



BOY SCOUT TROOP

77

Hightower Trail District
Atlanta Area Council
Boy Scouts of America



SPONSORED BY OAK GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN TROOP 77

Parent involvement is essential to the success of the scouting program at Troop 77, and will add greatly to your child's enjoyment of the many things Scouting has to offer. Many studies have shown that parental involvement in a child's activities is the number one predictor of success for that child. In Troop 77, help of some sort is needed from every parent.

First, we would ask that every parent support his or her own son by providing ongoing encouragement for their son to be an active participant in troop activities, by asking the boy how he is doing in advancement, and by making sure that the family schedule allows adequate time for scouts.

In addition, parents can take an active role in the troop in the following ways:

- **Parents can participate as Assistant Scoutmasters** Assistant Scoutmasters help the Scoutmaster work directly with the Scouts. Assistant Scoutmasters teach skills, help a Scout Patrol leader to pull together the elements of a program for the troop, work with New Scouts, and generally support the Scoutmaster in providing the best possible overall experience for the Scouts in the Troop.

- **Parents can participate as members of the Troop Committee** The Troop Committee is the administrative hub of the troop and sets the overall policy and direction for the program. The Troop Committee is responsible for making sure the troop has proper adult leadership. The Troop Committee also promotes scout advancement and makes sure the quality of the overall program meets Boy Scout standards by conducting the Boards of Review that finally approve all rank advancement. Participation in the Troop Committee is an opportunity for a parent to participate in directing and managing the business end of the Troop without taking on the duties of the Scoutmasters.

- **Parents can participate as Merit Badge Counselors** One of the most exciting aspects of scouting is the opportunity for Scouts to learn about a hobby, vocation, or skill from an adult who is an expert in the topic. Scouts can earn merit badges in life saving, camping, woodworking, aviation, and just about any other topic you can imagine. If you have an interest in working with Scouts to teach them about something you love, being a Merit Badge counselor is an excellent way to be involved in the troop.

- **Parents can help with specific projects** From time to time, the troop needs help with specific projects, from fundraising to helping maintain the facilities we use. Your involvement not only helps the troop, but it reinforces a key concept of Scouting, which is service to others.

- **Parents can provide transportation** Scouting is a program made for the outdoors, where Scouts learn best. To get to the outdoors, many times we need adults who are

willing to help drive. Having adequate transportation is a key element to support our outdoor program.

- **Parents can come on campouts** Occasionally we have campouts where families are invited to come along. Parents are especially encouraged to attend these events. It is a great way to see your Scout using the skills he has learned with the Troop. On family campouts, the adults camp separately from the Scouts, who camp as a Patrol. Scout participation on family campouts does not require the family to attend for the Scout to attend.

Many hands make light work

Troop 77 is a large organization. There is too much to be done for just a few parents to make the Troop the success it is. Every parent is encouraged to contribute to its success, whether the parent has a lot or a little time for Scouting. We just ask you to look around and find something you will enjoy doing and jump in and start having fun. There is plenty to do and if all parents help, no one will be overburdened.

Revised 1/23/08

