CAMP KARANKAWA



LEADER'S GUIDE

Updated 10/29/2026

WELCOME TO CAMP KARANKAWA

Welcome to Camp Karankawa! There will be so many fun activities and new experiences at camp and your leaders and Camp Staff are here to help you! Bay Area Council, Scouting America programs are organized and put on by volunteers. Some programs are run by Scouts BSA youth and their leaders. If you need assistance or have questions, just ask us.

CONTACTS/EMERGENCIES

Scout Executive, Lisa Stegman – 832-385-5217, lisa.stegman@scouting.org

VP of Camp Property, Walt Wundrow – 409-771-8264, walt.wundrow@icloud.com

Medical or Fire Emergencies 911

Poison Control 1-800-221-1222

Brazoria County Sherriff Dept. (non-emergency) 979-849-2441

Sweeny Community Hospital (non-emergency) 979-487-9070

Old Ocean Volunteer Fire Dept. (non-emergency) 979-487-9077

GATES (Open times unless noted on event registration)

Friday – Registered Campers Only

5 p.m. Gates Open
5–8 p.m. Check-In
10 p.m. Lights Out/Gates Close

Saturday – All Attendees

8 a.m. Gates Open
8–9 a.m. Check In for Saturday arrivals
10 p.m. Lights Out/Gates Close

Sunday – All Saturday Night Campers

8 – 10 a.m. Check-Out
11 a.m. Gates Close

VISITORS

All camp leaders, Scouts, and staff must check in and out when arriving to or leaving from camp. Camp programs are designed and intended for registered members and the adult leaders who will be working with them. Other family members (including siblings or other youth-aged relatives) must be registered members of the Scouting America, or if they would like to camp or participate in the program, they must do so through Cub Scout Family Camping only.
ALL CAMPERS MUST WILL BE ISSUED A WRISTBAND.

CAMPSITES

Your campsite assignments & schedule will be emailed to leaders within 72 hours before the event. Our goal is for camp to be available to all Scouts who wish to enjoy our camp experience. As such, units may be required to share campsites.

PACKING LIST

Week-end events (72 hours or less)

- Health Form A, B 1&2
- Class A uniform & Class B t-shirt
- Closed-toed shoes (no Crocs allowed)
- Patrol Flag
- Pen & paper
- Camp chair
- Reusable water bottle or canteen
- Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping cot, and ground tarp
- Food, if not provided
- Cooking gear
- Day pack
- Tools - flashlight, small pocket knife (Youth Must have Whittling Chip)
- First Aid kit
- Rain gear, if needed
- Light jacket or hoodie (if needed)
- Hat or cap
- Bug spray & Sunscreen
- Toiletries, towel, Ziplock bags for dry or dirty clothes
- Swimsuit (if aquatics are offered, no bikinis)
- Money for Trading Post

Week-long camps 72 hours or more

- Health Form A, B 1&2, C
- Official Roster showing all attending adults & Scouts
- Signed Field Trip form (if attending field trips)
- Class A uniform & Class B t-shirt
- Closed toes shoes (no Crocs allowed)
- Scout handbooks, pen, paper
- Patrol Flag
- Camp chair
- Reusable water bottle or canteen
- Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping cot, and ground tarp
- Food, if not provided
- Cooking gear
- Day pack
- Tools - flashlight, small pocket knife (Youth Must have Whittling Chip)
- First Aid kit
- Rain gear, if needed
- Light jacket or hoodie (if needed)
- Hat or cap
- Bug spray & Sunscreen
- Toiletries, towel, Ziplock bags for dry or dirty clothes
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FIRST AID/MEDICAL

Individual Responsibility: Prescription medication responsibility rests primarily with the individual participant or their parent/guardian. Adult leaders are not mandated by Scouting America to manage medications, though they may agree to assist after proper planning. **Annual Health and Medical Record (AHMR):** All regular prescription and nonprescription (over-the-counter) medications must be documented candidly on the participant's AHMR (Parts A, B, and C as applicable). **Original Containers & Labeling:** Medications brought to camp or on outings must remain in their original prescription containers, clearly showing the participant's name, drug name, strength, dosage instructions, prescribing doctor, and date.

The medic can be reached in the health lodge at the HEC/Dining Hall or by anyone with a walkie talkie. Battery power for devices is allowed in certain areas. Consult the Camp Ranger or Medic.

LATE ARRIVALS & EARLY CHECK-OUT

Anyone arriving late or leaving early must sign in and out at the registration desk. If leaving early, you must fill out the Camper Release form and have it signed by your leader.

