

NOAC 2024

CU Boulder



Role of the Council Conservation Committee

OA's Support in Promoting Outdoor Ethics and
Conservation for the Council

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Meet Your Trainer

- Tahosa Lodge
- Denver, Colorado
- Fun Fact: Art received his BS in Chemical Engineering right here at CU Boulder!



Arthur Dawson



Learning Objectives

1. Understand the roles and responsibilities of the Council Conservation Committee
2. See examples of Outdoor Ethics and Conservation support provided by a Council Conservation Committee
3. See examples of how an OA Lodge can partner with its Council Conservation Committee



Agenda

- **Context**
- **Conservation Committee**
 - Organization Structure
 - Goals & Membership
- **Benchmarks**
- **Support to Scouts and Units**
- **Awards**
 - Outdoor Ethics
 - Conservation



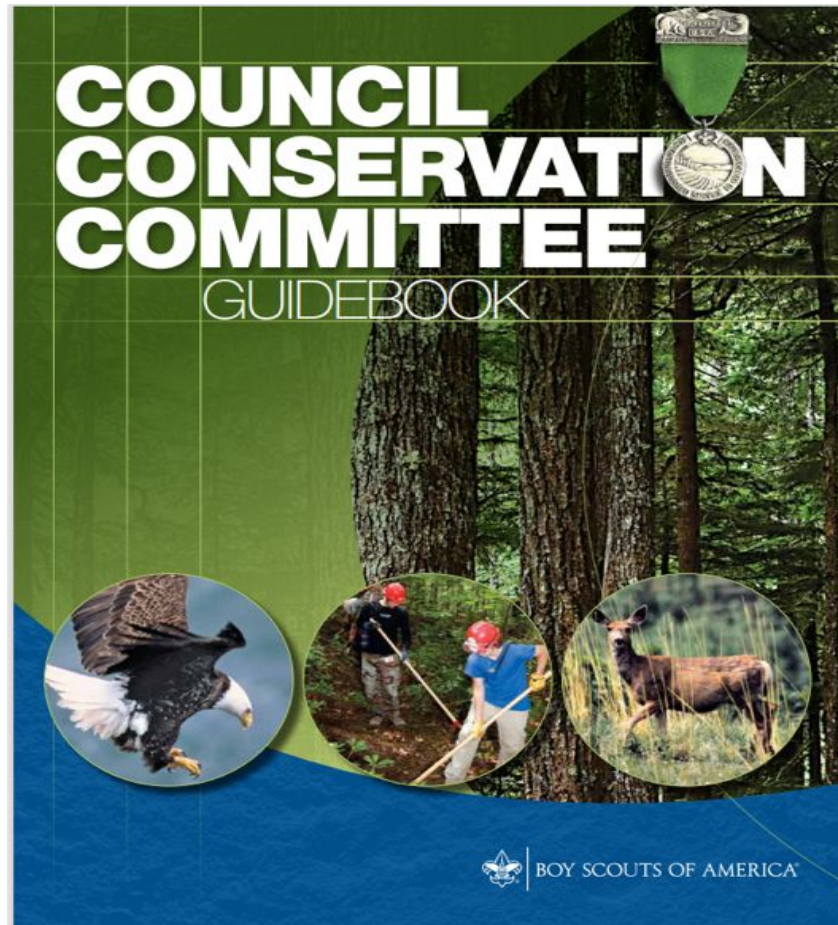


1.

About the Council Conservation Committee



BSA Policy



Conservation and an appreciation for the outdoors are woven throughout the fabric of Scouting and have been an integral part of our program since the BSA's founding in 1910.

Michael B. Surbaugh
Chief Scout Executive
2019

Developed to inform, guide, and inspire local council volunteers and staff in establishing and strengthening conservation activities.



Council Conservation Committee Purpose

- **Provide Council wide assistance and expertise to guide policy making & operational decisions:**
 - Management of the council's natural & cultural resources
 - Promotion of conservation-related training
 - Advancement of Conservation Programs
- **Encourage Conservation Service & Projects**
- **Help Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers and Sea Scouts decide on earning conservation awards**
- **Advise & support Council, District & unit leaders and Scouts**



Greater Colorado Council Conservation Committee (G4C)

- **Committee Chair - Art Dawson**
- **Sub-Committee Chairs**
 - Conservation Awards -- John Selstrom
 - Outdoor Ethics -- Randa Kelton
 - Support to Council Camps – Bill Williams
 - Programs and Projects -- Doug Kennedy



