

Scouting for Food 2016 Leader Guide - Central Florida Council





BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
CENTRAL FLORIDA COUNCIL

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Scouting for Food Facts

Q. What is “Scouting for Food?”

A. “Scouting for Food” is the nation’s largest single-day food drive. It began as a Scout’s service project in St. Louis in 1985 and was adopted by the National Organization in 1988. The goal is to help feed the hungry of our communities.

Q. When does it take place?

A. In Central Florida, it always happens on the first two Saturdays of November.

- *Saturday, November 5th* is Bag Distribution Day. Some 600,000 grocery bags will be hung on doors throughout Central Florida.
- *Saturday, November 12th* is Bag Collection Day. Starting at 9am, Scouts blanket our communities, collecting food donated by residents. Scouts then deliver the food to collection sites, where it is counted, packed and readied for delivery to food pantries.

Q. Why do we participate in Scouting for Food?

A. As an organization, the Boy Scouts teaches youth the value of helping others and giving back to their communities. By collecting food for people in need, Scouts are “doing a good turn” and “helping other people,” key elements of the Scout Oath and slogan.

Q. Where does the donated food go?

A. After the Scouts collect the food bags, they deliver them to a local drop-off location where volunteers sort and box the food to be delivered to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida and other local food pantries. Your donated food will help feed people in Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake, Brevard, Volusia and Flagler Counties - at no charge to them.

Q. Who helps make Scouting for Food possible?

A. It takes a community effort for sure. Our Scouts and Scouters, their friends and family, and community partners, such as Florida Blue, Nemours Children’s Hospital, Second Harvest Food Bank and Brighthouse Networks are all to be thanked for this effort.

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2016 “Scouting for Food” Unit Chair Position Description and Timeline

September

- Sign your unit up to participate in “Scouting for Food” by September Roundtable.
- Sign your unit up for a specific area of coverage. Work with your District’s “Scouting for Food” Chair to identify an area for your unit. Make sure it’s the right size for your unit.
- Recruit unit parents/leaders to drive vehicles for bag distribution day and collection day. Please note: no Scouts are to be driven in the back of pickup trucks.

October

- Pick up your “Scouting for Food” bags and yard signs at the October Roundtable.
- Make sure leaders/parents/Scouts receive detailed instructions and copies of your area map. Make sure they have the appropriate number of bags.

November

- Make sure all homes in your area receive a bag on distribution day, November 5th. It is imperative that bags are distributed that day – not earlier or later – as it will coincide with our publicity efforts.
- Do not hang bags on or put them in mail boxes. Please hang bags on front doors.
- Make sure your same assigned area is combed for bags of food on collection day, which is November 12th. Do not start earlier than 9am and please be done picking up bags by noon.
- Be prepared to shuttle your collected food to your District’s collection site.
- On the collection day, also pull unused bags off door knobs so they can be recycled.
- Please note: it is encouraged that after you comb your area, re-sweep the neighborhood, as some residents will remember to put a bag out later in the day.
- Make sure all collected food is delivered to your District’s collection site by 2pm.
- Don’t forget to go to <https://servicehours.scouting.org> and register your unit. Enter the number of Scouts and adults who participated on both days and time you spent on the project. This way, your unit gets full credit for the service it has completed! (This site is good for the service projects you do year-round.) It’s also part of your Journey to Excellence goals! And you can earn the new Messengers of Peace patch too.

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Keys to Success

“I’m the ‘Scouting for Food’ Chair for my unit... now what?”

Attend your District’s September Roundtable:

- During your District’s “Scouting for Food” kickoff, you’ll get some great ideas for how to present this service project to your unit. (*agenda included in this packet*)
- Turn in your unit’s “Scouting for Food” commitment form
- Confirm your unit’s distribution area

Before your next Unit Meeting:

- Prepare maps and materials for your Scouts and their families
- Contact all Scout families and invite them to your unit’s “Scouting for Food” kickoff

At your Unit’s “Scouting for Food” Kickoff:

- Lead/coordinate a 5-10 minute unit presentation to inspire your Scouts & families
- Secure their commitment to help with “Scouting for Food”

Attend October’s Roundtable:

- Pick up your units’ bags

November 5th

- Coordinate a check-in location for your Scouts/Families. Arrange for refreshments and get them excited for their morning
- Have families contact you when their area is completed

November 12th

- Coordinate a check- in location with your Scouts/Families. Arrange for refreshments and get them excited for their morning
- Remind Scouts to walk door to door in uniform to collect bags
- Have Scouts and Leaders proceed to your District’s collection site

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Scouting for Food - Agenda for Unit Kickoff

Be prepared to lead a 5-10 minute presentation to inspire your Scout families

- Have a large map showing your area and smaller copies for your families.
- With the map, include your contact information and the schedule for both Saturdays.
- Pre-assign streets/neighborhood areas for each family. Scouts should work in pairs.
- Remind Scouts to wear their uniform!