LEADERSHIP

All units must have proper adult leadership in camp at all times and must follow ALL SAFEGUARDING YOUTH GUIDELINES. No one-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is allowed.

BUDDY SYSTEM

Scouts must be instructed to use the buddy system when hiking or exploring around camp and are encouraged to inform their leaders of their plans when leaving their campsite. Buddies must be no more than within two years age difference of each other.

QUIET HOURS

Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

STAFF CABINS

Cabins are reserved for staff only. Scouts and adult leaders cannot enter cabins.

WEATHER & EMERGENCIES

Be Prepared! Please pack rain gear and extra clothing for your Scout. Secure your tent. Ensure tents are properly guy-lined to prevent rain from entering. In the event of Heavy Downpours:

- **WEATHER EVENTS**: Program staff will provide clear directions in case of a weather event. The designated Shelter-in-place area is the Dining Hall/HEC unless instructed otherwise. If a weather event is short-lived, we'll take temporary shelter and resume activities once it passes. We may relocate activities and make minor adjustments to ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment.
- **EMERGENCIES:** In the event of an emergency evacuation, everyone should report to the Dining Hall/HEC unless instructed otherwise.
- **EMERGENCY DRILLS:** When you hear the camp bell, you must IMMEDATEIATELY assemble your unit at the flag poles in front of the Dining Hall/HEC and have a head count ready. Instructions by supervised staff will follow.
- **INTRUDER:** Contact the Camp Directors immediately. Do not approach them directly, let staff handle this situation. Remove youth. Do not lose sight of the intruder if possible.
- **MISSING CAMPER:** Contact the Camp Directors immediately.

PHONES & WIFI

Phones can be a great way to enhance an outdoor Scouting experience, but they can be a challenge to manage. Phones are only to be used by adults or youth if your unit leader approves of them. Wifi is available while at camp for educational purposes. Please visit the Leader's Lodge for login information.

PROGRAMS

AQUATICS (Not available at every camp)

Scouts must follow all aquatics safety rules. No running near water-front areas. Proper swimming attire must be worn at all times. No bikinis. One-piece swimsuits only. Proper adult

leadership will be provided by camp staff if it is a council-sponsored program, otherwise units must provide their own adult supervision per the NCAP standards.

CYCLING (Weekend Camping Only)

Adult leaders and Scouts may bring bikes to camp as long as you follow camp bike safety policies. Bike riders must follow all traffic regulations and stay off the grass. Failure to comply with these regulations will result in the loss of riding privileges. (Advanced approval is required.)

- Only big tire bikes are allowed.
- Industry-approved helmets MUST be worn at all times.
- Ride on the right side of the road and stop at ALL stop signs.
- Ride only on roads or approved trails. If you are caught riding across the grass, we will revoke your bike riding privileges.
- Do not exceed speed limits.
- Bikes must be parked upright in designated areas or out of normal traffic paths.
- No biking allowed after sunset.

HANDICRAFTS

At the handicrafts area, Scouts will get the opportunity to have hands-on experience in Leatherwork, Metalwork, Pottery, Welding, Woodcarving and more. (Not all handicrafts are available at each campout.)

HIKING

The Nature Trail is marked by tree identifiers and is a fun addition for Scouts to enjoy nature. Visit www.bacbsa.org/camp-karankawa to download the Nature Trail hiking map.

SHOOTING SPORTS

Camp offers four different Shooting Sports: Archery, Shotgun, Slingshot, and Tomahawks. No personal firearms or ammunition allowed on camp property.

RULES

Rules are made for the safety of campers, protection of equipment, and to provide fairness to all.

SANDALS/SHOES - It is the policy of the Bay Area Council that closed-toed shoes must always be worn at camp, except while at the waterfront area and shower house.

VEHICLES - The camp speed limit is 10 mph. No passengers will be permitted in the beds of trucks. All passengers must be seated inside the vehicle. Seatbelt use is required in camp in accordance with national policies. We require that you keep your vehicle in the designated parking areas at all other times. Limiting the amount of driving that goes on in camp makes the trails safer for all of us.

LEAVE NO TRACE/TRASH DISPOSAL - Camp has been used and enjoyed by Scouts for many years. As caretakers of this property, we ask that you be aware of your impact on the land so future generations can enjoy our camp. Please dispose of all litter by placing ALL trash in a bag and drop it at the dumpster near Cub World on your way out of camp. It is everybody's job to keep camp litter-free. If you are at a week-long camp, trash pickup is near the Scout bathhouse, to be picked up by 5 p.m. each day.