G4C Support to Council Camps Subcommittee

- **Sub-Committee Chair - Bill Williams**
- **Activities**
 - Support the Council Properties Committee
 - Create Resource Management & Sustainability plans for Council properties
 - Consult with Council Staff, District Staff, Youth Organizations and Units on matters of Outdoor Ethics & Conservation at Council Camps
 - Act as Liaison to local, state and federal land management agencies and organizations
 - Plan and manage annual Christmas Tree cutting event at Council Camps
 - Partner with OA Lodge to plan and execute service projects for camps



G4C Conservation Awards Subcommittee

- **Sub-Committee Chair - John Selstrom**
- **Activities**
 - Promote Outdoor Ethics and Conservation Awards throughout the council
 - Propose and manage Council-level OE&C awards
 - Act as primary adviser for Scouts pursuing the Distinguished Conservation Service Award
 - Consult with Council Staff, District Staff and Unit Leaders on matters of Conservation awards



G4C Outdoor Ethics Subcommittee

- **Sub-Committee Chair - Randa Kelton**
- **Activities**
 - Chair acts as the Council Outdoor Ethics Advocate
 - Schedule and Promote Outdoor Ethics & Conservation training
 - Act as liaison with BSA Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Committee
 - Consult with Council Staff, District Staff and Unit Leaders on matters of Outdoor Ethics & Conservation



G4C Programs & Projects Subcommittee

- **Sub-Committee Chair - Doug Kennedy**
- **Activities**
 - Schedule, plan and manage Council-Sponsored conservation activities
 - Good Turn for Ecology Day (Earth Day celebration & service)
 - Colorado Scout Conservationist Day (Education & Service at Council Camps)
 - Consult with Council Staff, District Staff, Unit Leaders and Youth Leaders regarding planning, organizing and executing Outdoor Ethics & Conservation related programs and projects



Recruit Scouters For...

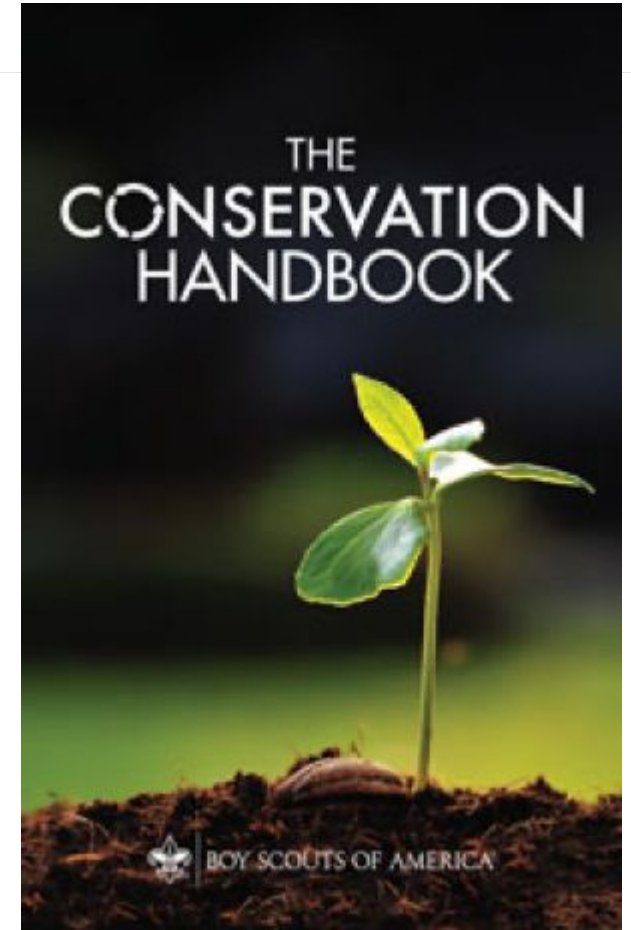
- **Membership on Council Conservation Committee**
- **Service as:**
 - Outdoor Ethics & Leave No Trace Trainers
 - Distinguished Conservation Service Award Advisers
 - District Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Coordinators
 - Support for unit Outdoor Ethics Guide
 - 'Ambassadors to Land Managers'
- **Develop an annual engagement schedule**
- **Help identify & connect with land owners & environmental programs**



Guideposts

- Conservation Handbook
- Outdoor Ethics
 - Leave No Trace
 - Tread Lightly
- Merit Badges
- Awards
- Council Conservation Committee Guidebook
- BSA Websites

