



Your 21st Century Camping Adventure

USERS MANUAL

**Greater Alabama Council
Boy Scouts of America**



Thank you for your interest in ***Camp Connected!***

We shop online, receive our news from online sources, go online for entertainment, and stay connected to friends and family through online social media. So why not camp online? The Greater Alabama Council is pleased to offer a unique summer experience for your Scouts focused on fun and learning.

Camping is at the heart of our program. Although nothing quite beats a cool night laying in a tent listening to the wind blow through the trees as the smell of a dying campfire lingers in the air, that is just one part of the camping experience. Camp is about making new friends, discovering adventure, building memories, and of course advancement. ***Camp Connected*** brings you those incredible experiences of camping and places them right in your home from the comfort of your favorite chair. Just think. No bugs. No sweaty walks from class to class, no hole in your tent, no rainy days to ruin the fun. With ***Camp Connected*** the fun of camp is just a click away.

This user manual has been created to educate you on what ***Camp Connected*** is all about. From merit badges, program opportunities, innovative Camp Talks that will both inspire and educate, and virtual activities there is a little something for everyone. Don't forget the virtual campfires..... of course, we will have campfires!

We invite you to join us for a virtual camp experience. We are proud to offer a 21st century camping adventure.

Will you connect with us this summer?

Greater Alabama Council

Camp Connected Staff

General Information

What is *Camp Connected*?

Camp Connected is an online camp tailored to Scouts BSA participants. This four-day adventure allows Scouts the opportunity to work on advancement, compete in online challenges and activities, watch great campfire programs, and experience a truly unique summer program.

Who Can Attend?

Any registered Scouts BSA member can attend *Camp Connected*. The program is offered to both Scouts of the Greater Alabama Council and other councils as well.

When Is *Camp Connected*?

The Greater Alabama Council will offer two weeks of *Camp Connected*.

June 14-18

June 21-25

How Much Is *Camp Connected*?

The fee for *Camp Connected* is \$30.00 per youth Scout. This includes:

- Includes up to 4 merit badges
- 2020 *Camp Connected* Patch – Patch will be mailed after the event
- Camp Souvenir and Swag – Swag will be mailed after event
- Access to all the **FUN!**

How Do I Register?

Camp Connected will be utilizing the Tentaroo camp registration system. Individuals will select their preferred week and choose the appropriate classes. If you do not have a tentaroo account you will need to sign up at www.gac.tentaroo.com. If you need assistance with registering through tentaroo please contact Angie Champion at 205-969-4275 or anglea.champion@scouting.org

When Does Registration Open?

Registration is now live for *Camp Connected*.

Can I Sign-Up For More Than One Week?

Absolutely! Scouts can sign up for multiple weeks. A Scout can earn up to four merit badges each week. The other programming stays mostly the same.

How Will The Program Be Delivered?

Camp Connected will be presented through several online medium platforms. All classes will be pre-recorded presentations that allow a Scout to watch them at their leisure and go back and review a video if they didn't quite pick up on something the first time around.

Campfires, morning assemblies, and some other programs will also follow a pre-recorded format. Some of our online activities will be live feeds that will allow Scouts to interact with others.

Is It All Classroom Activities?

No. We encourage Scouts to get in the outdoors during **Camp Connected**. The **Camp Connected** Spirit Award, which is detailed later in this user manual details ways Scouts can enjoy the outdoors during their week of **Camp Connected**. **We encourage you to pitch a tent in the backyard or if not possible in the living room and camp with us for the week!**

Will **Camp Connected** be all delivered from inside?

No. **Camp Connected** will take place at both Camp Comer and Camp Sequoyah the two summer camps of the Greater Alabama Council.

Is The Registration Numbers Of **Camp Connected** Limited?

No. There is no cap on the number of participants for **Camp Connected**.

Can Parents Participate?

We encourage parents to be a part of their child's **Camp Connected** experience.

The Program

What Will The Program Consist Of?

Merit Badges:

Camp Connected will offer 28 different merit badges for Scouts to choose from. A Scout can take up to 4 merit badges during the week. A list of all merit badges can be found on Page of this user manual.

Scout Skills 101:

This program is designed for younger Scouts or recent Webelos Crossovers. Our Scout Skills 101 instructors will give you the nuts and bolts of Scouting skills to get you on the right path of the Scouting trail.

Virtual Campfires:

Join us on Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday night for campfires with our **Camp Connected** staff and enjoy great skits and sing-along Scout songs.

Sunday	Opening Campfire
Tuesday	OA Campfire
Wednesday	Closing Campfire

Morning and Evening Assemblies:

Join us for our flag ceremonies twice a day. Scouts can view the flag raising each morning at camp, join the **Camp Connected** staff in a song and reciting the Scout Oath and hear an inspirational thought of the day.

The flag retiring each evening will feature another song, the reciting of the Scout Law and a Scoutmaster Minute presented each day by a Scoutmaster of the Greater Alabama Council.

Scouts Vesper Service:

“Duty To God” is in our Scout Oath. To that end we will celebrate our beliefs on Wednesday with a non-denominational Scout’s Own Service.

CAMP Talks:

Much like a TED Talks, Scouts can join in for an inspirational or informative presentation that will help them along their Scouting journey and life.

Virtual Activities:

After classes end Scouts will have an assortment of virtual activities they can choose. These activities will include quizzes, competitions, learning objectives, challenges, and more.

