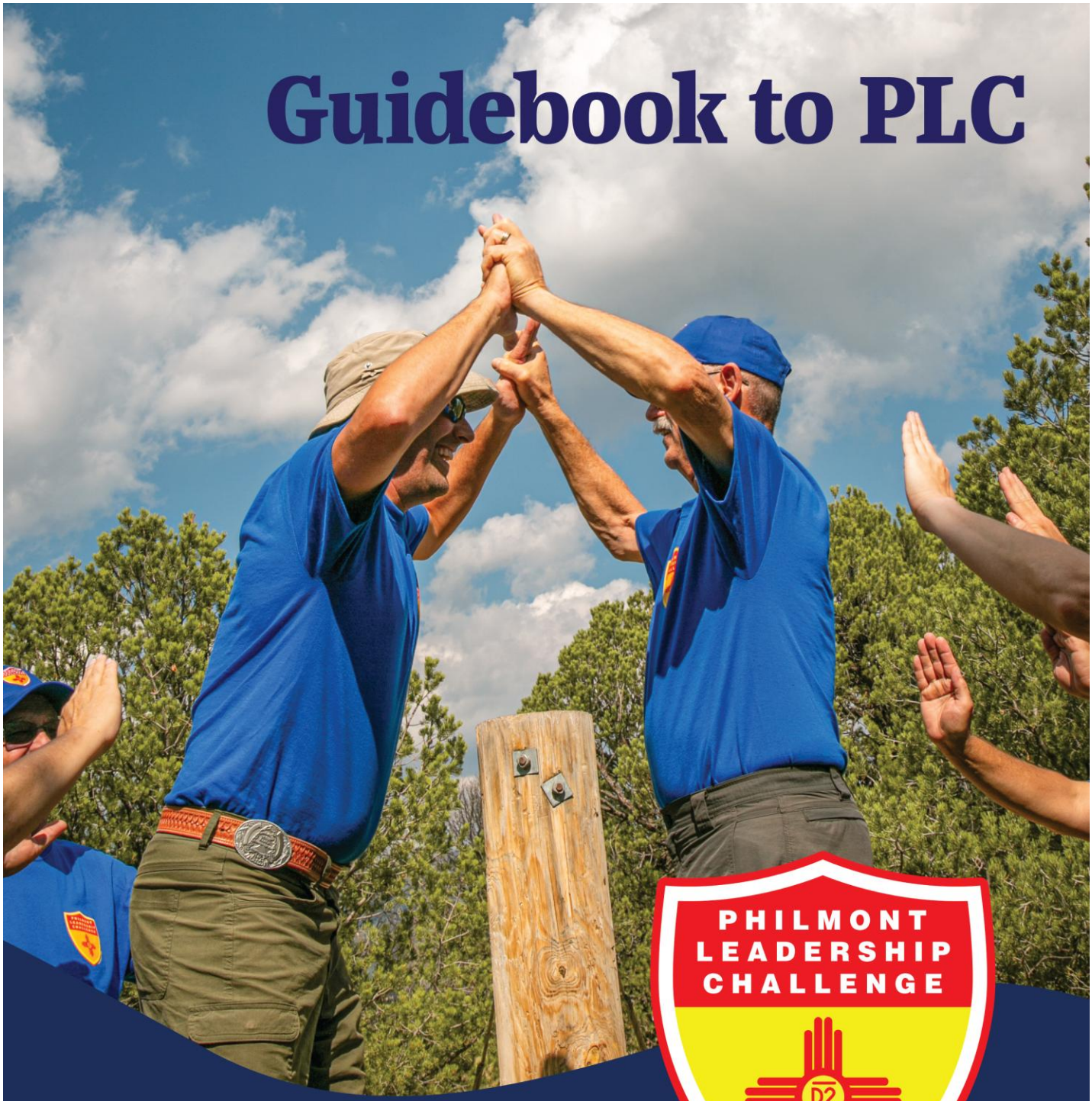
Guidebook to PLC



PHILMONT LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

Learn more about what to expect during the Philmont Leadership Challenge, including important arrival and packing information. We look forward to seeing you soon!

