

2026 K-M Scout Ranch Merit Badge Prerequisites

| Area | Badge / Activity | Prerequisites | Required Equipment | Notes | Age Limit | Fee |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Aquatics | Aquatics Supervision: Swimming and Water Rescue | 1a, 1b, 1c, and 2b | Swimwear | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the training Participants must successfully complete requirement 2b to continue with the training. | 15+ | |
| | Canoeing | | Swim Wear & Wet Shoes Recommended | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the badge. | | |
| | Instructional Swim | | Swimwear | Participants will learn basic swimming skills while working towards passing the Scouting America Swim Test. | | |
| | Kayaking | | Swim Wear & Wet Shoes Recommended | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the badge. | | |
| | Lifesaving | 2a | Swimwear | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the badge. Requires Swimming Merit Badge and participants must successfully complete requirement 2b to continue with badge. | | |
| | Mile Swim | | Swimwear | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the award. | | |
| | Rowing | | Swim Wear & Wet Shoes Recommended | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the badge. | | |
| | Swimming | | Swimwear | Participants MUST pass the Scouting America Swim Test to continue with the badge. | | |
| First Year Camper | | | | Counselors will provide instruction of skills, but will not sign or approve rank advancement requirements. | | |
| Nature | Astronomy | 8 | | | | |
| | Bird Study | 5 | | #5 can be started at camp but likely not completed | | |
| | Environmental Science | 6 | | #6 will be started at camp but not completed | | |
| | Fish and Wildlife Management | 5 | | | | |
| | Fishing | 9 and 10 | | | | |
| | Insect Study | 3b | | | | |
| | Nature | | | #4 will be started at camp, may require time after camp to complete | | |
| | Reptile and Amphibian | 8 | | | | |
| Weather | 2 | | | | | |
| Range and Target Activities | Archery | | | May require time at open shoot to qualify | | |
| | Rifle Shooting | | | May require time at open shoot to qualify | | |
| | Shotgun Shooting | | | May require time at open shoot to qualify; Recommended only for 14+ | | |
| Scoutcraft | Basketry | | | Requires work outside of session to complete projects | | \$15 |
| | Emergency Preparedness | 1,3,9b,9c | | Requires completed First Aid Merit Badge | | |
| | First Aid | 2b1, | Personal First Aid Kit | | | |
| | Geocaching | | Cell phone or Laptop (if available) | Requires scouts to plan and run an evening geocache event | | |
| | Leatherwork | | | Requires work outside of session to complete projects | | \$10 |
| | Orienteering | | | Requires scouts to plan and run an evening orienteering event | | |
| | Safety | 2a-c, 3b, and 4 | | | | |
| | Scouting Heritage | 8 | | Requires scouts to interview adults who were scouts 40+ years of age | | |
| | Wilderness Survival | 5 | Ground tarp recommended | Requires an overnight outpost | | |
| | Wood Carving | | | Requires work outside of session to complete projects | | \$10 |
| | Archaeology | | Prep work for #7 (either a family heirloom or a list of household trash for a week) | | | |
| | Art | 6 | | | | |
| | Aviation | 4 | | | | |
| | Communication | 5, 8 | | Requires scouts to interview respected adult leaders | | |
| | Electronics | | | | | \$10 |
| | Game Design | 8* | | *Arrangements will be made to address #8 but this will be subject to availability | | |
| | Journalism | 4 | | | | |
| | Photography | | Personal camera (if available) | | | |
| Space Exploration | | | | | \$10 | |
| The Tracks | Cycling Merit Badge | | Closed toe shoes | Bring a water bottle | | |
| | ATV Certification | | Long pants, over the ankle boots, long sleeves | Completed S Course (done online) and a signed waiver from parent / guardian required | 14 + | \$60 |