



UNIT LEADER AQUATICS SUPERVISION TRAINING

Part I - Swimming and Water Rescue and Part II - Paddle Craft Safety

For years, Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training has introduced Scouts and Scouters to the BSA's guidelines for aquatics safety. BSA now offers two new courses that will provide hands-on training in the personal skills needed for safe aquatics activities!

BSA Aquatics Supervision: Swimming & Water Rescue provides BSA leaders with information and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to swimming emergencies during unit swimming activities. It expands the awareness instruction provided by *Safe Swim Defense* training to include basic water rescue skills. The unit leader completing the training will also feel confident in his or her ability to conduct the standard BSA swim classification tests. Revised *Safe Swim Defense* guidelines recommend that at least one person with this training is present to assist with supervision whenever a unit swims at a location without lifeguards.

BSA Aquatics Supervision: Paddlescraft Safety: Float trips are popular Boy Scout and Venturing activities. This course expands on *Safety Afloat* training to teach basic skills and knowledge needed for a unit leader to assess his or her ability to supervise float trips using canoes or kayaks, and lead a trip or seek additional help. Basic paddling and rescue techniques are covered. The material also reviews the additional training needed for river trips, how to gain that expertise, and when to utilize professional whitewater guides. Revised Safety Afloat Guidelines recommend that a person with this training is present to supervise unit boating activities.

These courses will be offered in two sessions described below. Sessions are limited, so sign up soon.

When: Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26, 2016. Both days starting at 8:00 A.M., and ending 4:00 P.M.

Where: Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch, 22799 North Elbert Road in Elbert, Colorado

Why: Course designed to train to level of becoming the skill resource and planning resource for a unit to conduct outings involving aquatics (i.e. campouts including canoeing, kayaking), to qualify as a merit badge counselor for all aquatic related badges less Whitewater and SCUBA (those require specific certifications), and become certified to administer the Unit Swim Classification test. In short, you will be the "go to" for all things aquatic in your unit.

Pre-requisites: Must be a strong swimmer and able to successfully complete the BSA Swimmer Test. Must have physical ability to handle paddle craft (canoe, kayak, rowboat). Must be current in Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat; take it online if it's been awhile. Bring the SSD and SFD certificate or card. Bring your personal medical form to review.

Instructions: No cost training, but recommend that you purchase one Aquatics Supervision Manual from the Scout Shop (1 per unit) to use and then put in our unit's library. Eat breakfast before arriving and bring your own lunch (and snacks and water). On Saturday, please come straight to the pool and park with your headlights pointed out; bring swim gear plus mask/fin/snorkel if you have it. Please email me at blkimmick@comcast.net to confirm your attendance and readiness.

Bruce Kimmick, DAC Aquatics Chair
Aquatics Instructor, exp. 12/2019