PhilmontScoutRanch.org/PTC for more information

Philmont Leadership Challenge

Philmont Training Center • 17 Deer Run Road • Cimarron, NM 87714 • 575-376-2281
Philmont.trainingcenter@scouting.org

Welcome to the Philmont Leadership Challenge!

The Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC) is the ultimate training experience designed to motivate adults to follow a life of servant leadership based on the values of Scouting! The PLC program is conducted for adults who have already completed Wood Badge.

PLC will equip you with the skills to become better unit leaders, Wood Badge staff, training team members, and any other leadership position in your Scouting and everyday life. It will lead you on a journey to become true "servant leaders." You will be empowered to guide all members of any group through several development processes through the Philmont-based wilderness experience.

You will live in a team setting at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp where you will use your Wood Badge leadership skills to resolve exciting and challenging backcountry situations. The week will conclude with a closing challenge for each of you to build upon the legacy of Waite Phillips, the benefactor of Philmont Scout Ranch.

This guidebook is intended to answer any questions you may have about your PLC experience. Please review the information in this guidebook and make sure you complete all steps before leaving for Philmont!

We are excited that you are among the select few who will participate in one of the most outstanding leadership programs offered by Philmont and Scouting America, the Philmont Leadership Challenge.

Sincerely,

Philmont Training Center Staff

PLC CHECKLIST

- ❑ Read this entire Guidebook!
- ❑ Register for your course on the Philmont website.
- ❑ Pay all fees no later than 30 days before your PLC course begins!
- ❑ Submit your ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE PLANS (link will be emailed to you closer to your arrival date)
  - Early Arrivals: You will have the option to arrive a day early on Saturday at no fee. If you choose to arrive on Friday, you will need to book an overnight accommodation through the PTC Website under the Book Your Stay page.
  - Your course begins promptly at 8:00am Sunday morning, Day 1 of your course.
  - Shuttle service from the area airports are not available in late August — you must provide your own transportation from the airport to Philmont. If you choose to take the train, you may arrange for a ride from Raton via the Raton Shuttle, Shuttle Form.
- ❑ Complete a Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Record.
  - The Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Record **Parts A, B, & C** are required for PLC. You will receive an email with a link to upload your forms to the Philmont Gateway. This is required before arriving at Philmont. **Scouting America Medical Part C requires a doctor's signature.**
  - Bring prescription medications (in original container with label showing your name, directions for use, and prescribing practitioner). In addition to uploading your completed and signed medical form, it is recommended that you bring with you a copy of the form including a copy of your health insurance card.
  - All participants of the PLC program must be in good physical condition and able to carry a 30-pound backpack and hike three miles with no restrictions. Participants will participate in a medical re-check on Day 1. If they do not meet the physical requirements, **including height and weight as listed on the medical form chart**, participants will not be allowed to participate in PLC and will be sent home at their expense.
- ❑ Plan and prepare for any special dietary needs. See Dietary Section below.

Philmont Leadership Challenge
Information Sheet

The **Philmont Leadership Challenge** brings Wood Badge skills to life in a majestic Philmont setting. Just as the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) hones and expands upon skills taught to Scouts in NYLT, the Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC) takes adult leadership to an exciting new level through experiential learning. The Philmont Leadership Challenge simultaneously immerses you and your crew in challenging scenarios that require the application of Wood Badge leadership skills for success.

The Philmont staff is committed to making the Philmont Leadership Challenge a very special experience. Participants will live in a crew setting at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp, where they will use their leadership skills to resolve exciting and challenging backcountry situations.

PLC will equip you with the skills to become better unit leaders, Wood Badge staff, training team members, and any other leadership position throughout your Scouting life. It will lead you on the journey to become true "servant leaders." You will be empowered with the capability to guide all members of any team through several development processes. You will be enriched with the life skills that are essential for the present and the future.

