



TROOP 215 ANDERSON, SC

Blue Ridge Council, 6 & 20 District
Charter Organization: First Presbyterian Church of Anderson, SC
A Scouting Tradition Since 1928
Star & Life Ranks Service Project Requirements

Who the Project Benefits:

Issued: April 22, 2009

Service projects for scouting advancement must benefit others such as: nonprofit community groups like a school, or religious institution, or public area such as a community center, park, or preserve, etc. Projects that benefit Scouting (patrol, troop, council, etc) are not acceptable for advancement purposes.

Star Scout Service:

A Star Scout candidate works on projects totaling 6 hours that are generally led by others, although he may lead a project himself if it is appropriate. Simple participation in already scheduled service projects is totally acceptable.

Life Scout Service:

As a Scout advances in rank toward Eagle, he should work to develop the planning, organization, leadership, and documentation skills required for that rank. For this reason, a Life Scout candidate in Troop 215 will plan and lead his own service project. This project must be a minimum of six hours of work (for at least 5 or 6 scouts), and may be much more than that. The goals and steps of the process are listed below.

Planning and Pre Approval – This step includes discussing the proposed project and plans with the Troop's Scoutmaster or a designated Assistant Scoutmaster. A brief **Project Plan paragraph** needs to be prepared stating:

1. The value of the project (who benefits and how)
2. What the project includes and what materials and tools are required
3. How it will be accomplished
4. The name and phone number of the adult contact of the organization the project benefits
5. The location and timeline for the project including how many scouts for how many hours.
NOTE: the Scout should make every effort possible to avoid scheduling conflicts with other Troop Activities. If your event does have a conflict with other Troop Activities then you **MUST** get approval in advance of scheduling your project from the Scoutmaster and be ready to fully explain your reasons why your project must be held in the date of conflict.
6. The names of the (2) adults attending – (1) must be BSA registered, with Youth Protection training

Once the Scout and Assistant Scoutmaster agree on the project plan, the Scout presents it to the Scoutmaster for approval before work is started.

Organization – The Scout needs to arrange for helpers – preferably other Scouts. The Scout is responsible for arranging 2-deep adult leadership at the event. Arrangements may need to be made to get the other workers to the project location, and to get any necessary tools or materials needed for the job. Life Scout projects do not include any fundraising activities, so materials (such as paint, lumber, mulch, plants, etc.) should already be available or arranged for by the group benefiting from the service project.

Leadership – The Scout needs to involve other people in performing the service project. He will learn what needs to be done from a contact person (usually an adult, but not a parent), communicate tasks and expectations to his helpers, and review the work completed with a contact person to make sure the needs are met. Doing everything by one's self does not allow the Scout to demonstrate or practice leadership. The Scout is expected to make announcements at Troop meetings, mail flyers, and in general make sure that everyone involved with the Troop or organization they are serving is aware to the project and has been offered a chance to assist in the project.

Documentation - Finally, the Scout needs to write a short summary of the project. This summary should start with the **Project Plan paragraph** followed by a record of what was accomplished.

1. The summary should also tell when the work was done and who assisted and for how long.
2. It should tell what did and what did not work out well, or what might be done differently next time to make such a project better or easier to complete.
3. This write up will typically be 3-5 paragraphs and about a page in length. It should be written within a day or two after completing the project while memories are still fresh.
4. A list of the hours each worker participated and the total number of hours for the project should be attached. **The hours must then be presented to the Troop's Advancement Chairperson to be entered into the record for each scout assisting in the project – see the Advancement Chairperson for instructions.**
5. The Project write-up should be typed or neatly written, and carefully proofread.

The final Life Project write-up must then be approved by the Scoutmaster and or designated Assistant Scoutmaster. The final write up is signed as completed with the date completed and then given to the Troop's Advancement Chairperson for credit.

The primary purpose for following these steps is to provide the Scout with practice for the much larger and more involved Eagle Scout project process.