



Aquatics Base at Claytor Lake

Leaders' Guide - Blue Ridge Scout Reservation



The Claytor Lake Aquatics Base (CLAB) is located just 5 miles from the Blue Ridge Scout Reservation on a beautiful 4,500-acre highlands reservoir. Claytor Lake is an impoundment of the New River and is the largest body of water in Southwest Virginia. The Claytor Lake program is designed to challenge and meet the needs of older Scouts, particularly those interested in earning aquatic merit badges. Claytor Lake participants must be 13 years old by the start of camp. Participants that are 14 or older may sign up for SCUBA, wakeboarding, or personal watercraft. No matter the program, those registering to attend should prepare for an exciting week of fun in the sun. Adults may attend, but participation is on an as-available basis. Scouts come first!

Program Goals

- Introduce Scouts to new and varied aquatic activity.
- Show that advancement and a continued career in Scouting is fun, exciting, and worthwhile.
- Learn how to be safe on the water when you return to your unit activities.
- Have a fun and exciting week that will be like no other Scout camp you have attended!

Before Camp

Registration and Prerequisites

We ask that Scouts and Leaders complete a safe boating course before arrival. An online Boater Safety Course is available at boatus.org/Virginia. Be sure to bring your card! If you have Scouts and Leaders who do not complete Boater Safety prior to arrival, they will complete the course Sunday night and Monday morning. Participants in CLAB programs must go through registration and complete the BSA Swimmer's test at Claytor Lake. A shuttle for Scouts arriving at Camps Powhatan or Ottari will be provided to move your Scouts. Hone your swimming skills before arriving; we recommend that participants earn the Swimming merit badge before camp and swim with their unit to build strength and be prepared for the physical rigors of the week.

Administration

- Complete and bring the BSA Annual Health and Medical Form (Parts A, B, and C)
- PADI Medical Form and other forms for SCUBA participants
- Remember to bring proof of Accident and Sickness Insurance (for out-of-council units).
- Complete Personal Watercraft Agreement and bring to camp
- Print and bring two copies of your completed Claytor Lake Roster
- Consult the Reservation Guide for other administrative details, forms, and duties.

Advancements and Opportunity

Campers will sign up online for various programs and merit badge classes according to the below schedule. The program schedule is available at the end of this guide. In addition, your group will have time for:

- BSA Mile Swim Award
- Tubing, paddle boards, Kayaking
- Climbing
- Volleyball
- Tye-Dye Tuesday
- Field Games Wednesday

Fully Paid By	Dates Attending Camp	Merit Badge Registration Opens
March 15 th , 2020	Any week	April 4 th , 2020
April 15 th , 2020	Any week	April 25 th , 2020
On or after April 16, 2020	Any week	May 1, 2020 once payment is received and processed.



All camps and programs offered at the Blue Ridge Scout Reservation have been nationally accredited through the Boy Scouts of America's National Camp Accreditation Program.

Tentative Schedule

Sunday

Check-in will run from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. After arriving at Claytor Lake Aquatics Base, participants will check in and get housing and crew assignments for the week. Participants must take the BSA swim test upon arrival, so be ready with your swimsuit. Dinner and flags will begin at 6:00pm. Class A uniforms are required for dinner. After Sunday dinner, each crew will meet with their staff crew advisor to discuss rules and procedures. We will start the Virginia Boater's Safety Course at 6:45pm for those needing this certification.

Monday

After breakfast, we will complete the Virginia Boater's Safety Course. An officer from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries will address all CLAB participants regarding the legal requirements of boating in Virginia. The normal weekly schedule will begin following the presentation.

Tuesday-Thursday

Flags will be held at 7:45am, followed immediately by breakfast. Classes begin promptly at 8:45am and crews will rotate until 12:15pm for lunch. After lunch, crews will continue their daily schedule. Dinner will be served at 6:40pm. Class A uniforms are required. After dinner, crews will participate in activities such as watersports or water-based competitions.

Thursday Night

The Thursday night highlight is the campfire where everyone is welcome to share in a few song and skits, rehash the funny events of the week, and enjoy the camaraderie of old and new friends.

Friday

After a regular day of activities, the camp will have a cookout and then participate in evening activities. Some campers return to other base camps for closing campfire and OA events.

Saturday

Breakfast on Saturday is at 7:30am. Scouts needing to return to their units at another base camp will be transported by shuttle.

SCUBA

Participants

All participants must be age 14 by camp and should sign up on the original Hold-a-Place form. Participants are reminded that this is an intense program and there will be little time for other activities. Participants will qualify for the BSA SCUBA merit badge if the open-water dives are completed.

In order to hire qualified staff for these advanced courses, we must have an accurate count of students for each week. All SCUBA participants are required to bring both the camp medical form and PADI medical form. The PADI medical form will be emailed to you prior to camp.

You may bring your own mask, fins, snorkel, botties, and wet suit. If inclement weather or other circumstances beyond our control occur, participants may not be able to complete all the requirements of the course.

Schedule

Sunday: Registration and check-in.