Requirements

- Completed or staffed Wood Badge. May be actively working on your ticket.
- A current Annual Scouting America Health and Medical Record, Parts A, B & C is required, along with a copy of your insurance policy card (to be attached to your Annual Health and Medical Record).
- All participants must meet the height/weight restrictions as listed in the Medical Record. If you do not meet these requirements at check-in, you will not be allowed to participate.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC) is to provide participants with a Philmont-based wilderness experience that motivates them to follow a life of helping others succeed based on the values expressed in the Scout Oath and Law.

We accomplish this mission by:

- Creating an environment of learning and fun
- Providing a clear understanding of servant leadership in challenging wilderness environments
- Providing real life opportunities for ethical decision making, mentoring and living the Scout Oath and Law
- Applying all the leadership skills taught in Wood Badge.

By the end of the PLC course, participants should be able to:

- Encourage others to live a life of Leadership Service
- Act as a Servant Leader who shares the skills of Wood Badge and helps develop other leaders through their enhanced understanding of the Wood Badge material
- Intuitively use the Wood Badge leadership skills in all aspects of their lives
- Be an advocate for Wood Badge, NYLT, NAYLE and PLC in their local environment

Philmont Leadership Challenge

Philmont Training Center • 17 Deer Run Road • Cimarron, NM
87714 • 575-376-2281

Welcome to the Philmont Leadership Challenge to be held at the Philmont Training Center – Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp (RRLC)! RRLC is approximately 8 miles from the Philmont Training Center at the southern end of Philmont Scout Ranch and sits in Philmont's backcountry at the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Your PLC faculty are excited to introduce you to the PLC adventure!

ARRIVAL:

- Check-In: 8:00am SHARP! on the first day of your course, Sunday.
  Check-in will take place at the Philmont Training Center Guest Services Office. After your medical recheck at PTC you will then drive to Rayado Ridge Gate so that you are there by 9am. (Map & Driving Directions at the end of this guidebook.)

- Early Arrivals: It is highly encouraged to arrive on Saturday the afternoon before your course begins. There is not an extra fee to take advantage of arriving early.
  - Participants arriving by Raton Train shuttle must arrive on Saturday. This can be added by completing the Arrival/Departure information.
  - Participants planning to arrive on Saturday by private vehicle will need to complete the Arrival/Departure information as well. Arrival time is between 3-4:30pm at the Philmont Training Center Guest Services Office.

- Be Prepared for check-in!

  - A signed, current Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Record Parts A, B & C is required. You must upload your form into the Gateway system prior to arriving. Bring any prescription medications in original container with label showing your name, directions for use, and prescribing practitioner.

  - Bring all camping gear packed, transportable, and ready to go (see enclosed equipment list).
  - Payments must be paid in full before you arrive at Philmont. Late fees may apply if you arrive with payment due.
  - You will need to be in complete and official Scouting America Field Uniform to check-in. (Scouting America Khaki shirt, Scouting America green pants; long or short, Scouting America socks, Scout belt; Venturing Green shirt, Venturing Gray pants; long or short, Venturing socks, Scout belt. Substitution uniform pieces and Kilts are not allowed!)
  - Please call home to let your family know you have arrived safely.
  - Confirm your departure plans with your Course Director before you depart for RRLC!

DEPARTURE:

- Checkout time is 8:00am Saturday, if not earlier to catch a transportation shuttle.
  - The PLC Closing Ceremony takes place at 8:00pm Friday. Participants may depart following the Ceremony, if prearranged and approved through the PLC Course Director.
- Raton departures: shuttles leave from the Philmont Training Center Guest Services Office at prearranged times. Please view the shuttle forms for departure times.

Family Adventure Camp & Training Conferences

Because of the remote location of Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp, you will not be available to visit your family members during the week. However, we highly recommend your family stay at the Philmont Training Center during your PLC week. There are exciting opportunities for training and Family Adventures while you are honing your leadership skills! For more information on available programs, please visit https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/.

