Because summer camp is about memories, not just merit badges!
At Camp Rockefeller, we believe that summer camp should be about more than just earning merit badges. It’s about laughter and adventure, songs and skits, pushing yourself to new heights and taking huge strides on the road to maturity. It’s about the experience, the memories, the magic! We want to make Camp Rockefeller a magical place for you, so we have worked hard to create the best environment for your summer camp adventure. We call it “The Rockefeller Experience.”
The Campsite

Tents - The Rockefeller Experience begins where you lay your head at night. Each campsite is equipped with tents that are built on top of concrete platforms so scouts never have to be concerned about critters making a home beneath their tent. Driven deep into the concrete is a steel frame that supports a spacious tent. And as an extra measure of protection.

The Best Camp Facilities

1. Concrete Tent Platforms
2. Steel tent frames
3. 2 Cots Per Tent
4. Oversized leader tents
5. Air-Conditioned dining Hall
6. Air-Conditioned Trading Post
7. Olympic-sized Swimming Pool
8. Steuri Family Shooting Sports Complex
9. The Mountain (Climbing Tower)
10. Air-Conditioned STEM Complex
11. COPE Course including High Ropes and Zipline
12. Much, Much More
against the summer shower, a large tarp is stretched across the top. Open up both ends to feel the summer breeze or close it up for maximum privacy. Though the tents are big enough for three, we give you lots of room to spread out by placing two cots in every tent.

Knowing that adult leaders sometimes like a bit more elbow (or gear) room, each campsite has been equipped with two larger adult tents. These leader tents offer plenty of space for a comfortable week at camp and help young scouts more easily find an adult leader when necessary.

Supporting the needs of a troop at camp, each campsite includes its own restroom facilities with locking doors, flush toilets, potable water and a large wash station and with multiple shower-houses positioned around camp, a hot shower is never very far away.

Our campsites have LOTS of trees so you can always find the cool shade. Each campsite is also equipped with picnic tables that provide the perfect gathering place for the scouts when they are in camp. Check out a flag from the quartermaster and host your own flag ceremonies at the flag pole located in your campsite.

**Accessible Camping** - Camp Rockefeller is a great place for those who need help with mobility issues. Our barrier-free campsite, Northpoint A, provides wheelchair-accessible tent platforms, paved walkways and electrical service for all tents. If you have a scout who is in need of these facilities, please contact the Council Program Director at program@quapawbsa.org.

Please note that this barrier-free campsite is reserved for those in need of this special assistance.

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**The Pool**

What is better on a hot summer day than a cool dip in the swimming pool? Not surprisingly, our Olympic-sized swimming pool is always among the most popular destinations. Large enough to handle almost anything, the pool is the place to be for our swimming and lifesaving activities, mile swim and lots more. Heck, it’s so big we even teach scuba there!

**Lake Butler**

So the pool is big, but it gets a bit crowded when we put the canoes in there. Good thing we’ve got Lake Butler because our canoes, sail boats, stand-up paddle boards and kayaks feel right at home there! You will too.
**Steuri Family Shooting Sports Complex**

For many scouts, the highlight of summer camp is the chance to spend time at the shooting range. At Camp Rockefeller, they’ll get to do that in a state-of-the-art facility. The Steuri Family Shooting Sports Complex provides a top-notch rifle range, a full trap and skeet shotgun range, and our brand new Cowboy Action course!

Strategically located away from the noise of the guns, our archery range provides the ideal environment for the aspiring young archer. All ranges are operated under the direct supervision of BSA certified shooting sports directors, NRA instructors and range safety officers. Safety is the primary concern for our staff.

**The Mountain (Climbing Tower)**

Summer Camp is all about pushing yourself to conquer new heights and there’s no better place to do that at Camp Rockefeller than at the climbing tower we lovingly refer to as “The Mountain.” At over 50 feet, it offers a spectacular challenge to scouts of all ages in both climbing and rappelling.

**STEM Complex**

The Rockefeller Experience isn’t just about tents and swimming and shooting and climbing, it’s about Robotics and Computers and 3D Printers and Moviemaking. Inside our air-conditioned STEM Complex, scouts have the opportunity to get hands on with the latest technology in a way that helps to inspire their imaginations.

