

Willistown Troop 78



Visit for Fun
Stay for Friendship



15 Mill Rd Malvern, PA
www.tr78.org
Boy Scouts of America



Troop Philosophy

Troop 78 is a youth-lead troop that relies on the leadership skills of the Senior Patrol Leader, his Assistants and the Patrol Leaders. These are all youth members of the Troop. They set the Troop schedule, run the Troop meetings and the outings. The youth leadership is guided by experienced BSA trained adults. Troop 78 stresses traditional outdoor scout skills such as camping, cooking, hiking, swimming, and canoeing, along with a commitment to community service.

Fire building



Getting the bus ready for a trip



Troop 78 Activities

Troop 78 maintains an active program that emphasizes outdoor adventure. Each activity is designed to be fun, but at the same time emphasize personal development and scout skills.

The following is a sample of the activities the scouts of Troop 78 will participate in each year.

The Troop calendar tracks with the school year, September to June, with some additional activities over the summer.

September

Welcome back! I hope your summer was wonderful. We have a great year planned!

The Troop usually spends a weekend camping at one of the state park beaches in New Jersey, Delaware or Maryland. The trip includes outdoor cooking, an environmental hike or activity and plenty of time on the beach to swim and walk and have fun. If time allows, we may make a trip to one of the local boardwalks after dinner on Saturday to enjoy the rides and some boardwalk treats.

Enjoying the beach



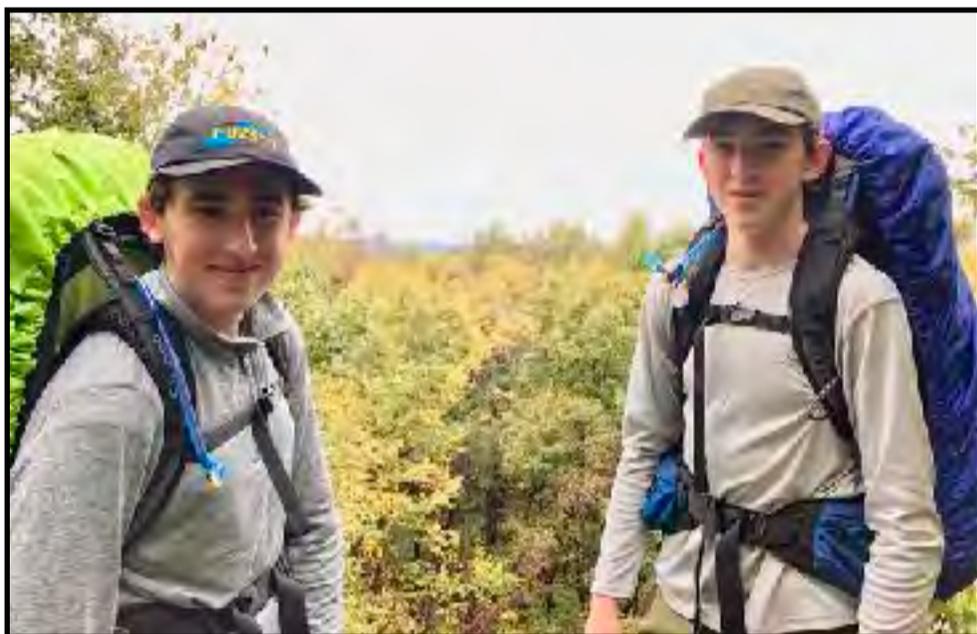
Camping at Delaware Seashore State Park in Rehoboth



October

The fall brings the yearning to head to the mountains to see the changing leaves of Autumn. In October we often find ourselves on the Appalachian Trail (AT), enjoying a stretch of this ancient trail through the mountains of the East Coast. In recent years we have tackled stretches of the AT in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. Sometimes we backpack and sometimes we take a bike hike; either way, this is usually a wonderful weekend.

Backpacking on the Appalachian Trail



November

November often finds us visiting one of the US military academies for a tour and a taste of college football. In recent years we have visited both West Point in New York and Annapolis in Maryland.

Past trips have also taken us to the Groton Sub Base in Connecticut.

This trip we meet cadets, take a private tour of the Academy, and then settle in for an enjoyable afternoon of football. It doesn't matter if your team wins or loses, it is a fun-filled weekend.

Cadets discuss life at the US Naval Academy



Scouts enjoy the football game



December

Typically there is no overnight trip in December due to the busy Holiday schedule and school winter break. In its place we will have a Holiday Party at a Troop meeting highlighted by games, snacks, and a gift exchange for all who wish to participate.



Scouts at the Holiday Party

January

After the Holidays, on the first weekend in January, we find ourselves at Camp Horseshoe for our traditional Winter weekend. We stay indoors in cabins heated by wood stoves, so while we are camping, it is civilized. The weekend involves a work project to benefit the camp on Saturday morning, usually we collect and split wood. Then the afternoon is spent on a scavenger hunt, helping the scouts advance rank, and playing games. The evening activity has the scouts visiting various stations around the camp for a scout skills competition between the patrols.



Chopping wood at the Winter Weekend



Getting ready for lunch

February

The winter month of February finds us either at the Klondike Derby or a trip to Matje Farm.

The Klondike Derby is a traditional county-wide event, in which troops from all over the county compete in Scout skill events.

Matje Farm is a large piece of property in upstate Pennsylvania owned by one of the Troop leaders. On this weekend, we stay indoors and during the day and evening we practice our outdoor skills and the patrols compete in fun events such as archery, shotgun shooting, two-man saw, and sled racing.