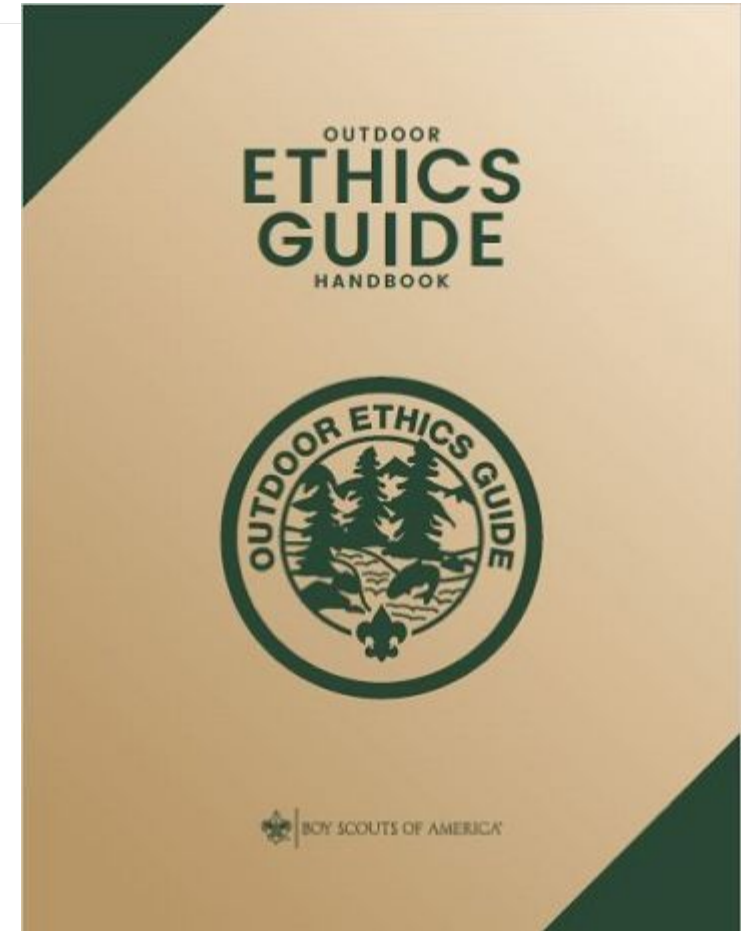
<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/conservation-resources/>



Outdoor Ethics Guide

- Benchmark for units to develop a culture that reduces impact of Scouting activities
- Lord Baden-Powell - *Oct 1919*
 - “On breaking up camp leave two things behind you:
 - *1 - Nothing,*
 - *2 - Your Thanks*

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics-guide/>



BSA Outdoor Ethics & Conservation Committee

Five Subgroups:

1. Outdoor Ethics
2. Conservation
3. Communications & Information Resources
4. Program Operations
5. Professional advisory panel.

Focus Areas:

1. Outdoor Programs
2. Conservation & Environment
3. National Camping School
4. Outdoor Ethics Guide
5. Safety Policies & Guidelines

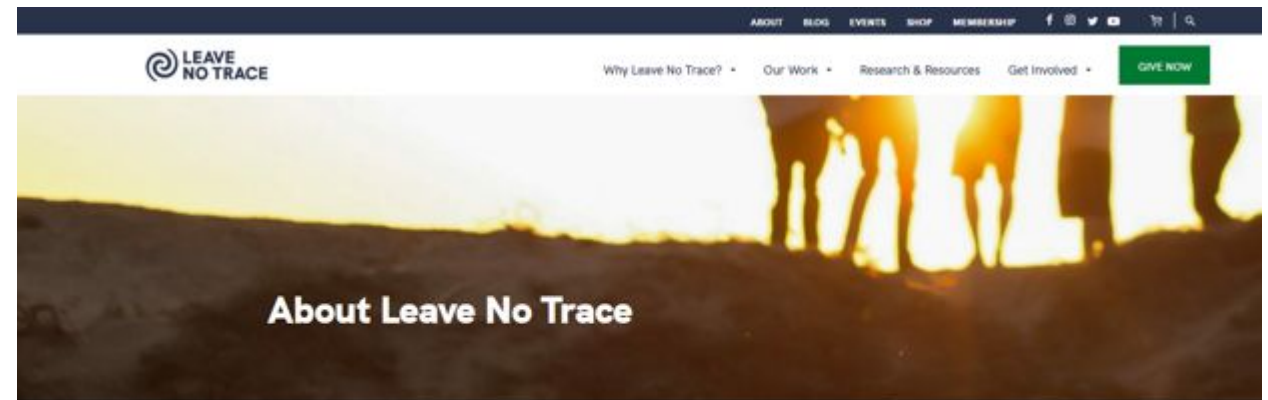


<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/trail-to-adventure/the-new-national-outdoor-ethics-and-conservation-subcommittee/>



Leave No trace

- LNT mission is to ensure a sustainable future for the outdoors and the planet – by teaching us how to minimize our impacts
- LNT Courses
 - BSA Outdoor Ethics Orientation
 - BSA Leave No Trace Basics
 - BSA Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor
 - BSA Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor
 - Outdoor Ethics Advocate Training