**COPE Course**

C.O.P.E. (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) consists of a series of elements and challenges designed to foster problem solving skills, leadership, teamwork, and group interaction.

The Randy Wilborn COPE Course provides both a low ropes course and high ropes course that are sure to challenge the limits of older scouts. But it will all be worth the effort when they conquer the course and finish with that big zipline!
The Shop at the Rock Trading Post

When those warm summer days have you all heated up, there’s no better place to visit than the air-conditioned Camp Rockefeller Shop at the Rock Trading Post! There you can get yourself a cool drink or ice cream bar (can you say “Choco Taco?”) as well as many other refreshing treats.

The Shop at the Rock is also stocked with lots of great scouting gear and Camp Rockefeller swag that you don’t want to miss! You’ll also want to be sure to stop by and check out our display from the Quapaw Area Council scouting museum. You never know what you’ll see there.

Other Ammenities

Wi-Fi - Camp Rockefeller has a free network available from most places around main camp. This is available to leaders to use if they need to connect to the outside world while at camp.

Mail - All scouts and leaders enjoy receiving mail at camp. Please advise parents that all mail must be addressed properly, and mail sent from home later than Wednesday may not arrive until after the Unit departs from camp on Saturday. Mail should be addressed as follows:

Scout’s Name, Unit Number
Gus Blass Scout Reservation
408 Scout Drive
Damascus, AR 72039

Telephone Service

The Gus Blass Scout Reservation telephone is available for emergency calls.

Gus Blass Scout Reservation: (501) 335-7208

Laundry Facilities

While there are no public laundry facilities available at Camp Rockefeller, the closest public laundry facilities are in Greenbrier, Arkansas which is only a short 15 minute drive.

Electricity

Camp is still camping, after all, so there is no electricity provided in unit campsites. Because it is unsafe to run generators or extension cords through campsites, it is against camp policy. Campers using a CPAP machine are encouraged to provide their own battery to operate the unit independent of an electrical source. Battery recharging can be coordinated with the Camp Quartermaster. Those with other medical needs that require power can contact the council Program Director at program@quapawbsa.org to discuss our Accessible Camping facilities. Please note that those camping in the Accessible Camping site will probably be separated from their unit due to limited availability in that site.
Year-Round Executive Chef

Camp Rockefeller and the Quapaw Area Council know that great food is a critical part of a great camp experience. That’s why we’ve taken the unusual step of hiring a year-round Executive Chef to manage our meals.

Dr. W. Jinnings Burruss is an Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver who grew up at Camp Rockefeller and whose passion is to make sure that a new generation of young people have the same great experience that he had. That’s why he puts so much effort into preparing the best camp food for our guests.

Highlights

1. Year-Round Executive Chef
2. Air-Conditioned Dining Hall
3. Balanced Nutrition Plan
4. Accommodate Special Dietary Needs
5. Wednesday Night Special Event
6. Leader Appreciation Steak Dinner
7. Scouts and Leaders LOVE IT!
And Dr. Burruss knows just how to do that. As Lead Hospitality Faculty for the University of Arkansas’ culinary school in Little Rock, Jinnings has taught hundreds of students how to prepare the finest food. Many of these students are now cooking in the best restaurants and hotels in the region.

But as a nutrition professional, Dr. Burruss is not only concerned with making sure that the food is delicious. He also wants to ensure that every meal offers a balanced diet. Camp Rockefeller menus are carefully planned with nutritional guidelines in mind so that scouts have the energy needed for a day full of Scouting adventure!

Of course, our dining hall staff knows that there are those who have special dietary needs and they are prepared to work with you to make sure those needs are addressed. In the event that your dietary needs cannot be accommodated, Camp Rockefeller is prepared to store any food that a Scout or leader needs to bring in the camps freezer, cooler, and/or storage room and allow a Scout or leader to prepare that food in the camp kitchen as needed. The Scout or leader should label all food containers with name and troop number. Arrangements for a Scout or leader to come into the kitchen and prepare such food before a meal must be made with the Dining Hall Director during check-in procedures on Sunday.