Monday & Tuesday: Safety standards and procedures will be established, and instruction will begin. Lessons and activities include classroom instruction, videos, quizzes, proper set-up and usage procedures for equipment, and confined water instruction.

Wednesday & Thursday: Participants finish up classroom materials and retake quizzes if necessary. Open water instruction begins with proper water entry procedures, equipment adjustments, and becoming comfortable in the water.

Friday: Skill-level appropriate activities will be conducted. Those who complete all requirements will graduate and receive their open Dive certification.

Open Water SCUBA

This is the entry-level for SCUBA diving. With this certification, it is possible to dive anywhere in the world. Unlike many certifications, the Open Water certification never expires. The course consists of three parts: online learning, classroom, confined water, and open water. Each component must be completed to achieve this course certification.

Open Water participants will earn the SCUBA merit badge if their open water dives are completed.

Wakeboarding

Participants

All participants must be 14 years or older by camp and able to pass the BSA swim test.

During the week of camp, Scouts will devote their time to the art of wakeboarding. The goal of the program is to take novice wakeboarders and develop basic skills such as crossing the wake, riding switch, learning basic grabs, and of course, getting sick air. Over five days the Scouts will be guided through a variety of classroom and on-the-water sessions teaching them everything from VA Boaters Safety to basic wakeboarding tricks.

The program is designed to give each participants as much time on the water as possible. Participants in this program will also have the opportunity to earn the watersports merit badge and VA Boaters Safety card. The wakeboarding program is limited to 12 participants, so participants should sign up early using the original Hold-A-Place form.

SCUBA

Participants

All participants must be age 14 by camp and should sign up on the original Hold-a-Place form. Participants are reminded that this is an intense program and there will be little time for other activities. Participants will qualify for the BSA SCUBA merit badge if the open-water dives are completed.

Personal Watercraft

Claytor Lake Aquatics Base is the first BSA summer camp to offer a program focused on the use of personal watercraft, commonly known as jet skis. Scouts age 14 or older can sign up for the PWC course for an additional fee of \$75. This is a five-day course in which Scouts will learn about boating safety and the safe and courteous operation of a PWC. Time is devoted each day to gain familiarity and competency before free riding by the end of the week. Participants 14-16 will ride with an instructor. The Virginia Boater's Safety Course is mandatory for anyone (including Leaders) wishing to use a PWC at CLAB. Each participant must fill out the Personal Watercraft Agreement (next page) and bring it to camp.

Virginia Boater's Safety Course

This course is required for all participants attending CLAB, with the exception for SCUBA. We will offer the course for free at camp Sunday evening into Monday morning. If you do not wish to take the course at camp you may show up on Sunday with a current card from your home state or from this website: boatus.org/virginia. Even if you have a valid card, we will still ask that you sit through the talk by the Conservation Officer on Monday morning.

We encourage all participants to take the course before you arrive at camp.

Equipment List

Personal Items

- (1) Waterproof watch
- (1) Alarm clock
- (1) Toothbrush and toothpaste
- (1) Soap
- (1) Shampoo
- (1) Flashlight
- (1) Sleeping bag with sheet inside
- (1) Pillow
- (1) Bag for dirty clothes
- (3) Towels
- (-) Paper and pencil
- (1) Bottle non-spray waterproof sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- (1) Water bottle
- (-) Spending money

SCUBA

All gear is provided.

- (1) Bring SCUBA certification card and log book for advanced courses
- (1) Dive booties - optional
- (1) Wet suit - optional

Wakeboarding

We provide all gear, but participants are welcome to bring their personal PFD, board, and gloves.

Do Not Bring

- Expensive electronic devices such as laptops or iPads
- Knives
- Pets
- Patrol gear (chuck boxes, etc.)

Clothing

- (2) swimsuits - one-piece for females
- (1) Pair of shorts
- (1) Pair of long pants
- (-) Several "Class B" shirts
- (-) Several pairs of underwear
- (1) Rain jacket and rain pants
- (-) Several pairs of white socks
- (1) Wide brimmed hat
- (1) Pair of shoes/sandals with heel strap
- (1) Pair of tennis shoes

Optional Gear

- (-)Fishing equipment
- (1) Fishing license; \$7-\$17 depending on type of license. Can order online at camp. Non-VA residents 12 or older must buy a license to fish.
- (1) Pair of sunglasses with strap
- (1) Chapstick or lip balm
- (1) Disposable camera (waterproof)
- (1) Personal snorkeling gear
- (1) Sleeping pad for cot
- (1) Wet suit (for cool weather)



Claytor Lake

SPECIALTY RESIDENT CAMP



Personal Watercraft Agreement

Personal Watercraft (PWC) Program

Participation and Hold-Harmless Agreement

Camp Claytor Lake Aquatics Base

Camp Claytor Lake Aquatics Base from the Blue Ridge Mountains Council will be offering a personal watercraft program. Scouts will be instructed how to operate a PWC. Scouts will be taught PWC safety and operate a PWC on a training course, then have open ride time in a designated area at Camp Claytor Lake Aquatics Base. Scouts are expected to abide by all safety rules and the instructions of the camp instructor(s).

