



# Scout Troop 255

## Chevy Chase, Maryland

*An Introduction for New Scouts & Families*

### TROOP 255 AT-A-GLANCE

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Scout Troop 255 focuses on having fun through outdoor adventure while fostering character development, leadership skills, and citizenship.

Founded in 1940, Scout Troop 255 is one of the most established troops in Montgomery County. The Troop is chartered by Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 7001 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

The Troop is open to kids of all genders with an interest in outdoor adventure, friendship, and fun. The Troop has approximately 50 scouts from Montgomery County and Washington, DC, reflecting the wide diversity of our community. In addition to weekly meetings, there are monthly campouts, summer camp, high adventure treks, and community service projects.

Troop 255 enjoys five decades of shared history with Cub Scout Pack 255. A majority of Troop 255 scouts began their scouting experience in Pack 255. Many others join as newcomers to scouting, or as relocated scouts from other areas.

Troop 255 is a scout-led organization, guided and supported by trained adult leaders and many other volunteers. The Boy Scouts of America consistently recognizes the Troop for organizational excellence.

From Tenderfoot to Eagle, the Troop has a successful mentorship program to support progression through the ranks. New scouts endeavor to achieve First Class rank within the first year. Over the past two decades, seventy-eight scouts in Troop 255 have achieved Eagle Scout rank.

The Troop meets weekly on Tuesday nights during the school year from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. The meetings focus on advancement, trip planning, hands-on learning, and fun activities.

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

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Outdoor adventure is central to the Scout experience. In Troop 255, scouts participate in monthly camping trips during the school year, summer camp, and high adventure treks for older scouts.

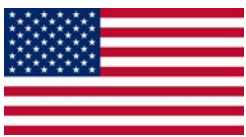
**Monthly Campouts** – Scouts experience a wide variety of monthly campouts, including hiking the Appalachian Trail, canoeing the Shenandoah, biking the Great Allegheny Passage, and outings to historical sites such as Gettysburg and Antietam National Battlefields. Other overnights include caving, skiing, and camping near Kings Dominion.

**Summer Camp** – The Troop attends summer camp in June, generally rotating among three BSA camps in Virginia and Pennsylvania. Summer camp is an excellent opportunity to earn merit badges while having a great time with friends. Scouts can earn credit toward summer camp tuition through the Troop’s annual mulch sale fundraiser.

**High Adventure** – Scouts age 14 or older can have the experience of a lifetime at one of BSA’s high adventure camps. Each year, crews from Troop 255 embark on one or more treks canoeing the Great Northwoods, hiking New Mexico’s high desert at Philmont Ranch, or exploring underwater wilderness at BSA’s Florida Sea Base. Scouts have also embarked on regional high adventure programs offered by the Capital Area Council, and “custom-tailored” programs designed by the scouts themselves.

## CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY

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Fostering citizenship is an important goal of the scouting program. In Troop 255, scouts serve the community through numerous Eagle Scout projects, Scouting for Food, troop outings, and at their individual houses of worship.

## ADVANCEMENT

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Rank advancement engages each scout through tangible rewards as they progress through the ranks. For new scouts, a unique attribute of Troop 255 is the “Road to First Class” program. Among new scouts who participate regularly, all achieve First Class rank within the first year of membership. This highly successful program provides new scouts with a positive experience and a solid foundation necessary for future fun and success.

Troop 255 also has a proven mentorship program supporting older scouts who set their sights on Eagle Scout rank. Over the past twenty years, seventy-eight scouts in Troop 255 have achieved Eagle, and 141 in Troop history. While the Eagle rank requires sustained individual commitment, each scout who is focused on this goal achieves their objective. This track record of success is another important aspect of the Troop 255 experience.

## ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

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Over the past two decades, the Troop has consistently earned the Quality Unit Award – a national award conveyed by the BSA. The Troop regularly achieves the highest “gold” rating on BSA’s Journey to Excellence Scorecard – a recognition program designed to encourage and reward success. All adult uniformed leaders are fully trained to BSA requirements. Many have additional training in wilderness survival and other advanced certifications. All adults are welcome and encouraged to help out with troop activities.

## JOINING TROOP 255

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The joining process is as easy as filling out the registration form found on our website, submitting annual dues, and picking up a uniform at the scout store in Bethesda. The Troop provides new scouts with the Scout Handbook, numerals, and colors for the uniform. To be eligible to join, a child must be 11 years old, or one who has completed the fifth grade or earned the Arrow of Light Award and is at least 10 years old, but is not yet 18 years old.

***To learn more, contact us at [outreachCoord@t255.org](mailto:outreachCoord@t255.org)  
and visit our website at [www.t255.org](http://www.t255.org).***