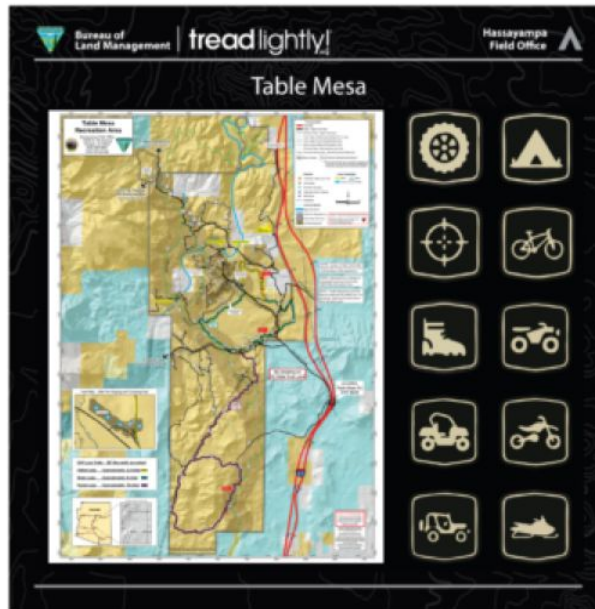


<https://lnt.org/>



Tread Lightly (1)

- National initiative to protect & enhance recreation access & opportunities by promoting outdoor ethics
- A Scouting partner

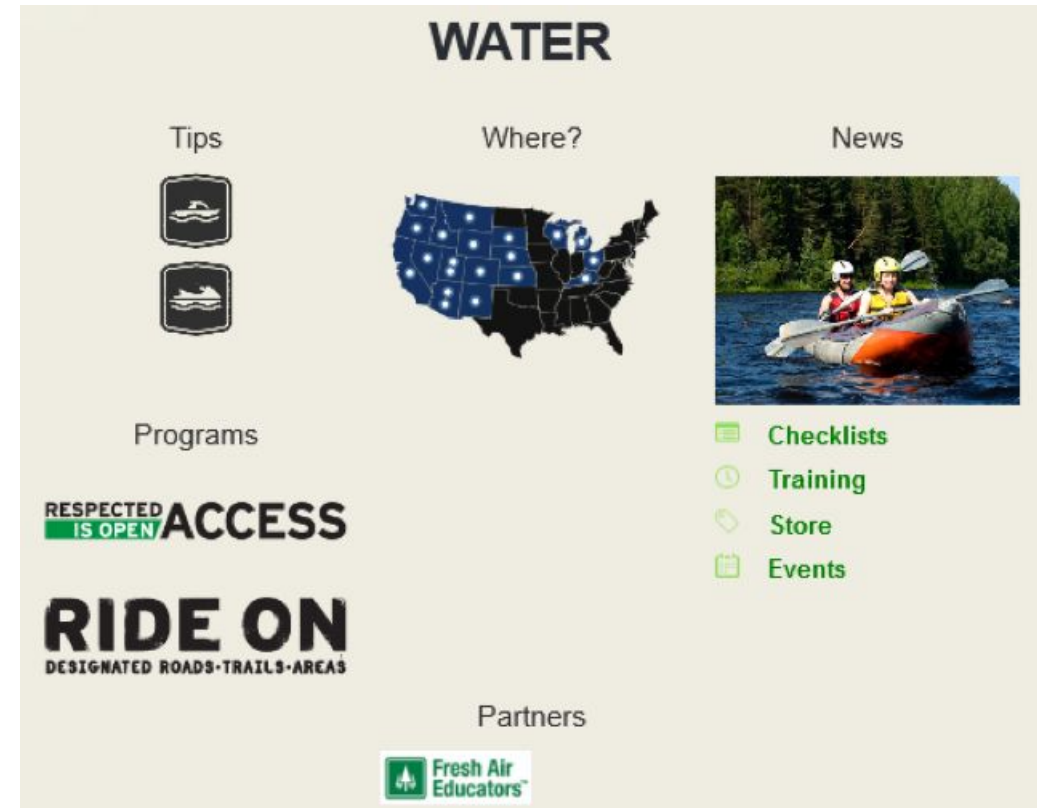


<https://treadlightly.org/about-us/>



Tread Lightly (2)

- Training – On-Line
- Awareness
- E-Bike Right
- TL! Kids Youth
- TL! Kids Watching
- Master Tread Trainer
Qualification Exam
- Ride Mighty! Tread Lightly!
- State Specific Courses –
Utah & California



