



Aim To Soar



With The Eagles

Advancement to Eagle Scout

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Troop Leadership Focus



Hudson Valley Council

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Agenda

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With The Eagles

- Leading Scouts to Eagle Rank
- Eagle Scout Rank Requirements
- Troop Leadership Role
- The Scout's Leadership Service Project
- More Troop Leadership
- District Role
- Board Of Review
- Court Of Honor
- Resources, Wrap-up, Contacts





Leading Scouts to Eagle Rank

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Set The Expectation that your Scouts **CAN, SHOULD, WILL** make Eagle Scout Rank

- Majority who make First Class **CAN**
- Most who make Star **SHOULD**
- Almost all who make Life **WILL**





Leading Scouts to Eagle Rank

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With The Eagles

● First Class

- Scouting needs to encourage him onward and let him know you think he can succeed in scouting
- Scouting needs to reach out to those that don't show up for a while

● Star

- Scouting needs to help him understand the trail to Eagle
- Scouting needs to help him stay focused
- Scout can be given more confidence if trained in Leadership

● Life

- Scouting needs to help him understand the requirements of Eagle
- Scouting needs to teach him about his role as a “Senior Scout”
- Troop’s Program has to offer “Senior Scout” experiences and adventure.





The 6 Eagle Requirements, Simplified

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- Be Here – honor your membership contract
- Be Square – live the Scout Oath and Law
- Be a Merit Badge Learner and Earner
- Be an Involved Leader
- Be a Committed Leader
- Be Ready for your Board of Review





Eagle Requirement #1

The Scout's Job Is To Work At It

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1 Be active in your (*unit*) for at least six months, since becoming a Life Scout. **It is the troop's responsibility to certify this.**

Troop Participation

Weekly Meetings

Monthly PLCs

Annual Troop Planning Meeting

Service Projects

Civic Events

Fund Raisers

Campouts and Summer Camp





Eagle Requirement #2

The Scout's Job Is To Work At It

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With The Eagles

2 Demonstrate that you live by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life. List individuals who know you personally, and would be willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf.

Recommendations from

Parent/Guardian's), Religious, Educational
Employer (If Any), Two Other References

Recommendations are obtained by the Scoutmaster,
not by the Scout





Eagle Requirement #3

The Scout's Job Is To Work At It

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3 Earn a total of 21 merit badges

12 Required Merit Badges

Camping, Three Citizenships: Community, Nation, World
Communications, (Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving)
(Cycling or Hiking or Swimming)
Environmental Science, Family Life, First Aid
Personal Management, Personal Fitness

9 Optional Merit Badges

Career Explorations and Lifetime Interests





Eagle Requirement #4

The Scout's Job Is To Work At It

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4 While a Life Scout, serve actively for six months in one or more positions of responsibility (does not have to be continuous or successful)

Ideally, Experiences Leadership Growth

Works well in Patrol , Leads Patrol(s)

Helps others in the Troop

Learns about leading by taking

National Youth Leader Training (NYLT)

Ideally, Leads at Troop level

Senior Patrol Leader, Asst. Sr. Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader,
Troop Guide, Scribe, Librarian, Quartermaster,





Eagle Requirement #5

The Scout's Job Is To Work At It

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- 5 While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.
- The Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook must be used in meeting this requirement.
 - The project proposal must be approved **before it starts** by:
 - the benefiting organization
 - the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee
 - District Advancement Committee





Eagle Requirement #6

The Scout's Job Is To Work At It

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6 Attach to the application:

- a statement of your ambitions and life purpose
- a listing of positions held in your religious institution, camp, community, or other organizations during which you demonstrated leadership skills.

(Include honors and awards received during this service)

The “Hudson Valley Council Guide for Advancement to Eagle” includes advice on preparing these two documents.

Finally, take part in a Scoutmaster conference with your unit leader.





Troop Leadership Role

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Leader's Reference Materials

- Hudson Valley Council "Guide for Advancement to Eagle"
 - Part I - For The Life Scout
 - Part II - Leadership Responsibilities & Processes (Leaders Only)

Note: This guide:

- was created when Hudson Valley Council was formed
- is approved by the Council Executive Board as policy
- is typically updated every June.

- Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook
- Eagle Scout Rank Application
- Advancement Committee, Policies and Procedures (BSA #33088)





Troop Leadership Role

Materials To Give To Your Life Scout

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With The Eagles

- Make sure your Life Scout gets the current editions of:
 - Hudson Valley Council "Guide for Advancement to Eagle"
 - Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook
 - Aim for use of a softcopy version of the Project Workbook:
 - Get it from the NESA Website: <http://www.nesa.org>
 - Click on **TRAIL TO EAGLE**
 - Select Project How -To Manual
 - Download **EITHER .DOC OR .RTF OR .PDF**
 - Eagle Scout Rank Application 2008 Edition





Troop Leadership Role

Educating The Life Scout

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With The Eagles

- Work with the Scout to make sure he understands what he has been given:
 - Review the content of the HVC Guide and of the forms, with the Scout and his parents before he starts.
 - Lay out project timeline expectations:
First Proposal to Final Report may take 6 months or more
 - Review the service project planning and reporting requirements with the Scout before he starts to work.





