

Why Wood Badge?

A summary of the objectives, themes, and value to units of Wood Badge training.

Objectives of Wood Badge

Wood Badge has four specific objectives. As a result of attending Wood Badge, participants will be able to:

- View Scouting globally, as a family of interrelated, values-based programs that provide age-appropriate activities for youth.
- Recognize the contemporary leadership concepts utilized in corporate America and leading government organizations that are relevant to our values-based movement.
- Apply the skills they learn from their participation as a member of a successful working team.
- Revitalize their commitment by sharing in an overall inspirational experience that helps provide Scouting with the leadership it needs to accomplish its mission on an ongoing basis.

Themes of Wood Badge

Wood Badge has five central themes. The course content for Wood Badge is encapsulated in these themes:

1. Living the Values

- Values, mission, and vision
- Aims and methods

2. Bringing the Vision to Life

- Listening to learn
- Communicating
- Giving and receiving feedback
- Valuing people and leveraging diversity
- Coaching and mentoring

Themes of Wood Badge

(continued)

3. Models for Success

- Team development model
- Situational leadership

4. Tools of the Trade

- Project planning and problem solving
- Managing conflict
- Assessing team performance
- Managing change
- Celebrating team success

5. Leading to Make a Difference

- Leaving a legacy
- Learning the greatest leadership secret

The Wood Badge Ticket

- **What is it?** A Wood Badge ticket is a contract between a course participant and a staffer (usually a Troop Guide or Ticket Counselor). This contract is a commitment by the course participant to practice using the leadership skills taught at Wood Badge in the performance of his or her Scouting job.
- **What is its purpose?** The purpose of a Wood Badge ticket is to help course participants realize their personal vision of their role in Scouting.
- **What is in it?** A Wood Badge ticket consists of four parts:
 - A list of the course participant's personal values.
 - A description of the course participant's Scouting role or job.
 - A statement of the course participant's vision of success.
 - A mission composed of five significant goals (which strengthen the Scouter, the Scouter's unit, or both); these goals must be attainable by the course participant within 18 months following the course.

Value to Units

What's the benefit to the Pack, Troop, or Crew?

- The value to units from Wood Badge comes in two places: stronger leaders and stronger units.
- The immediate benefit to units comes from the graduate's Wood Badge ticket. As graduates "work their tickets," each goal helps the graduate or unit or both become stronger and more effective.
- The long-term benefit to units comes as the graduate applies the leadership methods he or she learned at Wood Badge.
- The best way to know the value of Wood Badge is to ask graduates to describe their tickets and to describe how working their ticket changed their units.

Sign Up for Wood Badge NOW!

Annawon, Boston Minuteman, Cape Cod & Islands, and Old Colony Councils unite to provide a "cluster" Wood Badge course each year.

- The next course for our area is Course N1-249-12-1.
- Weekend 1: Camp Norse, Kingston, MA: May 4-6, 2012.
- Weekend 2: Camp Squanto, Plymouth, MA: June 9-11, 2012.
- Sign up online! You can find a registration link on our course website at <http://woodbadge.oldcolonycouncil.org/>.
- For more information, e-mail the Course Director, Michelle Harrison (braintreemichelle@gmail.com).