CAMPFIRES - Campfires are permitted unless a burn ban is in effect. If Firewood is available, it is stacked in front of the bathhouses. You may only gather small, dead branches and sticks around your campsite. Camp is a great place to teach Scouts fire safety. Each unit should complete and use the Unit Fireguard Chart. These will be provided at camp. Fires must always be attended. There are two 5-gallon buckets at the entrance to each campsite. Your campsite fire barrel should always be filled with water. Please refill if it is empty. If a fire is out of control, the Camp Ranger is the only one designated to handle it. As a leader, it is your job to account for and evacuate your Scouts.

COOKING & GENERATORS - Unit-supplied propane stoves & lanterns may be used under adult supervision. **No open flames/fire in tents are allowed. No flammable liquids, candles, portable heaters, or fuel-powered generators are allowed. Solar is allowed.**

SMOKING/VAPING - Adults are not permitted to smoke around Scouts, in buildings or tents. A designated smoking area is provided between the Leader's Lodge and Flop Jackson parking area, or in your personal vehicle only.

WEAPONS, FIREARMS & KNIVES - It is the policy of the Bay Area Council that no hunting, sheath knives, fixed-blade knives, switch blades are allowed at camp. No personal firearms or ammo are allowed. No fireworks of any kind are permitted in camp.

ALCOHOL & DRUGS - Alcohol and federally declared illegal drugs/substances are not allowed at any time.

PETS - Pets are explicitly prohibited across all council properties, except for service animals. **Prior Approval:** The council requires that permission to bring and use a service animal be coordinated and approved by the camp ranger ahead of time. **Control Requirements:** Any service animal on campgrounds must be fully secured and under the control of its owner at all times or risk removal. (Advanced approval is required.)

PERSONAL PROPERTY - Camp does not assume responsibility for damage or loss of any personal property.

DRONES - Camp requires all use of drones to be in compliance with FAA regulations, including keeping them within line of sight, flying no higher than 400 feet, and not to be flown directly over large gatherings of people. Do not conduct surveillance or photograph people in areas where there is an expectation of privacy without the individual's permission. Campers must comply with Scouting America Drone Standards. (Advanced approval is required.)

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS - Pictures and videos may be taken of your Scouts while at camp but you must follow Youth Protection Guidelines at all times.

SOCIAL MEDIA - We have Facebook. We do post videos and pictures of Scouts at camp. If you have photos or videos that you would like us to share, please email them to the Scout Service Center. www.bacbsa.org/contact

WEEKEND RESERVATIONS

Did you know your pack, troop, crew, or ship can lock in a weekend getaway at camp all on your own? Don't wait for a council-wide event—grab your gear and book your unit's next independent camping trip today!

- In-Council Units, $35 non-refundable deposit.
- Out-of-Council Units, $35 non-refundable deposit + $10 per participant.

