be offered during three sessions on each Saturday, **(A, B, C)**. Classes are only offered during the sessions shown – please make sure that the class you select is offered during the time you are scheduling it!

Please review the following list and select Merit Badges you would like to take, based on the school and time offered.

Each Scout **MUST** have his merit badges approved by his Scoutmaster.

Register online at www.danbeard.org, under Activities.

Credit card, paypal, or electronic check will be required for online registration.

Preferred method of registration is group registration by a unit leader, similar to registering to summer camp.

PLEASE INCLUDE THREE ALTERNATE CHOICES – classes are limited in size. You will be assigned to your selections, if available, and guidelines are met.

Merit Badge Class Confirmation

Information will be sent to your Unit Contact in late December for Fairfield and Sycamore, in January 2013 for Bethel, and in February 2013 for the Dixie Heights Site. It will confirm schedules for all applicable registered Scouts in the Troop, and include a list of additional fees due by Scouts.

Once confirmed for the merit badges:

1. Each Scout must complete the Prerequisites (Pework) before attending the Challenge. The Pework items are posted at www.danbeard.org under Activities.
2. At the first session at each school the Scout must bring the following:
 - A properly filled out Blue Card including the Scoutmaster's signature of approval and dated for each Merit Badge.
 - A self-addressed, stamped envelope with sufficient postage for each Merit Badge on your schedule.
 - A current Merit Badge Pamphlet for each Merit Badge. Pamphlets are available at the Scout Shop or by calling 1-800-323-0732 or online at www.scoutstuff.org.
 - Any fees due for specific badges.

No Walk-Ins will be permitted. No late registration.

Location	Registration CLOSED	First Saturday starts at 8:15am	Second Saturday starts at 8:30 am	Third Saturday ends at 1:00pm	Snow Date
Fairfield	December 7	January 26	February 16	March 16	March 30
Bethel	December 10	February 2	February 23	March 9	March 16
Sycamore	December 17	February 23	March 16	March 23	March 30
Dixie Heights	December 21	March 2	March 23	N/A	N/A

Things to remember when scheduling badges:

Scout must select a primary badge for each time session. They must also select three additional badges as alternatives, in case one of the original selections is not available. Each Scout **MUST** have his Registration form/badges approved by his Scoutmaster. Scouts ranked under First Class can take up to one Eagle Required Badge. Scouts ranked First Class or above may take up to two Eagle required badges. See Below. Some Merit Badges have guidelines, which will be strictly followed for this event. See Below.

*Eagle Required- 13 yr old Guideline	Non Eagle Required 13 yr old Guideline	*Eagle Required- No Age Guideline	Other Guidelines
*Communications	Chemistry	*Citz. In the Nation	Computers – 1st class or above
*Emergency Prep	Electronics	*Citz. In the World	
*Personal Management	Engineering	*Family Life – See Dixie	*Family Life : Dixie min. age 14
	Journalism		*First Aid – all 1st Aid requirements thru 1st class. See Prework
	Photography		Law – Age 14 or older
	Surveying		Music – See Prework
	Woodworking		Traffic Safety- Age 14 or older
	Robotics		Search & Rescue – 1 st Class or above
			Inventing – Age 14 or older

**If a Scout is physically or mentally challenged, it is suggested the registration be a postal registration and include a signed statement describing any special needs. This confidential information will be provided to the event registrar. In advance of the event, the lead counselor for each of the youth's badges will all be given a copy of the document. An adult can accompany the Scout to each session.

Remember, Each Scout must fill out a Blue Card for each badge.

Each Scout must provide the Counselor with the complete Blue Card and a Self-Addressed-Stamped-Envelope (SASE) at the first Saturday.

Those Scouts with additional fees due must pay on the first Saturday of the Challenge as instructed in the confirmation package.

Each unit should appoint **one person** as the Unit Contact. This person must have an email address.