Transportation

You are responsible for arranging your own transportation to the Philmont Training Center. The recommended mode of transportation from nearby airports is private or rental car. Sharing transportation with other participants may be available through contact with the PLC Course Director.

Philmont has an arranged shuttle service that will pick up and drop off from the Raton Train Station in late August. Please refer to the Raton Shuttle Service for more information.

Program Cost

The fee for the course is $645, a non-refundable $325 deposit is due at the time of registration. Please see Philmont's Cancellation Policy for details of payment and cancellations. Lodging, meals, and course supplies are covered by this fee and begin Saturday at 3pm, which includes the early arrival option for the course, going through 8am on the final course day.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available for Philmont PLC participants. Information and deadlines are available on Philmont's website.

Camp and Camp Living

PLC is a co-ed training experience. Team members may be male and female, with each team being responsible for preparing their daily meals. Sleeping quarters are in two-person wall tents with wooden platform floors. Separate tents will be used for male and female participants. Each participant is provided a cot and a mattress, you will need to bring your own sleeping bag and pillow.

Activities will be just that, ACTIVE! Teams spend most of the time outdoors. Showers and other conveniences are available in camp. An overnight backpacking trip is planned as part of the PLC program; Philmont will provide tents and backpacks if needed, with prior request. Electric charging capability is not available at Rayado Ridge.

Uniform

The uniform is any official Scouting America Field Uniform, Scouts BSA khaki shirt, green pants (short or long) Scouts BSA socks, Scout belt or Venturing green shirt; official gray Venturing pants (short or long), Venturing socks and Scout belt with the normal insignia; the complete Sea Scout uniform is also appropriate. Non-official, substitute uniform parts are not allowed. Kilts are also not allowed. The activity uniform that is worn most of the time consists of a PLC cap and PLC T-shirt (provided by Philmont) and Scouts BSA or Venturing shorts/pants.

There is no need for civilian clothes during the course. You should report to the Training Center in a complete field uniform on the first day of your course.

One pair of long pants is required for the PLC Conservation project during the course.

Spending Money

You will have an opportunity to purchase a Philmont belt and PLC belt buckle during the course. You will also have an opportunity to visit the Tooth of Time Traders (trading post) during your stay at Philmont. Participants spend an average of $75 at Philmont's trading posts on gear, souvenirs, and snacks. At Rayado Ridge's Trading Post, cash and credit/debit cards are accepted. At the Tooth of Time Traders in Base Camp, cash, check, and credit card are all accepted.

Special Meals & Dietary Restrictions

Philmont is not able to accommodate special dietary needs in the backcountry, including Rayado Ridge. If such meals are necessary, you must provide your own food. Please discuss any special meal needs with your Course Director prior to arriving at Philmont. He/she will provide you with the menu and contents of the menu so that you can plan any substitutions. This includes special dietary foods such as those who are gluten intolerant or vegetarians.

Medical Form

All participants of the PLC program must be in good physical condition and able to backpack. A current **Scouting America Annual Health & Medical Form, Parts A, B & C** is required. Please pay special attention to the Height and Weight limits; all participants must meet these requirements - you will be checked when you arrive. If you do not meet the height and weight requirements, you will not be able to participate in certain portions of the course. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Philmont Training Center at Philmont.TrainingCenter@scouting.org. Per Scouting America policy, all medical forms must have a doctor's signature and be less than one year old. You will receive an email with a link to upload your medical form to the Philmont Gateway - **do not mail your medical form!** If you don't think your medical form was uploaded correctly, we recommend you bring a copy of the form and your insurance card with you.