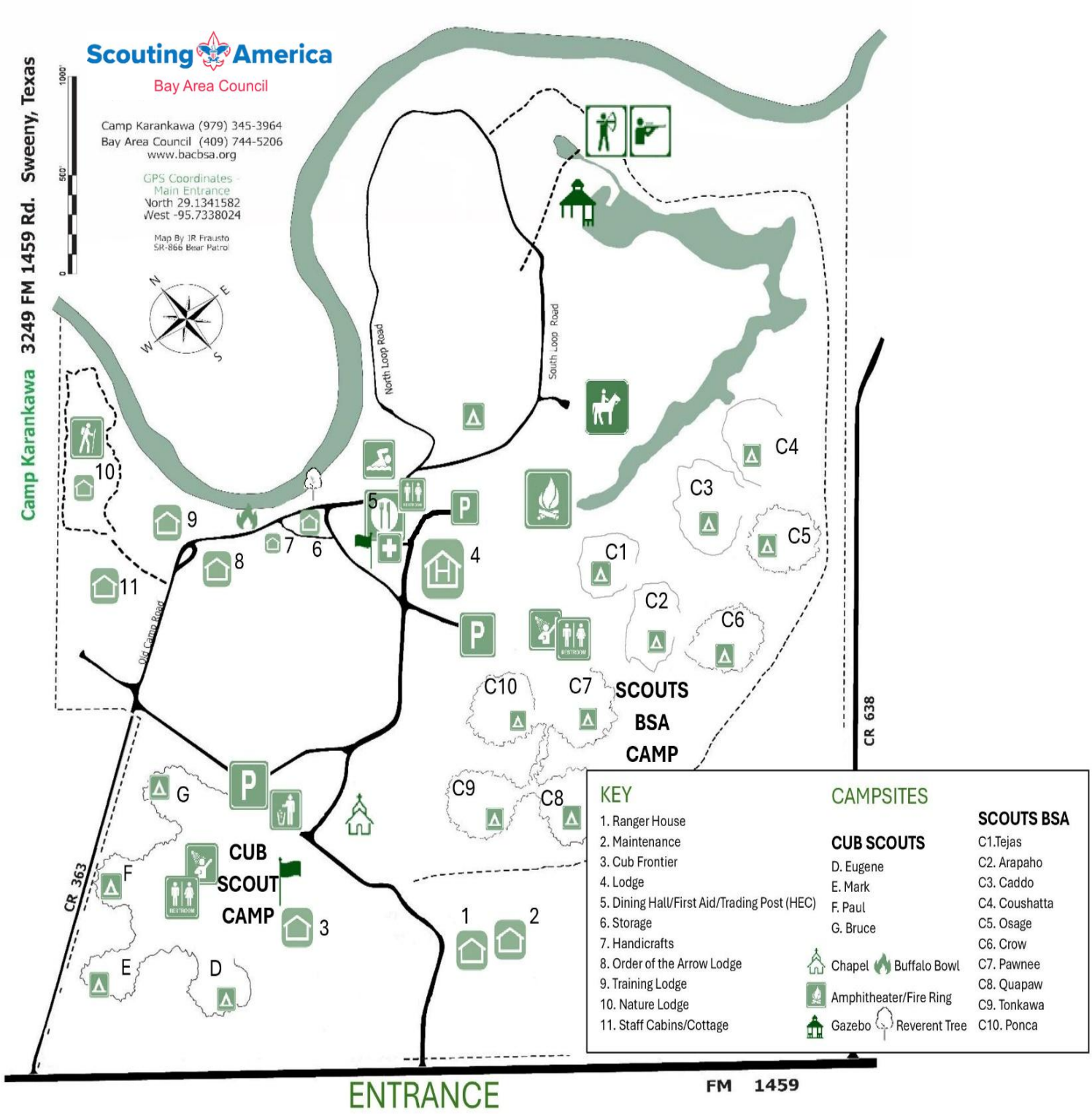
Visit www.bacbsa.org/camp-karanawa to download the reservation form.

VOLUNTEERS

The goal is to maintain the spirit, traditions, and memories of the camp both past and present, to provide a means for volunteers of Camp Karankawa to maintain affiliation with each other and with the camp. Volunteers contribute to the continued maintenance and development of the camp. Volunteer opportunities are open to all past and current camp staff, campers, or anyone who has an interest. To volunteer or make a donation, please email the Camp Ranger.

Camp Karankawa 3249 FM 1459 Rd., Sweeny, TX 77480 - 979.345.3960
Bay Area Council 2902 Broadway St., Galveston, TX 77550 - 409.744.5206 www.bacbsa.org

FACEBOOK: @CampKarankawaBAC


Scouting America
Bay Area Council
Camp Karankawa (979) 345-3964
Bay Area Council (409) 744-5206
www.bacbsa.org
GPS Coordinates - Main Entrance
North 29.1341582
West -95.7338024
Map By IR Frausto SR-866 Bear Patrol
Camp Karankawa 3249 FM 1459 Rd. Sweeny, Texas
North Loop Road
South Loop Road
Old Camp Road
CR 363
CR 638
FM 1459
ENTRANCE
CUB SCOUT CAMP
SCOUTS BSA CAMP
KEY
1. Ranger House
2. Maintenance
3. Cub Frontier
4. Lodge
5. Dining Hall/First Aid/Trading Post (HEC)
6. Storage
7. Handicrafts
8. Order of the Arrow Lodge
9. Training Lodge
10. Nature Lodge
11. Staff Cabins/Cottage
CAMPSITES
CUB SCOUTS
D. Eugene
E. Mark
F. Paul
G. Bruce
SCOUTS BSA
C1.Tejas
C2. Arapaho
C3. Caddo
C4. Coushatta
C5. Osage
C6. Crow
C7. Pawnee
C8. Quapaw
C9. Tonkawa
C10. Ponca
Chapel
Buffalo Bowl
Amphitheater/Fire Ring
Gazebo
Reverent Tree