Troop Leadership Role

Educating The Life Scout

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● “Rules of the Game”

- The Leadership Service Project Workbook itself has some rules about projects
- The HVC Guide explains the process and defines the requirements
- The Scout needs to demonstrate his leadership skills
- The community’s needs must be considered
- Project proposals are not Pass/Fail tests –
 Planning is an evolutionary multi-step process
- Projects can only go forward after they have been approved





Troop Leadership Role

Educating The Life Scout

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● Project Conception and Plan Approval

- Project Description – the Basic Project Overview
 - Review with Representative of the Benefiting Organization
 - Discussion with the Scoutmaster/Coach/Advisor

- Project Details - Review with and obtain a signature from
 - Representative of the Benefiting Organization
 - Scoutmaster/Coach/Advisor
 - Unit Committee
 - District Eagle Advancement Coordinator/Committee

"NOW THE PROJECT CAN BEGIN"





Troop Leadership Role

Working With The Life Scout

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With The Eagles

- Work with the Scout on the Project Description before he proceeds to the next phase, the Project Details.
 - This Description is an overview, answering the question: “What is the big picture of what I’m going to do?”.
 - Make sure that the project meets National requirements
- Expect to challenge his Project Details. This is where the Scout translates his goals, “WHAT I will do”, into a set of information that tells HOW he will do it. **(This may be hardest part for Scout)**
 - Review his planning against the set of questions he was asked to consider in the HVC Guide.





Project Details

Life Scout's Role

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- **Developing The Plan** will take significant time
 - Investing the time to put together a well-thought-out plan will:
 - Makes the implementation go much more smoothly
 - Teach the scout skills that he can use in school & for the rest of his life
 - Planning is an evolutionary multi-step process
 - Set the scout's expectations that they may not get their plan approved the first time it is reviewed by the Scoutmaster
 - Give him the benefit of the experience of your Troop's leadership in carrying out projects in their own adult lives.





Project Details

Life Scout's Role

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- The HVC Guide contains a good outline for the essentials of the Planning Details
 - Describe the present condition
 - What method(s) will you use
 - What is your schedule – pick dates
 - Resources & project needs
 - Materials & equipment
 - Drawings & photographs





Project Details

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Present Condition & Method(s)

- What is the present condition?
- What needs to be done or corrected?
- What are the parts of the project?
- What order will you do them in?
- Does your sequence of actions make sense?
- What method will you use to do or correct each item?
- How will you get the work done?
- Should you have rough sketches or drawings to scale?
- Do you need permits from a governmental agency?





Project Details

People Resources

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- Who will help with the project?
- How will you recruit your workers?
- How many adults (2+) & boys might be needed?
- How will they be organized to do the work?
- What special training will be needed?
- What safety precautions are necessary?
- What emergency plans do you have?





Project Details

Materials and Equipment

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- What materials are needed?
- How much will they cost?
- How will the materials be paid for?
 - An Eagle Project should not pay for itself
 - Find donors from the community
 - Project sponsor should be a financial backer
- How will you handle cost overruns?





Project Details

Materials and Equipment

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With The Eagles

- How will you ask, and then assign, the volunteers to bring items?
- How will you get the materials to the work site?
- How will you borrow and return tools?
- What special equipment is needed?
 - Any special safety precautions?
 - Who will operate it?





Project Details Schedule

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- What are your **SPECIFIC** work dates?
- Did you check against related calendars?
Consider Troop, school, family, personal commitments
- Can weather affect your plan?
How will you adjust for it, if you can?
- What are your contingency dates?
- What times will you be working?
- Where will you meet?





Project Details

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Photographs & Miscellaneous

- Photographs
 - Before Pictures
 - During Pictures, of the work and your workers
- Diagrams and building plans, if applicable
- Will food and drink for your workers be needed?
- Are Shelter and Bathrooms available, if needed?

***** Communication, Communication, Communication *****





Project Details

Reviews and Approvals

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- Someone should be working with the scout as he drafts and finalizes the plan before it is reviewed and signed off
 - Is an Eagle Scout project advisor right for your troop?
 - Their role would be to work with the Scout in developing his plan and to assist the Scoutmaster in his role.
- Review and signoff by the benefiting group's leader considers:
 - Is the project doing what is expected?
 - Are the dates going to interfere with any activities they have planned?





Project Details

Reviews and Approvals

Aim To Soar



With The Eagles

- The Scoutmaster reviews the scout's detailed plan
 - His job is to see if the Scout has a good plan.
 - Asks himself, “Will this plan work?”
 - Does this plan show the Scout giving leadership to others?
 - Does this Proposal fit in with Troop plans?
- The Troop Committee reviews the detailed plan
 - Does the Troop have equipment the Scout might want?
 - Do Troop parents or others have special skills needed?
 - Does this Project fit in with Troop plans?