**Wednesday Night Cookout**

One of the highlights of every week is the big Wednesday night cookout on the front lawn! Rather than the usual routine in the dining hall, this special meal is prepared for you and served picnic-style out on our massive front lawn! It’s a great time of fellowship as well as lots of fun activities to share.

**Adult Leader Appreciation Steak Dinner**

At Camp Rockefeller, we appreciate the adults who take time away from their families and jobs to volunteer and make Scouting possible for their troops. As our way of saying “Thanks!” we host a first-class steak dinner with all the fixin’s every week.

To make sure it’s done right, we keep the Scouts busy and invite you off-camp for a bit to the Donald W. Reynolds Scout Training Center where you can enjoy your dinner and a break from regular routine of camp. There are no strings attached with this dinner - it’s just our way of saying “Thank You” for the work you do and for bringing your Scouts to enjoy the Rockefeller Experience!
First-Year Camper Program

At Camp Rockefeller, we know that it is critically important to get scouts started off right. That is why we have prioritized ROCKS, our curriculum for Scouts who have not yet attended a summer camp, as our most important program. We make sure that these new Scouts get our very best staff members - staff who understand and enjoy the process of patiently training Scouts in the core Scout skills.

In this FULL-DAY program, Scouts will get an opportunity to participate in many of the other program areas such as Aquatics, Scoutcraft and Shooting Sports while working on requirements toward Tenderfoot, Second Class and/or First Class. They will also have the opportunity to attend the Thursday night outpost activity, which
will not only help fulfill additional camping requirements but will also provide an additional fun adventure. Scouts who are planning to attend outpost should bring:

- water bottle
- flashlight
- sleeping bag
- small tent
- rain gear

**Older Scout Experiences**

(All Program Offerings are Subject to Change)

**XTREME WATERFRONT (New - Tentative)**

New this year is a program designed for the scout who wants to spend all week on the water. Offering a combination of boating, canoeing, kayaking, fishing on spectacular lakes and world-class trout streams, the Xtreme Waterfront program is sure to challenge any scout and leave them begging for more. This program is an all-day off-camp program that leaves after breakfast each morning and returns each night before dinner. Participants will camp with their troops.

Requirements for participating in the Xtreme Waterfront:

1. Scouts will need to be at least 14 years old and must qualify as a Swimmer.
2. 1st Class, Canoeing and Camping Merit Badges are highly recommended.
3. Participants must be medically sound for High Adventure activities.
4. Participants must have the items listed on the Personal Gear List.
5. Sunburn and heat related problems have serious long-term consequences. Scouts must be willing to take proper precaution including use of hats, sunscreen and sunglasses.
6. Life jackets (PFD) will be worn at all times while in the canoe.

After an evaluation at the lakefront, if the Waterfront staff determines a scout is not prepared for safely completing the trip then the scout will be directed to plan on doing an alternate activity in camp.
Detailed Rules and Regulations for the Extreme Waterfront program can be found in the Appendix.

**Cove Creek Trapping Co.**

In the early days of the United States, brave men and women ventured westward into the wilderness. Using only the items they could carry with them and their survival skills, they travelled into the mountains and thrived.

Travel back in time and learn the same survival skills as these mountain men. These skills will include advanced shelter building, primitive fire building, tracking, animal identification, animal traps and snares, fish trapping, knife and axe throwing, and so much more.

This program is a half day program designed for older Scouts, ages 13 and above. Scouts should be competent in wilderness survival and basic Scouts skills.

**Mountain Biking**

The mountain biking program is a challenging and physically strenuous five-day program involving over fifty miles of increasingly difficult, roads and trails. This is a strenuous activity and is recommended only for those persons in good physical condition. This program is for older scouts- at least 13 years old or 12 years old and First Class.

The scouts in the program work toward the Cycling merit badge, including instruction on proper riding technique, trail etiquette, safety, maintenance, and repair. The only requirement which scouts may be unable to complete is requirement nine.