The Registration material and each Scout's schedule will be sent via email to the Unit Contact.

The date of this email will vary depending on the site location. If no Unit Contact is named, the email may be delayed.

If there is an issue with a registration, the Unit Contact and the Scout will be notified by the school's registrar.

For Scheduling Questions

Contact the MBC School's Registrar, after the corresponding mailing:

- Dixie Heights High School - Andy Fine, trailblazermbc@gmail.com
- Fairfield High School – Tom Montgomery, montgota@fuse.net, or 513-844-8930
- Sycamore High School – Hal Wood, halwoodmbc@yahoo.com
- Bethel High School – Cassie Anderson, cassiea1@roadrunner.com

General Information –

- Any parent or leader can observe any merit badge session. They do not need to have a scout in that badge at the time however if you do; you must only observe.
- No Scout can be at the school and not be in a classroom during session times. This is the agreement we have with each school.
- If the Scout is not taking a badge, he must leave the school property.
- The Counselor will provide the Scout with their contact information.

Verify that you have the counselor contact information written in your Merit Badge Book.

American Heritage Dixie Hgts/Session: B Sycamore/Session: A See Prework	Architecture Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework	Art Bethel/Session: B Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework
Astronomy Sycamore/Session: A-B Dixie Hgts/Session: B See Prework	Aviation Dixie Hgts/Session: A-B Fairfield/Session: B-C Sycamore/Session: A-B See Prework. Additional fee.	Bugling Fairfield/Session: C See Prework
Chemistry Bethel/Session: A, B Dixie Hgts/Session: B, C Fairfield/Session: A, C Sycamore/Session: B, C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prework – Additional fee (Bethel & Dixie Hgts only)	Chess Bethel/Session: B Dixie Hgts/Session: B No Prework Fairfield/Session: A Sycamore/Session A-B See Prework	Cinematography Dixie Hgts/Session: B Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework
*Citizenship in the Community Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework	*Citizenship in the Nation Bethel/Session: A, B, C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework	*Citizenship in the World Bethel/Session: A, B, C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework
Coin Collecting Bethel/Session: A Dixie Hgts/Session:A See Prework	Collections Bethel/ Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A Sycamore/Session: B, C Stamp and coin collecting are excluded from eligibility for this merit badge. See Prework	Cooking Dixie Hgts/Session: B See Prework
*Communications Bethel/Session: A, B, C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prework	Computers Bethel/Session: B Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C Guideline: First Class Scouts or above. See Prework	Crime Prevention Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prework
Dentistry Fairfield/Session: B, C Sycamore/Session: C See Prework	Disabilities Awareness Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A, B Sycamore/Session: C See Prework	Dog Care Bethel/Session: B Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B Fairfield/Session: A, B, C See Prework – Start 60 days

Drafting Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B Fairfield/Session: A, B Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prewritek	Electricity Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: A-B Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, C See Prewritek	Electronics Bethel/Session: A-B Dixie Hgts/Session: B-C Sycamore/Session: A-B Guideline: Scouts 13 or older. See Prewritek – Additional fee except Bethel.
*Emergency Preparedness Bethel/Session: A-C Dixie Hgts/Session: A-C Fairfield/Session: A-C Sycamore/Session: A-C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prewritek	Energy Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: A Sycamore/Session: B See Prewritek	Engineering Bethel/Session: B-C Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: B, C Sycamore/Session: B, C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prewritek
Entrepreneurship Dixie Hgts/Session: B No Prewritek Fairfield/Session: C	*Family Life Bethel/Session: A, B, C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C <i>(Dixie Heights only - Guideline: Scouts age 14 or older.)</i> See Prewritek– Start 90 days prior to event.	Fingerprinting Bethel/Session: B Fairfield/Session: A, B, C No Prewritek
Fire Safety Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: B, C Sycamore/Session: A, C See Prewritek	*First Aid Bethel/Session A-B Dixie Hgts/Session: A-C Fairfield/Session: A-C Sycamore/Session: A-C Counts as 3 sessions– Guideline: Must have completed all First Aid requirements for Tenderfoot, 2nd, and 1st class ranks. See Prewritek – Additional fee	Genealogy Bethel/Session C Dixie Hgts/Session: B Fairfield/Session: A, B Sycamore/Session: C See Prewritek
Geocaching Dixie Hgts/Session: B Fairfield/Session: A, B See Prewritek	Geology Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A Sycamore/Session: A See Prewritek	Inventing Fairfield Session: A,B See Prewritek

