

# Philmont

## 2023 GUIDEBOOK TO ADVENTURE



PHILMONT

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH  
DELIVERING WILDERNESS AND LEARNING  
ADVENTURES THAT LAST A LIFETIME

## MISSION OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

## A PICTURE OF THE FUTURE FOR SCOUTING'S SECOND CENTURY

In Scouting's second century, we are building the leaders of tomorrow. Scouting's dynamic and engaging journey beckons to America's young people. Our exciting programs and outdoor adventures inspire lives of leadership, character, and service. Relevant and adaptive, we are a trusted advocate for youth. Our adult volunteers and employees are widely admired for their leadership excellence. True to our mission, Scouting reflects our nation in its ethnic diversity and shapes our nation by developing responsible citizens.

## VISION STATEMENT – PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

It is the vision of Philmont Scout Ranch to continue to positively impact the lives of young people and their Scouting leaders through inspiring and effective delivery of the finest Scouting possible through backcountry adventures and Training Center experiences. It is our further vision that these experiences will be expanded to help meet increasing demands. All future growth must be accomplished with minimal ecological impact on resources to insure the preservation of this great asset to serve future generations of Scouts.

## PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH AND TRAINING CENTER

Delivering Wilderness and Learning Adventures That Last A Lifetime

[PHILMONTSCOUTRANCH.ORG](http://PHILMONTSCOUTRANCH.ORG)

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Cimarron, New Mexico

## **PHILMONT MAGIC**

There is a magic spell at Philmont. Long ago, the Native Americans felt it. Later, Kit Carson, Lucien Maxwell, and other mountain men were captivated by the land. A century later, the late Mr. Waite Phillips found himself under its spell. His son, Elliott, and his cousins found it almost a necessity to return to Philmont during their high school and college summer vacations.

### **LOCATION and TERRAIN**

Philmont is a National High Adventure base, owned and operated by the Boy Scouts of America. Philmont is large, comprising 140,711 acres or about 220 square miles of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) range of the Rockies in northeastern New Mexico. Thirty-four staffed camps and seventy plus trail camps are operated by the ranch (four camps are in the national forest). Philmont has high mountains which dominate rough terrain with an elevation ranging from 6,500 to 12,441 feet. Philmont has established special use permits with several neighbors:

- US Forest Service – Valle Vidal Unit of the Carson National Forest
- Barker Wildlife Management Area/New Mexico Game & Fish Dept.
- Colin Neblitt, State Wildlife Area
- Chase Ranch
- CS Ranch
- UU Bar Ranch

Each neighbor has established specific use requirements. If your itinerary will pass through these lands, you will receive specific information during your orientation at Logistics. Each requires use of Leave No Trace techniques. These additional properties add about 110,000 acres for a total use area of 250,000 acres or 390 square miles.

### **HISTORY**

Philmont has a unique history of ancestral Puebloans who chiseled writings into canyon walls...Spanish conquistadors who explored the Southwest long before the first colonists arrived on the Atlantic coast...the rugged breed of mountain men like Kit Carson who blazed trails across this land...the great land barons like Lucien Maxwell who built ranchos along the Santa Fe Trail, and miners, loggers, homesteaders, and cowboys. All these people left their mark on Philmont.

### **WILDLIFE**

Philmont is abundant with wildlife—deer, elk, coyote, antelope, mountain lion, buffalo, beaver, wild turkey, bear and others. Its hills and canyons teem with birds and its streams abound with fish. Its cool mountains harbor a wilderness of botany—trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses.

### **BEAUTY**

Philmont is rich in natural beauty, including the soaring Tooth of Time... sunrise from lofty Mount Phillips...the blue water of Cimarroncito Reservoir... the panoramic sweep of the plains from Urraca Mesa...and sunlight filtering through aspen along the rippling Rayado.

## **PROGRAM**

Philmont provides an unforgettable adventure in sky-high backpacking country along hundreds of miles of rugged, rocky trails. Program features combine the best of the Old West. Horseback riding, burro packing, gold panning, chuck wagon dinners, and living history provide exciting challenges each day. Rock climbing, mountain biking and shooting sports and more make for an unbeatable recipe of fast-moving fun in the outdoors.

## **FELLOWSHIP**

The opportunities for fellowship at Philmont are incredible from your own crew to others from across the nation and the world.

## **STAFF**

Philmont has the finest staff in America. Each staff member is carefully selected and trained. Scouting spirit, knowledge of camping skills, keen interest in their respective program specialties, and a love for Philmont lead the staff to deliver a rewarding and memorable experience.

When you come to Philmont, take advantage of these opportunities. It is one of the best investments you will make—the returns are great!

## **WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?**

In keeping with the policies of the Boy Scouts of America, rules for participation are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, marital or familial status, genetic information, citizenship status, protected activity, or any other status or classification protected by applicable federal, state, and/or local laws.

Participants must be registered members of the BSA who will be 14 years of age OR completed 8th grade and be at least 13 years of age prior to participation. DO NOT request or expect any exceptions to this rule. Some special programs allow for individual person registration and participation. A crew must have a majority of its members under age 21. Each participant must be capable of participating in a backpacking or horseback riding trek. Please note that specific programs may have additional requirements for participation including but not limited to a 200 lb. weight limit for Cavalcades and horse rides. Each participant must meet the health requirements as outlined in the Annual Health and Medical Record.

## **Harassment**

Philmont and the Boy Scouts of America prohibit language or behavior that belittles or puts down members of the opposite sex, unwelcome advances, racial slurs, chastisement for religious or other beliefs or any other actions or comments that are derogatory of people. **Participants who do not meet these expectations may be asked to leave.**

## **PHOTO (TALENT) RELEASE INFORMATION**

All Philmont Scout Ranch participants are informed that photographs, film, video tapes, electronic representations and/or sound recordings may be

made during their visit to Philmont Scout Ranch. These images may be used for training and promotion purposes for Philmont Scout Ranch and other projects approved by the Boy Scouts of America.

Each participant, by completing the Annual Health and Medical Record “Part A: Informed Consent, Release Agreement, and Authorization”, will fulfill the necessary Photo (Talent) Release requirements for Philmont Scout Ranch. (For complete statement please refer to Part A of the Annual Health and Medical Record.)

## **AWARDS**

***Philmont Awards can only be earned! They are NOT available to the public.***

Two unique awards are presented to participants who successfully meet the challenge of a Philmont Expedition. They are:

### **THE ARROWHEAD AWARD**

The Arrowhead Award is presented by your Adult Advisor when you have:

1. Attended the opening campfire – “The Philmont Story”
2. Complete a Philmont-approved itinerary (some exceptions for medical reasons) with your crew.
3. Completed a 3-hour conservation project at one of several designated sites on Philmont or neighboring properties (with the help of Conservation Department staff) and taken advantage of every opportunity to learn about and protect our landscape while practicing the art of backcountry living and travel that minimizes impact to soil, water, plant life, and wildlife.
4. Fulfill the personal commitment to the Wilderness Pledge.
5. LIVE THE SCOUT OATH AND LAW.

### **THE “We All Made It” PLAQUE**

An award presented by Philmont to each crew that:

1. Demonstrated good camping practices and Scouting spirit
2. Followed an approved itinerary and camped only where scheduled
3. Fulfilled the commitment to the Wilderness Pledge

## **ADDITIONAL AWARDS THAT MAY BE EARNED DURING YOUR TREK**

### **DUTY TO GOD**

Under the guidance of a crew Chaplain’s Aide, each participant may fulfill the requirements for the Philmont “Duty To God” award. The requirements include:

1. Attend a religious service while at Philmont
2. Participate in at least three daily devotionals with the crew
3. Lead Grace before a meal

Participants must obtain the Chaplain’s Aide signature to certify completion of the requirements. Scouts and Leaders may then purchase a “Duty To God” patch from the Tooth of Time Traders. Proceeds support the Chaplain Program at Philmont.

## **WILDERNESS PLEDGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Each participant in the backcountry can earn the Wilderness Pledge Achievement Award. This award has five requirements. The Wilderness Pledge Guia will help all members of the crew complete the requirements and earn the award. A documentation form will be provided at the Wilderness Pledge Guia meeting held daily for trail-bound crews at the Conservation pavilion. The Wilderness Pledge Achievement Award patches can be purchased by submitting the form at the Tooth of Time Traders. Profits from the purchase of this award will be used to expand the sustainable initiatives of Philmont Scout Ranch.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Take part in Ranger-led training for the Philmont Wilderness Pledge and the Leave No Trace principles as they relate to your trek.
2. Follow all Philmont hiking and camping procedures on your trek.
3. Practice all Philmont bear and wildlife procedures on your trek.
4. Take part in discussions focusing on the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace, led by your Wilderness Pledge Guia; find examples of the focus principle during that day of the trek.
5. Complete your assigned Conservation project while on your trek.

## **LA DOCENA ADVENTURADO AWARD**

The “La Docena Adventurado” Award is presented to each crew that participates with the maximum number of participants: Backpacking Expeditions = 12 participants. Cavalcade Expeditions = 15 participants. A ribbon is presented to the Advisor during the arrival registration process.

## **TRIPLE CROWN AND GRAND SLAM**

The Triple Crown Award is available to individuals who have participated in a high adventure program at three of the four national bases (Philmont Scout Ranch, Northern Tier, Florida Sea Base, and the Summit Bechtel Reserve). The Grand Slam award can be earned by participating in a high adventure at all four national bases. Logistics will provide documentation to each crew to certify participation in a Philmont Camping Program and to track participation at other bases. These awards are managed by the Sommers Alumni Association. Complete details on qualifying programs and award ordering information can be found at [www.nationalhighadventureawards.com](http://www.nationalhighadventureawards.com).

## **50-MILER AWARD**

The 50-Miler Award, given by the National Council, BSA, may be earned by members of unit or council contingent groups. Requirements for this award include: hiking at least 50 miles and performing a 10-hour conservation project (3 hours or more will be earned at Philmont and the remaining hours in your council). All 12-Day Philmont itineraries meet the distance requirement, and a new itinerary includes enough conservation project time to earn the award at Philmont. The award is secured through your local council service center.

## **PREPARING AND TRAINING**

A Philmont Expedition begins at home. Months before arriving at Philmont, you should begin planning and training. Several details must be completed when your Advisor receives the “Advisor’s Packet”, including:

### **Annual Health and Medical Record/Physical Evaluation**

You must have a current Annual Health and Medical Record completed before departing for Philmont. Physical evaluations by a physician are valid through the end of the 12th month from the date it was administered by your medical provider. You are required to have had a tetanus shot or booster within 10 years. A current measles vaccination is highly recommended. Philmont is required to follow COVID-19 protocols set forth by the BSA, the CDC, the State of New Mexico, and others. Typically, these are not optional and they change frequently. Please monitor the current Philmont mitigation efforts at [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/covid-19-mitigation/](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/covid-19-mitigation/) to be sure your crew complies with current protocols.

Advisors should collect the Annual Health and Medical Record form well in advance of departing on your Philmont trip to ensure that participants meet all Philmont requirements and upload them into the crew roster in the Philmont Gateway. Participants MUST NOT exceed the maximum acceptance on the height/weight chart at the time of their arrival at Philmont. A fee will be charged for medical exams and vaccinations for participants who arrive at Philmont without having the required examination. Participants who do not wish to have vaccinations or specific medical treatment due to personal or religious reasons should fill out the vaccination exemption form and attach it to the Annual Health and Medical Record.

Due to Philmont’s remote location it is imperative that participants have any emergency medication they may need and know how to administer it. This includes rescue inhalers and EpiPens. Emergency medications will be checked during the medical recheck process to ensure that the medications are in date and there is sufficient quantity for your trip. All medications must be in original containers.

A copy of the Annual Health and Medical Record, High Adventure Risk Advisory to Health-Care Providers and Parents, Vaccination Exemption form, and Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>.

**Height/Weight Restrictions:** If you exceed the maximum weight for height as explained in the following chart and your planned high-adventure activity will take you more than 30 minutes away from an emergency vehicle/accessible roadway, you may not be allowed to participate. Review Annual Health and Medical Record for additional information regarding the height/weight restrictions.

## Height/Weight Chart

Height (inches)	Max Weight		Height (inches)	Max Weight
60	166		70	226
61	172		71	233
62	178		72	239
63	183		73	246
64	189		74	252
65	195		75	260
66	201		76	267
67	207		77	274
68	214		78	281
69	220		79 & over	295

## Physical Training

All Philmont activities are physically demanding. Steep, rocky trails with 1,000-foot climbs are typical. Also, there is 20 to 35 percent less oxygen at Philmont elevations than at sea level. Remember, you will be carrying a pack weighing up to 1/3 of your body weight. Breathing will be labored, especially at the start of your trek.

A program of regular aerobic exercise that begins six months or more before you come to Philmont is highly recommended. Exercise for at least 30 minutes 3 to 4 times a week at an intensity that boosts your heart rate about 75% of your maximum. An average maximum heart rate is 220 minus your age. If you are older than 40, or have not been very active, consult your doctor before beginning an exercise program.

Jogging, hiking uphill or up long flights of stairs, and hiking with a full pack (the weight you expect to carry at Philmont) are excellent preparation. Other aerobic exercises such as swimming and bicycling can be used to supplement your training. Start slowly and gradually increase the duration of your exercise.

Exercise individually or with other members of your crew. Set aside regular periods of time to do it. Plan to be in top physical shape when you arrive at Philmont. You will enjoy your experience more and be less likely to have medical problems. This is a great opportunity to break in boots and other gear that you will be using on your Philmont trek.

Philmont suggests that you maintain a fitness log of all physical activities. This will help you stay focused and provide a way to monitor your progress. By comparing information from your log with other members of the crew, you will be able to encourage each other to physically prepare for the adventure.

## **Stretching**

Hiking at Philmont can be strenuous. Proper stretching before and after a hike can make your hike more enjoyable and prevent injuries for young & old.

## **Your Philmont Itinerary**

An important step in preparing for Philmont is for your crew to select your itinerary. An itinerary is a hiking plan that describes camps and program features for each day on the trail. Crews will select and confirm their itinerary online. Instruction for this process will be through the Camping Gateway. Online selection and confirmation will begin in January. Itineraries will post to [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org) in December in a document labeled Itinerary Guidebook.

## **Know Your Expedition Number**

Your Expedition Number is assigned by Philmont. It is determined by your expected arrival date. For example, if your crew is to arrive July 14, your Expedition Number will begin with 714, which signifies 7th month and 14th day. Since many crews arrive each day, letters distinguish different crews (for example, 714-A or B, C, etc.) If your reservation consists of several crews, numbers are used to designate each one. Thus, your crew's complete Expedition Number may be 714-A-02. If you don't know your crew's Expedition Number, ask your Advisor.

MY EXPEDITION NUMBER:

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## **Mail and Philmont Address**

Your complete Expedition Number is essential for mail delivery at Philmont. Incoming mail may be picked up only by your Expedition Advisor or Crew Leader at the Philmont Mail Room when your crew arrives at Philmont and when you return to Camping Headquarters from the trail. You may send mail from any staffed camp.

Philmont address:

Your Name, Expedition Number

47 Caballo Rd

Cimarron, NM 87714

### **Emergency Telephone Number at Philmont: (575) 376-2281**

Telephone calls to you are restricted to EXTREME EMERGENCIES ONLY. Since Philmont comprises a use area of 390 square miles of rugged mountain wilderness, it may require several hours to transport you from some camps to return an emergency phone call. In those cases, it will speed contact when the caller has your full name and Expedition Number.

## **PRACTICE THE PATROL METHOD WITH YOUR CREW**

Your Philmont trek will provide you an opportunity to practice the many skills that you have learned while participating in your Scouts BSA Troop, Venturing Crew, Sea Scout Ship or Explorer Post. This experience brings in

focus the importance of the Patrol Method. Each crew is a small group of participants much like a patrol. The crew members are close in age and experience level and working together helps each other develop a sense of pride and identity. The participants elect their Crew Leader, divide up the jobs to be done, and share in the satisfaction of accepting and fulfilling group responsibilities.

Three members of the crew will have a leadership responsibility that lasts throughout the trek: Crew Leader, Chaplain Aide and Wilderness Pledge Guia. In addition, all members of the crew will serve in some leadership role each day, either as the primary or the assistant. Examples of rotated leadership responsibilities for the crew include: navigator, cook, dishwasher, bear bags manager, water gatherer, and fire guard(when fires are permitted).

The camping methods practiced at Philmont Scout Ranch support the Patrol Method concept. With 22,000+ participants each summer, Philmont has determined that these methods and procedures used work best. Please plan to follow them. Two examples of this include cooking and washing dishes as one group. Members of the crew will rotate during the trek and fulfill these important responsibilities. This allows crew members to practice servant leadership as they take on a task that will support the entire crew.

Some of the current wilderness camping methods focus on the individual. In support of the Boy Scouts of America, Philmont will focus on the crew and the accomplishments that they can achieve by working together as a team, the Patrol Method.

The Ranger assigned to the crew will help the entire crew achieve the most from their Philmont Adventure!

## **HIKING AND CAMPING SKILLS**

Time and effort spent in sharpening your hiking and camping skills will allow you more time to enjoy the natural beauties and program features of Philmont. The best way to practice and develop these skills is to participate in several outings with your crew. Use the Backpacking Merit Badge pamphlet or the BSA Field Book to guide your preparation and training. Philmont suggests two shakedown weekends. Step by step guides for shakedown weekends are available at [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/shakedown](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/shakedown).

### **Gathering Your Equipment**

Backpacking requires proper equipment just as any outdoor sport. Without suitable equipment you will face unnecessary hardships. Take only what you need. After several overnight preparation hikes you should be able to conduct your own shakedown to eliminate items that you don't need. Remember, the key to successful backpacking is to go lightly. Check your equipment against the recommended list. This is the maximum. All backpackers can reduce this list and still be comfortable, clean and safe. All equipment must be able to hold up to the rigors of a 12-day backpacking adventure. Learn techniques for taking care of your equipment. For more information about gear check out [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org) and [www.ToothofTimeTraders.com](http://www.ToothofTimeTraders.com). Be

sure to check out the video links on both sites for helpful information about equipment.

## **Organizing Your Crew**

A well-organized crew gets its chores accomplished quickly and has more time to enjoy Philmont. Your crew should be organized before you arrive at Philmont. If your crew is a chartered unit, this should be easy. If your crew is a provisional council group, it is especially important to be organized.

Elect a Crew Leader several months prior to coming to Philmont. Your Crew Leader is responsible for organizing the crew, assigning duties, making decisions and recognizing the capabilities and limitations of each member. They lead by example and discusses ideas and alternatives with the entire crew to arrive at a consensus before taking action. This responsibility requires someone with leadership ability who is respected by everyone.

Each crew should also select a Chaplain Aide, perhaps a member of the crew who has received a religious award in Scouting. The Chaplain Aide is responsible for assisting the crew in meeting their responsibility to the 12th point of the Scout Law, as well as working with the Crew Leader and Advisor to ensure good morale and the smooth operation of the crew.

Finally, every crew will select a Wilderness Pledge Guia (Guide). This individual will help the crew understand the principles of the Philmont Wilderness Pledge and Leave No Trace. This person will help the crew focus on camping practices that will adhere to the wilderness ethics outlined in the two approaches. With more than 22,000 participants camping each summer at Philmont, it is important that each person do their share to ensure that we protect Philmont and our neighbor's properties for generations to come.

A Ranger will be assigned to serve as a teacher and resource for your crew. This person will coach the Crew Leader and the rest of the crew. The Ranger will work with your crew for the first three days at the Ranch.

Your Adult Advisor counsels and advises your Crew Leader and crew. The Adult Advisor assists if discipline is required. With the assistance of the Ranger, your Adult Advisor is responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of each crew member. One role of the Adult Advisor is to let the Crew Leader lead the crew.

The entire crew and especially the Crew Leader and Adult Advisor need to effectively relate to everyone in the crew. Crew congeniality is important to crew harmony. Make it a point to say something positive to each member of your crew at least once a day. Tell each person what they did well.

Good communication is crucial to your crew's success. Make sure that everyone participates in determining the objectives for the crew each day. After the evening meal is an ideal time to accomplish this.

Remember, when you are hot and tired, hungry and irritable, so is your crew. Everyone is expected to control personal behavior, especially when the going is tough. The Crew Leader needs to continually monitor the crew's dynamics.