<https://treadlightly.org/learn/online-courses/>



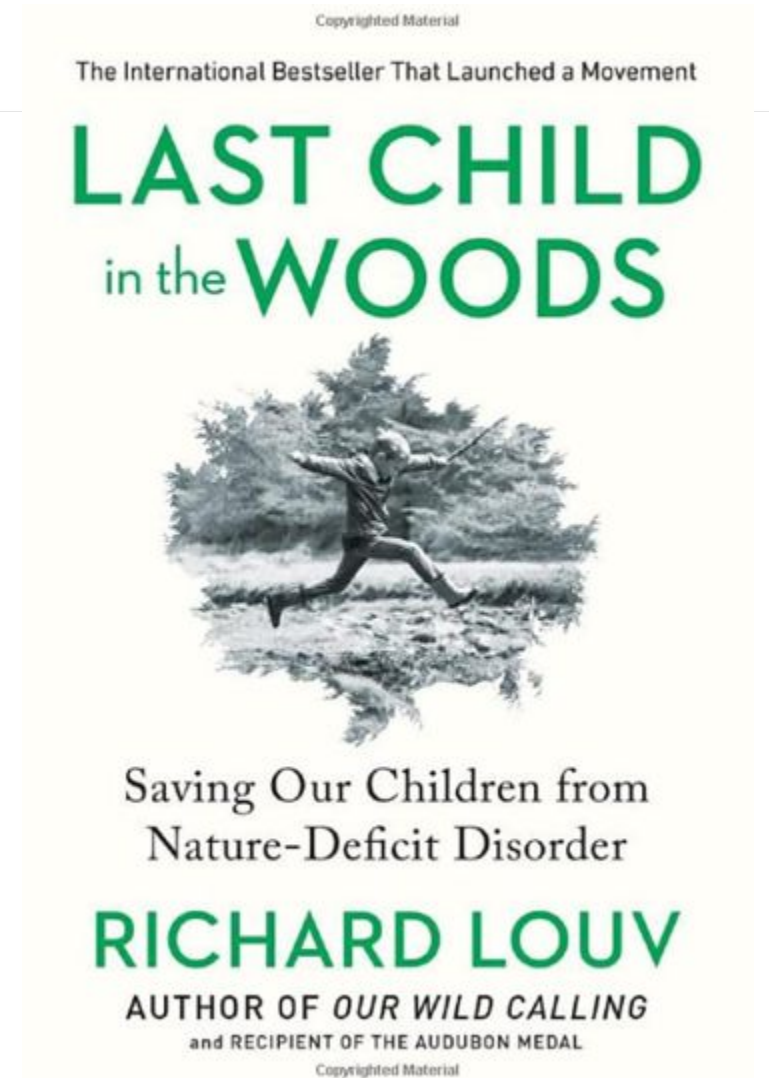
Nature Deficit Disorder

Human beings – especially children – are spending less time outdoors – and this may cause behavioral problems with weakened ecological literacy & stewardship of the natural world