Scouts bringing their own bikes must also bring a helmet and an extra inner tube. If a Scout brings his own bike, it must be a substantial off-road bike and must meet the review by the Mountain Biking Director. The Mountain Biking Director will disqualify any bike that does not appear substantial enough to handle the very rough terrain over which this activity covers. All scouts must have sufficient water.
C.O.P.E.

C.O.P.E. (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) consists of a series of elements and challenges designed to foster problem solving skills, leadership, teamwork, and group interaction. Seven key goals are developed during this experience: Leadership, Trust, Communication, Teamwork, Self Esteem, Problem Solving, and Decision Making.

These goals are accomplished through a challenge by choice program designed to encourage the group to work together, communicate with each other, and trust the group decision as they attempt a solution to the objective.

Held at the Randy Wilborn COPE Course, the C.O.P.E. program generally consists of Initiative Games, Low Course Elements, and High Course Elements. Each team of participants will move from one level to the next based on their abilities and understanding.

The C.O.P.E. Program is restricted to scouts age 13 and older by the time the Scout arrives at camp. Session size is limited, and all participants MUST have a current medical form signed by a parent and a physician. Required clothing includes closed-toe shoes and no slick material shorts. C.O.P.E. is a five-day program and all participants MUST attend all five days. NO EXCEPTIONS. If a participant completes all requirements before Friday, he must attend all sessions to qualify for a completion certificate because the entire team is necessary to be successful. Project C.O.P.E. provides each participant the opportunity for success as an individual and as a member of a group.

While this activity is challenge by choice, it is physically demanding and requires good endurance and stamina. Be prepared to meet the challenge. Although scouts are excited to participate in C.O.P.E., this program is intended for older scouts. Leaders are encouraged to critically evaluate the maturity level of the scouts interested in participating. If space is available, after all scouts who wish to participate are signed up, a limited number of registered adult leaders will be accepted.

C.O.P.E. t-shirts are available to participants who complete the program at an additional cost at Trading Post.

Cowboy Action Shooting

The Cowboy Action Shooting program offers a fun and safe introduction to cowboy action shooting with pistols, rifles, and shotguns. In various old-time western scenarios, Scouts play “good guys” who prove their accuracy by shooting at things like spinning metal targets where they hit the spinner to “ring the bell.” All shooters choose their own cowboy action names before starting so the NRA instructors—dressed in cowboy attire—can call them by those names.

YOUTH REQUIREMENTS: Boy Scouts and Venturers who are over the age of 14, or are 13 and have completed the eighth grade, may participate in this special evening activity. All youth participants
are required to have a signed waiver from their parent or guardian before they can take part in the program. This waiver can be found in the appendix.

**Merit Badge Classes**

While we believe that summer camp is more about memories than merit badges, Camp Rockefeller still offers tons of opportunities to earn merit badges. In fact, in 2019 we offered over 50 different merit badge classes including 13 that were Eagle required.

Of course there are the usual suspects like Swimming, Camping, Archery and Rifle Shooting but some unusual ones are also available like Cycling, Kayaking, Fly-fishing, Graphic Arts, Inventing, Journalism, and Music.

We’ve also got some really special options like the STEM classes Designed to Crunch, Shoot, Start your Engines and Whoosh! Add to that Stand Up Paddleboarding, Snorkeling and Scuba and you’ve got all the makings of a summer camp to remember!

We’re still finalizing the program offerings for 2020 so check back later at CampRockefeller.Org to get detailed class info.

**Special Events / Evening program**

**Worship Services**

A Scout is Reverent!

Worship services will be held at the Chapel and everyone is encouraged to attend in uniform. Units are always free to conduct services within the campsite.

**Opening Campfire: Sunday night**

The Sunday night opening campfire will be presented by the camp staff. A Staff guide will arrive at the Unit campsite and lead the Unit to the campfire.

**Regional Campfire**

Regional campfires are a chance for units to assemble for fun and fellowship. As a group, they will decide what skits and songs will be used for the Friday night campfire. SPLs oversee these campfires and will operate under the supervision of the Unit adult leaders and Camp Staff present.
Closing Campfire: Friday night

Friday night’s campfire features songs, skits, and performances by scouts. This campfire is planned during the SPL meetings. All Units assemble at the Flag Plaza and will be led to the campfire circle.