As attendees arrive:

- Greet them and mark every 5th person with a dot sticker on their shirt

Your presentation:

1. Why do we do Scouting for Food?

- Ask marked attendees to stand up (and remain standing). This is a snapshot of our community, look around. Those standing represent the number of people in our community who go to sleep each night on an empty stomach.
- Everyday in our community 20% of us seek food assistance.
- Scouting for Food helps to ensure our neighbors and their families will have an adequate food supply.

2. What can we do to help make this important project successful?

- We need 100% family support for Scouting for Food!
- Scouts that place the bags November 5th should return to same homes to collect food on November 12th.

3. Collection Tips

- Arrange for a collection box at places of worship, schools, home-owners associations, apartment/condo clubhouses and offices.

4. Review Schedule for Saturday, November 5th

- Meet at unit assembly location for instructions and refreshments
- Go to your assigned neighborhood to distribute bags
- Call your unit leader when you have completed your assigned area

5. Schedule for Saturday, November 12th

- Meet at unit assembly location for instructions and refreshments
- After 9am, return to your assigned neighborhood to collect bags
- Deliver your bags to your District's collection site

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Unit Participation Roster

Fill this out prior to arriving at your District's collection site. Make copies as needed.

District:	Unit Type:	Unit #:
Unit Leader:		
Scouts	First	Last
1		
2		
3		
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11		
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Scouting for Food Unit Commitment Form

To ensure “Scouting for Food” bags are ordered properly, please fill this form out completely and turn in to your District’s “Scouting for Food” Chair or District Executive *no later than the September Roundtable*.

Check one:

Pack Troop Team Crew Post

Unit Number: _____ District: _____

Name of your “Scouting for Food” Chair: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Best Phone Numbers: _____

Number of bags needed to serve your unit’s assigned area: _____

Number of Scouts expected to participate: _____

(Don’t know how many bags you need? Ask your District’s “Scouting for Food” Chair for guidance)

Important notes to remember:

- Bags must be picked up by your unit at the October Roundtable
- Please distribute all bags received
- All bags received must be distributed on Saturday, November 5th
- The same unit that distributes bags must comb the same area for filled bags on Saturday, November 12th

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Messengers of Peace



How do I submit a Messengers of Peace project?

To designate a Messengers of Peace project, simply select Messengers of Peace as the partner organization when entering a service project through the Journey to Excellence website

(www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence). Doing so will add the project to the map on the Messengers of Peace website

(<http://scoutmessengers.com> ) and will generate a unit certificate.

I haven't submitted a Journey to Excellence project before. How does the process work?

Follow these steps:

1. Go to www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence and click on the "Service Hours Website" link. (Volunteers with a MyScouting account can also reach the Journey to Excellence service hour website by clicking on the "Service Hours" link on the left side of the screen in the "Unit Tools" section.)
2. If you have login information, enter it now. Otherwise, click the "New Users Click Here" link to create an account. Note that you will need your unit ID (five to 11 digits) and your unit number (four digits, no letters), which you can get by calling your council service center.
3. Once you've logged in, enter the following information:
 - Date of the project
 - Number of registered Scouts participating
 - Number of non-Scouts (brothers, sisters, friends)
 - Number of adult leaders participating
 - Number of other adults participating
 - Total hours worked (number of workers times the number of hours they worked)
 - Organizations that joined you on the project
 - Who or what organization benefited from the project
 - Number of items collected (if applicable)
4. Select "Messengers of Peace" as the partner organization.
5. Click the "Submit" button. When you submit your information, you will be asked whether you have any additional projects to record. To print a certificate, click "Print Certificate."

Recognition

What recognition items are available?

In addition to the unit certificate, any Scout or Scouter who participates in a qualifying project is eligible to wear a Messengers of Peace ring patch around the World Crest on his or her uniform. To purchase these ring patches, a unit representative should take the unit certificate to the local Scout shop or council service center.

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