A daily duty roster will help to organize your crew. Each crew member is assigned a responsibility for each day. Jobs should be rotated so that at least

one experienced and one new crew member work together. Every job should be clearly defined. Your crew should have a list of all tasks for each job so that everyone knows what is expected. A form is provided to your Crew Leader upon arrival at Philmont.

Before departing for Philmont, your crew should select one member to serve as its reporter. The reporter should work with their local news media, council, troop, and crew members to share stories and photos on social media and through news outlets. Plan a presentation for your unit back home to share at the next meeting. These methods will also help encourage younger Scouts to continue their advancements or prepare for their own Philmont adventure someday. Helpful examples and a press release template may be found at [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/PressRelease](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/PressRelease).

### **Backpacking – Setting the Pace**

If you pack properly, backpacking will be much easier. Practice hikes will help. Your pace is the key to good backpacking. It should be slow enough to allow everyone to keep together without bunching up. Single file is the rule. A steady, constant pace is best. When climbing steep grades, your pace should be slower, but still constant. Always keep your crew together. A medical emergency is the only reason to separate your crew.

Rest stops should be short and frequent. Any member of the crew can call for a rest stop at any time. Sixty second rests will let you catch your breath. Learn to rest without removing your pack; if you bend over and loosen your hip strap, you can remove the weight from your shoulders. Deep breathing works best for high altitude backpacking at Philmont.

### **Conserving Energy**

Use as many energy-saving techniques as possible; nibble snacks and drink plenty of liquids to sustain you throughout the day. On steep ascents, use the “rest step”. Place the sole and heel of one foot flat on the ground. Lean forward and momentarily lock your knee. For an instant the bones of your leg and hips will support your weight, allowing the muscles of your thigh and calf to rest. Repeat this sequence with your other foot. Your pace will be slow, but you will save energy and make steady progress up the mountainside.

Use “rhythmic breathing” in conjunction with the rest step. To breathe rhythmically, synchronize your breaths with your steps. On moderate slopes, take one breath per step; on steep slopes, take two or three breaths per step.

## TIPS ON EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING

### Tents

Due to the terrain, wildlife, and sudden change in weather conditions, tents are a required shelter for a Philmont trek and therefore all crew members are required to sleep in a tent. Bivy sacks and hammocks are not acceptable. Every member of your crew should be able to set up, take down, and fold the tent. Philmont uses two-person, free standing backpacking tents (foot print - 4'6" x 7'4") called "The Thunder Ridge". The tent is durable, requires 6-8 stakes (not provided), weighs 5 lb. 5 oz., and is available during your trek at no charge.

Space for tents in most campsites is limited. Use of two-person tents minimizes the footprint and avoids encroaching on the "Bearmuda" Triangle (see pg. 34). Two one-person tents take up nearly twice as much space as one 2-person tent. A 5' x 7' waterproof ground cloth must be used under each tent. These are not provided with the Philmont tents.

A tent washing station is located at Outfitting Services for the washing of tents and dining flies. Crews are asked to help with this process as they return the equipment they have checked out. If you choose to provide your own tent it must be a two-person tent and free of all food smells. If you think your tent may have been compromised by food smells, please use a Philmont tent.

Philmont will allow a single person or three person tent in the event of an odd numbered crew, gender numbers and for youth protection compliance. Youth sharing tents must be no more than 2 years apart. **Keep in mind, due to the Youth Protection Policy, parents cannot tent with their children. Please make tenting assignments accordingly.**

### Packs

A sturdy, well-fitted pack is essential for backpacking at Philmont. A pack with a 65-85 liter carrying capacity will fit personal gear, crew gear, food, and water. There are many choices of packs and having a pack fitted to your body with appropriate sizing of shoulder straps and hip belt is essential.

Whether you choose an external or internal frame, there is a method for packing that is basic to all. Nearly all backpackers stow their sleeping bag in the bottom of the pack. This is also a good place for other items you won't need until you make camp at night: sleepwear, camp pillow, sleeping pad. Internal frame packs should have heaviest items placed on top of the sleeping bag and centered in your pack. For external frames, the heaviest items should be placed at the top and against the frame of the pack near your shoulders.

All items in your pack should be neatly organized and packed in waterproof bags or stuff sacks. Your map, compass, sunscreen, rain gear, camera, and first aid kit should be readily accessible. A waterproof rain cover is recommended to keep your pack dry at night and while hiking in the rain.

Check your pack weight. 20-25 pounds without food and water is preferred. Comfortable pack weights vary considerably with physical condition, age, and experience. Your training hikes will help you find out what is best for you. **As a regular rule of thumb, a fully loaded pack should not exceed 25-30% of your body weight.**

With your pack fully loaded, practice putting it on your back by first balancing it on one knee with the pack straps facing you, slip your nearest arm through the appropriate strap and smoothly swing the pack behind you, reaching down and back to slip your free arm through the second strap and jiggle your pack into a comfortable position.

If you are unsure of your pack's fit or question the durability for Philmont's trails, you can rent either an internal or external pack at Philmont for a fee of \$30 for the duration of the trek. This fee includes the pack cover. Our knowledgeable staff will fit you in the appropriate pack at Philmont and pre-reservations are not necessary. Review the chart below for information on rental pack types and sizes or call CHQ if you have further questions regarding the pack rental program.

BRAND	MODEL	VOLUME	SIZE
JanSport	<i>Klamath</i>	55 L	
		68 L	
		75 L	
Kelty	<i>Tioga</i>	86 L	
		94 L	
Osprey	<i>La Plata</i>	70 L	S/M, L/XL
	<i>Kiva</i>	70 + 5 L	
	<i>Escalante</i>	70 L	S/M, L/XL
		75 + 10 L	S/M, L/XL
	90 + 10 L	S/M, L/XL	

### **Map & Compass**

Most trails on Philmont are marked at intersections, but they are not so well marked that you can put your map and compass away and forget them. Philmont trail signs often point to geographic features such as mountains, canyons, and streams. Hiking on neighboring property requires good map and compass skills as there are not trail signs in these areas. Plan to navigate with a sectional map (available from the Tooth of Time Traders). Each crew should have at least two sectional maps that correspond to their itinerary.

Learn and practice your map and compass skills. You will be able to know where you are at all times and where you are headed. Look at a map. Do you know what the symbols mean? What do the colors—black, brown, blue, green, white, and red—stand for? Brown contour lines are particularly significant. The contour lines on Philmont's sectional maps represent a 50-foot climb; the more lines you cross on a route, the tougher the climb or the descent. You must be able to orient a map, understand symbols and scale (1: 31,680 for Philmont sectional maps). The BSA "Fieldbook" and the "Orienteering Merit Badge Pamphlet" are excellent resources.

Philmont has introduced trail signs that indicate the UTM coordinates of the

specific location. You will be trained by your Ranger in understanding how to find a UTM coordinate on the map.

### **Personal GPS and Emergency Locator Devices**

If a member of your crew brings a personal GPS or Emergency Locator Device, they should know how to use and program them, and be very familiar with them prior to coming to Philmont. Philmont's sectional maps, available in advance from the Tooth of Time Traders, may be used to determine the UTM coordinates and elevations for camps and other locations; these locations should be loaded into the device(s) prior to coming to Philmont. To be correctly synchronized with these maps, GPS devices should be set for:

- Projection: UTM Zone 13
- Horizontal Datum: NAD83
- Ellipsoid: GRS80

Emergency Locator Devices have many capabilities for sending messages. However, Philmont does not have the capabilities to receive messages from these devices. Your Ranger will teach you the emergency procedures used at Philmont.

### **Backpacking Stoves and Fuel**

All crews must bring backpacking stoves as they are required to cook meals. Backpacking stoves must be used with adult supervision and should never be used in or near tents because of fire danger. Bottles designed to carry fuel should be used. Isobutane/propane fuel stoves are also acceptable. Tooth of Time Traders carries fuel bottles and several brands of isobutane/propane canisters. Outfitting Services carries white gas. Fuel is also available on the trail at commissary camps where you pick up food. Check the O-rings on your fuel bottles to prevent leaks.

If using isobutane/propane fuel stoves, be sure that they are designed to hold an 8-quart pot. The safest stoves on the market that accomplish this requirement have a fuel line that separates the canister from the stove. This reduces the reflected heat from impacting the canister and permits the user the ability to adjust the temperature safely.

Smaller one or two-person stoves have become available and popular, however they do not meet the requirements for crew cooking (Patrol Method) at Philmont Scout Ranch. A small stove might be a good addition for quick heating of water for coffee, tea or cocoa while on the trail. Bio-fuel stoves are generally small, although, due to the desert southwest climate and frequent fire restrictions, these are not permitted for use at Philmont.

If using commercial transportation, stoves and fuel bottles can be shipped to Philmont and will be held at the Base Camp Mail Room for your arrival. (Allow two weeks.) A minimum of two stoves for your crew is required. Learn and follow these safety tips:

1. Keep fuel containers away from hot stoves and fires. Never use fuel to start a campfire.
2. Let hot stoves cool before changing cylinders or refilling.
3. Never fuel or operate a stove in a tent, building, or dining fly.
4. Place stove on a level, secure surface before operating.

5. When lighting a stove, keep fuel bottles and extra canisters well away, do not hover over stove, open fuel valve slowly, and light carefully. The pressure differential is greater at Philmont's high altitudes.
6. Refill stoves away from open flames. Recap all containers before lighting stoves.
7. Do not overload the stove.
8. Do not leave a lighted stove unattended.
9. Perform stove maintenance regularly, at home and at Philmont.
10. Store fuel in proper containers.

### **Be Prepared for Extremes of Weather**

Be prepared for extreme weather variations at Philmont. Afternoon temperatures in low valleys can be hot (100 degrees or more), and night temperatures high in the mountains may drop to freezing.

Philmont can be extremely dry and then a sudden downpour will soak everything. Periods of rain lasting several days may occur. Fortunately, New Mexico's low humidity allows wet clothing and gear to dry quickly after the rain stops. Rain occurs most frequently in the afternoon and may last an hour, all night, or several days. Small hail or sleet often accompanies rain. Mountain weather is fickle—anything can happen and often does. Snow is possible, even during the summer. Weather conditions vary from one area of the ranch to another depending upon elevation, terrain and irregular weather patterns. *You should be prepared for all of the above weather conditions.* Please consult with the National Weather Service for current weather conditions and information on past weather patterns.

### **Clothing**

During cold periods, it is especially important to stay dry since wet clothing loses much of its insulating value (90 percent or more). Several light layers of clothing are better than one heavy layer since air trapped between layers of clothing provides a high degree of insulation. As the atmosphere warms you can remove one layer of clothing at a time for proper body heat management. Keep in mind that wool and synthetics insulate when wet. Lightweight merino wool base layers tend to be naturally odor resistant but can be expensive. Down or cotton layers such as sweatshirts and sweatpants drain body heat when wet, and dry very slowly.

While the official BSA uniform is highly recommended for use when traveling to and from Philmont and wearing at base camp, you may choose to wear other clothing on the trail. Long pants are recommended for cold nights and are required for horseback riding, conservation projects, and pole climbing at logging camps. Shorts and short-sleeved shirts will generally be sufficient during the day; however, a sweater or fleece jacket is necessary for cold mornings and evenings and possible downpours of rain or hail.

To be comfortable and dry during rain, a good quality rain suit is essential. Inexpensive vinyl rain suits or ponchos will not hold up under extended use. A poncho is not adequate. You need to have a durable rain jacket and pants.

## **Glass and Aerosol Containers**

Glass containers or aerosol cans should not be carried on the trail. Glass breaks easily and aerosol cans are bulky and may erupt in packs.

## **Money**

Campers spend an average of \$100 at Philmont's trading posts. Backcountry trading posts are located at: Ponil, Apache Springs, Baldy Town and Phillips Junction. Cantinas are located at Abreu and Ponil and offer root beer and a variety of snacks. If major items such as jackets, leather belts, and buckles are desired, more money will be needed.

\$20 - \$50 should cover most expenses on the trail. Money taken to the backcountry should be in small bills. Trail Charges can be made for larger purchases and emergency needs in the backcountry. These expenses may include:

- Shooting Programs: Three (3) shots are free at Philmont's .30-06, shotgun, and muzzle loading programs, and twelve (12) shots at the Cowboy Action Shooting program. Depending on availability, additional rounds may be purchased.
- Healthy trail snacks, root beer, repair items and replacement equipment, etc.
- Fuel for stoves (available at all trading posts and commissaries)

## **Fishing Program & Fishing Licenses**

Catch and release fishing programs are available at Fish Camp, Hunting Lodge, and Phillips Junction as well as permitted in most of Philmont waters. Fishing is NOT permitted in the Middle, North or South Ponil Creeks, and at Cimarroncita. Fishing flies are available for purchase at the Tooth of Time Traders. Loaner poles and flies are also available at the camps listed above.

Fishing licenses for participants under 18 years of age may be purchased at the Tooth of Time Traders OR at backcountry camps that offer fishing programs. The cost of a ten-day license is \$2.00.

All participants 18 years of age or older will be required to purchase a fishing license from New Mexico Department of Game and Fish through a mandatory web-based sales system. A special online kiosk at the Tooth of Time Traders will be available to help participants obtain their licenses. Fishing licenses for participants 18 years of age and older will NOT be available for purchase in the backcountry.

Fees for nonresident fishers licenses will be as follows:

- One day = \$12
- Five days = \$24
- Annual = \$56

If you are purchasing a one-day or five-day license, we recommend that you do so at the Tooth of Time Traders after you arrive at Philmont so we may help you align the actual fishing days with your itinerary and insure you have the required validations before purchasing a non-refundable license. There is a special online kiosk at the Tooth of Time Traders available to help participants obtain their licenses.

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish requires each applicant

to create an online profile with a username and password before they can purchase a license. The system will assign the applicant a unique Customer Identification Number (CIN). You can speed up the process to obtain your license at Philmont by obtaining this information before you leave home. Each person in the crew planning to purchase a license should obtain their own Customer Identification Number. [www.wildlife.state.nm.us/fishing/licenses-permits/](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/fishing/licenses-permits/)

### **Sleeping Bags**

Your sleeping bag should be warm (suitable for temperatures down to 20 degrees), but less than 5 pounds. You can increase the R value (temperature rating) of your bag by using an insulated pad under your bag, wearing long underwear and a hat, or using a fleece or synthetic sleeping bag liner. When your sleeping bag is packed it should be no more than 20 inches long and 10 inches in diameter, and it should weigh 5 pounds or less. Use a waterproof stuff sack to store your sleeping bag or if you do not have one, line the stuff sack with a heavy-duty (4 to 6 mil) plastic bag safely secured. This will keep your sleeping bag dry even in wet weather.

### **Boots and Shoes**

High quality hiking boots that are broken-in are required for the trails at Philmont. Your trek will cover uneven rocky surfaces and steep trails. Hiking boots that fit properly and are broken-in will prevent injury. Trail runners are permitted for hiking at Philmont and can reduce hiking weight, but they do not provide ankle support that traditional hiking boots provide and should only be used by those who have experience wearing them while carrying heavy loads through rocky terrain. Footwear for horse rides must be sturdy, close toed, close heeled shoes (no Crocs or sandals). Visit your local outdoor store and the sales staff will be happy to help you.

You will also need a pair of sturdy lightweight, closed toe shoes for use around camp and occasionally when hiking without your pack. These will also be used when rock climbing, biking, and potentially crossing streams. Sandals are not recommended but can be used in campsites only. For more tips on choosing boots and footwear visit [www.ToothOfTimeTraders.com](http://www.ToothOfTimeTraders.com).

### **Socks**

The socks you wear on the trails will have a significant effect on your experience. Just like boots, choose your socks carefully. Socks for backpacking are designed to provide cushioning and abrasion resistance as well as warmth. You should choose socks made of synthetic materials or wool. Socks can add volume to your footwear. When you are fitted for your boots, make sure you wear the socks you have chosen to wear on your trek. There are 3 categories of socks:

- Liners - These are thin wicking socks that you wear next to your skin. They keep your feet dry and comfortable and are meant to be worn underneath other socks.
- Lightweight Hiking Socks - These socks stress wicking performance over warmth. They are relatively thin so that you stay comfortable on warm

weather trips. They can be worn with or without sock liners.

- Midweight Hiking Socks - These socks are thicker and warmer than the lightweight hiking socks. Many have extra padding built into the heel and the ball of the foot for maximum comfort. They can be worn with or without liners.

## **Crew Photographer**

Although optional, a camera will record memorable experiences and beautiful scenes. Some crews select a crew photographer who takes shots for everyone. Digital photography can dramatically change your picture taking and sharing ability and a dedicated camera can often yield better results than a cell phone camera. Cold weather or prolonged use can deplete camera batteries. Be sure to bring replacement batteries or a small lightweight solar charger.

## **YOUR PERSONAL EQUIPMENT**

If you have any questions regarding any of these items on the Equipment List, please contact Philmont's Tooth of Time Traders at 575-376-1145 or [ToothOfTimeTraders@scouting.org](mailto:ToothOfTimeTraders@scouting.org).

### **LOWER BODY LAYERS**

You will need 1-2 synthetic insulating layers. All must fit comfortably over each other, so they can be worn in combination.

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>CHECK</b>
Base Layer	1	Long underwear bottom, mid-weight, synthetic or wool. Used for cold mornings or evenings, & extra warmth while sleeping.	T	
Rain Pants	1	Lightweight & sturdy	T, A, E	
Long Pants	1	Pants needed for spar pole climbing, horseback riding, cold weather, & conservation project. Convertible pants or long underwear with rain pants may be used.	T	
Underwear	3		T	
Hiking Shorts	2		T	

### **UPPER BODY LAYERS**

It is imperative to layer your clothing, combining different garments to achieve protection from the elements and optimum insulation. Synthetic or wool layers are recommended as they insulate when wet. Avoid cotton as it does not insulate when wet.