I, the undersigned, give my child, _____, permission to participate in this program. I understand that participation in the activity involves a certain degree of risk. I have carefully considered the risk involved and have given consent for my child to participate in the activity. I understand that participation in the activity is entirely voluntary and requires participants to abide by the rules and standards of conduct. I release the Boy Scouts of America, the local council, the activity coordinators, and all employees, volunteers, related parties, or other organizations associated with the activity from any and all claims or liability arising out of this participation.

For safety, my child and I agree that he/she will do the following or he/she will be removed from the program. Because space is limited, any additional cost associated with participation in this program will not be refunded.

1. Complete the boater safety class taught at Camp Claytor Lake Aqua Base.
2. Wear all required safety gear at all times on or around the equipment.
3. Follow all safety rules provided in the training class.
4. Follow the instructions of the camp staff instructor(s).
5. Maintain control of the PWC at all times and remain within the speed determined to be safe by the camp instructor(s).
6. Be 14 years of age at the start of class and in full compliance with all local, state, and federal guidelines, including age restrictions and original equipment manufacturer standards.
7. Respond to the camp satisfaction survey from the Boy Scouts of America as it evaluates the PWC program.

Participant's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian printed name: _____ Date: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____










Email address (for survey purposes only): _____



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Merit Badge Details

An asterick (*) denotes an Eagle-required merit badge.

Badge		Description
	BSA Lifeguard (Advanced)	This course is extremely physically demanding and is recommended for older Scouts and adults only. Participants will spend their entire day on the waterfront and should not plan on signing up for other merit badges. Be prepared for a practical and written exam at the end of the week. Participants should be at least 15 years old.
	Fishing (Basic)	Bring your rod, reel, and tackle. Completion of this badge requires both patience and a lot of luck. Requirement 9 may or may not be completed depending on if the Scout is able to catch a fish.
	Kayaking (Moderate)	Scouts will learn how to enter and exit a kayak, as well as proper paddling techniques. Physical strength and endurance required.
	Lifesaving* (Advanced)	This challenging program is physically demanding and is recommended only for very strong swimmers who wish to learn aquatic life-saving skills. Prior CPR training is helpful.
	Motorboating (Moderate)	With the fun of operating a motor boat comes the responsibility for keeping that boat in first-class condition, knowing and obeying the nautical "rules of the road," and gaining the general knowledge and skills to operate a boat safely.
	Rowing (Moderate)	This is a physically demanding badge. It is more difficult to master than canoeing or kayaking. At CLAB, we use sculling row boats instead of the traditional large, aluminum crafts.
	Small Boat Sailing (Moderate)	Scouts will learn about how to read the wind and fill out the sail, and how to plan for a safe sailing trip. Class size is limited to 8 participants. Participants must be 13 years old.
	Swimming* (Moderate)	This program is physically demanding and is recommended for older Scouts only.
	Water Sports (Advanced)	When taking this badge, Scouts will gain skills that will serve them well for a lifetime and have extreme fun while they do. This class will focus on water skiing. Enrolling in Beginner Wakeboarding will complete all requirements for Water Sports MB with a focus on wakeboarding.

2019 Claytor Lake Aquatics Base Merit Badge and Activity Schedule

Flag Ceremony & Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

8:45	Water Sports	Beginner Wake Boarding	Personal Watercraft (Activity)	Motor-boating	Large Boat Sailing (Activity)	Small Boat Sailing	Kayaking	Rowing	Stand-Up Paddle-Boarding (Award)	Swimming		Fishing
10:15	Water Sports	Beginner Wake Boarding	Personal Watercraft (Activity)	Motor-boating	Large Boat Sailing (Activity)	Small Boat Sailing	Kayaking	Rowing	Stand-Up Paddle-Boarding (Award)		Lifesaving	Fishing

Lunch and Siesta Noon to 1:30 p.m.

1:45	Water Sports	Beginner Wake Boarding	Personal Watercraft (Activity)	Motor-boating	Large Boat Sailing (Activity)	Small Boat Sailing	Kayaking	Rowing	Stand-Up Paddle-Boarding (Award)	Swimming		Fishing
3:15	Water Sports	Beginner Wake Boarding	Personal Watercraft (Activity)	Motor-boating	Large Boat Sailing (Activity)	Small Boat Sailing	Kayaking	Rowing	Stand-Up Paddle-Boarding (Award)		Lifesaving	Fishing
4:45	Water Sports	Beginner Wake Boarding	Personal Watercraft (Activity)	Motor-boating	Large Boat Sailing (Activity)	Small Boat Sailing	Kayaking	Rowing	Stand-Up Paddle-Boarding (Award)		BSA Lifeguard	Fishing

Dinner 6:40 p.m.

Evening Program Session: 7:15 p.m. to Dusk

Claytor Lake Roster

Dates attending camp: _____ Unit Type: _____ Unit Number: _____

	Name of Participant	Date of Birth	Address	Phone Number
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				

