**The Ranger Award** recipient is a Venturer who can be depended upon to help keep themself and others comfortable and safe in the outdoors—on a camping trip, backpacking trek, day hike, or themed outing. The requirements for the award are divided into five sections. Each section contains a link to its own collection of resource materials connected to the requirements for that section.

# SECTION 1: CAMPING - [Camping Resource Material](https://promtaskforce.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ranger-Award-Camping.pdf) -

1. Do the following:
   1. Explain to your advisor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in camping activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
   2. Discuss with your advisor why it is important to be aware of weather conditions before and during your camping activities. Tell how you can prepare should the weather turn bad during your campouts.
   3. Show that you know first-aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses that could occur while camping, including hypothermia, frostbite, heat reactions, dehydration, altitude sickness, insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, blisters,
   4. and hyperventilation.
2. Learn the Leave No Trace principles and the Outdoor Code and explain what they mean. Write a personal and group plan for implementing these principles on your next outing.
3. Make a written plan\* for an overnight trek and show how to get to your camping spot by using a topographical map and one of the following:
   1. A compass
   2. A GPS receiver\*\*
   3. A smartphone with a GPS app
4. Do the following:
   1. Make a duty roster showing how your crew is organized for an actual overnight campout. List assignments for each member.
   2. Help a Scout patrol or a Webelos or AOL den in your area prepare for an actual campout, including creating the duty roster, menu planning, equipment needs, general planning, and setting up camp.
5. Do the following:
   1. Prepare a list of clothing you would need for overnight campouts in both warm and cold weather. Explain the term “layering.”
   2. Discuss footwear for diﬀerent kinds of conditions and how the right footwear is important for protecting your feet.
   3. Explain the proper care and storage of camping equipment (clothing, footwear, bedding).
   4. List the outdoor essentials necessary for any campout, and explain why each item is needed.
   5. Present yourself to your Advisor with your pack for inspection. Be correctly clothed and equipped for an overnight campout.
6. Do the following:
   1. Demonstrate how to tie a square knot, sheet bend, two half hitches, taut-line hitch, clove hitch, and bowline, and describe how each is used.
   2. Describe the features of four types of tents, when and where they could be used, and how to care for tents. Working with another crew member, pitch a tent.
   3. Describe the factors to be considered in deciding where to pitch your tent.
   4. Directing other crew members to assist, using a dining fly-sized tarp, guy lines, stakes, and upright poles, put up a crew fly in an open field, tall enough for an 8- person crew to stand under. Properly employ two half hitches or bowlines, taut- line hitches, and clove hitches in the process.
   5. Discuss the importance of camp sanitation and tell why water treatment is essential. Then demonstrate two ways to treat water.
   6. Tell the diﬀerence between internal- and external-frame packs. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each.
   7. Discuss the types of sleeping bags and what kind would be suitable for diﬀerent conditions. Explain the proper care of your sleeping bag and how to keep it dry. Make a comfortable ground bed.
7. Prepare for an overnight campout with your crew by doing the following:
   1. Make a checklist of personal and crew gear that will be needed.
   2. Pack your own gear and your share of the crew equipment and food for proper carrying. Show that your pack is right for quickly getting what is needed first, and that it has been assembled properly for comfort, weight, balance, size, and neatness.
8. Do the following:
   1. Explain the safety procedures for: using a propane or butane/propane stove, using a liquid fuel stove, proper storage of extra fuel.
   2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of diﬀerent types of lightweight cooking stoves.
   3. Prepare a camp menu. Explain how the menu would diﬀer from a menu for a backpacking or float trip. Give recipes and make a food list for your crew. Plan two breakfasts, three lunches, and two suppers. Discuss how to protect your food against bad weather, animals, and contamination.
   4. While camping in the outdoors, cook at least one breakfast, one lunch, and one dinner for your crew from the meals you have planned for requirement 8c. At least one of those meals must be a trail meal requiring the use of a lightweight stove.
9. Show experience in camping by doing the following:
   1. Camp a total of at least 20 nights at designated Venturing activities or events. One long-term camping experience of up to six consecutive nights may be applied toward this requirement. Sleep each night under the sky or in a tent you

have pitched. If the camp provides a tent that has already been pitched, you need not pitch your own tent.

* 1. On any of these camping experiences, you must do TWO of the following, only with proper preparation and under qualified supervision.
     + Hike up a mountain, gaining at least 1,000 vertical feet.
     + Backpack, snowshoe, or cross-country ski for at least 4 miles.
     + Take a bike trip of at least 15 miles or at least four hours.
     + take a non-motorized trip on the water for at least four hours or 5 miles.
     + Plan and carry out an overnight snow camping experience.
     + Rappel down a rappel route of 30 feet or more.
  2. On any of these camping experiences, perform a conservation project approved by the landowner or land managing agency. This can be done alone or with others.

1. Discuss how the things you did to earn this award have taught you about personal health and safety, survival, public health, conservation, and good citizenship. In your discussion, tell how Scout spirit and the Scout Oath and Scout Law apply to camping and outdoor ethics.

# SECTION 2: BACKPACKING - [Backpacking Resource Material](https://promtaskforce.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ranger-Award-Backpacking.pdf) -

1. Discuss the prevention of and treatment for the health concerns that could occur while backpacking, including hypothermia, heat reactions, frostbite, dehydration, insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, and blisters.
2. Do the following:
   1. List 10 items that are essential to be carried on any backpacking trek and explain why each item is necessary.
   2. Describe 10 ways you can limit the weight and bulk to be carried in your pack without jeopardizing your health or safety.
3. Do the following:
   1. Define limits on the number of backpackers appropriate for a trek crew.
   2. Describe how a trek crew should be organized.

d. Explain the purpose of an emergency response plan.