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>CHECK</b>
Base Layer	1	Long underwear top, mid-weight	T	
Middle Layer	1	Wool sweater or fleece pullover	T	
Top Layer (Warm Jacket)	1	Lightest and warmest available. Wool or fleece is best since they both provide warmth if wet.	T, E	

Rain Jacket	1	Sturdy, waterproof jacket with hood. Layer over fleece for extra warmth.	T, A, E	
Shirt - Short Sleeve	2	Moisture wicking, avoid cotton.	T	
Shirt - Long Sleeve	1	Moisture wicking. Avoid cotton or nylon. Warmth layer for cold mornings or evenings.	T	
Sports Bra	2	Synthetic or wool blend.	T	

## HEAD/NECK/HANDS

EQUIPMENT	QTY	COMMENTS	CODE	CHECK
Wool or Fleece Hat	1	Preserves body heat during cool evenings and while sleeping.	T	
Glove Liners or Mittens	1 pr	Polypro or wool is best for warmth in cool, wet conditions. Work gloves for conservation projects are provided	T	
Baseball Cap or Wide Brim Hat	1	Protect ears and face from sun	T	

## PACKS AND BAGS

EQUIPMENT	QTY	COMMENTS	CODE	CHECK
Backpack	1	Internal frame 75 L (4600 cubic in.) External frame 65 L (3966 cubic in.) Rental available w/pack cover-\$30	T	
Summit/Daypack	1	Side hikes.	T, S	
Lashing Straps	1 pr	To hold sleeping bag on pack.	T	
Gal. Ziploc Bags	6-12	Keep gear dry and clothing organized.	T	
Pack Cover	1	Waterproof. Highly recommended. Make sure it fits over pack and any external items.	T, A	
Small Stuff Sacks	2 - 3	Pack personal items/organize.	T	
Ditty Bags	2 - 3	Put all personal smellables in one to raise in bear bag.	T	

## FOOTWEAR

EQUIPMENT	QTY	COMMENTS	CODE	CHECK
Boots	1 pr	Well broken in durable boots. Trail runners are accepted but ankle support is highly recommended.	T	
Socks	3 pr	Synthetic or wool.	T	
Liner Socks	3 pr	Synthetic or wool, wicks sweat away from foot.	T, O	

Camp Shoes	1 pr	Sturdy lightweight, closed toe shoes. Use in camp, side hikes, rock climbing, and biking.	T, O	
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## SLEEPING GEAR

EQUIPMENT	QTY	COMMENTS	CODE	CHECK
Sleeping Bag	1	Rated 20 degrees and less than 5 lbs.	T	
Waterproof Stuff Sack	1	Alternatively use compression sack lined w/plastic bag.	T	
Sleeping Pad	1	Provides padding and insulation from the ground.	T	
Sleep Clothes	1 set	Worn only in sleeping bag. T-shirt & gym shorts acceptable.	T	

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

EQUIPMENT	QTY	COMMENTS	CODE	CHECK
Bowl	1	Deep bowl of lightweight material.	T	
Mug/Cup	1	12-20 oz. Measuring style recommended.	T, O	
Spoon/Spork	1	Lightweight.	T	
Water Bottles (1 Qt.)	4 +	Any combinations of bladders and bottles are accepted, but at least one water bottle is necessary.	T, A, BB, E	
Pocket Knife	1	Small knife for opening food packages and water purification tablets.	T, A, S, E	
Matches/Lighter	1	Pack in waterproof container for lighting camp stove. Can be shared w/buddy.	T, BB, S, E	
Flashlight/Headlamp	1	Durable and lightweight. Everyone in crew should have one. Bring extra batteries.	T, E	
Trekking Poles w/rubber tips	1 pr	Rubber tips to prevent erosion. Can reduce impact on ankles and knees by up to 25%. Improve balance.	T, O	
Philmont Sectional Maps	2 sets	Overall maps are not for navigation.	T, A, S, E	
Compass	1	Liquid filled compass w/rotating dial is optimal.	T, A, S, E	
Bandana/tubular headgear	2	Serves as a wash cloth, hot pot holder, and a variety of other uses.	T, BB	
Money	\$20-\$50	Small bills. Backcountry trading posts have many items.	BB	
Lip Balm	1	Moisturizing balm with SPF 25 +	T, A, BB	

Soap	1	Biodegradable. For body or clothes. Small amount needed.	T, BB, S
Toothbrush	1	Travel size.	T, BB
Toothpaste	1	Small amount needed.	T, BB, S
Camp Towel	1	Quick drying & small.	T
Tampon/Pads		Strongly recommended for all females to bring.	T, BB
Personal Medication		Enough for entire trek.	BB
Sunglasses	1		T
Watch	1	Several recommended throughout crew members.	T, O, E
Camera	1	Batteries & memory card.	T, BB, S
Whistle	1	To signal an emergency.	T, E
Fishing Equipment	1	Some itineraries have fishing opportunities.	T, O
Fishing License	1	NM State fishing license required. Purchase at Tooth of Time Traders or <a href="http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us">www.wildlife.state.nm.us</a>	T, O
Postcards	1+	Pre-stamped. Mailing available on trek	T, O
Foot Powder	1	Can soothe tired feet, absorb moisture and reduce chance of blisters	T, BB, S, O
Notepad & Pen	1	For journals or emergency messages. The Philmont Passport is great for journaling.	T, BB, O

**CODE:** (T)=Available at Philmont's Tooth of Time Traders; (A)=Easily accessible in pack or carried on person; (BB)=Packed in bear bag at night; (S)=Share with a buddy; (O)=Optional, (E)=Philmont Essentials (see pg. 26)

#### **ITEMS PROHIBITED:**

- Deodorant
- Radios/Bluetooth Speakers/Video Game Devices
- Hammocks
- Turkey Bags
- Bear Bag Pulley Systems
- Drones

#### **Labels**

Be sure to label all of your clothing and equipment with your name and Expedition Number so you can readily identify what is yours and so any of your belongings sent to Lost and Found can be returned.

## **EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY CREW**

Necessary items for each crew to bring or purchase upon arrival.

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>CHECK</b>
Sewing Kit	1	Heavy thread & needle used to repair pack, tents, clothing, etc.	T	
Tent Stakes/ per person	5	Philmont Thunder Ridge tents - 8 Philmont dining fly - 8	T	
Extra water capacity 10 qt	2 - 3	One large Collapsible or several small ones.. Review itinerary to ensure sufficient water carrying capabilities.	T, E	
Backpacking Stove	2	Take repair kit on trail. Stove should be able to safely hold 8 qt. pot	T	
Fuel Bottle/1 qt.	2	White gas & canister fuel is available in backcountry. Be able to carry white gas w/60 oz capacity or canister w/1600 grams capacity.	T	
First Aid Kit	1	Sufficient for crew and easily accessible.	T, BB, A, E	
Duct Tape	1	Small amount needed for trail repairs.	T, BB	
Spices		Personal preference to compliment cooked meals.	T, BB, O	
Waterproof Ground Cloth	1 per tent	5' x 7' is suitable for Philmont tents.	T	
Nylon Cord	3	50' x 1/8" for dining fly, clothesline, repairing items or tying items to pack.	T	
Sunscreen	2 - 3	6 oz tubes w/SPF 25 or higher.	T, BB, E	
Insect Repellent	2	Small bottles, no aerosol spray cans.	T, BB, E	
Water Purifiers/ Filters	2 - 3	All water from streams, lakes, wells, etc needs to be purified. Water at staff camps is purified unless noted. Micropur tablets are issued so filters are optional and will require a repair kit on the trail.	T, O	
Multi-Tool	2	To remove lid from cooking pot & to repair gear.	T	
Trowel/Shovel	1	Useful if away from a camp or camping in low impact campsite	T	
Carabiner	1	Carabiner (locking preferred) must be rated as climbing strength for rigging "oops" bag w/bear bags. A carabiner designed to be a key ring is not sufficient.	T	

## EQUIPMENT ISSUED BY PHILMONT

Each crew of 8-12 persons is issued the following equipment free of charge (except for any damage or replacement charges upon return).

EQUIPMENT	QTY	COMMENTS	CODE
Thunder Ridge Shelter (Dining Fly)	1	12' x 10'/wt 2 lbs. 8 oz. Crews may bring their own. A wide/short dining fly is preferred vs a tall/narrow area.	
Collapsible Poles	2	For dining fly, wt 1lb. 0.6 oz.. Trekking poles are a convenient substitute.	
Philmont Thunder Ridge Tent w/ poles	1 per 2 ppl	Weight w/poles is 5 lbs, 5 oz. Footprint is 88" x 54". Personal tents must be fully enclosed. Single person tents are not allowed due to a larger overall camp footprint except for odd numbered crew or adult male/female tenting needs.	
Cooking Pot	1	8-qt Aluminum pot with lid: 1 lb., 5.8 oz. Must be large enough to cook for everyone in the crew, and must be large enough to submerge eating utensils to sanitize dishes before eating.	
Dishwashing-2nd cooking pot	1	8-qt Aluminum pot without lid: 1 lb., 4 oz. Must be large enough to heat water for washing and rinsing.	
Large Spoon	1	1 lg spoon, 2.6 oz	
Hot Pot Tongs	1 pr	3.5 oz. Multi-tool can be used instead.	
Plastic Trash Bags	10	Personal preference, multi-purpose.	C
Salt / Pepper/ Condiments			BB, C, O
Dishwashing Soap, Hand Sanitizer, Scrub Pads			BB, C
Water Purifier Tablets, Micropur-1 tablet treats 1 liter, Resupply at Backcountry Commissaries.			
Bear Rope	2 - 3	1/4" polyester, diamond braid, weighs 1 lb. 1 oz each. Philmont requires crews to use Philmont's or equivalent dimension rope. Smaller diameter ropes may be lighter but experience has shown that they are more difficult to hoist up and they can fray or snag on the bear cables.	BB
Bear Bags	5 - 8	For hanging smellables. 3.0 oz. each	BB
Food Strainer and Scraper	1 ea	8 oz	
Toilet Paper		Resupplied w/Food Pickup	

**CODE:** (T)=Available at Philmont's Tooth of Time Traders; (A)=Easily accessible in pack or carried on person; (C)=Available for resupply at commissary camps; (BB)=Packed in bear bag at night; (E)=The Essentials for Hiking at Philmont; (S)=Share with a buddy; (O)=Optional

## THE ESSENTIALS FOR HIKING AT PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

The Essentials should be carried on all hikes, including side hikes. Once you are ready to go, be sure to tell someone your itinerary, including when you plan to return.

(\*) Philmont allows these indicated items to be shared with a buddy.

- **\*Map & Compass** – and the ability to read a map and use a compass.
- **\*Sun & Insect Protection** – sunscreen, broad-brimmed hat, sunglasses, insect repellent.
- **Water & Extra Food** – a minimum of 4 quarts of treated water is ESSENTIAL in the Southwest.
- **Rain Gear & Extra Clothing** – preferably a breathable rain suit with jacket and pants. Daytime temperatures can drop to 40 degrees F during the summer; nighttime temperatures can drop below freezing. Wool and/or polypro or other synthetic fabrics are recommended. Cotton clothing is not suitable for retaining body heat.
- **\*First Aid Kit** – adequate to treat common injuries that may occur on a hike, including latex or nitrile gloves for protection from blood borne pathogens.
- **\*Matches** – waterproof, for building a small campfire if necessary for warmth, drying clothing, or boosting morale.
- **\*Pocket Knife** – a multi-tool knife with several tools is recommended.
- **\*Watch** – an inexpensive watch will help you stick to the scheduled itinerary. This can be attached to your pack or day pack.
- **Flashlight** – for use if darkness overtakes you during your hike or an emergency requires that you hike after dark.
- **Whistle** – a simple whistle for use as a signal to alert others of your location.

### ARRIVING AT PHILMONT

In Cimarron, New Mexico, a small, historic town that Kit Carson and Buffalo Bill once knew, turn south off U.S. 64 on NM 21. Cimarron means “wild” or “untamed” in Spanish and echoes memories of a wild and woolly past. After crossing a small bridge over the Cimarron River, you will see a hotel to the left. The St. James Hotel boasts an exciting history. Jesse James, Wyatt Earp, Clay Allison, and other famous gunfighters stayed there. Twenty-six men were allegedly carried from the hotel—feet first!

Across the street is a building once known as Schwenk’s Gambling Hall. Here Lucien Maxwell, a great land baron who owned 1,714,765 acres, including all of Philmont, bet on one of the Old West’s most famous horse races. Maxwell’s bet was a roulette table piled high with gold. The race is famous because Maxwell warned his jockey to win or he would be shot off his horse at the finish line. He won.

One block west of the St. James stands an old grist mill, built in 1864 and operated by Maxwell. Now a fascinating museum, Philmont campers are always welcome to visit before or after your Philmont trek.

Just beyond Cimarron you will pass the Philmont boundary marker. The land

west of the highway is the Buffalo Pasture of about 4,500 acres and where Philmont's bison herd lives.

Looking to your right, every mountain you see lies on Philmont. As you scan the horizon, you can just see the top of the famous "Tooth of Time".

Beyond the buffalo pasture, the group of buildings on the right are homes of ranch personnel. Farther back are the barns where Waite Phillips once kept polo horses. The administration offices and homes are next on your left. Warehouses for food and supplies, farm equipment, vehicles, and maintenance shops are located here.

Next on your left is the Villa Philmonte, the magnificent summer home of Waite Phillips built in 1927. Notice the Spanish-style architecture, high arches, and tile roof. Surrounding the Villa is the Philmont Training Center where Scouting families live in tent cities during weekly training conferences held throughout the summer.

Past the Villa, on the left, is the new home of the National Scouting Museum where you can find interesting collections and exhibits highlighting the history of the BSA, Philmont, Order of the Arrow and much more!

## **Day One at Philmont**

**Please call the Philmont Switchboard (575)376-2281 if you will be arriving later than your scheduled arrival time.**

### **Welcome Center**

At last you're here! Drive in beside the gateway to the unloading area at the Welcome Center, where you will be greeted by a staff member with complete instructions for unloading and parking. Please follow them carefully.

### **Meet Your Ranger**

At the Welcome Center, you will meet your Ranger, a well-qualified staff member who has a sincere interest in your group and has been trained to help your crew get started on a successful Expedition.

The Ranger's job is to lead you through the Philmont check-in and to accompany you for two days on the trail to coach and review camping and hiking skills.

### **Philmont Check-In**

Before your crew hits the trail, the following tasks must be completed:

- Start hydrating now!
- Tent Assignment: You will receive tent assignments at the Welcome Center for your first night at Philmont. Your ranger will show your crew to their assigned tents.
- Registration: Your contingent leader or Lead Advisor will meet the registrar in Camping Headquarters. Philmont requires that two persons in each crew be currently certified in Wilderness First Aid Basic and CPR. Current certifications will need to be presented if they were not uploaded prior to arrival. A large envelope will be provided to store

extra money, credit cards and/or valuable documents in the safe while your crew is on the trail. Any outstanding fees will be paid at this time.

- Crew Photo: A trained Philmont photographer will take your crew photo before you depart for the trail. Most Crews elect to wear their full BSA uniforms or their crew uniforms. Each crew will receive a special code for a digital download of their photo. Additional photo merchandise is available at [www.philmontphotoarchive.org](http://www.philmontphotoarchive.org).
- Logistics: Your Adult Advisor and Crew Leader will meet one of the itinerary planners at Logistics Services to finalize arrangements for your program, food pickups, bus transportation, and conservation sites. Your Crew Leader should bring their Crew Leader Field Guide and an unmarked Philmont overall map to mark your route and campsites. Your crew leader will receive a detailed copy of your itinerary for use while on the trail. Logistics also processes food substitutions.
- Medical Recheck: A medical recheck, which may include blood pressure and weight check, will be given to all crew members. Your ranger will give you the procedures for this required recheck. You will need to bring any medication (in original container) with you to the recheck. A participant whose weight exceeds the maximum allowable on the height/weight chart will not be allowed to participate and should not attend or they may be sent home at their own expense. To make the medical recheck as smooth as possible, crew advisors should closely check the Annual Health and Medical Record to ensure it is filled out and all medical forms are uploaded to the Gateway before arrival. Additional information on chronic health issues can be found on the Philmont Website.
- Outfitting Services: Outfitting Services is located in the Mabee Services Building. Trail equipment including tents, poles, cooking pots, etc. will be issued to your crew along with your first issue of Trail Meals. The Crew Leader's copy of your itinerary must be presented to draw your trail food. Please make sure to double check your meals and gear received. White gas purchase and pack rental is also handled through Outfitting Services.
- Mail Room is also located in the Mabee Services Building near Outfitting Services. Your Adult Advisor or Crew Leader should plan to check for mail before leaving this area.
- Shakedown: In a place designated by your Ranger you will unpack everything. Your Ranger will review the necessary items and demonstrate the best methods of packing at Philmont. Store excess items in your crew locker or vehicle.

**PLEASE NOTE:** After leaving Camping Headquarters, there is NO opportunity to return excess baggage. If you have doubts about taking certain items, discuss them with your Ranger. Your Ranger is NOT permitted to bring any crew gear you take on the trail back to Base Camp nor can items be left in a backcountry camp to be delivered and held in Base Camp. You are responsible to carry everything you take

with you for the duration of your trek.

- Conservation Project, Emergency and Trail of Courage Information Boards: Your Ranger will describe these information boards in more detail at their designated sites in Base Camp.
- Tour Camping Headquarters: As time permits, your Ranger can give you a tour of Camping Headquarters. Visit the National Scouting Museum and while there schedule a tour of the Villa Philmonte.
- Tooth of Time Traders (TOTT): Your tour should include a visit to the Tooth of Time Traders where a complete supply of outdoor gear and equipment, Philmont items (patches, belts, buckles, maps, gift cards, etc.) and other souvenirs are available. The Tooth of Time Cantina is located adjacent to the TOTT. Items are available online at [www.ToothOfTimeTraders.com](http://www.ToothOfTimeTraders.com).
- Dining Hall: At Camping Headquarters, you will eat in the dining hall. The menus are well-balanced and nutritious.
- Leadership Meeting: Separate meetings will take place for Lead Advisors (all adults should attend), Crew Leaders, Chaplain Aides, and Wilderness Pledge "Guias". Topics will include current backcountry conditions as well as tips to improve your Expedition.
- Religious Services: Chaplains of Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, and LDS faiths conduct services at Camping Headquarters beginning at 7 p.m. Your crew is encouraged to attend (see pages 62-63). The Tooth of Time Traders will be closed at this time.
- Contact home: After supper is a good time to write home. Your parents will enjoy hearing from you. (Philmont postcards and stamps are available at the Tooth of Time Traders, Mail Room, and also in backcountry Trading Posts).
- Opening Program: Your first evening program at Philmont is a portrayal of the "Philmont Story", a historic narrative of the Southwest. Your Philmont adventure begins here. Warm clothing is recommended for this and all evening programs.
- A Good Night's Sleep: Following the campfire, quietly return to your tent for a good night's sleep as it will help you adjust to the altitude and be ready. Tomorrow you hit the trail! Be sure your crew adheres to the nightly quiet hours. Your actions can negatively impact others.
- Security, Lost-and-Found, Crew Lockers: Philmont employs a Seasonal Security Staff to assist with Lost and Found, issue crew lockers, and provide security. Crew lockers are reserved for crews traveling by public transportation. Crews with vehicles will store belongings in their vehicles. The number of lockers is limited (max 2 lockers per crew).
- Laundry: Dirty clothing may be laundered at Philmont's self-service Laundromat. One or more crew members should be assigned to bring all the crew's dirty clothes to the laundry. All clothing should be marked with your name in indelible ink and any loose patches or insignia should be removed to save time and confusion. Laundry soap and supplies are available from the Tooth of Time Traders or the Laundromat.

When you hit the trail, nothing can be left in your tent. Do not leave valuables in tents while in Base Camp – Philmont is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items.

## Day Two at Philmont

### At Base Camp/Headquarters

After breakfast, check out of tent city and report to the Welcome Center at the time scheduled for your departure.

### En Route to Starting Camp

For most itineraries, a Philmont bus will take your crew within hiking distance of your starting camp. A few itineraries now hike directly out of base camp.

### Starting Camp

Here your Ranger will work with you on:

- Map & compass navigation
- Hiking etiquette
- Lightning safety
- Emergency procedures and first aid
- Wildfire safety
- Backcountry hygiene
- Campsite setup
- Water purification
- Stove and campfire safety
- Cooking, cleaning, and disposal of waste
- Bear, mountain lion, and wildlife procedures
- Leave No Trace ethics & the Wilderness Pledge
- Low-impact and minimum-trace camping skills and techniques

## Day Three at Philmont

After a good night's sleep and a good breakfast in the starting camp your Ranger will hike with you on the second leg of your Philmont trek. Your Ranger will be on hand to assist you and will offer constructive ideas on how to sharpen your camping skills. When your crew has achieved reasonable proficiency in hiking and camping skills, your Ranger will leave you (usually early in the morning of Day 4). Then you are strictly on your own.

### Hiking at Philmont

Philmont abounds with picturesque hiking areas. Every section of the Ranch has many opportunities for stimulating and beautiful hikes. Take time to enjoy those scenic panoramas, delicate wild flowers, rippling streams, majestic peaks and towering trees. Some of the most beautiful scenery is along little-used trails and remote trail camps. When your crew is quiet you may see wildlife including deer, turkey, porcupine, elk, bobcat, coyote, badger, and bear. Be sure to record the animals you see on your **Wildlife Census Card** that is given to your Wilderness Pledge Guia upon check in.

The **Philmont Field Guide** is available at the Tooth of Time Traders to help enhance your experience.

Hiking on Philmont is often difficult. Weighty packs, steep trails, and high altitudes challenge even the best backpackers. Remember, your trek is a team effort. Stronger hikers are expected to help weaker ones. Faster hikers should hike near the end of the line and encourage the slower ones in front. Your crew should always hike together, staying within sight and sound of one another. This avoids the terrifying experience of someone being lost. Due to risks involved, Philmont strongly discourages hiking at night.

### **Camping at Philmont**

Camping is the major activity at Philmont. You will camp every day on your trek at Philmont—camps that vary from vast meadows to narrow valleys and lofty mountain tops. Elevations at some camps are less than 7,500 feet; others exceed 10,000 feet. Your itinerary will include several different types of camps, such as starting, staffed, trail, low impact, and dry camps.

Rangers are the only staff in starting camps. Here you will receive ranger training and become further oriented and acclimated to Philmont.

