

What is unique about Troop 503?

Boy Scout Troop 503 is one of the oldest troops in the United States. It was founded in 1917 and has been continuously sponsored by the First Congregational Church located in Winchester, Massachusetts. Our Scouting program includes both Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs. Boy Scout Troop 503 meets on Tuesday nights at 7:30 PM when school is in session. Troop 503 has conferred the rank of Eagle Scout on more than 130 boys.

What activities do Troop 503 Boy Scouts participate in?

Boy Scout activities are always fun and exciting. Our trips include road and mountain biking, camping, canoeing, hiking, kayaking, mountain climbing, skiing, backpacking, snow shoeing, and rafting. Some of the basic skills that are taught include cooking, swimming, first aid, life saving, and camping.



Carter Dome

Highlights from previous year's trips include hiking, biking, rafting on the Deerfield River, Red Sox Scout Day, kayaking, canoeing, search and rescue exercises, FEMA demonstrations (the dogs are amazing), tubing, skiing, snowshoeing, winter cabin camping, and cooking. During the past summers Boy Scout Troop 503 backpacked in Yosemite National Park in California and Yellowstone in Wyoming, and canoed the Allagash Wilderness Waterway in Maine.



Deerfield River Rafting

The trips are always geared towards the interest and skills of the participants. If a Scout lacks a skill and wants to learn, there usually is someone available to teach it.

What kind of equipment do I need to purchase?

Troop 503 has extensive equipment available — everything a Scout would need. The only purchase that is required is the Boy Scout uniform, which has a real reward—a sense of belonging.

How much does it cost to join?

There is no fee to join Boy Scout Troop 503, and there is no fee for any of the trips we take. All fees are met by our annual Christmas wreath fundraiser. Boy Scout summer activities are not included, but scholarship money is available.

What is Troop 503?

Boy Scout Troop 503 enhances values key to the development of academic, leadership, and citizenship skills, as well as fostering self-confidence and ethics, traits that influence Scouts' future adult lives. For over 100 years, Scouting programs have instilled in youth the values found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Today, these values are just as relevant in helping youth grow to their full potential as they were in 1910.



Search and Rescue Activities



Cooking on the Ipswich River



Rock Climbing



Biking

Our troop provides boys with programs and activities that allow them to try new things, provide service to others, build self-confidence, and

reinforce ethical standards. Scouting provides boys with a sense that they are important as individuals.

Leadership, self-reliance, adventure and skill building are attributes of the Scouting experience. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Scouting promotes activities that lead to personal responsibility and high self-esteem.

What is my role as a parent in this troop?

Because all activities depend on adult participation, we depend on parents. The success of our programs is related to the number of parents involved. Parents don't have to have experience in a particular activity; they just need to be willing to learn.

What do you want for your son?

As parents we want the best for our sons. Scouting provides them with an opportunity to try new things, provide service to others, build self-confidence, and reinforce ethical standards. These opportunities not only help them when they are young but also carry forward into their adult lives.

Scouts are taught to live by a code of conduct exemplified in the 12 points of the Scout Law. A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, brave, clean, and reverent.

What do Scouts have to say about their scouting experience?

"Boy Scouts is great. I met new friends; I learned new skills that I will continue to use in the future along with valuable life skills that you wouldn't normally learn like time and money management; and I got to experience amazing trips, opening my eyes to how beautiful America is."

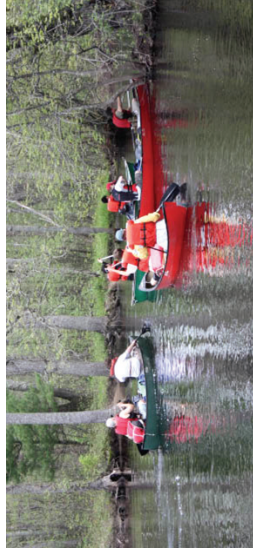
"Scouting is one of the best things I ever did with my life. It taught me skills that I would've never learned in the classroom."

How can I find out more about Troop 503?

Please visit our website at www.bsatroop503.com. It contains additional contact information, photos of our trips, and a general overview of what fun the Scouts in our Troop have.

So call or drop by and see what Scouting has to offer! Please visit us at a meeting then join us on a trip. Call or email our Scoutmaster for further information at scoutmaster@bsatroop503.com.

Call Scoutmaster:
Paul Masi at 781.729.5604



Ipswich River

Troop 503



Troop 503

What is Boy Scouting?

Boy Scouts are part of **The Boy Scouts of America**, one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. It is a program for boys that builds character, trains them in responsibilities of participatory citizenship, and develops personal fitness. Scouting is an international organization whose activities are fun while benefiting the growth and development of the individual.

Scouting has helped build leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The Boy Scouts of America believes — and, through a century of experience, knows — that helping youth is key to building a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society.

Want to become a Boy Scout?

Boy Scout Troop 503 is geared for boys 11 through 17 who have completed the fifth grade or Cub Scouts who have earned the Arrow of Light and are at least 10 years old. Anyone can join Boy Scouts by coming to a troop meeting and completing a registration form, there's no fee involved.