Scouts Help Desk:

Twice a day Mon-Wednesday and once on Thursday we will have a Scouts Help Desk support line open. If you have questions about homework, having problems with tech, or just have some questions our **Camp Connected** staff will be available to assist. View the schedule to see when the support desk will be manned live.

Telephone Support: 256-634-4389

Email Support: gacvirtualcamp@gmail.com

We will also have a Zoom meeting open during those hours. The link will be sent out closer to the event to registered participants.

Order of the Arrow Call Out:

On Tuesday night of **Camp Connected** we will have an OA Call Out Ceremony for those who cannot make it to a summer camp this summer. You can submit your names for call-out to seth.hill@scouting.org. Please specify which week you wish to be called out.

Individual Camper Awards:

During **Camp Connected** Scouts will have an opportunity to win the “Best In Camp” Award for several different topics. Those include:

- Best Dressed Scout: Send us a photo of you in your uniform
- Best Campfire Dessert: Send us your campfire dessert you made
- Coolest campsite: Show us your tent for the week. What did you do to jazz up your camping site during **Camp Connected**?
- There will also be individual awards for some of the virtual activities

Awards will be mailed with your **Camp Connected** patch and swag

Camp Connected Spirit Award:

Scouts can earn the **Camp Connected** Spirit Award. Those who achieve this will be sent a recognition along with their **Camp Connected** Patch and Swag.

Watch the Wednesday Chapel Service	10 Points
Go for a hike around the neighborhood or at a city/community park	10 Points
Scavenger Hunt	5 Points
Do a Good Turn around the house	15 Points
Help cook a meal at home	10 Points
Camp in a tent during Camp Connected – anywhere	2 points per night
Camp in a tent during Camp Connected – outside	3 points per night
Build a campfire	5 Points
Cook a dessert over a campfire	10 Points
Watch a CAMP Talks	5 Points
Survivor Scout Challenge	5 points
Submit a Scout Meme	5 Points
Watch the morning and evening assemblies	10 Points
Teach your parents something you learned	5 points

Send us a photo of you in your uniform	5 points
--	----------

To earn the Camp Spirit Award a Scout must attain a score of 75 points.

THE SCHEDULE

Even though we have a set schedule Scouts can do most classes and programs on their own schedule. Videos will be available to be accessed at anytime to work around Scouts and parents busy home schedules. Some one the online activities will happen in real time. So, make sure you are available during those hours.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00AM		Morning Assembly	Morning Assembly	Morning Assembly	Scouts Help Desk Open
9:30AM		Merit Badge	Merit Badge	Merit Badge	
11:00AM		Merit Badge	Merit Badge	Merit Badge	
12:00PM		Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	
12:00-1:00PM		Scouts Help Desk Open	Scouts Help Desk Open	Scouts Help Desk Open	
1:00PM		Camp Talk	Camp Talk	Vesper Service	
2:30PM		Merit Badge	Merit Badge	Merit Badge	
4:00PM		Merit Badge	Merit Badge	Merit Badge	
5:00PM	Opening Session / Q @ A	Virtual Activities	Virtual Activities	Virtual Activities	
6:30PM	Flag Lowering/ SM Minute	Flag Lowering/ SM Minute	Flag Lowering/ SM Minute	Flag Lowering/SM Minute	
7:30PM	Opening Campfire		OA Call Out	Closing Campfire	

CLASS OFFERINGS

Art MB
Bird Study MB
Citizenship in the Nation MB
Citizenship in the World MB
Communications MB
Cooking MB
Collections MB
Crime Prevention MB
Digital Technology MB
Emergency Preparedness MB
Energy MB
Environmental Science MB
First Aid MB
Fire Safety MB
Forestry MB
Game Design MB
Graphic Arts MB
Mammal Study MB
Personal Management MB
Photography MB
Public Health MB
Pulp and Paper MB
Reptile & Amphibian Study MB
Safety MB
Salesmanship MB
Scout Skills 101
Scouting Heritage MB
Sustainability MB

Weather MB
Wilderness Survival MB

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will merit badges be completed?

Each merit badge will have an instructor. He/She will present the merit badge in video fashion through three one hour classes. The instructor will communicate how to turn in work and assignments.

Will merit badges be completed or just partials?

It depends on the class. In most cases so long as the Scout watches the videos and communicates work to the merit badge instructor they will be completed. Some require longer time periods and work after the class to complete the badge.

What If I Cannot Camp Outdoors?

No problem. Pitch a tent inside. Get outdoors every day. Be creative, bring the outdoors inside.

Are there time commitments beyond the camp?

In some cases, yes. If a merit badge is not completed during *Camp Connected* you will need to complete the other requirements with a unit leader or with another counselor.

Will you sign off on work done before Camp Connected?

Unfortunately. No. Our merit badge counselors will only sign off on work completed during *Camp Connected*.

How will I receive completed requirements?

The requirements will be uploaded to tentaroo. You can access these at any time after they are uploaded. They will also stay in your account indefinitely. So, you can review them in the future.

What if I have questions during the week?

The Scouts Helps Desk will be open twice daily to assist in any way. Information on this can be found earlier in the User Manual.

How will I access videos/classes/programs?

You will receive instructions on how to access the recorded classes and programs.

Do I have to participate in all activities?

No Camp Connected is not an all-inclusive required program. You can pick and choose what you want to experience.