Staffed camps are supervised by a camp director and program counselors to present unique program features. Staffed camps have two-way radio communications with Philmont Logistics Services. You will be assigned a campsite by the staff. Commissaries, trading posts, and showers are available at some staffed camps. See the Itinerary Guidebook for detailed information on camp facilities.

Trail camps have no staff. Here you are completely on your own. All itineraries include multiple trail camps. They are part of your Philmont experience. See the Itinerary Guidebook for ideas about what to do in trail camps.

Dry camps are trail camps that have no water. They are used because they provide scenic vistas, pleasant campsites, and valuable training. But, be aware you may need to carry water for several miles before arriving at your dry camp. Check your itinerary to determine the closest place to get water for all of your camping locations.

All campsites are clearly designated with numbers routed into wood blocks attached to trees. Check your map and use a compass to be sure you're at the right place. On Philmont property, trail camps are designated by rectangular signs with the camp name and a map of campsites. You will get to choose your campsites in trail camps and sometimes the best campsites are secluded. The map will help you locate them. Check your map and use a compass to be sure you are at the right place.

A number of low impact or Leave No Trace camps are located on our neighbors' property. There will not be any signs to designate these camps. If your itinerary includes one or more of these camps, your Ranger will instruct your crew about the special camping techniques required as a part of our special use permits.

## **Hiking**

Hiking is an important part of the Philmont experience. Navigators and Crew Leaders will need to study the map and Crew Leader Itinerary Copy to determine the best route, the number of miles, and the elevation gain and loss. The map can provide many clues to help determine hiking times and scenic stops. Philmont requires that crews hike during daylight with rare exceptions to travel from a nearby trail camp to a staff camp for evening campfires.

## **Night Hiking**

Baldy Mountain, Tooth of Time and Inspiration Point are popular for viewing our beautiful sunrises. If your crew decides to hike in the dark, *all crew members must have a headlamp and carry a daypack only.*

## **Fire Points**

Metal fire rings have been established at all camps. They are to contain fires, reduce possibilities of a wildland fire, limit amounts of wood burned, establish campsites in the most desirable locations, eliminate unnecessary fire lays, and designate the place for all cooking. Do not scar the beauty of Philmont camps by creating unnecessary new fire lays or enlarging existing ones. Keep your fire small—it will be easier to extinguish. Conditions may ban the use of wood fires. Stoves are required for meal preparation.

## **Cooking and Food Pickups**

Cooking methods at Philmont Scout Ranch have changed over the 80+ years the ranch has been in operation. This time has allowed Philmont to find methods that work best to ensure crews have a positive life-changing experience, while ensuring sustainable methods to preserve the lands for future generations.

The cooking method that Philmont Rangers teach is an institutional/expedition-style of cooking that is more efficient for large groups and tailored to our western mountains. This may vary significantly from methods utilized in thru-hiking, solo/small-groups backpacking, or trips to other geographic areas. Philmont staff and administration have tested many different techniques, including those shared in forums, social media groups, and Philmont enthusiast websites in the varying landscapes and conditions throughout the ranch. However, the method that is taught by Philmont staff is the best for our overall operation and the Aims & Methods of Scouting.

Rangers will teach the proper cooking and cleaning procedures to the crew at the beginning of the trek using pots, camp suds, hot water, and Philmont sumps. This is an important skill for crew members to learn and helps reinforce the Patrol Method on the trail by rotating this valuable position on the crew duty roster to all members of the crew. For more information about the Philmont Cooking Method and Alternative Equipment & Methods go to the Cooking Method Document at: [www.philmontscoutranch.org/philmonttreks/shakedown/](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/philmonttreks/shakedown/)

## Food Allergies

Philmont trail food is by necessity a high-carbohydrate, high-caloric diet. It contains wheat, milk products, sugar and corn syrup, and artificial coloring/flavoring. **If an individual in your crew is allergic to some food products on our menu or requires a special diet for medical (including allergies) or religious reasons, suitable replacement food must be purchased at home and brought to Philmont to replace those items.** Food substitutions may only be made for the reasons above. All food shipped to the backcountry is subject to inspection to ensure that food is being substituted for these reasons. There is no fee reduction for individuals who bring their own food.

Participants are responsible for providing their own substitute food. If replacement food is required, go to the Philmont website [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/philmonttreks/dining/](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/philmonttreks/dining/) where a link to the menu and ingredients list can be found. All meals are numbered from 1 to 10. Review this list and determine what items in the meals need to be substituted and prepare a substitute for those items (i.e., D5). When putting the substitutes together, keep in mind that Philmont participants need approximately 3,000 calories a day. Package the items/meals individually and label them with your Expedition Number, person's name, and the meal the substitute is replacing. Do this for all meals with substitutions.

On the day of your arrival at Philmont, your crew's Ranger/Horseman/Wrangler, the Crew Leader, an advisor, and individual(s) needing the substitute food, should bring the food to Logistics. The Logistics staff will then group the meals to correspond with the crew's commissary pick-ups and arrange for food to be delivered to appropriate backcountry commissaries.

Managing food allergies is the responsibility of the participant, and a participant should be able to exercise good judgment in food selection and read food labels prior to arrival at Philmont. Appropriate substitutions can be arranged for food served in the Dining Hall by indicating any food restrictions or allergies on your unit's registration page in the Philmont Gateway and speaking with Dining Hall staff at meal times.

Please visit the Philmont website to review the current menus and ingredients. If you have any questions about food substitutions, please contact Philmont by phone at 575-376-2281 or email [Philmont.Camping@scouting.org](mailto:Philmont.Camping@scouting.org). The menu and ingredient list will be available online by May 1st.

## Alternative Cooking Methods

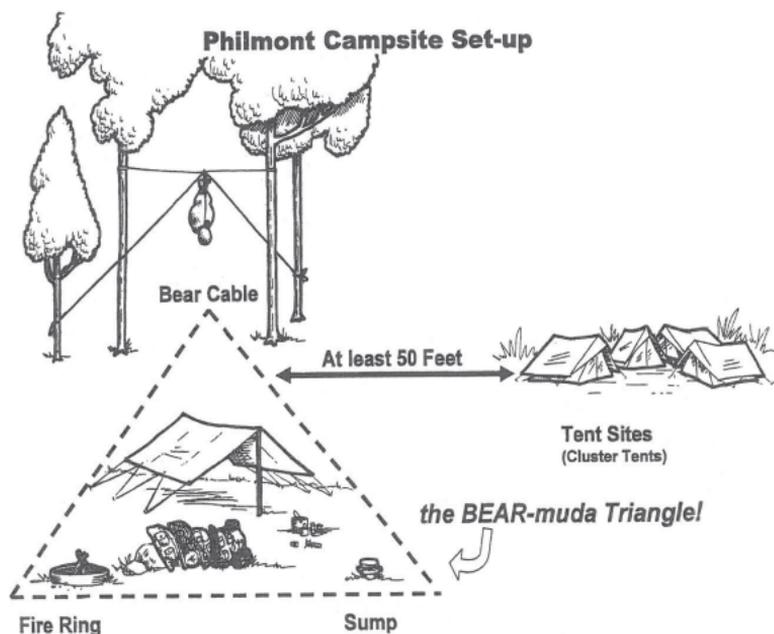
Crews coming to Philmont often inquire about the use of oven cooking bags (also known as "turkey bags"). Their use may be a common practice on camping or backpacking trips on the local level, but Philmont requires that crews DO NOT use this cooking method while on an expedition at Philmont. Rangers will teach the proper cooking and cleaning procedures to the crew at the beginning of the trek using pots, camp suds, hot water, and Philmont sumps. This is an important skill for crew members to learn and helps reinforce the Patrol Method on the trail by rotating this valuable position on the crew duty roster to all members of the crew.

Turkey bags also create an environmental impact, the potential for increased odors that are carried in backpacks, hung in bear bags, or left in refuse containers impact the bear and wildlife procedures. Though Philmont now provides some dinner meals that allow for the pouring of hot water into the meals bags for preparation, these meal bags were already destined for the trash. 23,000 participants in a summer could create over 50,000 more bags that take up scarce refuse space in the backcountry and then have to be hauled to a landfill. Your cooperation in this effort will help support Philmont's multiple sustainability initiatives and will make a positive and lasting impact on the environment.

### **Bearmuda Triangle**

Your Ranger will teach your crew how to set-up your campsite using the "Bearmuda" Triangle. This method concentrates all activities that might have a smell within a triangle formed by the fire ring, sump and bear cable. Tents are set up outside the triangle while backpacks, dining fly, cooking and dish washing are set up inside the triangle.

The tent area should be located at least 50 feet from the "Bearmuda" Triangle.



### **PRESERVING THE PHILMONT WILDERNESS**

Philmont is a magnificent wilderness camping area with an immense network of trails and camps tied together by service roads designed for service and protection of both campers and land.

Since 1938, thousands of young people have enjoyed the great scenic beauty of Philmont's mountain terrain and experienced the unique and memorable programs of its staffed camps. However, in the past, a number of inconsiderate and impolite Scout campers, employing improper camping

methods have marred certain areas of this magnificent land. Consequently, Philmont asks all campers and their advisors to commit themselves to good Scout camping and genuine wilderness understanding.

Each camper and advisor will be asked to sign the Philmont Wilderness Pledge, which declares that they will do everything possible to preserve the beauty and wonder of the Philmont wilderness and its facilities through good Scout camping. It is expected that Philmont campers will follow this pledge at all camping areas that they might visit throughout America.

## WILDERNESS PLEDGE

The 5 areas of emphasis of the Philmont Wilderness Pledge are:

**1. Litter and Graffiti:** Each camper should make sure that all backcountry facilities, trails, campsites, and latrines are left neat and clean, including Camping Headquarters, shower and tent areas.

While litter can be picked up, graffiti often permanently defaces BSA property and detracts from the "Philmont experience". Do not contribute to this problem. Any Graffiti left on Philmont facilities will result in consequences, including the revocation of the Philmont Arrowhead

**2. Wildlife:** Respect Philmont's wildlife, including livestock. Follow all guidelines regarding food handling and trash disposal. Never feed or harass livestock or wild animals.

**3. Water:** You are in a land where water is scarce and very precious. Conservation and wise use of water has been practiced since the first person entered this land. Use water properly; never bathe, do laundry, wash dishes, or play in or near a spring or stream. Do not disturb or throw rocks in springs or touch any solar pumps. They are easily damaged and the flow of water can be disrupted. Everyone needs water and you should leave each spring and stream as clean as you found it.

**4. Trails:** Pledge to respect Philmont trails. Do not cut green boughs or trees, or mark on them. Do not cut across switchbacks, and do not alter or change trail signs.

**5. Campsites:** Each crew is responsible for leaving a neat and orderly campsite, whether it be in Camping Headquarters, staffed camps, or non-staffed camps. Your campsite should be left litter-free with its latrine and sump clean. Fires, if permitted, must be left DEAD OUT and then cleaned of debris before you leave. Do not trench tents; always pitch them on high ground. You should respect the feelings of those crews camping near you and those that will come after you.

Philmont serves over 23,000 Scouts, Venturers, Explorers and leaders each year. Consequently, some trails and camps are subjected to heavy use. Nevertheless, it is not the wear of so many pairs of boots that mars Philmont. It is the carelessness and thoughtlessness of inconsiderate campers. It is our sincere hope that through your commitment to the Philmont Wilderness Pledge and Leave No Trace principles, Philmont will always remain a beautiful and clean place to enjoy high adventure.

## **Leave No Trace**

Hiking and camping without a trace are signs of an expert outdoorsman and of a Scout who cares for the environment and Philmont. Your Wilderness Pledge Guia will lead the crew discussion on each principle. They are:

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and 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.

## **REPORT ARTIFACTS**

Philmont is a natural outdoor biological, geological, archaeological, and historical laboratory and museum. Countless varieties of rock, plants, and animals are found here, as well as abundant evidence of past human habitation from Native Americans (arrowheads, pot shards, grinding stones, etc.) to old mining camps (bottles, cans, equipment, cabins, etc.). Specimens of plants and animals (including mule deer antlers, elk sheds, or animal skulls), or artifacts mentioned above, are to be observed and left where you discover them, not collected and removed from Philmont. Reports of discoveries are helpful in reconstructing Philmont's archaeological and historical past. These should be put in writing and left at the Camping Headquarters during the check-out process.

## **SAFE AND HEALTHY CAMPING AND HIKING**

Strict adherence to proper health and safety practices is crucial at Philmont. Campers are responsible to themselves for remaining strong and healthy. Failure to purify water or to rinse dishes thoroughly may affect everyone in the crew. Health and safety are a crew responsibility, as well as individual ones. Here are some wise trail practices that will help you and your crew be strong, safe, and healthy.

## **Keep Personally Clean**

Good campers are clean. Personal cleanliness will make you feel better. Take pride in the personal appearance of yourself and your crew. Your appearance will be compared with that of other crews from all parts of America. A haircut is recommended the day before you leave for Philmont. Do your best to keep your hair washed and combed when you are in the rugged, challenging wilderness. Showers are usually available (except during drought periods) at Indian Writings, Ponil, Baldy Camp, Sawmill, Cimarroncito, Clarks Fork, Cyphers Mine, Beaubien, Phillips Junction, and Miners Park. Sponge baths can be taken at most camps.

## **Caring for Your Feet**

Proper foot care is essential to a successful Philmont trek. Blisters and foot injuries are one of the most common injuries suffered at Philmont but are completely preventable with some simple steps. Address ingrown toenails and foot issues at home well in advance of your trek. Cut your toenails short and square-don't round corners. Clean feet before and after hiking to remove

any dirt or debris that may cause blisters. Change your socks daily. Always keep your feet and socks dry. Prevent blisters by treating hotspots before they become blisters. If a blister occurs, reduce friction in the affected area by changing shoes and socks, surround with a ring of moleskin or cover with medical tape. Treat cuts and sores on your feet with antiseptic and adhesive bandages.

### **Wash Your Clothes**

The mark of a first-class backpacker is clean clothes. You can wash clothing at shower houses. They will dry quickly in Philmont's low humidity.

### **Feminine Hygiene**

Whether you are expecting your period or not, plan to bring your typical feminine hygiene products with you. You are coming to a new elevation and are exerting your body beyond what you would typically do. The unfamiliar environment and diet can affect your hormone levels causing another period to start even if you just finished your cycle. If you typically have a light flow, it is recommended to bring extra tampons and pads with you because your flow might increase due to the exertion. When choosing what products to bring with you, consider using tampons mostly because pads can cause chafing; but generally, just bring what is comfortable. Diva cups are also a reliable choice on the trail and require less maintenance.

If you have a period on trail, here are some tips on how to make things a little easier so that you can continue to enjoy your experience. First, no matter what type of hygiene product you decided to bring with you, both used and unused are smellable and will need to be treated as such. If you are worried about needing to change your pad or tampon during the night you can put one inside your sock and then inside your shoe before you go to bed. Second, Red Roofs are a perfect and more private place to change your pad or your tampon. Don't dispose of your used products there, instead place them in an opaque Ziploc bag (you will be able to get black Ziplock bags at Outfitting Services) and dispose of them with the rest of your crew's trash. It is also recommended to keep your unused hygiene products in a separate Ziplock bag to keep them dry. If you decided to use a reusable option like a diva cup, then you can pour the contents into a Ziplock bag or into a cathole. If you pour the contents into a Ziplock bag, the bag will need to go up into the bear bag. You can rinse and clean the diva cup with water and toilet paper which will also need to go in the Ziplock or in the cathole.

### **Dehydration**

Low humidity and strenuous activity cause your body to lose enormous amounts of fluids and electrolytes. This fluid loss is occurring even though you may not feel like you are sweating and may not feel thirsty. You need to drink more water than you normally would at home, drinking six to eight quarts per day may be necessary to maintain adequate hydration. The salt content of Philmont's meals is adequate to replace your loss of salt from sweating. Salt tablets are not recommended, but alternating water and ½ strength sports drinks is encouraged.

Symptoms of dehydration include light-headedness, dizziness, nausea, general weakness, muscle cramps, and sometimes fever and chills. Hot, dry, clear days accelerate loss of body fluids. To prevent potential dehydration, problems plan to hike early in the morning to avoid the intense heat of midday and take more water breaks than you normally would. As always, prevention is key.

### **Heat Exhaustion**

Prolonged physical exertion in a hot environment may cause heat exhaustion. Symptoms of heat exhaustion are faint or weak feeling, dizziness, nausea, or a rapid pulse. Body temperature usually remains near normal. The afflicted person should rest in a comfortable, shaded environment and drink fluids.

### **Heat Stroke**

If heat exhaustion is left unrecognized and untreated it may progress into heat stroke. In heat stroke the body's cooling mechanisms stop functioning and the body temperature soars. Symptoms of heat stroke may include hot, red, dry skin, but is most recognizable by the change in the level of consciousness. To treat heat stroke, cool the patient immediately with a dip in a stream or put him/her in the shade and drape bare skin with wet cloths. When the patient is able to drink, give fluids. Treat for shock and get help.

### **Hyperventilation**

A feeling of panic accompanied by rapid breathing with shallow breath is symptomatic of hyperventilation. The subject loses carbon dioxide from the bloodstream and may become numb around the mouth and in the extremities. If untreated, the person may experience violent spasms in the hands and feet and even lose consciousness. Hyperventilation occurs fairly frequently, especially among teenagers and young adults while undergoing strenuous activity at high elevation. Difficulty breathing or breathing heavily while hiking is normal and shouldn't be confused with hyperventilation.

Although it is usually not serious for an otherwise healthy person, the symptoms of hyperventilation can be frightening to the subject and the crew. The most effective treatment is to have the subject re-breathe his or her own air from a plastic bag or stuff sack. The higher concentration of carbon dioxide in re-breathed air will enter the lungs within 10-20 minutes, the carbon dioxide will restore to a normal balance. Reassure the subject and tell the person to take long, deep breaths from the bag.

### **Hypothermia**

Hypothermia results from exposure to cold, wet weather, with most cases developing in air temperatures of 30° to 50°F (common in Philmont's high country). Wind, wet clothing, or exhaustion increase the chance of hypothermia. Always carry rain gear with you on side hikes and put it on before it begins to rain. Symptoms include faltering coordination, slurred speech, loss of good judgment, disorientation, numbness, and fatigue. Wet clothing must be replaced with dry, (preferably wool or polypropylene)

clothing. Apply heat to the head, neck, sides, and groin with warm-water bottles. Put the patient in a sleeping bag and give hot sugary liquids (if able to drink without choking). Do not rub the subject's body, as that may cause injury. If the patient is able to sit up and eat encourage him or her to eat a snack as increased metabolism from digestion will help to warm the patient.

## **Sunburn**

Prevent sunburn by wearing a broad-brimmed hat and applying a high-numbered sunscreen (at least 25 SPF). Cover the most susceptible parts of your body (nose, head, face, neck, ears, back of knees, and legs). Fair-skinned campers should apply protection early in the morning and reapply it during the day. If you do become sunburned, treat it immediately. Get the afflicted person to shade and administer fluids. The incidence of developing skin cancer is fairly high among people who have been severely sunburned during childhood. Taking preventative measures is a wise precaution.

## **Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS)**

Participants who live at less than 3,000 feet elevation may require 2 to 3 days or more to adapt to a higher elevation above 6,000 feet. Teenagers and young adults have a higher incidence of acute mountain sickness (AMS). A gradual ascent of not more than 1,000 feet per day (above 6,000 feet) elevation will help prevent AMS. Physical symptoms of AMS include headache, insomnia, fatigue, shortness of breath, lassitude and intestinal upset. Psychologically, a person may become irritable and have difficulty concentrating. AMS usually occurs at elevations in excess of 6,500 feet—all of Philmont qualifies.

To help your body adjust to the altitude make sure to maintain good hydration, eat full meals and get a good night sleep in the first few days at elevation. Descending to a lower elevation, avoidance of strenuous activity and taking Tylenol or Ibuprofen for headache may relieve the symptoms of AMS. If this is not successful within 24 hours, the subject may need to be transported to base camp. While regular physical conditioning prior to the trek is beneficial, it does not prevent the development of AMS.