Project Details

Reviews and Approvals

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With The Eagles

- The District's Eagle Advancement Committee or Coordinator reviews the plan to compare it to other district Eagle Project plans
 - Too big or too small?
 - Complete enough to work?
 - Is cost in line or excessive?
 - Proper approvals been secured?
- Major changes to the project require re-approval from the Troop Committee and the District Eagle Advancement Committee





Troop Leadership Role

Other Considerations

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- Participate in the project, so you have firsthand experience of his abilities.
- Review the finished project.
- Review his documentation of his project. Does it satisfy the reporting requirement of the Workbook, as explained in the HVC Guide?
- Project Completion – **Signatures that say the project is done in a satisfactory manner**
 - Scout
 - Scoutmaster/Coach/Advisor
 - Representative of the Benefiting Organization





Troop Leadership Role

Completion Signoff

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The “Carrying out the Project” part of the Workbook must be completed. It will require additional pages to meet National’s requirements.

Information to be included

- A record of the progress of your project. Discuss your leadership actions (training, solving any problems encountered) as well as the physical work that got done.
- Materials actually used, actual cost and source of funding
- Changes to the plan
- Photographs and diagrams
- List of people who helped and the dates and hours spent both in planning and execution, on a person by person basis





Troop Leadership Role

Final Eagle Scout Paperwork

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- **All Eagle Scout requirements must be completed before the Life Scout's 18th birthday.**
- **The Eagle Scout Rank Application must have been filled in and signed by the Scout, Unit Leader, and Unit Committee Chair.**
- **The completed Rank Application must be received in the Council Office, on or before the Scout's 18th birthday.**
- **Once approved by Council**
 - **Unit Committee Chair is authorized to set up the Board of Review**
 - **Notified by e-mail or letter, with copy to the Scoutmaster and District Advancement Committee Chair**
 - **The scheduling procedure varies by District – the unit Committee Chair needs to stay in contact with all involved.**





District Role

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HVC District Responsibilities

- Review and give final approval to service project proposals created by Eagle Scout candidates
- Conduct Eagle Scout Boards of Review
(as per Council policy in the HVC Guide)
- Manage the Eagle Scout Advancement process:
 - track Scout progress
 - keep the District Committee informed
 - assign project proposal reviewers
 - train Scouts, parents, leaders
- Be active in the Council Advancement Committee





Board Of Review

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- A Eagle Board is composed of a minimum of three and a maximum of six members

- Board Members
 - Must be 21 years of age or older
 - No Relative of the Scout, nor a SM or an ASM
 - Do not have to be registered in Scouting, but must have an understanding of the importance and purpose of the Eagle Board of Review
 - At least one District representative will serve as the Board Chairman and set criteria for board





Board Of Review

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- Decision of the Board
 - A unanimous decision must be reached as to the Scout's qualifications
 - If the decision is not unanimous, an appeal may be made by the Scout, Unit Leader, or Unit Committee to the Council, and if needed, to National Scouting
 - A negative decision must be documented, explaining why it occurred.

- Information Resource - Advancement Committee, Policies and Procedures (BSA # 33088)





Court Of Honor

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- When a Scout has earned the Eagle Scout rank, he deserves special recognition
- The Court of Honor ceremony cannot be held until the action of the Board of Review has been approved by the National Eagle Scout Service
- Attaining Eagle is both a personal and Troop success - the Court of Honor should recognize both
- Planning the Court of Honor should not be turned over to the Scout's parents.





Court Of Honor

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Eagle Court of Honor

- Plan well in advance – minimum two months needed for adequate planning
- Involve the Eagle Scout and his parents
- Decide on the ceremony to be used and plan the program
- Request letters from prominent people
- Send invitations to family, friends, troop parents, church/community/school leaders, chartered organization and district/council representatives
- Prepare a printed program
- Obtain local newspaper coverage





Resources

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With The Eagles

● Information Sources & Resources

- Advancement Committee, Policies And Procedures (BSA #33088)
- U.S. Scouting Service Project <http://www.nesa.org/>
- The Eagle Court of Honor Book, ©1996 by Mark Ray





Wrap Up

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With The Eagles

- **Troop leadership is an awesome responsibility**

A team of leaders, such as yourselves, is needed by all those who start up the trail to Eagle to give them:

- credit for being on that right path
- all the encouragement you can to stay on that path
- all the leadership skill and knowledge you have.

- **Eagle Scout is a special rank**

Light their path to that special way of life and remember it is earned, not awarded





Contact Information

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- If you want more information about the Life to Eagle Trail, please contact your District Eagle Advancement Committee Chair or Coordinator
- HVC web site: <http://www.hvcbsa.org/>
- If you have any questions concerning the content of this presentation, please contact:
 - Peter Dowley (pdowley@juno.com)
 - Don Schreeck (dons723@yahoo.com)



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Hudson Valley Council