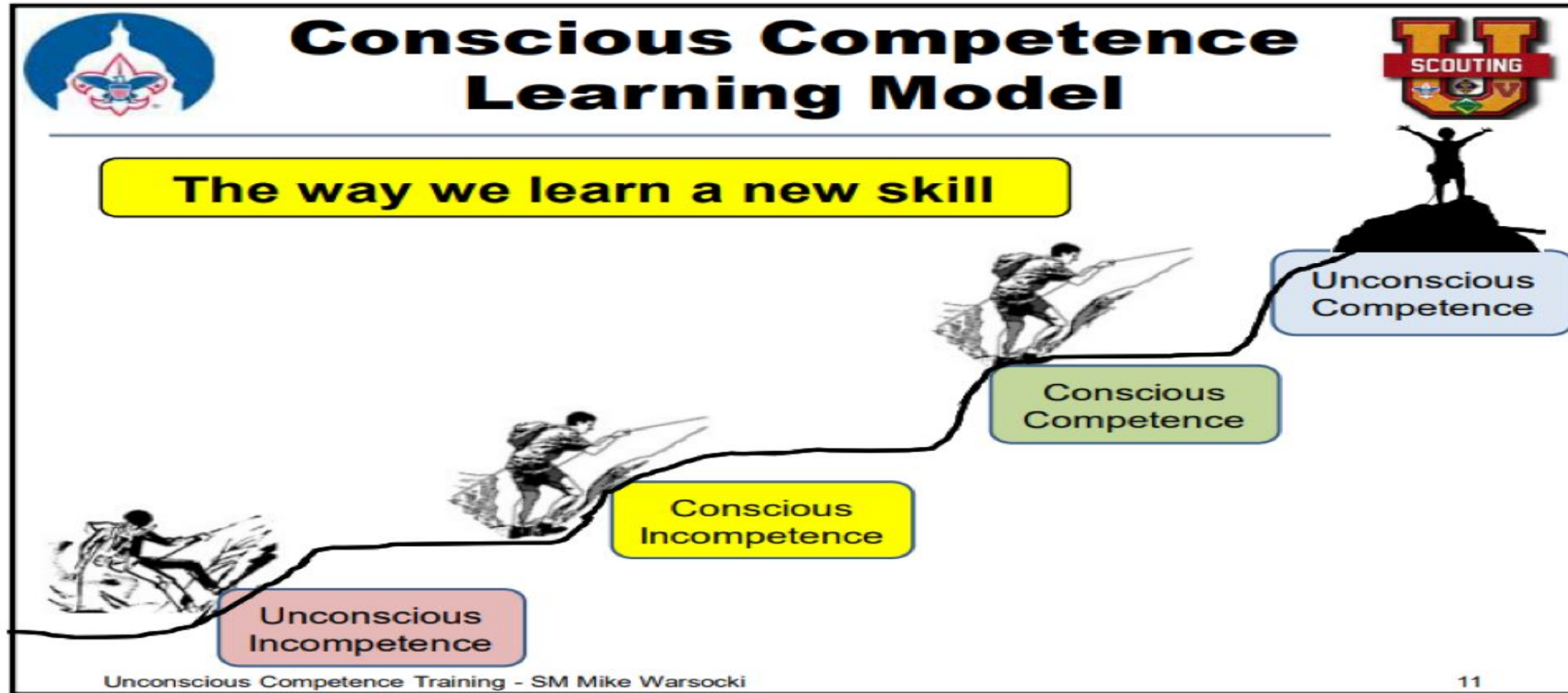
[Nature deficit disorder - Wikipedia](#)

Focus needs to be on what is gained through more exposure to natural settings, including nearby nature in urban places

[WHAT IS NATURE-DEFICIT DISORDER? - Children and Nature Network](#)



Unconscious Competence



From SM Mike Warsocki, NCAC University of Scouting 2022



G4C Support to Scouts and Units

Support to Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers and Sea Scouts

- Outdoor Ethics & Leave No Trace training
- Distinguished Conservation Service Award Advisers
- Annual Earth Day River & Trail Conservation Event
- Outreach & connections to conservation organizations
- Merit Badge Counselor coordination

Support to Units & Districts

- Roundtable presentations
- Camporee activity & training

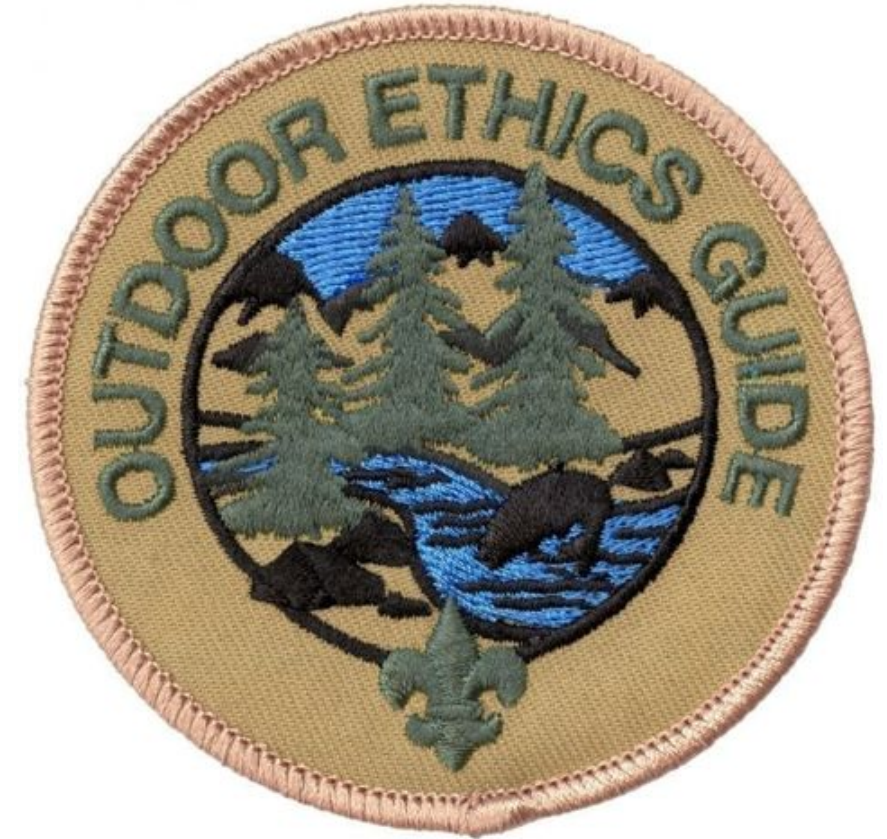
Support to Council

- Coordination and oversight of annual *Good Turn for Ecology Day*
- Annual Conservation Weekend
- Council Camp support