## **Protection from Hantavirus**

Hantavirus is thought to be the cause of respiratory distress syndrome. This illness has affected persons in most western states. Rodents are the primary carriers of recognized hantavirus. It is believed that hantavirus is carried in the urine, feces and saliva of deer mice, rabbits and possibly other wild rodents. A person contracts hantavirus by coming into contact with rodent feces, urine, saliva or things that have been contaminated by them. This illness is not suspected to be spread from one person to another.

All participants and staff engaged in hiking and camping should take the following precautions to reduce the likelihood of exposure to potentially infectious materials.

- Avoid coming into contact with rodents and rodent burrows or disturbing dens (such as pack rat nests).
- Do not pitch tents or place sleeping bags in areas in proximity to rodent

feces or burrows or near possible rodent shelters (e.g., garbage boxes or woodpiles).

- Do not use or enter cabins or other enclosed shelters that are rodent infested until they have been appropriately cleaned and disinfected. Report these to the next staffed camp.
- Do not sleep on the bare ground. Use of tents with floors and good ground cloths is required.
- Store food in a bear bag hung from a cable.
- Properly package all garbage and trash, and discard in covered trash containers at staffed camps.
- Use only water that has been disinfected by boiling, chlorination, iodination or purification for drinking, cooking, washing dishes and brushing teeth.

### **Avoid the Plague**

Rabies and bubonic plague are potentially transmitted by fleas carried by rabbits, bats, ground squirrels, chipmunks, and other rodents. Do not handle any animals. Do not feed any animals. Keep your tent zipped closed to prevent rodents entering.

### **Accidents**

Most accidents occur late in the day in camp, not on the trail. Many of them involve horseplay. Fatigue, mild dehydration, and altitude effects may impair a crew member's performance and judgment. Rock throwing, improper use of equipment, foolishness in hanging bear bags, climbing steep rocky ridges, running through campsites, climbing trees, and carelessness around fire lays are prevalent causes of accidents. To avoid them, individual and crew discipline should be maintained, and safety practiced in all activities.

### **Stress and Group Dynamics**

Eleven days in the rugged Philmont terrain sometimes produces mental and emotional stress, especially for members of crews whose training and preparation back home has been minimal.

Each crew is subjected to physical demands such as carrying a 35-50-pound backpack; gasping for breaths at high elevations; facing weather conditions varying from hot, blazing sun to cold, wet, foggy periods of several days; and getting started on camp chores early and doing them efficiently to participate in programs at the next staffed camp. These physical demands can create irritability and mental stress.

Personality differences and minor internal crew conflicts sometimes produce emotional stress. Each crew member should ask, "How can I eliminate or reduce my habits that may be offensive to others?" Good leadership on the part of the Crew Leader can help reduce the potential for conflicts. The Crew Leader should 1) discuss alternative choices with the crew, 2) listen to each crew member's ideas, 3) make decisions in the best interest of the entire crew, 4) assign duties to implement those decisions, 5) evaluate how the crew did with input from each individual. Giving objective feedback based on observed behaviors rather than directing it to a specific

person or persons can be extremely beneficial in resolving conflicts.

If stress is beyond the capabilities of the crew to manage, contact the nearest staffed camp for help. Depending upon the circumstances, a camp director or Philmont Chaplain may be called in to assist. If a serious conflict develops, a camp director or chaplain has better success in helping the crew overcome it when called early, instead of allowing it to escalate.

### **Purify All Drinking Water**

All water from all sources—including springs, streams and wells—must be purified. (Most staff camps have treated water. Be sure to check with staff that water is safe to drink.)

The most effective treatment to purify water is to heat it to a rolling boil. Philmont provides Micropur tablets that release chlorine-dioxide that is effective at killing waterborne bacteria and viruses that cause disease.

Some crews choose to carry water filters in order to remove small particles from water collected in streams. (Purifiers remove giardia, bacteria, cryptosporidia and viruses – most filters do not remove viruses.) If using a filter, you will most likely also have to use additives, or boiling to kill all viruses. You must bring extra cartridges and spare parts.

### **Dishwashing Procedures**

After each meal, scrape and wipe dishes, utensils, and pots as clean as possible. Wash using a mild, biodegradable soap in warm water. Use scrub pads to remove hardened food remains. Rinse dishes in boiling water. Before each meal sterilize dishes, utensils and pots in boiling water. This disinfects any contamination from being in a pack.

Dishes and utensils will air dry quickly in Philmont's low humidity. Wash your dishes near a sump, not a water spigot which may contaminate the area. Proper washing, rinsing, and sterilizing of dishes and utensils will prevent diarrhea, dysentery and a host of other medical problems.

### **Use of Sumps**

When disposing of waste water, drain it through a strainer provided by Philmont. The water should be disposed of in a provided sump or at least 200 feet from any campsite or water source. Solid matter should be carried to the next staffed camp.

### **Disposal of Trash and Garbage**

Proper disposal of trash and garbage insures a clean camp and protects everyone's health. Do not bury garbage or dump it in latrines; bears and rodents will soon retrieve it. Put trash and garbage in a plastic bag and give to a staff member at the nearest staffed camp. Philmont asks that you consolidate your trash as much as possible to reduce the volume before giving it to a staffed camp. Your Ranger will explain the recycling programs available for some backcountry items.

### **Latrines**

Pit latrines are provided for your use in backcountry camps. They should be kept clean and free of graffiti by members of your crew. At other locations

you may need to dig a cat hole. Dig it at least 200 feet from any trail, water, or campsite. Dig the hole about 6 inches deep, but no deeper than the organic topsoil. After use, fill the hole completely, pack and mound the earth to avoid erosion. Garbage and trash must not be put in any latrine because animals will dig it out.

## **Tobacco**

Our Scout Oath reminds us to keep ourselves physically strong. The use of smokeless or smoking tobacco, including vaping and E-cigarettes adversely affects the body and causes cancer. Because of the ever-present wildland fire danger, smoking is not permitted on Philmont trails. If adults must smoke in the backcountry, do it in an established camp near an unused fire ring. No smoking is permitted in Camping Headquarters except the designated area: back room of Advisors Lounge. Please refer to: [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss04/](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss04/).

## **Alcohol and Drugs**

Scouting activities are not a place to possess, distribute, transport, consume, or use any of the following items prohibited by law or in violation of any Scouting rules, regulations, and policies: alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, including marijuana. Possession of unprescribed drugs or misuse of prescribed drugs are also expressly prohibited. Groups or individuals found in violation of this national Boy Scouts of America policy will be sent home immediately at their expense.

## **Firearms, Weapons, Fireworks**

Firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, tomahawks, etc. are used at Philmont on a closely controlled basis under proper, trained supervision. Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on camping, hiking, backpacking, or other Scouting activities, including to Philmont Scout Ranch. If you cannot avoid bringing a firearm, it must be in a locked case and checked in for safekeeping at the registration office when you arrive and checked out when you depart. **DO NOT** store firearms in vehicles!

Sheath knives, fixed blade knives and hatchets are not to be brought to Philmont. Fireworks are dangerous, pose a fire danger, and are prohibited to be possessed at all Scouting functions.

## **Prevent Wildland Fires**

Our forests are a beautiful and valuable heritage. Philmont's dry climate requires everyone's cooperation to prevent wildland fires. The United States Forest Service points out that good outdoorsmen follow these practices when using fires:

1. Never build a fire against a tree, stump, root, or log as it may be difficult to control or put out.
2. Avoid building a fire on a grassy area, as this destroys one of our most valuable assets. Grass will not grow for several years on a fire spot. (At Philmont, always use established fire rings.)

3. Rake up flammable material before building a fire.
4. Never toss a match away. Put it in the fire or hold the match until it stops smoking, then break it between the thumb and fingers of one hand and step on it.
5. Never leave a fire unwatched, even for a few minutes.
6. Never try to put a fire out by scattering it.
7. Put out your fire with sand, damp earth or, best of all, water. After the first soaking, stir the ashes with a stick and add more water, then feel it with your hands to make sure it is out.
8. Keep in mind the forest and wildlife resources and possibly, human lives you are protecting by your care in handling fire.

Be alert for wildfires. If you see white smoke boiling up, you may have spotted a wildland fire. Prairie fires spread quickly, and their smoke is sweeping. If you spot a fire or think you have, report it to your Advisor, who will report it to the nearest camp director or staff member as soon as possible. Your crew should not attempt to fight wildfires and should quickly leave the area. Trained fire fighters will extinguish fires quickly once they are reported.

### **Smart Phones**

In an age of technology, smart phones are a common tool to use in everyday life, and just like a pocketknife, there are proper and improper ways to use this tool within Scouting. While backpacking in the wilderness of Philmont is an experience best enjoyed without the distractions of technology, Philmont recognizes that their use is more common than ever. Photographs and videos can be taken on these phones and a number of useful outdoor “apps” are widely available.

If it is imperative that a smart phone be taken on the trail, please ensure that it is being utilized in a way that enhances the Philmont experience, not detracts from the adventure for your crew or that of other crews on the trail. Please be aware that cell phone service is very limited in Philmont’s backcountry. Download off-line apps that will help the learning experience! Find a good star/constellation app, or an animal tracks/scat/calls app, compare bird calls you hear on the trail with a bird call app, or the Boy Scout Handbook app might prove useful on the trail. Reserve texting and phone calls for emergency use only, make it a contest to see how long crew members can go without using their phone! Also, keep in mind that there are NO opportunities on the trail or in any backcountry camp to charge a smart phone, camera, or other electronic device. Please plan on using a solar charger for your devices. Guidelines for use should be reviewed by the crew prior to and during their trek.

### **Drones**

Philmont does not allow the use of drones by participants for any purpose and restricts the use of drones to only include the Philmont Marketing Department and the Philmont Fire Department.

## Climbing

Falls from cliffs and rocky ridges are the most serious accidents that occur at Philmont. Campers should be constantly alert to this very present danger when climbing steep, rocky, mountain slopes. Common sense will enable you to differentiate between difficult and dangerous areas and bypass them completely.

Philmont conducts rock climbing at three staffed camps. *These are the only places where rock climbing is to be done*, and then only under the supervision of Philmont rock climbing staff.

Avoid throwing or rolling rocks. This is particularly dangerous in steep country. There may be other hikers below you. The "A-B-C" of mountain climbing is Always Be Careful.

## Lightning

Reduce lightning risk in the backcountry by timing your visits to high-risk areas with local weather patterns, find safer terrain if you hear thunder, avoid trees and long conductors once lightning gets close, and get in the lightning position if lightning is striking nearby and you can't get to safer terrain. There is no safe place outside in a thunderstorm.

### **Types of Lightning Danger:**

- **Ground Current** - 50-55% of all injuries - is electrical current dispersing through the ground. **KEEP YOUR FEET TOGETHER AND TOUCHING.** (One point of contact)
- **Side Flash** - 30-35% of all injuries - occurs by lightning arching away from a tall object to less resistance and not following the object to the ground. **AVOID STANDING CLOSE TO TALL OBJECTS.**
- **Upward Leaders** - 10-15% of all injuries - launched from the tops of tall objects including people near each downward leader. Suppress the tendency to launch a streamer by **CROUCHING WHILE IN THE LIGHTNING POSITION.**
- **Touch Volt** - 3-5% of all injuries - caused by contacting voltage in another object such as a wire or metal fence. **AVOID CONTACT** during lightning storms.
- **Direct Strike** - 3-5% of all injuries - is the least common of all lightning strike injuries. **STRIVE TO MOVE TO SAFER TERRAIN.**

## Lightning Position

It is important to keep your feet together and touching. (Ground Current) If possible move to a crouching position. (Upward Leaders) It is also acceptable to sit on your backpack and pull your knees in to create the smallest contact with the pack. The crew should try and spread out at least 30 feet apart. If one member of your crew is jolted, the rest of you can give assistance. Keep track of one another by numbering off in a loud voice from time to time. If you are in a tent and a lightning storm approaches, sit up on your foam pad and pull your knees in to create the smallest contact with the ground. Be sure to pitch your tent in an area that is protected from lightning strikes.

## **Flash Floods**

In mountainous country, small streams can become raging rivers in a few minutes or even seconds. It is important to be alert to the possibility of flash floods and take steps to avoid a dangerous encounter. During and after periods of heavy rain, stay away from natural drainage areas. Always know where you are and how to get to higher ground. Watch for indicators of flash flooding such as an increase in the speed or volume of stream flow.

Beware of areas directly affected by or downstream from lands impacted by previous wildland fires. Pitch your tents on higher ground. Never attempt to cross a stream that is over knee deep on anyone in the crew. Retreat to the nearest staffed camp and request an itinerary change. Stay out of flood waters and narrow canyons.

## **What to Do When Confused**

When your crew hikes together, instead of spreading out over a long distance on the trail, the possibility of anyone becoming confused is remote. By using a map and a compass with reasonable proficiency, you will always know where you are. Never allow one member of your crew to leave camp or side hike alone. Follow the “rule of four” by always hiking together in groups of four or more. If one person is injured, one treats the injured and the other two go for help.

Philmont has many trails. If you become confused, it is best to stay put. Make camp at a safe place, build a fire, and keep it going. (This should be done very carefully during drought conditions.) This may help a search party. Prepare your crew for a comfortable night. Extra food can boost the morale of a confused crew.

## **Bears**

Bears are a unique and natural part of the Philmont environment. Like all wild animals they must be treated with respect. The black bear is not normally aggressive, and many crews will not even see one.

Anything with an odor (except the human scent) may attract bears. It does not matter if the odor is food-related. Any odor may generate a curiosity in a bear which may result in a closer examination of that odor. At Philmont, all items with a smell are placed in a bear bag and hung at night or during the day when participating in program. It would be useful for each member of the crew to have their own ditty bag with their personal smellables in it to put in the bear bag. A few of these items are food, soaps, toothbrushes and toothpaste, lip balm, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, and first aid kits.

Good Scout camping practices are the best way to avoid contact with the bears. Avoid carelessness that results in improperly disposed food. Store all uneaten food in a bear bag. Do not put uneaten food in a latrine. Cook close to the fire ring and away from the sleeping area. Clean up only at the sump. Never eat food in a tent—the odor remains after the food is gone. Tents must be used for sleeping.

Human scent does not attract bears. The superficial application of scented lotions, soaps, deodorants, shampoo, or spilled food may however, attract

the attention of bears. Washing the body with various products should be done before mid-afternoon so that the residual smells have dissipated before night. Avoid perfumed products with strong odors. Any clothing on which food has been spilled must be placed away from the sleeping area at night. Deodorant is not allowed on the trail. Use sunscreen and insect repellent in time for odors to dissipate before night.

If a bear does visit your campsite, stay away from it and make noise. Protect your food by hanging it from a cable erected by Philmont for that purpose. Crews that stop for a program or a conservation project should check with staff for bear procedures. Crews hiking off Philmont onto our neighbors' lands will need an extra rope for hanging bear bags. In Philmont camps the weight of the rope alone is sufficient to carry it over the cable. On neighbors' property, where there are no cables, crews will be instructed on how to create their own cable and bear bag system using three ropes. Never risk injury by attempting to protect your food or equipment from a bear. When you arrive at Philmont, your Ranger will thoroughly train you on those camping practices that are most effective in keeping wildlife away from your camp.

### **Rattlesnakes**

Some parts of Philmont are inhabited by prairie rattlesnakes. They generally live at elevations below 8,000 feet. Prairie rattlers are not aggressive unless provoked and usually sound a warning rattle before striking. If you see one, give it a respectful distance. Rattlesnakes are beneficial in controlling rodent population. Do not attempt to kill one yourself—report it to the nearest staff member. Rattlesnake bites are rare at Philmont.

### **Insects**

During wet periods mosquitoes take a new lease on life and they love to feast on young blood. Caution should be taken to prevent possible infection by West Nile Virus. Keep tents zipped closed to reduce the number of mosquitoes from entering. Insect repellent is recommended for the trail.

Philmont monitors the risk of any mosquito borne illnesses in our area. Updated information will be shared at the Advisors Meeting upon arrival.

There are bees and wasps at Philmont. If you are allergic to stings, be sure you have proper medication and that a crew member is informed of your condition and the treatment you may require.

## **MEDICAL TREATMENT**

Each crew carries its own first aid kit to treat minor cuts, scratches and burns. Philmont requires that at least two persons in each crew be currently certified in Wilderness First Aid and CPR (or equivalent). More serious cases can be treated by Philmont's trained Backcountry Staff. Backcountry staff work with Philmont Infirmary staff, which include physicians, nurses, medical students, and trained emergency response staff. All staff camps have two-way radios for reporting serious illnesses and injuries to the Infirmary. The Infirmary can provide recommendations for treatment over the radio,

arrange transport to base, or send a medical team to the patient.

Everyone who gives first aid when blood or body fluids may be present must wear protective gloves. Anyone who comes into contact with body fluids or substances should immediately wash with soap and water skin surfaces that came in contact with body fluids. Report it at the next staff camp so that they can contact the Infirmary.

Several Philmont employees are certified by the New Mexico State Police to serve as Field Coordinators for search and rescue operations. When necessary, Philmont can request resources from throughout the state of New Mexico and adjacent states including trained search and rescue personnel (in addition to the Philmont staff), search dogs, trackers, helicopters and other support. Philmont has written plans for managing different types of emergencies that may arise. Staff are trained in how to respond to emergencies that are most likely to occur.

The most common injuries/illnesses treated at the Philmont Infirmary are:

- Sprains (knee or ankle)
- Abrasions/Lacerations/Blisters
- Altitude Sickness
- Dehydration
- Upper Respiratory Infections
- Upset Stomach
- Sore Throat
- Nose Bleeds

First aid providers should be knowledgeable in recognizing and treating these ailments.

### **First Aid Kit**

These items are recommended for a first aid kit to be used by a crew en route to, during, and returning home from a Philmont trek.

25 Assorted Band-Aids	Blister Kit
10 Gauze Pads 4x4	Antihistamines (Benadryl)
1 Tape Roll 1"x5 yards	Disposable Alcohol Wipes
1 Elastic Bandage 4"	Triple Antibiotic Ointment
Hydrocortisone Cream	CPR Barrier Device
Tylenol	Triangular Bandage
Ibuprofen	Small Scissors
Antacids	Throat Lozenges
Medicated Foot Powder	Tweezers
Non-Latex Gloves	Ziploc or Small Biohazard Bag

Many "over the counter" medicines and first aid supplies are available at the Tooth of Time Traders and backcountry trading posts.

## Camper Insurance Coverage

All campers and leaders are covered by a limited accident and sickness plan through Health Special Risk, Inc. The policy has a maximum coverage of \$15,000 for medical benefits and \$7,500 for sickness expense benefits and includes an excess insurance provision. The plan will pay all eligible expenses incurred from a covered accident or sickness not paid by any other collectible insurance or pre-paid health plan. There is no deductible under this plan.

## Emergency Transportation Costs

Philmont can assist with transportation arrangements to nearby travel hubs when a family emergency (death or illness) occurs during an expedition requiring a participant to return home, or if the participant must return home for personal medical reasons. Be aware that because Philmont is in a remote location, transportation may not be available on short notice and there could be a delay before a participant is able to depart. Participants who must return home before the end of their expedition are responsible for **all** transportation costs to the airport. Travel costs to nearby travel hubs need to be paid directly to Philmont. Philmont will coordinate rides to: Raton train station/ Greyhound bus station, Albuquerque airport, Colorado Springs airport, and Denver International Airport at a cost. Reimbursement of approved travel costs and ticket change costs may be covered by camper insurance.

## PROGRAM FEATURES

Each itinerary is carefully developed to give your crew the maximum enjoyment of hiking and camping in the high mountains of the Sangre de Cristos. Itineraries also include certain staffed camps where you will pick up food and participate in program features. Although programs are not compulsory, they are recommended to get the most benefit from your Philmont experience.

## Archaeology

The *Ponil* country in the northern section is rich in the prehistoric background of Native Americans. Your crew can help reconstruct Philmont history while participating in this fascinating program and learning about the tribes who inhabited this area.

An educated archaeologist and staff explain and supervise the program in the North Ponil Canyon at *Indian Writings* camp. Activities may include assisting with excavations or preparing specimens and artifacts.

PLEASE NOTE: You can assist the archaeology program by being observant as you hike the trails. You may discover an artifact that will lead to further discoveries. Philmont's antiquities rightfully belong to Philmont and are most meaningful when left where found. Others can then share the benefit of your discovery. Please report all finds to one of the staff archaeologists at Indian Writings, the National Scouting Museum, or Camping Headquarters.

