

Motorboating Merit Badge Courses

Course # 1: Saturday-Sunday, August 24-25, 2019

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 26-02 is offering classroom instruction for merit badge requirements and for a North Carolina Boater Education Card on

Saturday, August 24, 2019, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (8 hours, including examination) at

Myers Park Presbyterian Church Outreach Center, Room F203

1073 Providence Rd, Charlotte, NC 28207

Phone: 704 927 1284

Google map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/ZsitQTp5gaD2>

Scouts can complete requirements for motorboat operation on the afternoon of Sunday, August 25 at Tega Cay Marina

28000 Marina Dr, Tega Cay, SC 29708

Google map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/H8HQhqLiChy>

Instructors will confirm time of the Sunday session at the Saturday session.

Scouts must attend both days to complete the merit badge.

Instructors will provide PFDs.

Course # 2: Saturday-Sunday, September 7-8, 2019

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 26-02 is offering classroom instruction for merit badge requirements and for a North Carolina Boater Education Card on

Saturday, September 7, 2019, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (8 hours, including examination) at

Myers Park Presbyterian Church Outreach Center, Room F203

1073 Providence Rd, Charlotte, NC 28207

Phone: 704 927 1284

Google map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/ZsitQTp5gaD2>

Scouts can complete requirements for motorboat operation on the afternoon of Sunday, September 8 at Tega Cay Marina

28000 Marina Dr, Tega Cay, SC 29708

Google map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/H8HQhqLiChy>

Instructors will confirm time of the Sunday session at the Saturday session.

Scouts must attend both days to complete the merit badge.

Instructors will provide PFDs.

To earn Motorboating Merit Badge, Scouts must complete requirement 4b:

4. Show you know safety laws for motorboating by doing the following:

a. Explain the rules or laws that apply to recreational boating in your area or state.

b. Have a permit to operate a motorboat, if required by the laws of your state. Discuss how you would find information regarding the boating laws in different states.

In North Carolina, to operate a boat powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater, anyone born after January 1, 1988, must complete a boating safety education program. Scouts must therefore complete a boating safety education course and pass a boating safety examination to qualify for a North Carolina Boater Education Card to complete requirement 4b. These classroom courses are usually 6 to 8 hours in duration.

References:

<http://ncwildlife.org/Boating/Laws-Safety/Boating-Regulations>

<https://www.dmv.com/nc/north-carolina/boating-license>

<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Boating/documents/Safe_Boating_Education_FAQ_Brochure.pdf>

Scouts and the general public can take instructor-led boating safety courses from

1. NC Wildlife Resources Commission. These courses are offered at no charge and are offered at locations throughout North Carolina. You can find a list of courses to search by zip code at

<https://www.register-ed.com/programs/53>?

2. US Coast Guard Auxiliary. These courses cost $35 for the general public (Scout Troop partners get a substantial discount, details on next page), including an “About Boating Safely” book, recommended one per family. You can find a list of courses to search by zip code at

<http://www.cgaux.org/boatinged/class_finder/index.php>

3. United States Power Squadrons. Please follow links at

<http://ncwildlife.org/Boating/Marina-Resources/Boating-Education-Courses#2851307-instructor-led-courses>

to find a list of courses to search by zip code. Cost is $40 and includes the manual.

Online courses. Scouts and the general public can take fee-based online boating safety courses by following links from

<http://ncwildlife.org/Boating/Marina-Resources/Boating-Education-Courses#2851308-online-courses>

US Coast Guard Auxiliary BSA Partner Program.

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGA) Flotilla 26-02 offers “About Boating Safely” courses at a substantial discount to help Scouts qualify for, and pass the examination for, a NASBLA approved Boater Education Card required by the state of North Carolina. Blue Cards will be signed the day of the class by a registered Merit Badge Counselor and the Merit Badge Counselor will conduct an on-the-water practical session the day following the classroom to fulfill the remaining requirements to all allow completion of the Motorboating Merit Badge in one weekend. The Merit badge Counselor will sign Blue Cards indicating requirements completed and merit badge completions, if Scouts have fulfilled all requirements.