As this property is close to several ski resorts, sometimes we set aside sometime on Saturday to ski for the day.

Outdoor activities at the Matje Farm Weekend



March

Often March finds us on a historic trip, a weekend at one of the many historic areas in the mid-Atlantic region. In recent years we have visited the Baltimore Inner Harbor, Washington DC, Gettysburg, Antietam, the new World Trade Center in New York City, and Appomattox Virginia.

Gettysburg National Historic Park, Pennsylvania

Appomattox National Historic Park, Virginia



April

Spring break has the Troop in Florida at Walt Disney World on a trip for the older scouts. We load up the Troop bus and drive to Florida where we spend a week in the glorious Florida sunshine enjoying the magic of Disney.



May

As the great weather of Spring settles in, we like to hit the water for a canoe trip. We are lucky to live in an area with so much good water for canoeing. We will visit places such as the Delaware Water Gap, the Brandywine, the Wading River in NJ, the upper Schuylkill and many more. Canoeing is a fun and exciting activity in scouts. We cap our canoeing skills with an annual trip in August to Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario Canada.



June

Ahhh, June, the weather is great and the days are long.

We love June and often use the sunny long days to take a white water rafting trip. Our favorite white water is on the Youghiogheny River in Western Pennsylvania. This weekend is super fun and exciting.

Rafting on the Youghiogheny River



Troop 78 extended camping and high adventure opportunities

Summer Camp: Camp Horseshoe

Summertime finds the Troop at our favorite place on Earth: Camp Horseshoe in Southern Chester County. This camp was established in 1928 and is a place of fun, learning, adventure, and friendly interaction with other scout troops.



Algonquin Park, Ontario Canada

The Ontario park is famous for canoeing and the Troop has a decades-long tradition of taking a week sometime during the summer to canoe the park's many different and varied waterways, lakes, rivers and creeks. It is a place of unique beauty and will test the scouts' camping, cooking, canoeing, and leadership skills.

Sunset in Algonquin

Canoe portage



Kandersteg

Every four years the Troop wings its way to Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC) in Switzerland. That's right: Switzerland! There we spend two weeks hiking, mountaineering, rock climbing, repelling, canyoneering, ice climbing, zip-lining, and touring villages and the countryside of one of the most beautiful places on Earth. You simply cannot take a bad picture in Switzerland. We stay in lodges at KISC and take day-trips from there. This is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Relaxing at KISC



Alpine hike



Matterhorn on a clear day



Mountain trail



Hike to a glacier



Zip-lining



Sea Base

The Sea Base, located in the Florida Keys, is one of several high adventure bases operated by the BSA. Scouts receive SCUBA training and certification before the trip. Then travel to Islamorada, where they spend a week boating and scuba diving the reefs of the the Atlantic ocean and the Florida bay.

Boat ride out to reef



At the helm



Philmont Scout Ranch

Located in the mountains of Northern New Mexico, Philmont is an enormous camp of over 200,000 acres, encompassing several mountain peaks over 12,000ft and hundreds of miles of hiking trails. Scouts spend 7 to 10 days backpacking the beautiful alpine meadows and peaks. The camp is set up so along the trails, the Philmont staff operate program areas where the scouts can rock climb, rappel, summit the mountains, practice black powder riflery, experience backcountry barbecue and fellowship. Those who have been to Philmont will always remember this life-changing adventure.



Hiking to the summit

Additional Information

We welcome the opportunity to tell you more about Troop 78.
Please feel free to contact any of our Troop leaders.

Scoutmaster: Steve D'Antonio 484-883-1277

Assistant Scoutmaster: Jack Bilson 610-547-7934

Assistant Scoutmaster: Pete Motel 484-318-1062

Assistant Scoutmaster for Recruiting: Jim Fox 484-883-2588

OR visit the Troop 78 website and social media.

Website: tr78.org

Facebook: Willistown Boy Scout Troop78

YouTube: Troop 78

OR visit us at our cabin in Malvern.

15 Mill Rd Malvern

Please see our website for directions. There are several Mill Roads, including one in Chesterbrook, not Malvern.

Scouts in Iceland



Scouts in Algonquin Park Ontario



Troop International Food Festival at the cabin



Scouts practicing first aid



A Brief History of Troop 78

Willistown Troop 78 was founded in 1930, and for the past almost 90 years has provided fun and leadership training to young men, with an emphasis on an outdoor program.

The Troop met at the old Greentree School in Malvern until 1947 when it moved to the VFW cabin on Grubb Rd. The Troop met there from 1947 until 2002 when it moved to its current location on Mill Rd in Malvern.

Troop 78 continues a tradition of adventure, fun, and leadership through outdoor scout skills training. Since its founding, the Troop has positively influenced the lives of thousands of young men and their families and this tradition continues today.

Origin of the Boy Scouts

The Boy Scout movement began in England with the publication of *Scouting for Boys* on January 25, 1908. This book was a field manual written by British army officer Robert Baden Powell. The year before his book was published, Baden Powell tested his ideas by camping just off England's southern coast on Brownsea Island for two weeks with twenty adolescent boys. The boys played games, went hiking, and learned how to cook outdoors. Scouting continued to grow in England and by its first census in 1910 there were 100,000 youth involved.

At about this same time, a Boy Scout in London came to the aid of American Chicago businessman William Boyce when he was lost in the fog. Boyce tried to tip the boy, but the boy refused, saying he was a Scout and could not accept a tip for a good deed. Boyce was intrigued, and after returning to America, he organized the Boy Scouts of America which was incorporated on February 8, 1910.