## Blacksmithing

The ring of hammer striking iron echoes through the mountains around *Black Mountain, Cyphers Mine, French Henry, Metcalf Station, and Rayado/*

**Kit Carson.** Here, staff blacksmiths will acquaint you with a working forge, blower, leg vice, hardie, and an array of tongs used to grip red-hot iron. They will discuss and demonstrate techniques for firing the forge, working metal, and tempering the finished product.

### **Burro Packing**

No animal is more closely associated with the colorful history of the Southwest than the burro. Burro packing methods are explained and demonstrated at **Ponil** and **Miranda**. Your tents and food may be packed on burrows using a diamond hitch.

Burros are available for use on the trail in the northern portion of the ranch, starting or ending at **Ponil** and **Miranda**. Burro traps (holding pens for overnight stops) are located at **Ponil**, **Pueblano**, **Miranda**, **Elkhorn**, **Flume Canyon**, **Head of Dean**, and **Baldy Skyline**. Hay for feeding is provided at these camps. If your itinerary provides for packing burros, take advantage of this unique opportunity to pack them just as the miners once did. All crews on a Burro Itinerary must take a burro.

### **Cantina**

**Abreu** and **Ponil** offer the opportunity for a thirst-quenching root beer in a Mexican or Western-style cantina. You can buy root beer for your whole crew or a cup for yourself.

### **Challenge Events**

A series of activities that will test the teamwork, skill, and resourcefulness of your crew awaits you at **Dan Beard**, **Head of Dean**, and **Urraca**. While the challenges can be met by every crew, the real contest is with yourself. Did you do your best? How would you do better next time? What did your crew learn that will help you work together to meet the challenges of your trek?

### **Chase Ranch**

The **Chase Ranch** is located along the Ponil Creek adjacent to Philmont Scout Ranch. It was founded by Manly and Teresa Chase in 1867 and has been operated through four generations of family members. Beginning in November 2013, Philmont Scout Ranch established a special use permit with the Chase Foundation and began operation of the Historic Chase Ranch.

A trailhead and bus turnaround to begin and end treks is located near the Main House at the Chase Ranch. Tours are offered of the 1871 house and surrounding grounds. Several itineraries cross portions of the Chase Ranch and two Low Impact Camps have been designated in Chase Canyon. A staffed camp has also been added at the old Chase Cow Camp and features a rock climbing and rappelling program.

### **Conservation**

In 1938, Waite Phillips donated the first tract of what would become Philmont Scout Ranch to the Boy Scouts of America. Prior to that gift and even before Phillips' ownership, that same land had been inhabited for thousands of years by Ute, Comanche, Pueblo, and Jicarilla Apache people. As American colonization began in the 1800s, and as mining, logging, and

ranching industrialized the landscape, the high desert environment began to experience use of an unprecedented intensity. Over the past 80+ years, Phillips' original gift and subsequent multi-thousand-acre acquisitions have come to host over one million Scouts camping, hiking, and horse-back riding.

Intense land use of the last 200 years has not occurred without an impact on the local ecosystem and landscape. Phillips envisioned that Scouts have the opportunity to give back to the Ranch by working to preserve its integrity as a natural recreational resource. Since its beginning, Scouts visiting Philmont have been able to preserve, repair, and enhance the natural integrity of the Ranch for future generations by participating in projects ranging from trail construction and maintenance, stream restoration, and fire rehabilitation to forest fuels reduction, erosion control, and invasive species removal. Your crew will have the same opportunity this coming summer. As a requirement for the Arrowhead Award, your trek itinerary will feature an assigned 3-hour conservation project critical to the continued operation of Philmont Scout Ranch. This project will be facilitated by trained Conservation Department staff at one of several conservation sites across the Ranch.

In contrast to the Arrowhead Award, ten hours of conservation work are required for the 50-Miler Award. The three hours earned at Philmont for the Arrowhead Award may be applied toward that requirement, and the remaining seven may be completed in your local council or elsewhere. However, crews may also elect to complete all 10 hours at Philmont conservation sites. If your crew is interested in this option, please speak to Logistics during trek planning as well as the Conservation Department during your Wilderness Pledge Guia's meeting.

**Due to project needs, priorities, attendance, and land use agreements, all project locations, times, and work are subject to change. Project assignments will be updated after itinerary selection. These modifications will be communicated when available. Any subsequent modifications will be further communicated in as timely a manner as possible.** Please know that these necessary changes are not made lightly, and that every effort will be made to provide for the least interruption to the rest of your crew's trek. Your work is vital to the continuation of sustainable land use at Philmont, and on behalf of the Ranch, the BSA, and every Scout who has ever or will ever come to Philmont, the Conservation Department extends its deepest appreciation for your time and efforts.

### **Continental Tie & Lumber Company**

The exciting legend of the loggers with the Continental Tie and Lumber Company will come to life through the staff at *Pueblano* and *Crater Lake*. They will share their skills of spar pole climbing and the use of wood tools and instruments. Competition in exciting logging events such as log toss, cross-cut sawing, and log tong races will challenge your crew.

### **Demonstration Forest**

Between *Hunting Lodge* and *Clarks Fork*, near Cito Reservoir, a Demonstration Forest has been developed with the support of the American

Tree Farm Organization. Be sure your crew takes time to learn about the forests and various forest practices taking place at Philmont. A visiting Forester will be available to visit with crew.

### **Environmental Awareness**

Become acquainted with some of the western birds, wildflowers, mammals, lizards, snakes, and insects in this natural outdoor wonderland. Discover what wildlife passed through camp by observing tracks and other signs—view how plant and animal species change as you climb higher into the mountains and learn why these changes occur—walk past the timberline and observe the life that survives the rigors of this high-altitude environment.

Across the Ranch, staff members will offer a program of environmental awareness through Philmont's STEM initiatives. These programs will help you understand Philmont's flora, fauna, geology, and life zones, and how that can be a part of maintaining the natural order of things so others that follow can enjoy them too.

A Philmont Field Guide is available at the Tooth of Time Traders. It will enhance your environmental awareness during your trek.

### **Fly Tying and Fly Fishing**

The Rayado and Agua Fria streams in the south offer excellent trout fishing. Though not large, these trout are wary and exciting to catch as a part of Philmont's catch and release fishing programs. Fly rods may be checked out at **Hunting Lodge, Fish Camp, Abreu, and Phillips Junction**.

At **Fish Camp**, a program counselor with material and equipment will show you how to tie your own trout flies. The thrill of catching a trout on a fly you have tied is hard to beat. Near **Fish Camp, Phillips Junction, and Abreu** a catch-and-release program is in effect. If you don't know how to remove the hook from your fish, a program counselor will demonstrate the correct methods. A tour of Waite Phillips' fishing lodge, including a narrative of area history is also offered. All fishermen are required to have a current New Mexico state fishing license.

### **Geology**

Philmont staff and volunteer geologists have teamed up to provide an exciting and educational program of geology and mining technology at sites where history comes alive—**Cyphers Mine, Baldy Town, and French Henry**.

### **Gold Mining and Panning**

Gold is still found in almost all streams at Philmont, which was once the scene of lucrative gold-mining operations. Mine shafts, sluice boxes, and placer mines dot the mountainsides and valleys. If your itinerary takes you to **Cyphers Mine** or **French Henry**, you will tour a real gold mine. Not working now, the mines are carefully maintained so you can tour the mine shaft. Bring your jacket and a flashlight for the tour. Learn about adventures and hardships as determined, miners sought their fortunes in these historic mountains. When you find some gold, ask one of the staff miners for some cellophane tape so you can take your discovery home. Gold pans are

available for you to use at **Cyphers Mine** and **French Henry**. You may even run across one of our Roving Prospectors; they will help you learn about gold panning and prospecting too!

### **Homesteading**

At **Crooked Creek**, **Rich Cabins**, and **Abreu** your crew will visit a working homestead. The staff will help you learn early day skills such as candle and soap making, primitive farming, wood tool use, and care of farmyard animals. In keeping with the Southwestern spirit of the program, you will be instructed in preparing a special Mexican meal at **Abreu**.

### **Horse Rides**

Philmont owns and maintains a remuda of 300 western horses with strings located at **Beaubien**, **Clarks Fork**, and **Ponil**. All three camps offer exhilarating mountain horse rides at times noted on crew itinerary. Be prompt for your scheduled ride. Reservations are made at Logistics on a first-come, first-served basis upon arrival at Philmont. Philmont wranglers are courteous but strict. They make certain everyone stays in line and maintains the pace to avoid endangering members of your crew. Even skilled riders cannot be permitted to ride at a different pace or away from the group. Please cooperate with the wranglers by following instructions for a safe and enjoyable ride. For your personal safety you will wear a helmet, which will be provided. Ponchos and maps should not be taken since they may frighten the horses. Wear long trousers on your horse ride to protect your legs. Closed toe shoes are required to protect your feet. Persons weighing over 200 pounds will not be permitted to ride.

### **Jicarilla Apache Life**

**Apache Springs** offers a unique program featuring the lifestyle of the Jicarilla Apache. You will see how the Jicarilla worked and played. A replica Jicarilla village has been erected for this program. Teepees are furnished with realistic fireplaces, back rests, robes, hides, and baskets for you to see. 3-D and Sporting Arrows programs will also be offered. After that, you can enjoy a "Jicarilla sauna" in a sweat lodge, followed by dousing with cold water (subject to fire restrictions).

### **Low Impact Camping**

Wildland ethics depend upon attitude and awareness rather than on rules and regulations. While camping off of Philmont property in the Valle Vidal or any other locations, you are expected to employ Leave No Trace methods at **Dan Beard**, **Rich Cabins** and other entry points into the Valle Vidal. You will have the opportunity to learn how to enjoy wildland with respect to hiking, camping, eating meals, and disposal of trash without leaving a scar or trace. Your Wilderness Pledge Guia and Ranger will help you learn the techniques of Leave No Trace.

## Mountaineering

Although not a staff-sponsored program feature, mountaineering can be as fun and exciting as any. Restless adventurers seek challenges, camaraderie, spectacular views, fields of delicate wildflowers, stimulating exercise, and solace by climbing high mountains. You can fulfill these urges at Philmont where many challenging mountains await.

Mount Phillips stands at 11,736 feet above sea level, towering over the beautiful southwest section of Philmont. This peak is a rugged climb with fabulous views of Eagle Nest Lake, Wheeler Peak (the highest peak in New Mexico at 13,161 feet of elevation), and most of Philmont.

Baldy Mountain, named for its rocky, barren top, is a favorite climb for those camping in the area at and around Baldy Town. Dotted with old gold mines, Baldy Mountain is the highest peak at Philmont, standing at 12,441 feet above sea level. The view from the top is unobstructed and spectacular.

The Tooth of Time, the iconic incisor sitting at 9,003 feet of elevation, rises abruptly 2,500 feet from the valley floor. A landmark among the old Santa Fe Trail would signify to settlers moving out West that they were approximately two weeks from arriving in Santa Fe.

Big Red, Black Mountain, Hart Peak, Lookout Peak, Trail Peak, and many other peaks will test your stamina and give you breathtaking views of surrounding terrain. Little Costilla Peak at 12,584 feet above sea level is located in the Valle Vidal. Many false peaks will keep you guessing as you work to reach the summit.

Always carry water, rain gear, a jacket, and other essentials when mountaineering.

## Philmont Campfires

Throughout the backcountry, various staffed camps conduct special evening campfires and programs.

**Urraca Mesa's** campfire will regale your crew with some of the most famous ghost stories and mysterious lore of the ranch with music and songs to boot!

**Pueblano**, and **Crater Lake** campfires relate to the tales of the Old West, logging, and the history of the land. Facts about the Beaubien-Miranda Land Grant come alive, and the influence of Waite Phillips and his gift of Philmont to the BSA provides for a special inspiration.

At **Beaubien** and **Clarks Fork**, the focus is on the Old West with its songs and stories and true cowboy atmosphere. **Ponil** offers a nightly Old West Cantina show.

At **Cyphers Mine**, the story of gold will ring through your ears as an interpreter relates the life and adventures of the miners of yesteryear at the nightly "STOMP".

At **Metcalf Station**, be ready for the Railroad Jubilee Campfire that regales stories and songs of railroading history and lore.

At **Rich Cabins** enjoy the family gathering and hear some stories and music regaling the life of the Rich family.

Conducting your own campfire can be equally stimulating, whether you are camping at Mistletoe, Wild Horse, New Dean, or another trail camp. You and

your friends will enjoy the camaraderie that radiates from the warmth of a Scouting campfire and will be playing an important part of helping reduce fuel loads in our backcountry (fire restrictions may prevent building an actual fire).

### **Post-Civil War Settlers**

Experience life as it was soon after the Civil War at this rustic settlement. Shoot .58-caliber muzzle loading rifles, learn to do blacksmithing, and meet former Fort Union soldiers. **Black Mountain** is one of Philmont's very popular living history camps.

### **Railroading**

At **Metcalf Station**, learn about the history of the Cimarron & Northwestern Railway and experience what it was like to build a railroad in the early 1900's. The ringing sounds of the mauls driving spikes, the "tick-tick" of the telegraph, combined with the smell of coal burning in the blacksmith's forge will fill the air just like it did in 1907.

### **Rendezvous**

Catch some of the flavor of a mountain man rendezvous while at **Miranda**. Find out why rendezvous were held and what went on. See demonstrations of the mountain man way of life and participate in some of these skills and contests such as tomahawk throwing and muzzle-loading rifles.

### **Rock Climbing**

This fascinating and challenging sport is a favorite of all Philmont campers. You will scale a steep pitch and rappel down a sheer cliff. Philmont has carefully selected three areas to conduct this program where the rocks are safe and practical, but a distinct "Class Five" challenge. Under the supervision of expert climbers, you will climb using your hands and feet while protected by rope and harness, carabiners, and a helmet. Safety is always stressed and practiced.

Rock climbing is restricted to three locations: **Miners Park**, **Cimarroncito**, and **Chase Cow**, and is only done under the supervision of Philmont rock climbing staff.

### **Rocky Mountain Fur Company**

At **Clear Creek**, several veteran trappers of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company (portrayed by Philmont staff interpreters) have established an outpost camp. Trapping was their way of life; however, it is not practiced at Philmont today. See traps like those they used to catch beaver, muskrat, raccoon, and bear. Hear about how they cured hides and see trade goods which they used to purchase food and supplies.

### **Shooting Sports**

- **.30-06 Rifle Shooting** – This program offers a review of firearms and tips for successful safe shooting. Wildlife conservation and game management are discussed. Metallic silhouette targets provide a challenging experience at **Sawmill's** range. Each participant will reload and fire three rounds.

- **12 Gauge Shotgun Shooting** – Shooting clay targets takes skill, but with some instruction and practice, you may find that you can hit clay birds. Each participant at **Santa Claus** will reload and fire three rounds.
- **Cowboy Action Shooting** – This program is conducted at **Ponil**. Bring the Old West to life in this exciting shooting sports activity. Participants will shoot single-action army pistols, lever action rifles, and coach shotguns.
- **Muzzle Loading Rifle** – You will use powder, patch, ball, ramrod, and cap to actually load and shoot a .50 or .58-caliber muzzle-loading rifle. This exciting, historic program is offered at **Black Mountain, Clear Creek, and Miranda**.
- Additional rounds at three for \$1.00 depending on availability and time.

### Western Lore

Philmont is an operating western cattle ranch. Cowboys still watch over cattle on horseback and drive them from their winter pasture on the plains to high mountain meadows for summer grazing. While you hike on trails, look for the white-faced Hereford cattle. Though not wild, they are best observed from a distance. A cow with calf may become dangerous if she feels her calf is threatened. To chase or attempt to rope this animal is foolish and can result in serious injury. Watch and photograph them if you wish.

An organized western lore program is offered at **Beaubien, Ponil, and Clarks Fork**. Horse riding, campfires, and branding are all part of the western lore program. Philmont cowboys will tell you about New Mexico's cattle industry. Using authentic western lariats, they will show you how to rope. The cowboy's garb and equipment will be displayed and explained. After a hearty chuck wagon dinner that you will help prepare, you will gather around a campfire under the western sky for an evening of songs, guitar playing, and stories of the Old West at **Beaubien** or **Clarks Fork**. **Ponil** campers will gather at the Cantina for a Wild West Cantina Show.

### Special Trail Meals

The programs at **Clarks Fork, Ponil, and Beaubien** include a special chuck wagon dinner. A Mexican homestead meal is included at **Abreu**. Members of your crew will help prepare these meals.

### Wilderness Medicine/Search and Rescue/GPS Technology

This exciting, informative program at **Carson Meadows** will enable your crew to "Be Prepared" to meet emergency first aid needs in a true wilderness environment. Every year, many people become lost in the outdoors. Scouts are often called upon to help search for these people. Your crew will enjoy learning how to correctly conduct an organized search. The staff will share highlights of the Search and Rescue Merit Badge.

## CAMPS AND PROGRAM FEATURES

CAMPS - NORTH COUNTRY	PROGRAM FEATURES
Anasazi	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
BALDY TOWN	Food Pick-up, Trading Post, Museum, Geology, Gold Assaying, Fuel
Black Horse, Copper Park, Ewells Park, Ute Meadows	Side hike Baldy Mountain
Bluestem	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Chase Canyon	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
CHASE COW	Rock Climbing, Rappelling, Bouldering
DAN BEARD	Challenge Course, Low Impact Camping
Dean Skyline	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Flume Canyon	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
FRENCH HENRY	Mine Tour, Blacksmithing, Gold Mining and Panning, Geology
HEAD OF DEAN	Challenge Course
Hells Fire Canyon	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
House Canyon	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
INDIAN WRITINGS	Trail Camp, Ranger Training, Archaeology, Atl-Atl, Petroglyph Tour
Little Twin	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Maxwell	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
McBride Canyon	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
METCALF STATION	Railroading, Blacksmithing, Handcar, Telegraph, Campfire
MIRANDA	Muzzle-Loading Rifle, Burro Packing, Fur Trapper Rendezvous, Tomahawks
PONIL	Horse Rides, Burro Packing, Cantina Show, Western Lore, Food Pick-up, Trading Post, Chuck Wagon Dinner, Cowboy Action Shooting, Fuel, Cantina
PUEBLANO	Continental Tie & Lumber Company, Evening Campfire, Spar Pole Climbing, Tie Making

RICH CABINS	Homesteading, Animal Care, Food Pick-up, Evening Family Gathering, Fuel
Sioux	Trail Camp, Ranger Training

<b>CAMPS - CENTRAL COUNTRY</b>	<b>PROGRAM FEATURES</b>
Arrowhead	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
BLACK MOUNTAIN	Post-Civil War Settlers-backwoods skills, Muzzle-Loading Rifle, Blacksmithing
Cimarron River	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
CIMARRONCITA	3-D Archery and Sporting Arrows (Trap Archery), Laser Shot shooting sports simulator, Wildlife Ecology, Food Pick-up
CIMARRONCITO	Rock Climbing, Rappelling, Food Pick-up, Fuel
CLARKS FORK	Horse Rides, Western Lore, Chuck Wagon Dinner, Evening Campfire
CLEAR CREEK	Rocky Mountain Fur Company, Muzzle-Loading Rifle, Trapping, Tomahawks
CYPHERS MINE	Mine Tour, Blacksmithing, Gold Mining and Panning, Geology, Evening STOMP
Heck Meadow	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
HUNTING LODGE	Lodge Tour, History of Waite Phillips, Demonstration Forest, Fishing
Ponderosa Park	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
SANTA CLAUS	12-Gauge Shotgun Shooting and Shotshell Reloading
SAWMILL	.30-06 Rifle Shooting and Cartridge Reloading, Food Pick-up, Fuel

<b>CAMPS - SOUTH COUNTRY</b>	<b>PROGRAM FEATURES</b>
ABREU	Mexican Homestead, Cantina, Animal Care, Mexican Dinner
Aguila	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
APACHE SPRINGS	Jicarilla Apache Life, Sweat Lodge, 3-D Archery and Sporting Arrows(Trap Archery), Food Pick-up, Trading Post, Fuel
Backache Springs	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
BEAUBIEN	Horse Rides, Western Lore, Chuck Wagon Dinner, Evening Campfire
CRATER LAKE	Continental Tie & Lumber Company, Spar Pole Climbing, Tie Making, Evening Campfire
CARSON MEADOWS	Search and Rescue, Wilderness Medicine
CROOKED CREEK	Homesteading, Animal Care, Candle Making
FISH CAMP	Fly Tying and Fly Fishing, Lodge Tour
Garcia Cow Camp	Trail Camp
Herradura	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Line Camp	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Lovers Leap	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Magpie	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
MINERS PARK	Rock Climbing, Rappelling, Food Pick-up, Fuel
Old Abreu	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Olympia	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
PHILLIPS JUNCTION	Food Pick-up, Trading Post, Fuel
Rayado River	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
RAYADO/KIT CARSON	Historic Tour, Blacksmithing, LaPosta Store, Tomahawks, Weaving, Woodworking
Rimrock Park	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
Toothache Springs	Trail Camp, Ranger Training
URRACA	Challenge Course, Philmont Story, Evening Campfire

<b>CAMPS - VALLE VIDAL</b>	<b>PROGRAM FEATURES</b>
Beatty Lakes	Trail Camp
Iris Park	Trail Camp
Seally Canyon	Trail Camp

## **PHILMONT MUSEUMS**

Exhibits at the four museums recount and interpret its rich historical past as well as the story of the Boy Scouts of America. They are open every day, and you will have opportunity to visit them either at the beginning or end of your trek. There is no admission charge.