Minimum class size: 5 Scouts

Maximum class size: 10 Scouts

Total maximum class size including accompanying adults: 20

Cost: The “About Boating Safely” course and course book costs is $20 per Scout, which includes one copy of the “About Boating Safely” book and cost of fuel for the on-the-water boating activities. USCGA instructors recommend at minimum 1 book per family and require that anyone under the age of 18 be accompanied by an adult. The adult may also take the class at a discounted rate of $10 per person if they wish to share the book and test for the Boater Education Card along with their Scout.

Method of registration: Scouts, with parental supervision, can register by sending email to [cgalakewylie.pe@gmail.com](mailto:cgalakewylie.pe@gmail.com)

A copy of any email from a Scout to an adult or from an adult to a Scout should be sent to a parent or Scout leader to follow BSA Youth Protection guidelines.

Registration opens: June 1, 2019

Registration closes: Wednesday 3 days prior to the course instruction date or when the class is full.

Age requirement: Ages 11 through 17

Rank requirement: There are no rank requirements.  **All Scouts participating in these courses must present evidence of ability to complete requirement 2a to “successfully complete the BSA swimmer test.” Each Scout must bring a signed note from their Scoutmaster indicating that they have passed the BSA swimmer test or demonstrate achievement of First Class rank advancement or Swimming Merit Badge (both of which require completion of the BSA swimmer test).**

**Schedule your own merit badge course with your own unit:** The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 26-02 offers “schedule your own” merit badge courses for Scouts, patrols, or troops who would like a customized schedule for Motorboating Merit Badge that can be delivered at your site with more flexible adult supervision requirements. The group must achieve a minimum class size of 5 Scouts and can be open to adult troop leaders and parents. A lead Scout, with adult supervision, should

contact by phone or email

Mr. Mark Wilson at

[cgalakewylie.pe@gmail.com](mailto:cgalakewylie.pe@gmail.com)

774 402 4389

or

Ms. Barbara Wilson

508 207 0677

A copy of any email from a Scout to an adult or from an adult to a Scout should be sent to a parent or Scout leader to follow BSA Youth Protection guidelines.

Blue card requirement: Each Scout must present to the counselor a separate blue card signed by their Scoutmaster indicating permission to participate in the course(s). Each Scout should fill out the requirement grid portion of the card and have the Merit Badge Counselor initial this section of the card for each completed requirement. When the Scout has completed all requirements, the Merit Badge Counselor must sign and date the card in 2 places. Each Scout is responsible to obtain these signatures and to turn the card in to their Scoutmaster so that the merit badge can be registered and awarded.

Parents are welcome to attend all sessions and are welcome to enroll in the boating safety education course.

Merit Badge Counselor for this program is Ms. Barbara Wilson. She is registered with Mecklenburg County Council as a Merit Badge Counselor and has current BSA Youth Protection. She has extensive experience as a Scout leader and boating safety instructor. She will be assisted by other members of US Coast Guard Auxiliary 26-02.

Partial or Full Completion: Full completion of this merit badge is possible IF Scouts complete all requirements. If a Scout does not finish, the counselor will initial completed requirements on their blue card and note partially fulfilled requirements (for later completion with the course counselor or by a counselor identified by their Scoutmaster). Scouts should follow the buddy system with 2-deep adult leadership for all merit badge sessions.

Food: Food will be not be available for purchase during the classroom course or the practical course on Lake Wylie. Scouts may pack their own snacks and lunches and eat them at food breaks designated by the instructor. Eating or drinking during the class sessions will not be allowed.

Please bring a reusable water bottle and a small day pack for both the classroom course and the practical boat operation course.

Clothing: Scouts are expected to wear their field uniform (“Class A” uniform) with Scouts pants and shirt to demonstrate participation as a Scout and to reinforce Scouting values and behavior during the classroom course. Scouts must wear closed-toe shoes or boots (not sandals) with socks to the classroom course for safety. Neckerchiefs and merit badge sashes and medals are not expected or required.

For the practical boat operation course operating a boat on Lake Wylie, please wear swim suits, tee shirts (or long sleeve shirts for sun protection), boating shoes or athletic shoes with no-scuff soles that will not be ruined when they get wet.