G4C Support of Outdoor Ethics Guides

- **Troop position**
- **Responsibilities**
 - Explain & Demonstrate Advancement Requirements
 - Help unit plan & conduct an effective outdoor ethics program
 - Prepare Den Chiefs to share principles
 - Help Scouts to understand & plan conservation activities
 - Encourage Scouts to complete outdoor ethics awards and merit badges
 - Conduct self-evaluation



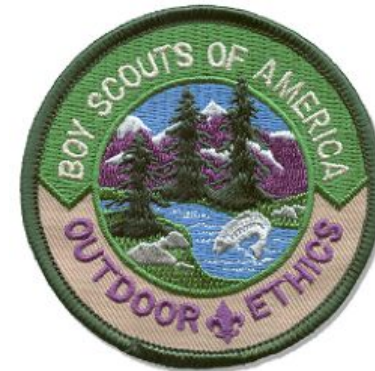
<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics-guide/>





2.

G4C Support of OE&C Awards



Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award

Requirements:

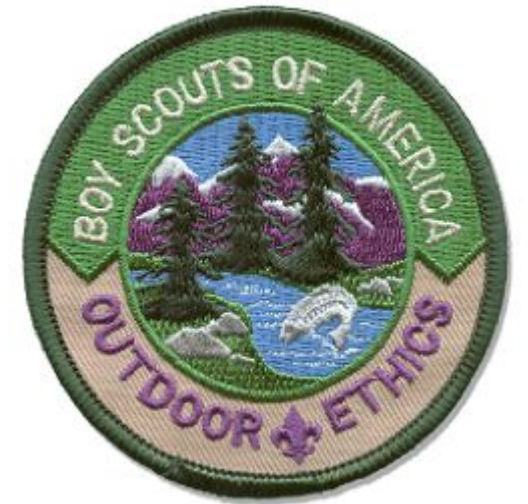
- Recite Outdoor Code from memory
- Explain the meaning of the Outdoor Code
- Watch National Park Service LNT Video
- Complete the LNT on-line course
- Complete the Tread Lightly! Online course
- Participate in an outdoor ethics course, workshop or training activity

Who:

Scouts interested in learning more about Outdoor Ethics & Leave No Trace (LNT)

Award:

- *Certificate*
- *Patch*



<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics/awards/scouts-bsa/>



Outdoor Awareness Action Award - Scouts

Requirements:

- Earn the Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award
- Complete the BSA Outdoor Ethics Orientation Course
- Explain the four points of the Outdoor Code
- Read Chapter 7 of the *Scouts BSA Handbook on Outdoor Ethics*
- Teach a Skill related to Outdoor Code or LNT
- Successfully complete term as Outdoor Ethics Guide
- Participate in outing with LNT & Tread Lightly principles
- Follow Outdoor Code, LNT & Tread Lightly principles on 3 outings
- Help troop service activity addressing recreational impacts
- Provide a report at a court of honor or similar event

Who:

Scouts who take affirmative steps to improve their outdoor skills

Award:

- *Certificate*
- *Patch*



<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics/awards/scouts-bsa/>



Outdoor Awareness Action Award - Scouters

Requirements:

- Earn the Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award
- Complete the BSA Outdoor Ethics Orientation Course
- Discuss with your troop the four points of the Outdoor Code
- Read the North American Skills & ethics booklet to learn about LNT
- Review the principles of Tread Lightly
- Review Chapter 7 of the *Scouts BSA & Fieldbook* chapters about LNT
- Facilitate troop's leadership in planning & leading an outing focused on LNT or Tread Lightly principles
- Help plan & participate in at least three outings following LNT & Tread Lightly principles
- Follow Outdoor Code, LNT & Tread Lightly principles on 3 outings
- Assist unit in a service project with a local landowner/manager emphasizing outdoor ethics
- Make a presentation at Roundtable about the three or more outings
- Help at least three Scouts earn their Outdoor Ethics Action Award

Who:

Scouters who take affirmative steps to improve their outdoor skills

Award:

- *Certificate*
- *Patch*



<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics/awards/scouts-bsa/>





Distinguished Conservation Service Award (1)

- **National Award recognized by the Council**
- Encourage and recognize truly outstanding efforts
- Solve a **natural resource conservation** problem
- Increase public awareness
- Contribute to sound conservation and environmental improvement for exceptional and distinguished service