Visitors to Camp - FRIDAY FAMILY NIGHT

Note to Scout Leaders: Please share this information with the families of the scouts in your Unit.

Families and guests of scouts who visit Camp Rockefeller are encouraged to do so on Friday Family Night beginning at 5:00 p.m. concluding with the closing campfire.

All visitors must check-in at the Camp Office at the Admin Building before entering camp, and check-out upon leaving camp. Camp Commissioners will be available to assist visitors with this process.

It is important that visitors know and understand Camp Rockefeller is not a city park. Visitors should come prepared to walk reasonable distances to the campsites and program areas. The terrain is uneven, hilly and may be difficult for individuals with mobility issues. Visitors are strongly recommended to wear sturdy shoes (not flip-flops or sandals), a cap or hat, and comfortable clothing appropriate to the weather.

For safety reasons, all vehicles must be parked in the main parking lot. This includes vehicles with valid Disabled Parking Permits. The main camp area is located uphill by a trail or road that is a rather steep grade. Camp Rockefeller staff will attempt to accommodate individuals with obvious mobility issues on a case by case basis.

For the safety of everyone, pets are not allowed at Camp Rockefeller. This provision is also for the safety of the pets.

Visitors are welcome to observe, but may not participate in, Camp Rockefeller program areas.

Family Night visitors are welcome to eat in the Dining Hall according to the camp schedule for meals. Meal tickets can be purchased in the Trading Post. Cost is $10.00 per person. To prepare a sufficient amount of food for the Friday evening meal, Scout leaders are asked to identify the number of their unit’s
visitors eating in the Dining Hall on Friday Family Night and report this information to the Camp Commissioner not later than noon Wednesday.

Visitors are welcome to camp overnight Friday in the Short-Term camping area (visitors must bring own camping equipment).

Subject to space availability and for Family Night visitors who need to stay over on Friday evening, rooms may be reserved at the Donald W. Reynolds Scout Training Center at a cost of $50.00 per night. A reservation is required a minimum of two weeks in advance. This will be on a ‘as available’ basis. Unfortunately, due to Youth Protection issues, no one UNDER 18, will be allowed to stay.

Only registered Scouts and unit leaders or parents serving as unit leaders may stay overnight in the troop campsite at any time.

**Conservation and Camp Projects**

Camp projects must be approved in advance by the camp administration. Unit leaders should contact the camp office for information about doing a camp project. A list of conservation projects is maintained by the Ecology/Conservation Area Director. Units may make arrangements with the Quartermaster for tools and assistance.

**Branding**

Check out The Shop at The ROCK on Friday afternoon. There will be an opportunity to get mugs and belts branded with the camp logos.

**ORDER OF THE ARROW**

The Quapaw Lodge will host all members of the Order of the Arrow on Monday night following dinner, outside of the Trading. Order of the Arrow members are also encouraged to wear the OA sash Friday evening through closing campfire. Remember that the OA sash is only worn with the full uniform.

During the closing campfire Friday night, the Quapaw Lodge will call out the new members selected during unit elections. The unit
elections must have occurred between January and May of 2019. If you are attending Camp Rockefeller from out of council and would like your Scouts called out this night, then you must bring a signed letter from your council stating that we may call your Scouts out.

The purpose of the Order of the Arrow:

· Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.

· Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout’s experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.

· Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.

· Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Since its beginning, our Council has worked to uphold the traditions of the Order of the Arrow in all its activities. Callouts will be held at summer camp. Out of council units must present a letter from the home council approving a “callout” from the Quapaw Area Council at Camp Rockefeller.

**Adult Leader Programs**

Some adult leader programs will be available and announced at a later time. In addition, Camp Rockefeller offers multiple training opportunities for Leaders while they are in camp. We plan to offer Youth Protection Training, Scoutmaster Training, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, and Aquatics Supervision.

Other trainings may be available on a week by week basis. Check with the Camp Director upon arrival to camp.