Sun protection: For outside activities for sun protection, Scouts should Be Prepared to prevent sunburn with hat, sunblock, long sleeves, long pants if needed.

Cell phones: Scouts may have cell phones with them during the course, but cell phones should be turned completely off during all class sessions. If a Scout chooses to send text messages or talk on their cell phone during class, he will be expected to loan their cell phone to the instructor or to their parent or to a Scout leader for safe keeping during the rest of the day, to be returned when the class ends.

Motorboating Merit Badge preparation before class:

1. Scouts must read the merit badge book before class.

2. Scouts should print Merit Badge requirements from the workbook link at <https://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Motorboating>

or from the last pages of this flyer Guide

and bring these pages and blank paper and pen to the course for their notes and research.

A workbook printout is not required but Scouts will find that the workbook from the [www.meritbadge.org](http://www.meritbadge.org) site will be very helpful in organizing their work.

3. Scouts must Be Prepared by completing requirement 2a to “successfully complete the BSA swimmer test.” Each Scout must bring a signed note from their Scoutmaster indicating that he has passed the BSA swimmer test or demonstrate achievement of First Class rank advancement or Swimming Merit Badge (both of which require completion of the BSA swimmer test):

BSA swimmer test: Jump feetfirst into water over the head in depth. Level off and swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy, resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be completed in one swim without stops and must include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

4. Scouts must review the BSA Safety Afloat policy prior to class to complete requirement 1c. Please see information at

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss02/>



Motor Boating Merit Badge Requirements

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Motorboating.pdf>

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1. Do the following:

a. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in motorboating activities, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.

b. Review prevention, symptoms, and first-aid treatment for the following injuries or illnesses that can occur while motorboating: cold-water shock and hypothermia,

dehydration and heat-related illnesses, sunburn, and motion sickness.

c. Discuss the BSA Safety Afloat policy. Explain to your counselor how it applies to motorboating activities.

2. Do the following:

a. Before doing requirements 3 through 6, successfully complete the BSA swimmer test.

b. Review the characteristics of life jackets most appropriate for motorboating and why a life jacket must always be worn while participating in motorboating activities. Demonstrate how to select and properly fit the correct size life jacket.

3. Do the following:

a. Explain inboard, outboard, and inboard/outboard motors, and the uses and advantages of each. Discuss the special features of a bass boat and a ski boat.

b. Explain the safety procedures and precautions involving handling fuel and engine servicing, and equipment storage and placement.

c. Explain how to winterize a boat motor and tell why this procedure is necessary.

d. Explain the safety procedures and precautions involving swimmers and skiers in the water, passenger positions underway, and boat wakes.

4. Show you know safety laws for motorboating by doing the following:

(a) Have a permit to run a motorboat, if needed.

(b) Explain the rules or laws that apply to recreational boating in your area or state.

(c) Discuss how the hazards of weather and heavy water conditions can affect both safety and performance in motorboating.

(d) Promise that you will follow BSA Safety Afloat guidelines. Explain the meaning of each point.

(e) Discuss with your counselor the nautical rules of the road and describe the national and your state’s aids to navigation.

(f) Explain and show the correct use of equipment required by both state and federal regulations to be carried aboard a motorboat.

(g) Explain federal and state rules for a ventilation system, and tell why these rules are required.

(h) Explain the use of lights (sight signals) and sound signals on motorboats.

(i) Discuss the common types of anchors used in motorboating and under what

conditions each would be preferred. Explain proper anchoring techniques.

5. With your counselor or other adults on board, demonstrate proper boat-handling

procedures and skills by doing the following:

(a) Board and assist others in boarding.

(b) Fuel the boat and complete a safety check.

(c) Get underway from dockside or from a beach launch.

(d) Run a course for at least a mile, showing procedures for overtaking and passing slower craft, yielding right-of-way, passing oncoming traffic, making turns, reversing direction, and using navigation aids.

(e) Stop and secure the boat in position on the open water using anchors. Raise and stow the anchor and get underway.

(f) Land or dock the boat, disembark, and assist others in doing the same.

(g) Moor, dock, or beach the boat and secure all gear.