Award Information

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/conservation-awards-and-recognitions/bsa-distinguished-conservation-service-award/>

Council Award Administration Toolbox Information

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/>





Distinguished Conservation Service Award (2)

- **Two Projects**

- Understand the science of why?
- Education
- Public Outreach
- Sustainment

- May also be an Eagle Project
- A project may be on BSA property
- Council project proposal approval
- Council Board of Review

- **Scouts BSA**

- Two Projects
- Merit Badges – mandatory & elective

- **Venturer & Sea Scout**

- Two Projects
- Work with Cub Scout or Scouts BSA groups
- Research & outreach





Distinguished Conservation Service Award (3)

Categories include:

- Air and Water Pollution Control
 - Energy Conservation
 - Fish & Wildlife Management
 - Forestry & Range Management
 - Hazardous Materials Disposal and Management
 - Invasive Species Control
 - Pollinator Management
 - Resource Recovery
 - Soil & Water Conservation
- **Conservation Adviser**
 - **Award Adviser**
 - **Workbook** – similar to Eagle Project Workbook – but:
 - Preamble – the why??
 - Body – education & outreach
 - Postscript – what happened?





Distinguished Conservation Service Award (4)

Workbook

- Organization similar to Eagle Project Workbook
- Conservation Adviser and Award Adviser with thru project planning, execution and reporting.
- Council Conservation Committee approves project proposal
- Council Conservation Committee approves award

- **Council Conservation Committee Approval process**
 - <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Council-Conservation-Committee-Training-Presentation-1.1.pdf>
- **Three Visits to the Council Conservation Committee**
 - **Project Proposal 1**
 - **Project Proposal 2**
 - **Award Board of Review**





Distinguished Conservation Service Award (5)

BSA National Tool Box Contents

- Board of Review Checklist
- Board of Review - Scout BSA
- Board of Review - Sea Scout and Venturers
- Conservation Project Process Handout
- Council Conservation Committee Training Presentation (PDF)
- Council Conservation Committee Training Presentation (Powerpoint)
- Project Plan Evaluation
- Project Proposal Evaluation
- Workbook Comparison Eagle to the BSA DCSA

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/conservation-awards-and-recognitions/bsa-distinguished-conservation-service-award/>



Conservation Good Turn Award

What:

- To join with conservation or environmental organization (federal, state, local, or private) to carry out a Conservation Good Turn in their home communities.

Award:

- *Certificate for Units*
- *Patch*



<https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/youth/conservation-good-turn/>



World Conservation Award

What:

- Encourage youth members to think globally and act locally to preserve and improve our environment. Involves advancement and project work.

Who:

- Packs (discontinued)
- Scouts BSA Troops
- Venturers/Sea Scouts



Award:

- *Patch*

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/world-conservation/>



National Medal for Outdoor Achievement

What:

- Conservation Rocker Patch
- Awarded for service to the environment.
- First Class Sea Scout Apprentice or Venturing Ranger Award
- Demonstrate safe use
- Merit badges / Venturing Conservation & Ecology

Award:

- Patch
- + Segments



<https://www.scouting.org/programs/outs-bsa/advancement-and-awards/noa//>



Keep America Beautiful - Hometown USA

What:

- Recognizes outstanding efforts of Scouts in their communities in regard to citizenship and environmental improvement.
- Merit Badges
- Community Service Project

Award:

- *Patch*



<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/keep-america-beautiful-hometown-usa-award/>



Scout Ranger Patch - National Park Service

What:

- Participate in educational and/or volunteer service projects at national park sites
- Organized educational activities – 10 hours

Award:

- Certificate
- Patch



<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/scout-ranger.htm>



Messengers of Peace

What:

- Designed to inspire millions of young men and women in more than 220 countries and territories to work toward peace through a project that has *impact on relationships between people and their environment*
- *Complete qualifying service project*
- *Record hours*

<https://www.scouting.org/international/messengers-of-peace/>



Colorado Scout Conservationist Award

What:

- Recognize conservation principles
- *Understand Colorado Ecological Zones*
- *Identify public land management agencies*
- *Describe land use guidelines/regulations*
- *Complete a conservation project*

Award:

- Patch



Colorado Scout Conservationist Award

What:

- Recognize conservation principles
- *Understand Colorado Ecological Zones*
- *Identify public land management agencies*
- *Describe land use guidelines/regulations*
- *Complete a conservation project*

Award:

- Patch



Takeaway Challenge

- Meet with your Council Conservation Committee to explore partnerships with your Lodge
- If you have no CCC, Meet with your Lodge Adviser and Scout Executive to explore forming one



Questions?