### **National Scouting Museum at Philmont Scout Ranch**

The museum houses history of the Boy Scouts of America, Philmont Scout Ranch, and the Southwest. It is located at Base Camp. The Seton Memorial Library, located in the National Scouting Museum is home to the personal art, library and anthropological collections of the founder and first Chief Scout of the Boy Scouts of America, Ernest Thompson Seton.

The Museum Gift Shop carries a wide variety of Native American jewelry, carvings, blankets, Southwestern books, and other specialty items appropriate as mementos of your Philmont trek.

### **Kit Carson Museum – Rayado**

Philmont lies on part of a land grant given to Carlos Beaubien and Guadalupe Miranda by the Mexican government in 1841. Mountain man Lucien Maxwell founded a colony on the grant on the Rayado River in 1848. A year later he was joined at the settlement by frontiersman Kit Carson. In 1951 the Boy Scouts of America constructed an adobe museum at Rayado to serve as an interpretive area to portray its history. It was named in honor of Kit Carson.

Staff at Kit Carson Museum dress in period clothing and demonstrate frontier skills and crafts like blacksmithing, cooking, weaving, and farming. Each room in the Museum is outfitted with reproduction furniture and objects typical of New Mexico in the 1850s. The Rayado Trading Company, located in La Posta at the Museum, sells books, maps, reproduction tools and equipment, moccasins, and blankets. Tour the historic Maxwell-Abreu house which dates from around 1849.

Kit Carson Museum is located seven miles south of Headquarters. Bus transportation to and from the Museum is available from Headquarters each day. Large groups should schedule with Logistics Services before leaving to the Kit Carson Museum.

Rayado is a registered historical site on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

### **Villa Philmonte**

When Waite Phillips gave Philmont Ranch to the Boy Scouts of America in 1941, he included in the gift his palatial home, the Villa Philmonte. Philmont

maintains and preserves the “Big House” as a memorial to Phillips and his generosity to the Boy Scouts. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Tours of the Villa may be scheduled at the National Scouting Museum.

### **Chase Ranch House Museum**

Since 2013, Philmont has managed the historic Chase Ranch, founded in 1869 and operated successfully by the Chase family for over 140 years. The Ranch is famous for its role in establishing the ranching industry in the New Mexico territory as well as hosting famous visitors such as Lew Wallace and Clay Allison. The Ranch House, built in 1871, is open for tours daily. Knowledgeable staff help visitors experience this important piece of western history, showcasing everything from dinosaur bones and local Native American relics to ranching equipment and fine art.

The Chase Ranch House is located 7 miles north of Headquarters. Bus transportation may be available depending on availability. Arrangements for this transportation may be scheduled with Logistics while in Base Camp.

### **MORE PHILMONT ACTIVITIES**

Applications are available at [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org), by calling (575) 376-2281, or emailing [Philmont.Camping@scouting.org](mailto:Philmont.Camping@scouting.org). In addition to regular 7, 9, and 12-day expeditions and Cavalcades, Philmont offers the following activities:

#### **Rayado**

Young men and women who have a great desire for adventure have the opportunity to participate in Philmont’s most challenging experience – the Rayado program. Many miles of rugged trails and high peaks await those who become Rayado participants. On Rayado you’ll learn new leadership skills, advance trekking and camping skills, and see parts of Philmont you didn’t know existed. If you liked your regular trek, or if you have never been to Philmont before and have always wanted to, you’ll love Rayado. The program is designed specifically to challenge one’s mental and physical abilities. Rayado Men and Women learn the true meaning of adventure, fun, and “expecting the unexpected”.

The most qualified Rayado participants often become part of the elite Philmont staff in future seasons as Rangers, backcountry staff, and headquarters staff.

Outstanding young men and women, at least 15 years of age but not yet 21, are eligible to participate in the Rayado program. Two 20-day treks are offered each summer. They are not coed. Leadership is provided by Philmont’s most experienced Rangers.

#### **Roving Outdoor Conservation School (ROCS)**

The Roving Outdoor Conservation School (ROCS) is a 21-day trek designed to investigate the fields of natural resource management, environmental

science, and outdoor leadership. While finding adventure in the peaks and canyons of the Southwest, participants will explore the skills and philosophy of modern land stewardship through a variety of backcountry conservation projects. On their specialized itinerary, ROCS crews examine the Philmont landscape and connect the lessons of a singular wilderness experience to a greater, global context. Co-ed sessions available.

Age 16-20 years old

Requirements: Must be able to lift up to 65lbs, be able to hike 10 miles a day with a 50lb backpack, complete a physical examination, and be a registered member of any BSA program.

### **Order of the Arrow Trail Crew**

Molded with the ideals of the Order of the Arrow at its center, the OA Trail Crew trek focuses on personal growth through cheerful service and challenging outdoor experiences. During week one, participants will construct multi-use trail at a remote backcountry worksite while developing skills to successfully trek across Philmont on week two at the Ranch. Crew members will reconnect with the principles of the Order of the Arrow and have the privilege of helping to customize their crew's backpacking itinerary. Co-ed sessions available.

Requirements: Age: 16-20 years old. Must be able to lift objects up to 65lbs, be able to hike 10 miles a day with a 50lb backpack, complete a physical examination, and be a registered member of the Order of the Arrow.

### **Trail Crew Trek**

Trail Crew Trek (TCT) is a 14-day program that focuses on conservation project management and leadership development. TCT begins with seven days of trail construction deep in the Philmont backcountry and culminates with a seven-day backpacking expedition. Participants will work with and learn from Philmont staff, as well as professionals in the fields of land stewardship and natural resource management. TCT provides a strong foundation for participants to become involved in conservation and other projects in their local communities. Co-ed sessions available.

Requirements: Age: 16-20 years old. Must be able to lift objects up to 65lbs, be able to hike 10 miles a day with a 50lb backpack, complete a physical examination, and be a registered member of any BSA program.

### **Ranch Hands**

A program for Scouts and Venturers who have knowledge of horsemanship and horse care and want to expand their skills and experience. Limited to a select number of older Scouts, Ranch Hands crew will spend 8 days helping the Horse Department staff with hay hauling, saddling, chores and other horse program tasks, and then participate in their own special Cavalcade itinerary trek for 8 days. Ranch Hands participants must be 16 years of age but not yet 21.

### **STEM Trek**

Explore the Philmont backcountry through the lenses of science, technology, engineering, and math. STEM Trek participants will spend

their time at the Ranch taking part in Philmont program while engaging in interactive lessons and science. Scouts will go beyond regular program and explore the scientific principles that make outdoor adventure the most exciting component of the Scouting program. Participants will learn in interactive, outdoor settings rather than in a traditional classroom, deepening their understanding of their subjects and surroundings. Co-ed sessions available.

Requirements: Age: 14-17 years old. Must be able to hike 8 miles a day with a 50lb backpack, complete a physical examination, and be a registered member of any BSA program.

## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

Philmont works with all religious faiths to make possible and encourage full compliance with the 12th point of the Scout Law. "A Scout is reverent. They are reverent toward God. They are faithful in their religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion". Responsibility for fulfilling religious obligations rests with each Expedition Advisor, with the assistance of a Chaplain's Aide and with each crew member for themselves.

Chaplains of Protestant, Catholic, LDS, and Jewish traditions conduct services each day at 7 p.m. at Camping Headquarters. The Tooth of Time Traders and Cantina are closed to avoid conflict with this Philmont religious hour.

Your Advisor and Chaplain's Aide will receive a schedule of other worship services. Your crew may also request a special worship service, which can be arranged if the location is accessible and the schedule permits a chaplain to be there.

Each participant will receive a copy of "Eagles Soaring High" with daily meditations and is an excellent trail worship book. It will help you conduct a worship service when you are in a remote area of your Philmont itinerary.

### **Catholic**

Catholic chaplains are selected by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. They are available for religious services, conferences, and confessions. Daily masses are celebrated at Camping Headquarters. Masses are conducted at outlying camps upon request. Scouts and Scouters of Catholic faith who cannot attend Sunday or weekend mass due to great distances between their camps and the place of mass may fulfill their obligation (through a special privilege granted by the Archbishop of Santa Fe) by attending a daily mass at CHQ the evening before departing for the trail or the evening they return to CHQ from the trail.

### **Jewish**

The National Jewish Committee on Scouting selects a Jewish chaplain who will conduct services and provide for your religious needs. Kosher dinner entrees and pots are available at Outfitting Services to replace cooked trail dinners. If you require kosher food, you should make arrangements to get the required food shipped to Philmont before your arrival (or bring it with you) to

replace non-kosher items in trail breakfasts and lunches. Philmont will deliver it to the appropriate commissaries on your itinerary.

### **LDS**

An LDS chaplain is appointed by the National LDS Committee on Scouting. The chaplain may be contacted to arrange for special services, counsel, or religious service trail kits. Services are held at headquarters each evening.

### **Protestant**

Protestant chaplains are secured from various National Protestant Religious Committees. They conduct Protestant services every evening at Camping Headquarters and at some backcountry camps on weekends. Special backcountry services can be arranged.

## **FINAL PROCESSING AT CAMPING HEADQUARTERS**

At your last camp, be sure to scour your pots and pans thoroughly before you return them to Camping Headquarters. After breaking camp on the morning of your last day on the trail, you will hike to a designated pickup point where a Philmont bus will return you to headquarters—unless you are scheduled to hike in along Tooth Ridge. Do not return to Camping Headquarters until the date and time indicated on your itinerary. Meals and accommodations for your crew are not available until that time.

### **At Camping Headquarters**

**You will follow the check-out form:**

1. Be assigned tents at the Welcome Center or Outfitting Services (First Stop) You will receive a yellow checkout sheet with all required stops.
2. Return clean crew gear at Outfitting Services. *(All items must be clean!)* Crews will be charged for any damaged or missing items.
3. Remove your equipment from your locker.
4. Take care of your laundry.
5. Eat in the dining hall as indicated on your itinerary.
6. Have an opportunity to buy souvenirs from the Tooth of Time Traders.
7. Participate in the evening awards campfire.

**Crew Leader and Advisor should also:**

1. Logistics: Receive certification toward the 50-Miler Award and Triple Crown/Grand Slam from Logistics (need Crew Leader copy).
2. CHQ Registration: Pick up your crew's items left for safekeeping. This is where your Crew Leader should return your wildlife census card and First Aid Log. You will also receive your Arrowhead patches once any outstanding trail charges are paid.
3. Tooth of Time Traders: Pay any acquired trail charges.
4. Mail Room: Pick up and distribute your mail.

### **Homebound – Morning of the Final Day**

A “continental breakfast” is available at 5:45 a.m. for those crews who have made prior arrangements and need to depart before regular breakfast time. After checking out of tent city (please leave it clean for the next crew), you will load your gear in your vehicle near the Welcome Center then depart.

## **Memories – Keep a Journal**

Many individuals and crews keep a log of interesting events that occurred during their Expedition. Memories of your Philmont adventure will live on for years to come when you read the record of your trek. You will recall happy times—when you rode horses over a scenic trail or when you finally conquered Mount Phillips—and trying ones—like the day it rained or the night your tent fell in a windstorm.

Each participant will be issued a Passport Journal to collect stamps from backcountry camps and to journal their adventure at Philmont. You are welcome to submit the highlights from your journal to the Welcome Center and they might be shared at closing campfire or lead to bigger adventures around the world!

## **The Philmont Challenge**

Philmont means more than just a series of scenic mountain camps or a collection of exciting programs. It is more than just a physical challenge. It is an experience in living together and cooperating with others under sometimes difficult circumstances. It is learning to surmount the challenges of hiking and camping at high altitudes and learning to live in harmony with nature. You may get soaked to the skin in a torrential downpour. You will breathe harder and faster than ever before in climbing a ridge or mountain, and after that you may even burn your supper. But you will make it, even though there will be times when you feel as if you can go no further.

In conquering these challenges, you will gain confidence and a belief in your ability and go on to even greater achievements. This new knowledge of yourself will inspire you to do something for your fellow man, your God, and your country. Now is the time to act! Set your goals high and resolve to achieve them. You can do it. You will be better for it and your Philmont experience will become even more meaningful. It will never really end.

## **FALL AND WINTER PROGRAMS**

Want to come back to Philmont? Try some of our exciting programs offered during the fall and winter months! See Philmont in a different season, enjoy the colors of fall, the snow in winter, and exciting programs that explore the backcountry of Philmont and offer specialized training.

### **Autumn Adventure**

Experience hiking in Philmont Scout Ranch's backcountry in beautiful New Mexico fall weather, when the aspen trees change to gold! A trained Philmont guide will accompany your group to areas where you can enjoy the splendor of fall color. Autumn Adventure treks are scheduled from September through October. Each trek can be scheduled to fit the schedule of the group attending and can vary from a leisurely day hike to an extended backpacking expedition.

### **Winter Adventure**

Participants in Winter Adventure learn to camp comfortably in cold weather

and enjoy Philmont's beauty in winter. Crews hike through the backcountry, sleep in tents or snow shelters, and participate in activities such as cross-country skiing, snow shelter building and winter ecology. Expeditions can be scheduled for a weekend or a full week to match schools' spring breaks.

### **Autumn & Winter 7-Day Treks**

7-Day Treks are now available during these seasons and offer a special opportunity to earn a new Philmont Arrowhead Award and qualify for the Triple Crown and Grand Slam of High Adventure.

### **PASS**

The Philmont Advisor Skills School (PASS) is a weekend long training experience at Philmont Scout Ranch that provides an opportunity for crew advisors to learn the fundamentals of Philmont camping skills and procedures in the beauty of the Sangre de Cristo mountains. Courses are taught by experienced Philmont Rangers and Backcountry Staff and help advisors learn important skills that will help them be better prepared for their summer trek. Weekend dates are available in the Fall and Spring.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

It is the vision of Philmont Scout Ranch to continue to positively impact the lives of young people and their Scouting leaders through inspiring and effective delivery of the finest Scouting possible through backcountry adventures and Training Center experiences. Philmont receives many donations from all over the country from those who have had the opportunity to experience Scouting Paradise in God's Country and wants to share that opportunity with others. There are several financial need-based scholarships available from Philmont, your local council or elsewhere. Scholarship funding is limited so please apply quickly.

## **STAFF OPPORTUNITIES**

Philmont hires more than 1,300 seasonal staff members every summer. All staff members must be 18 years of age or older. If you're interested, visit **[www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/jobs](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/jobs)** for more information. First time staff are asked to select at least one base camp position (Food Service, Welcome Center, Housekeeping, Activities, etc.) Positions are in these departments:

- Office Staff
- Food Service
- Commissary
- Trading Post
- Maintenance
- Ranch Dept
- Museum
- Security
- Ranger Dept
- Conservation
- Marketing & Photo Service
- Logistics
- Medical
- Activities
- Philmont Training Center
- Backcountry Program

## **PHILMONT TRAINING CENTER**

**[www.philmontscout ranch.org/PTC](http://www.philmontscout ranch.org/PTC)**

### **Fun for the Whole Family**

Did you know that Philmont offers programs for the whole family while your trek is in the backcountry? From world-class conferences to our exciting Family Adventure Camp, family members of all ages can have their own unique Philmont experience. Arrive and depart together; our flexible program schedules and housing options can accommodate most groups. Share the Philmont experience with the whole family!

### **Conferences and Training**

The Philmont Training Center (PTC) is the Boy Scouts of America's training and conference center. Each year a variety of conferences and retreats are held to help adult leaders learn best practices from a world class faculty. Network with Scouters from around the world and strengthen Scouting in your local council with these exceptional learning experiences. Conference guests are encouraged to bring their spouses and children to participate in a wide range of family programs making the PTC experience a unique family adventure.

### **Family Adventure Camp**

BSA Family Adventure Camp is a chance to experience the Philmont Scout Ranch like never before! We call it "Scouting's Best Family Vacation." Family members of all ages will have a chance to participate in the incredible activities offered at Philmont which include Hiking, Crafts, Shooting Sports, Climbing Tower and High Ropes, Horseback Riding, Fly Fishing, Museum Tours, and so much more! Make memories with your family that will last a lifetime!

## **MEANINGS AND PRONUNCIATIONS**

Philmont has a strong Spanish heritage. Derived from a Spanish land grant, Philmont and vicinity is inhabited by many Spanish descendants. New Mexico is by law a bilingual state; both Spanish and English are officially recognized and commonly spoken. The following is to help you understand and correctly pronounce frequently used Philmont names, most of which have Spanish origins.

Abreu.....	Ah-bray-you
Agua Fria (cold water) .....	Ah-wah Free-ah
Aguila (eagle).....	Ah-ghe-la
Beaubien .....	Bow-bee-en
Bonita (beautiful) .....	Bow-knee-tah
Caballo (horse) .....	Cah-bye-yo
Cimarroncito (little wild one) .....	Seam-mar-ron-see-toe
Conejo (rabbit) .....	Con-nay-hoe
Cyphers.....	Sigh-furs
Ewells.....	You-ulls
Guia (Guide) .....	Gee-ah
Herradura (horseshoe).....	Erra-du-rah

Jicarilla .....	Hic-are-ree-yah
Oportunidad (opportunity) .....	Op-pore-tune-ee-dahd
Ponil.....	Poe-kneel
Pueblano (little village).....	Pweb-lawn-oh
Rayado (streaked).....	Rey-ah-doe
Sangre de Cristo (blood of Christ).....	San-gray day Cris-toe
Sombra (shadow) .....	Sohm-brah
Urraca (magpie).....	You-rock-ah
Valle Vidal (valley of life) .....	Va-yeh Vee-dal
Villa Philmonte .....	Vee-yah Fill-mon-tay
Visto Grande (magnificent view) .....	Vees-toe Gran-day

## **CAVALCADE GUIDEBOOK**

A Cavalcade Horseman and Wrangler will be assigned to your crew and will be with you throughout your trek. They will serve as guides and help care for your horses. Paying close attention to their instructions will help keep your trek running smoothly and safely. Although Cavalcade crews will not be backpacking, good camping and cooking skills are absolutely necessary. You are responsible for your crew and for seeing that everyone works together as a crew. A Philmont Cavalcade is a team effort—everyone working together and encouraging each other. A crew with an enthusiastic spirit can do far more than it ever dreamed possible. Keep your crew’s morale high.

### **Horsemanship**

We recommend that you and your crew practice horsemanship before your arrival. The Horsemanship merit badge is preferred. Be aware that there is a great difference between eight hours in the saddle at Philmont and one- or two-hours practice at your local stable. While on the trail, your Horseman and Wrangler will coach your crew on sitting up straight and balanced in the saddle. **However, if a horse is sored while on the trail due to sloppy horsemanship, the rider may have to walk or even be removed from the trail.** We strive to keep our horses sound and usable for Cavalcades throughout the summer, and it is not fair to those who follow if horses are brought in with saddle and cinch sores.