1. Do the following:
   1. Describe the importance of using Leave No Trace principles while backpacking, and at least five ways you can lessen the crew’s impact on the environment.
   2. Describe proper methods of handling human and other wastes while on a backpacking trek. Describe the importance of and means to assure personal cleanliness while on a backpacking trek.
   3. Tell what factors are important in choosing a campsite.
2. Do the following:
   1. Demonstrate that you can read topographic maps.
   2. While on a trek, use a map and compass to establish your position on the ground at three diﬀerent locations OR use a GPS receiver to establish your position on a topographic map and on the ground at three diﬀerent locations.
   3. Explain how to stay found, and what to do if you get lost.
3. Tell how to properly prepare for and deal with inclement weather.
4. Do the following:
   1. Write a plan that includes a schedule for a crew backpacking hike of at least 2 miles.
   2. Show that you know how to properly pack your personal gear and your share of the crew’s gear and food.
   3. Show you can properly shoulder your pack and adjust it for proper wear.
   4. While using the plan you developed for requirement 7a, carry your fully loaded pack to complete a hike of at least 2 miles.
5. Using Leave No Trace principles, participate in a backpacking treks of at least three days and at least 15 miles, and using at least two diﬀerent campsites on each trek. Carry everything you will need throughout the trek.

# SECTION 3: WILDERNESS SURVIVAL - [Wilderness Survival Resource Material](https://promtaskforce.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ranger-Award-Wilderness-Survival.pdf) -

1. Do the following:
   1. Explain to your counselor the hazards you are most likely to encounter while participating in wilderness survival activities, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, or lessen these hazards.
   2. Show that you know first aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses that could occur in backcountry settings, including hypothermia, heat reactions, frostbite, dehydration, blisters, insect stings, tick bites, and snakebites. - Online Reference Pages
2. From memory, list the seven priorities for survival in a backcountry or wilderness location. Explain the importance of each one with your counselor.
3. Discuss ways to avoid panic and maintain a high level of morale when lost, and explain why this is important.
4. Describe the steps you would take to survive in the following exposure conditions:
   1. Cold and snowy
   2. Hot and dry
   3. Windy
   4. At or on the water
5. Put together a personal survival kit and explain how each item in it could be useful.
6. Using three diﬀerent methods (other than matches), build and light three fires.
7. Using a camp saw, hand axe and knife, safely prepare tinder, kindling, and fuel from a single piece of dead (not rotten) wood, 9 inches in length and about 2 inches in diameter.
8. With only two matches, ignite the tinder processed in requirement 7 and feed the fire until all the processed material is burning.
9. Do the following:
   1. Show five diﬀerent ways to attract attention when lost.
   2. Demonstrate how to use a signal mirror.
   3. Describe from memory five ground-to-air signals and tell what they mean.
10. Improvise a natural shelter. For the purpose of this demonstration, use techniques that have little negative impact on the environment. Spend a night in your shelter.
11. Explain how to protect yourself from insects, reptiles, bears, and other animals of the local region.
12. Demonstrate three ways to treat water found in the outdoors to prepare it for drinking.
13. Show that you know the proper clothing to wear while in the outdoors during extremely hot and cold weather and during wet conditions.
14. Explain why it usually is not wise to eat edible wild plants or wildlife in a wilderness survival situation.

# SECTION 4: HIKING - [Hiking Resource Material](https://promtaskforce.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ranger-Award-Hiking.pdf) -

1. Do the following:
   1. Explain to your advisor the most likely hazards you may encounter while hiking, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
   2. Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while hiking, including hypothermia, frostbite, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, sunburn, hyperventilation, altitude sickness, sprained ankle, blisters, insect stings, tick bites, and snakebite.
2. Explain and, where possible, show the points of good hiking practices including proper outdoor ethics, hiking safety in the daytime and at night, courtesy to others, choice of footwear, and proper care of feet and footwear.
3. Explain how hiking is an aerobic activity. Develop a plan for conditioning yourself for 10-mile hikes, and describe how you will increase your fitness for longer hikes.
4. Take 10-mile hike. You may stop for as many short rest periods as needed, as well as one meal during the hike Before the hike, prepare a written hike plan and share it with your advisor. Include map routes, a clothing and equipment list, and a list of items for a trail lunch.

# SECTION 5: PIONEERING - [Pioneering Resource Material](https://promtaskforce.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ranger-Award-Pioneering.pdf) -

1. Do the following:
   1. Review the Safe Pioneering Safety Points and explain to your advisor the most likely hazards you might encounter while participating in pioneering activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
   2. Discuss the prevention of, and first-aid treatment for, injuries and conditions that could occur while working on pioneering projects, including rope splinters, rope burns, cuts, scratches, insect bites and stings, hypothermia, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, sunburn, and falls.
2. Do the following:
   1. Demonstrate the West Country method of whipping a rope.
   2. Demonstrate how to tie a rope tackle and the following knots: clove hitch formed as two half hitches, clove hitch on a bight, butterfly knot, roundturn with two half hitches, and rolling hitch.
   3. Demonstrate and explain when to use the following lashings: square, diagonal, round, shear, tripod, and floor lashing
3. Do the following:
   1. Using square and tripod lashings from requirement 2c, build a Tripod Hand Wash Station.
   2. Using rolling hitches or roundturns with two half hitches, and round lashings from requirements 2b and 2c, build a 15-foot Scout Stave Flagpole (or with your advisor’s permission, another camp gadget of your own design).
   3. Using shear, square, and floor lashings, clove hitches on a bight, and rope tackles from requirements 2b and 2c, build a Simple Camp Table (or with your advisor’s permission, another camp gadget of your own design).