<p>Indian Lore Bethel/Session: A Fairfield/Session: B, C Sycamore/Session: B, C See Prewrite – Additional fee</p>	<p>Journalism Dixie Hgts/Session: B Fairfield/Session: C Sycamore/Session: A, B See Prewrite</p>	<p>Law Bethel/Session: A Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: C Guideline: Scouts age 14 or older. See Prewrite</p>
<p>Medicine Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: A Fairfield/Session: C Sycamore/Session: A, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Model Design and Building Dixie Hgts/Session: B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Music Dixie Hgts/Session: B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prewrite – The playing and site reading skills needed for this performance suggest at least 2 years of experience.</p>
<p>Nuclear Science Bethel/Session: C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Painting Dixie Hgts/Session A</p>	<p>*Personal Management Bethel/Session: A, B, C Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prewrite – Start 90 days prior to event.</p>
<p>Pets Bethel/Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: B, C See Prewrite – Start 4 months prior to event.</p>	<p>Photography Bethel/Session: A Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Plumbing Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A, B See Prewrite</p>
<p>Public Health Fairfield/Session: A Requires two field trips. See Prewrite</p>	<p>Public Speaking Dixie Hgts/Session: A, B, C Fairfield/Session: A, B Sycamore/Session: B, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Pulp and Paper Bethel/Session: A Fairfield/Session: A Sycamore/Session: B See Prewrite - Additional fees</p>
<p>Radio Bethel/Session: B Dixie Hgts/Session: A Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: B, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Railroading Fairfield/Session: B-C Sycamore/Session: A-B See Prewrite - Additional fees</p>	<p>Reading Bethel/Session: A Dixie Hgts/Session: A Fairfield/Session: A, B Sycamore/Session: A, B, C See Prewrite</p>
<p>Robotics Fairfield/Session: B Sycamore/Session: A-B Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prewrite - Additional fees</p>	<p>Safety Dixie Hgts/Session: B See Prewrite</p>	<p>Scholarship Bethel/Session: B Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: C See Prewrite</p>

<p>Scouting Heritage Bethel/Session: C Fairfield/ Session: C Sycamore/Session: B, C See Prewrite</p>	<p>Scuba Dixie Hgts/Session: See Prewrite</p>	<p>Search & Rescue Bethel/Session: A-B Fairfield/Session: A See Prewrite</p>
<p>Stamp Collecting Fairfield/Session: B, C Sycamore/Session: A See Prewrite</p>	<p>Surveying Bethel/Session: A Dixie Hgts/Session: A,B, C Fairfield/Session: C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. No Prewrite</p>	<p>Space Exploration Dixie Hgts/Session: C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: B, C See Prewrite</p>
<p>Traffic Safety Dixie Hgts/Session: B Guideline: Scouts age 14 or older. See Prewrite</p>	<p>Veterinary Medicine Bethel/Session: A Dixie Hgts/Session: B, C No Prewrite</p>	<p>Weather Bethel /Session: C Dixie Hgts/Session: C See Prewrite</p>
<p>Wood Carving Bethel/Session: A, B Dixie Hgts/Session: A,B,C Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Sycamore/Session: A, B, C Scouts must have BSA Totin' Chip with them. No Prewrite - Additional fee</p>	<p>Woodwork Fairfield/Session: A, B, C Guideline: Scouts age 13 or older. See Prewrite</p>	