Your Mailing Address at Philmont

Incoming mail is delivered daily to the PTC Office then taken to RRLC except Sunday, and outgoing mail is collected every day. Stamps can be purchased at the PTC Office or the Tooth of Time Traders for any outgoing mail. Mail should be properly addressed as indicated below:

Your Name
PLC (Dates of Course)
Philmont Training Center
17 Deer Run Road Cimarron, NM 87714

Emergency Telephone

There is no landline phone service and minimal cell phone service at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp. Only in emergency situations can you be contacted by telephone. Philmont's summer 24-hour service number is 575-376-2281. The caller will need to tell the Philmont operator your name, that you are attending PLC, and the message or number for you to call. The information will be relayed to you as soon as possible. If you bring a cell phone to Rayado Ridge: cell phone service is minimal, there is no charging capability, and its usage cannot interfere with the course experience. **Use of electronic devices is strongly discouraged during PLC.**

Philmont Leadership Challenge

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Personal Equipment List

To help you plan and prepare your personal gear for PLC, please note the following:

1. You will spend five nights at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp and one night at a backcountry campsite.
2. At Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp, you will sleep in a two-person wall tent. The tents are on wooden platforms and have cots with mattresses. There is no electricity in the tents. At the backcountry site, you will sleep on the ground in two-person backpacking tents, a sleeping pad is highly recommended on the overnighter. Philmont will supply tents. If you would like to bring a two-person backpacking tent for use in the backcountry, you may do so; however, you may be asked to share your tent with another person.
3. PLC is a co-ed training experience. You may be in a co-ed campsite. Separate tents for male and female participants will be provided.
4. You will not have access to your personal vehicle for much of the course until departure.
5. When you arrive at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp, you will walk from the road to your campsite, one-half (.5) mile away. You will need to carry all your gear in one trip. Due to the rocky terrain, rolling bags are challenging; backpacks are the best method for carrying your clothes and gear; a backpack may be borrowed, with prior arrangement, before arrival.
6. Your PLC experience involves an overnight backpacking trip. The hike will involve approximately 4 miles one-way, starting at about 6,500 feet, with an elevation gain of 375 feet. On this trip, you will carry your personal gear plus your share of group gear. You must be able to hike and carry a 30-40-pound backpack!
7. Rain is always a possibility, and the evenings can be very cool. Be prepared!
8. Philmont is bear country and precautions must be taken to avoid attracting bears to the campsites. All items that have an odor (smellables) are stored in an appropriate container. You should bring a stuff sack, small container, or large Ziploc bag in which to store these items. A briefing on bear safety and smellables will be provided on Day one.
9. You will always wear either an official Scouting America field uniform (Scouting America or Venturing) for your program area or a Scouting America activity uniform during the course. A field uniform includes the official Scouting America or official Venturing uniform shirt and insignia; official Scouting America or official Venturing shorts or long pants, official Scouting America or official Venturing socks and a Scout belt. The official Sea Scout blue uniform is also appropriate. An activity uniform is the same as your field uniform except you will wear the PLC T-shirt instead of your uniform shirt. Only official uniform parts are allowed - no substitutions or Kilts are permitted! The PLC cap is part of the uniform.
10. Your course fee includes 2 PLC T-shirts, and a PLC cap. Additional T-shirts may be available for purchase. You will also have an opportunity to purchase a PLC belt buckle, Philmont belt, and PLC fleece jacket.
11. Long pants are required for the Conservation project during the PLC program.
12. There will <u>not</u> be an opportunity to do laundry during the course.
13. You may bring your cell phone to Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp for use in emergencies. However, there may not be any cellular service and charging facilities are not available.

Personal Gear List

Required Items:

- ❑ Large internal or external frame backpack**
- ❑ Rain cover for backpack (trash bags are *not* acceptable)
- ❑ Daypack
- ❑ Rain jacket and rain pants (no ponchos)
- ❑ Sleeping bag rated to at least 30 degrees
- ❑ Water-Resistant Sleeping Bag Stuff Sack
- ❑ Sleeping pad
- ❑ Hiking boots (broken-in)
- ❑ Camp shoes (Crocs or tennis shoes – no open-toed shoes)
- ❑ 3 water bottles (1 quart/liter each)
- ❑ Flashlight with extra batteries
- ❑ 1 Scouting America or Venturing field uniform shirt
- ❑ 2 Scouting America or Venturing shorts or long pants***
- ❑ At least 3 pair Scouting America or Venturing uniform socks
- ❑ Scouting belt
- ❑ Hiking socks (1 pair)
- ❑ Sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece jacket
- ❑ Stocking cap and gloves
- ❑ Sleep clothes (worn only for sleeping)
- ❑ Underwear
- ❑ Watch
- ❑ Comb or brush
- ❑ Toothbrush/toothpaste*
- ❑ Soap (in a container) *
- ❑ Shampoo*
- ❑ Deodorant*
- ❑ Towel and/or washcloth*
- ❑ Sunscreen*
- ❑ Chapstick*
- ❑ Prescription/OTC medications*
- ❑ Personal first aid kit*
- ❑ Insect repellent (non-aerosol) *
- ❑ Nylon stuff sack or large Ziploc bag (for storing smellables*)
- ❑ Cup, bowl, and spoon (plastic or metal)
- ❑ Mesh dunk bag for washing personal dishes
- ❑ Pens and small notebook
- ❑ Extra 1-gallon Ziploc bags and trash bags

Indicates smellable items that must be stored in an appropriate manner at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp and the overnight site. Pack these items together in a separate bag (stuff sack or large Ziploc bag).

*** Can be provided by Philmont for the backcountry experience if requested in advance.*

****Indicates **one pair of long pants is required** for the conservation project.*

Optional Items:

- ❑ Trekking or hiking poles
- ❑ Small pillow
- ❑ Small camp chair, stool, or Crazy Creek type chair (you must be able to carry)
- ❑ **Small** Pocketknife or multi-tool
- ❑ Duffle bag (if needed – but you must be able to carry it 0.5 miles!)
- ❑ Sunglasses
- ❑ Compass
- ❑ Camera
- ❑ Musical instrument
- ❑ Money (cash or checks) to purchase extra T-shirts, belt buckle, etc. at Rayado Ridge
- ❑ Bandanas (1 or 2)

Philmont Provides:

- Wall tents, cots, and mattresses at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp; backpacking tents for backcountry experience
- Dining fly's
- Stoves and fuel for cooking
- Cooking gear
- Large water container
- Meal ingredients **(do not bring any food unless required for medical or religious dietary needs; advise your course director.)**
- Water purification tablets (for use in the backcountry)
- Bear Boxes and Bags
- Sanitation supplies & Toilet Paper

Driving Instructions

For Navigation Systrems: 32 Orchard Circle, Cimarron, NM 87714

From Denver or Colorado Springs:

Go south on Interstate 25 to Raton, New Mexico. Four miles south of Raton take Exit 446 onto Highway 64 and drive about 40 miles to Cimarron.

From Albuquerque:
Go north on Interstate 25 about 200 miles to Springer, New Mexico. Three miles north of Springer, take Exit 419 onto Highway 58 and drive about 20 miles to Cimarron.

From Taos:
Stay on Highway 64 toward Angel Fire (east of Taos). You travel through Taos Canyon, Eagle Nest, and Cimarron Canyon, to reach Cimarron.

Once in Cimarron:
When you reach Cimarron, turn south on State Highway 21 and drive approximately 4 miles to Philmont Scout Ranch. As you enter Philmont, you will see several buildings before you reach your destination; these buildings are other parts of Philmont Base Camp, such as the Administration Building.

Look for the brown Philmont Training Center sign near mile-marker 4 and turn left onto Orchard Circle. The Villa Philmonte, the Mediterranean-style home of the Phillips family, is located on the grounds of the Philmont Training Center and will serve as a guide to those arriving by car.

Parking is available near terrace tents, luxury tents, and roofed housing areas, however, these spaces are limited, and you may be asked to park in long-term parking. Electricity is not available for charging electric vehicles. Orchard Circle is a one-way road, please refrain from driving against traffic.

PTC to Rayado Ridge:

Exit the Philmont Training Cneter and turn left out of Orchard Circle heading south on Hwy 21. Follow HWY 21 for 7.5 miles, then take the second right turn and drive toward the Rayado Ridge Gate to park your vehicle. See map below

