

# GUIDE TO TOUR PLANNING PRINCIPLES

## ACTIVITY STANDARDS

Where swimming or boating is included in the program, [Safe Swim Defense](#) and/or [Safety Afloat](#) are to be followed. If climbing and rappelling are included, then [Climb On Safely](#) must be followed. At least one person must be current in CPR/AED from any recognized agency to meet [Safety Afloat](#) and [Climb On Safely](#) guidelines. At least one adult on a pack overnighter must have completed [Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation](#) (BALOO). At least one adult must have completed [Planning and Preparing for Hazardous Weather](#) training for all tours and activities. Basic First Aid is recommended for all tours, and [Wilderness First Aid](#) is recommended for all backcountry tours. It is also recommended to carry the [Wilderness Use Policy](#) and follow the principles of [Leave No Trace](#).

## UNAUTHORIZED AND RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES

The BSA's general liability policy provides coverage for bodily injury or property damage that is made and arises out of an official Scouting activity as defined by the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#). Volunteers, units, chartered organizations, and local councils that engage in unauthorized activities are jeopardizing their insurance coverage. PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOURSELF AT RISK.

## INSURANCE

**All vehicles MUST be covered by a liability and property damage insurance policy.** The amount of this coverage must meet or exceed the insurance requirement of the state in which the vehicle is licensed and comply with or exceed the requirements of the country of destination for travel outside the United States. It is recommended, however, that coverage limits are at least \$100,000 combined single limit. Any vehicle designed to carry 10 or more passengers is required to have limits of \$500,000 combined single limit. In the case of rented vehicles, the requirement of coverage limits can be met by combining the limits of personal coverage carried by the driver with coverage carried by the owner of the rented vehicle.

## TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES

1. You will enforce reasonable travel speed in accordance with state and local laws in all motor vehicles.
2. If by motor vehicle:
  - a. *Driver qualifications:* All Boy Scout adult drivers and all Venturing adult drivers must have a valid driver's license. **Youth member exception:** When traveling to an area, regional, or national Boy Scout event/activity or any Venturing event/activity under the leadership of an adult (21 or older) tour leader, a youth member at least 16 years of age may be a driver, subject to the following conditions: (1) The person has six months' driving experience as a licensed driver (time on a learner's permit or equivalent is not to be counted); (2) there is no record of accidents or moving violations; (3) parental permission has been granted to the leader, driver, and riders.
  - b. If the vehicle to be used is designed to carry more than 15 people (including the driver), the driver must have a commercial driver's license (CDL). In some states (for example, California), this guideline applies to 10 or more people.
  - c. Driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours in one 24-hour period and must be interrupted by frequent rest, food, and recreational stops.
  - d. Safety belts are provided and must be used by all passengers and the driver. Exception to this guideline: a school or commercial bus, when not required by law.
  - e. Passengers will ride only in the cab if trucks are used.

## YOUR PLEDGE OF PERFORMANCE

1. We will submit changes to notify the local council in the event our itinerary or activity changes.
2. We will plan our activities by and adhere to the policies contained in the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) and the [Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety](#).
3. We will use [Safe Swim Defense](#) in any swimming activity, [Safety Afloat](#) in all watercraft activity, and [Climb On Safely](#) for climbing activity.
4. We agree to enforce reasonable travel speed (in accordance with national, state, and local laws) and use only vehicles that are in safe mechanical condition.
5. We will apply for a fire permit from local authorities in all areas where it is required.
6. We will be certain that fires are attended to at all times and we are adhering to all fire bans.
7. We will, at all times, be a credit to the Boy Scouts of America and will not tolerate rowdy behavior and poor conduct, keeping a constant check on all members of our group.
8. We will maintain high standards of personal cleanliness and orderliness and will operate a clean and sanitary camp, leaving it in a better condition than we found it.
9. We will not litter or bury any trash, garbage, or tin cans. All rubbish that cannot be burned will be placed in a tote-litter bag and taken to the nearest recognized trash disposal or all the way home, if necessary.
10. We will not deface natural or man-made objects.
11. We will respect the property of others and will not trespass.
12. We will not cut standing trees or shrubs without specific permission from the landowner or manager.
13. We will, in case of backcountry expedition, read and abide by the [Wilderness Use Policy](#) of the BSA.
14. We will notify, in case of emergency, our local council Scout executive, our parents, and our single point of contact.
15. If more than one vehicle is used to transport our group, we will establish rendezvous points at the start of each day and not attempt to have drivers closely follow the group vehicle in front of them.
16. Identify and agree to follow all land-use policies (public and private) in effect for the location of the tour.