After instruction by your Philmont Horseman, each crew member will be responsible for saddling and unsaddling their personal horse. You will also receive instruction on packing a horse and tying a diamond hitch. Be aware that horses are large and powerful animals and that sudden accidents can happen. Be prepared to listen to the instructions given by your Horseman and Wrangler for your safety. Your crew should come with a positive attitude, a willingness to learn, and a respect for horses.

### **Physical Preparation**

To enjoy a Philmont experience, everyone who plans to attend must be physically prepared. At Philmont, the horseback trails range from 6,500 to 11,000 feet of elevation. Time spent in the saddle will range from three to eight or more hours per day. Horseback riding is strenuous—some knee pain

or soreness in your buttocks may be normal—and requires that the rider be physically fit and not overweight. Riders must be able to mount unassisted and must be mentally and physically prepared to sustain eight hours in the saddle alert and balanced. It is highly recommended that everyone on a Philmont Cavalcade fulfill the requirements for the Horsemanship Merit Badge.

You and your crew will be on horseback for six of the eight days that you are at Philmont. Each rider will be assigned a horse at the beginning and will ride that horse throughout the trek. Each horse will be expected to carry the rider plus loaded saddle bags. **FOR THESE REASONS, IT IS REQUIRED THAT EACH RIDER WEIGH NO MORE THAN 200 POUNDS.** Regardless of height to weight ratio, no Cavalcade participant (youth or adult) can exceed 200 pounds. If you weigh 201 lbs, you will not be allowed to participate in a Cavalcade.

Furthermore, regardless of height and weight, all participants must be able to mount unassisted from the ground. **PARTICIPANTS WHO FAIL TO MOUNT UNASSISTED FROM THE GROUND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.**

Staff physicians at Philmont reserve the right to deny access to the backcountry to any adult or youth on the basis of the medical recheck process at Philmont. All medical evaluation forms will be checked by Philmont medical staff. Areas of concern include, but are not limited to: heart disease, seizure disorder, sickle cell anemia, and hemophilia. **Blood pressure without medication must be less than 140/90 for a participant to be permitted to hike at Philmont.** If there are any doubts after the individual has had a physical examination, contact the Philmont medical staff. A Philmont Cavalcade is just as challenging and strenuous as a regular trek.

On Cavalcade layover days, side hikes by the crew and participation in various programs can be expected. A program of regular aerobic exercise is highly recommended to become physically conditioned for Philmont. Plan to exercise for 30 to 60 minutes at a time, three to five days a week. Jogging, running uphill or up long flights of stairs, and hiking with a full pack are excellent ways to prepare physically. How fast you run or how far you go is not nearly as important as regular exercise. Other aerobic exercises such as swimming, bicycling, stationary cycling, and aerobic exercise classes can supplement your training. Start slowly and gradually increase the duration and intensity of your exercises. A sample conditioning program is included in the *Council and Unit Planning Guide* to be used as a guide for your own program. Please refer to the “Recommendations Regarding Chronic Illnesses” that was included in that same guide. If anyone has further questions regarding their health, they should contact their family physician.

### **Crew Equipment Issued at Philmont**

Each Cavalcade will have two or three pack horses. The packhorses plus your personal horse will carry all of your personal and crew gear. Philmont will also provide all necessary horse gear including saddles, bridles, halters, saddle bags, and helmets. Philmont will provide a stuff sack for packing personal belongings and clothing. These stuff sacks are NOT waterproof. If participants desire a waterproof stuff sack, they must bring

their own 30L stuff sack in the dimensions of 21 ¼ inches long by 11 inches in diameter. Larger stuff sacks will not be permitted. Crew camping gear such as tents, pots, large spoon, pliers, camp suds, scrubby, matches, toilet paper, sump material, dining fly, bear bags, and bear rope will also be provided. Each participant must have a raincoat with a hood and rain pants. The pants need to be one size larger than the participant would usually wear to allow for flexibility in mounting and riding. **Participants may not bring their own saddles, bridles, saddle pads, or saddle bags.**

**Please note that Cavalcade Crews must bring their own cooking stoves or ship ahead of time.**

**Please refer to page 33 for food allergy info and instruction.**

### **Cavalcade Equipment List**

Following is a suggested Cavalcade Equipment List. The list may look extensive, but it should be remembered that Cavalcades are camping on the trail for five or six nights. Keep in mind that all personal gear must fit in the respective packing areas listed below. The stuff sacks are 21 ¼ "x 11" and the saddle bags are approximately 3"x 12"x 12" per side. The stuff sacks are standard BSA nylon bags as found in a Scout Supply Center.

#### **KEY FOR EQUIPMENT LIST**

(\* = Available at Tooth of Time Traders; \*\* = Western Riding boots required, no lug-soled boots or lace-up boots; (BB) = Placed in bear bag at night; (S) = Share with a buddy/crew)

#### **CREW STUFF SACK (1)**

- Toiletries, medications, any other "oops bag" items, and mess kits (BB)
- Deep bowl or small plate\*
- Spoon\*
- Cup (Advisors' coffee at Staff Camps)\*
- Any medication that does not need to be accessed during the day
- Toothpaste (BB, S)\*
- Tampons/pads (BB)\*
- Weight-bearing caribiner\*
- 50 feet of nylon rope\*
- Sewing kit\*
- Comb (S)\*
- Shaving cream (no aerosol cans; optional) (BB, S)
- Insect repellent (BB, S)\*
- Tent stakes – 8 per tent and 8 for the dining fly (After camp has been set up for the first time, tent stakes may be rolled up inside packed tents and the dining fly)

#### **PERSONAL STUFF SACK (1 PER PERSON)**

- Sleeping bag (in a compression sack)\*
- Sleeping clothes (to be worn in sleeping bag ONLY, t-shirt/shorts)
- Socks
- Underwear
- 1 spare long sleeve shirt

- 1 spare pair of long pants
- Clothes for side hikes
- Shoes for side hikes/wear around camp
- Camp towel\*

#### SADDLE BAGS (1 PER PERSON)

- 2, one-quart plastic water bottles with secure lids (NO camelbacks)\*

#### FEED BAG

- Food for the morning/lunch (provided) (BB)
- Medication taken during the day & emergency medication (BB)
- Lip balm (BB)\*
- Sunscreen (BB, S)\*
- Camera
- Philmont Map (S)\*

#### TIED TO YOUR SADDLE

- Warm jacket (wool or fleece)
- Rain jacket
- Rain pants

#### DIRECTLY IN PANNIER BAGS/ON PACK HORSES

- Crew first aid kit (BB, S)
- 2, 2 ½ gallon collapsible water jugs (crew must provide)\*
- Backpacking stoves
- Fuel bottles
- Ground cloths for tents

#### ON YOUR BODY WHILE ON HORSEBACK

- Western riding boots (smooth-soled, with a 1" heel, no laced boots allowed)
- Jeans (western cut, baggy jeans wrinkle up and cause chafing)
- Long sleeve shirt (tucked in)
- Belt\*
- Helmet (provided)

#### OTHER GEAR

- Uniform shirt and bottoms (for travel)
- Alarm clock/watch
- Flashlight/headlamp\*
- Pocket knife (no sheath knives) (S)\*
- Compass (S)\*
- Camera
- Notepad/pencil/pen\*
- Bandana (BB)\*
- Sunglasses\*
- Money (\$20 to \$50 in small bills)
- Compact sleeping pad\*

#### NOT ALLOWED

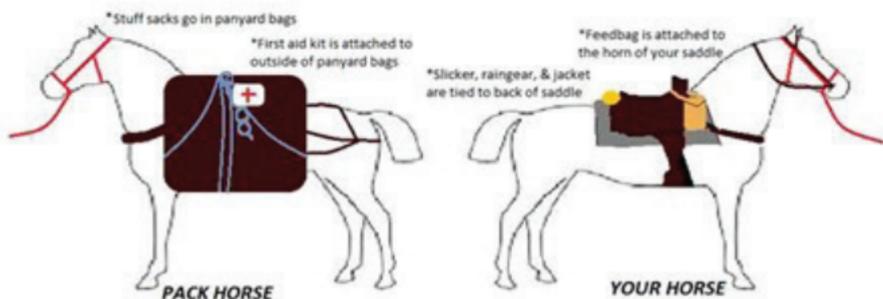
- Deodorant

- Radios/MP3 Players/Video Game Devices
- Hammock
- Video Cameras

## Useful Knots & Diagrams

It is recommended that all participants become familiar with the knots listed below. Please use [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com) as a resource.

- **Sheet Bend:** Used to attach a halter to a horse's head
- **Quick Release:** Used to tie a horse to a fence post or tree
- **Square Knot:** To secure saddle bags, jackets & feed bag to saddle
- **Clove Hitch:** Used in the set-up of a dining fly
- **Taut Line Hitch:** Used in the set-up of a dining fly
- **Lark's Head:** Used to hang bear bags
- **Daisy Chain:** Used to consolidate the trail of rope securing the crew gear to a pack horse
- **Diamond Hitch:** Used to secure crew gear to a pack horse
- **Half Hitch:** Used to secure crew gear to a pack horse



## Day One at Philmont

### Welcome Center

At last you're here! Drive in beside the gateway to the unloading area at the Welcome Center, where you will be greeted by a staff member with complete instructions for unloading and parking. Please follow them carefully.

### Meet Your Horseman and Wrangler

A Horseman and Wrangler will be assigned to your crew for the duration of your trek. They will spend the morning of your arrival day checking tack and shoeing horses to prepare for your trek. They will then meet you at 1 pm at the Welcome Center, help with initial processing through Camping Headquarters, and will guide you through the steps outlined in the Cavalcade Guidebook to Adventure to ensure you're ready for your circle ride the following day.

The Horseman's job is to lead your Cavalcade crew through your eight days and to care for the horses. He or she will give instructions on horsemanship and do everything possible to assure a safe trip. Please pay close attention to instructions and follow all suggestions for a safe experience.

## **Philmont Check-In**

Before your crew hits the trail, the following tasks must be completed:

- Start hydrating now!
- Tent Assignment: You will receive tent assignments at the Welcome Center for your first night at Philmont. Your ranger will show your crew to their assigned tents.
- Crew Photo: A trained Philmont photographer will take your crew photo before you depart for the trail. Most Crews elect to wear their full BSA uniforms or their crew uniforms. Each crew will receive a special code for a digital download of their photo. Additional photo merchandise is available at [www.philmontphotoarchive.org](http://www.philmontphotoarchive.org).
- Registration: Your contingent leader or Lead Advisor will meet the registrar in Camping Headquarters. Philmont requires that two persons in each crew be currently certified in Wilderness First Aid Basic and CPR. Current certifications will need to be presented. A large envelope will be provided to store extra money, credit cards and/or valuable documents in the safe while your crew is on the trail. At this time, you will pay any outstanding fees.
- Logistics: Your Adult Advisor and Crew Leader will meet one of the itinerary planners at Logistics Services to finalize arrangements for your program, food pickups, bus transportation, and conservation sites. Your Crew Leader should bring their Crew Leader Field Guide and an unmarked Philmont overall map to mark your route and campsites. You will be given a copy of your selected itinerary as a souvenir of your Philmont adventure.
- Medical Recheck: A medical recheck, which may include blood pressure and weight check, will be given to all crew members. Your Horseman will give you the procedures for this required recheck. You will need to bring any medication with you to the recheck (in original container). A participant whose weight exceeds the maximum allowable on the height/weight chart will not be allowed to participate and should not attend or they may be sent home at their own expense. To make the medical recheck as smooth as possible, crew advisors should closely check the Annual Health and Medical Record to ensure it is filled out and all medical forms are uploaded to the Gateway before arrival. Additional information on chronic health issues can be found on the Philmont Website.
- Outfitting Services: Outfitting Services is located in the Mabee Services Building. Trail equipment including tents, poles, cooking pots, etc., will be issued to your crew along with your first issue of Trail Meals. The Crew Leader's copy of your itinerary must be presented to draw your trail food. Please make sure to double check your meals and gear received. White gas purchase and pack rental is also handled through Outfitting Services.

The Philmont Mail Room is also located in the Mabee Services Building near Outfitting Services. Your Adult Advisor or Crew Leader should plan

to check for mail before leaving this area.

- **Shakedown:** In a place designated by your Horseman you will unpack everything. Your Horseman will review the necessary items and demonstrate the best methods of packing at Philmont. Store excess items in your crew locker or vehicle.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** After leaving Camping Headquarters, there is NO opportunity to return excess baggage. If you have doubts about taking certain items, discuss them with your Horseman. Your Horseman is NOT permitted to bring any crew gear you take on the trail back to Base Camp nor can items be left in a backcountry camp to be delivered and held in Base Camp. You are responsible to carry everything you take with you for the duration of your trek.
- **Conservation Project, Emergency and Trail of Courage Information Boards:** Your Horseman will describe these information boards in more detail at their designated sites in Base Camp.
- **Tour Camping Headquarters –** As time permits, your Horseman can give you a tour of Camping Headquarters. Visit the National Scouting Museum and while there schedule a tour of the Villa Philmonte.
- **Tooth of Time Traders (TOTT)-** Your tour should include a visit to the Tooth of Time Traders where a complete supply of outdoor gear and equipment, Philmont items (patches, belts, buckles, maps, gift cards, etc.) and other souvenirs are available. The Tooth of Time Cantina is located adjacent to the TOTT. Items are available online at [www.ToothOfTimeTraders.com](http://www.ToothOfTimeTraders.com).
- **Headquarters Dining Hall:** In Camping Headquarters, you will eat in the dining hall. The menus are well-balanced and nutritious.
- **Advisor’s Meeting/Crew Leader’s Meeting/Chaplain Aide’s Meeting/Wilderness Pledge “Guia” Meeting:** Separate meetings will take place for Lead Advisors (all adults should attend), Crew Leaders, Chaplain Aides, and Wilderness Pledge “Guias”. Topics will include current backcountry conditions as well as tips to improve your Expedition.
- **Religious Services:** Chaplains of Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, and LDS faiths conduct services at Camping Headquarters beginning at 7 p.m. Your crew is encouraged to attend. The Tooth of Time Traders and will be closed at this time.
- **Contact home:** After supper is a good time to write home. Your parents will enjoy hearing from you. (Philmont postcards are available at the Tooth of Time Traders, Mail Room, and in backcountry Trading Posts).
- **Opening Program:** Your first evening program at Philmont is a portrayal of the “Philmont Story”, a historic narrative of the Southwest. Your Philmont adventure begins here. Warm clothing is recommended for this and all evening programs.
- **A Good Night’s Sleep:** Following the campfire, quietly return to your tent for a good night’s sleep as it will help you adjust to the altitude and be ready for Tomorrow you hit the trail! Be sure your crew adheres to the nightly quiet hours. Your actions can negatively impact others.

- Security, Lost-and-Found, Crew Lockers: Philmont employs a Seasonal Security Staff to assist with Lost and Found, issue crew lockers, and provide security. Crew lockers are reserved for crews traveling by public transportation.
- Laundry: Dirty clothing may be laundered at Philmont's self-service Laundromat. One or more crew members should be assigned to bring all the crew's dirty clothes to the laundry. All clothing should be marked with your name in indelible ink and any loose patches or insignia should be removed to save time and confusion. Laundry soap and supplies are available from the Tooth of Time Traders or the Laundromat.

Crews with vehicles will store belongings in their vehicles. The number of lockers is limited (max 2 lockers per crew). When you hit the trail, nothing can be left in your tent. Do not leave valuables in tents while in Base Camp – Philmont is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## **Day Two at Philmont**

### **Southern Itineraries**

After breakfast, follow your Horseman's instructions and report to Cattle Headquarters for horsemanship and saddle training. You will be matched with a horse that will be yours for the Cavalcade. You will then go on a circle ride that will start and end at Cattle Headquarters and complete campsite training before going back to your tents at camping headquarters for the night.

### **Northern Itineraries**

After breakfast, check out of tent city and report to the Welcome Center for your bus ride to Ponil for horsemanship and saddle training. You will be matched with a horse that will be yours for the remainder of the Cavalcade. After training, you will go on a circle ride that will start and end at Ponil. You will spend this night at Ponil and receive camping training at this time.

## **Day Three at Philmont**

Those on Southern itineraries will check out of tent city after breakfast and report to Cattle Headquarters with your gear where your pack horses will be waiting. After packing all personal and crew gear and saddling up, your Horseman will lead your crew to your first backcountry camp. Those on Northern itineraries will report to the Ponil Corral where your Horseman/ Wrangler will assist with packing all gear and lead you to your first backcountry camp.

## **Gymkhana**

On your last day, after arriving back at base camp or Ponil for South or North itineraries respectively, your crew will compete (weather permitting) in a series of light-hearted riding games against the other cavalcade crew that began their trek at the same time. This event is called Gymkhana (jim-CON-uh) and is meant to be the culmination of your trek and a demonstration of the horsemanship skills you have honed during your week in the saddle.

**THE PHILMONT GYMKHANA PATCH** A patch awarded by Philmont to each participant after the Gymkhana competition on the last afternoon of the trek.





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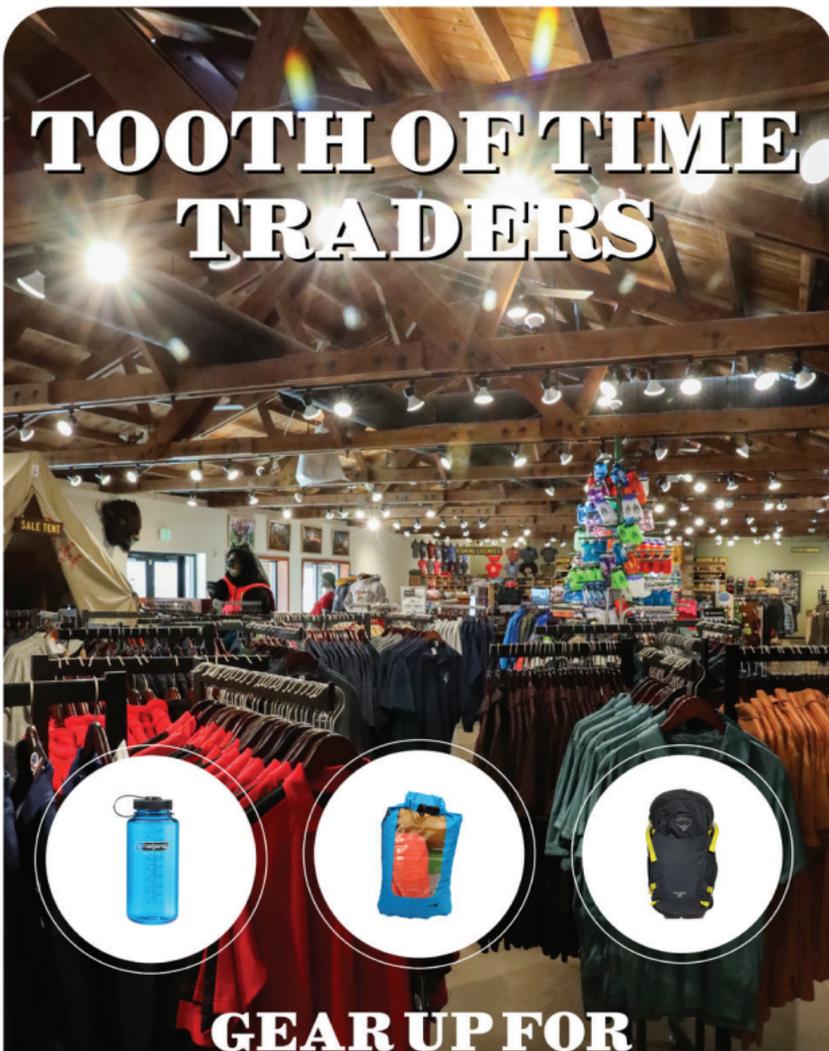
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PHILMONT GRACE  
For Food  
For Raiment  
For Life  
For Opportunity  
For Friendship and Fellowship  
We Thank Thee O Lord

PHILMONT HYMN  
Silver on the sage,  
Starlit skies above,  
Aspen covered hills,  
Country that I love.

Philmont here's to thee,  
Scouting Paradise,  
Out in God's Country,  
Tonight.

Wind in whispering pines,  
Eagles soaring high,  
Purple mountains rise,  
Against an azure sky.

Philmont here's to thee,  
Scouting Paradise,  
Out in God's Country,  
Tonight.

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