

## TRAIL CREW TREK – 2017 / 2018

The Trail Crew Trek Program (TCT) is an exciting program at Philmont Scout Ranch for Scouts and Venturers who are interested in the environment and committed to becoming responsible stewards of the land. Trail Crew Trek involves seven days of building trail, a seven-day educational trek throughout Philmont, hands-on experience with a variety of conservation projects, and visits from guest speakers involved in resource management.

The TCT Program emphasizes service through conservation in conjunction with the William T. Hornaday Award. This award was initiated in 1914 to inspire Scouts to work proactively for the conservation of natural resources. Trail Crew Trek empowers participants to develop a plan for attaining the William T. Hornaday Silver Award upon returning home. This multi-year path will include advancement requirements and planning, leading, and carrying out four significant projects that contribute to sound conservation and environmental improvements in local ecosystems and communities. Only about 1,100 individuals have achieved the William T. Hornaday Silver Award since its inception. By participating in the Philmont Trail Crew Trek, participants develop the necessary education, skills and leadership abilities to begin working towards the oldest conservation award in America. In addition to creating a plan for attaining the William T. Hornaday Award, Trail Crew Trek participants will develop valuable conservation skills, hone their leadership abilities, and expand their backcountry knowledge:

- Participants will learn the art and science of trail building. Hands-on experience in both trail construction and maintenance techniques will prepare participants to initiate and lead trail projects in their home area.
- Participants will gain a firm understanding of Leave No Trace principles and techniques.
- Leadership techniques will be taught and practiced throughout the trek. At the work site, each crew will assign a "Project Manager of the Day" so that participants can gain experience running an efficient conservation project and managing personnel. On the trail, a "Leader of the Day" will be responsible for route planning, coordinating educational opportunities, and facilitating crew decisions.
- Advanced outdoor skills will be taught and refined through the challenges of a rigorous backcountry trek.
- A series of "Essential Questions" and interactive lessons, rooted in natural resource management and current environmental issues, will help participants develop the education and skills necessary to make wise natural resource management decisions and promote cooperation between different user groups.

Philmont Scout Ranch covers 219 square miles, with more than 350 miles of trails. Philmont ranges from 6,500 feet to 12,441 feet in elevation above sea level. Because of the remote settings and elevation, participants need to be prepared, both physically and mentally, to handle the challenges of the trek. Philmont experiences a wide variety of weather conditions. Participants should be prepared for possible 100 degree days, 40 degree nights as well as days of rain and even snow. All this adds to the Trail Crew Trek Philmont experience.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Be at least 16 years old the day your program begins, but not 21 by its conclusion
- Be physically fit, able to lift and handle materials up to 50 lbs. (Philmont height and weight guidelines listed with this application will be strictly enforced.)
- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout or Venturer).
- A complete physical examination is required. (BSA's Annual Health and Medical Record will be sent to those who are accepted.)

### SESSION DATES FOR 2017 / 2018

**TWO** Trail Crew Trek sessions will be offered:

**Session One: June 14 -- 28.**

**Session Two: July 26 -- August 9.**

Both sessions will be coed with coed leadership. They will operate as Venture Crews.

**Please Note:** If less than six participants are registered for a session by April 1, the session may be cancelled. Participants will be promptly notified and alternative programs suggested.

### HOW TO APPLY

Complete the enclosed application. Have it approved by a parent/guardian, your unit leader and Scout Executive. Attach a letter of recommendation from an adult Scouter detailing your backcountry experience and your character. Mail your completed application, letter of recommendation and \$50 deposit to: **Trail Crew Trek, Philmont Scout Ranch, 17 Deer Run Road, Cimarron, NM 87714.** Philmont will notify you of your acceptance. If accepted, a packet of materials will be sent in March to assist you in preparing for your Philmont experience.

### UNIT AND LOCAL COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY

The participant's unit leader and the local council must only approve those young adults who meet the qualifications for this program. Philmont is not an easy experience and is a risk for those not physically prepared for the rigors of the northeastern New Mexico mountainous terrain.

## **PROGRAM FEE AND TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

The fee is \$300 (2017 or 2018) for the two-week experience. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required with this application. The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance. Additional expenses, including travel to and from Philmont as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant. Applicants not accepted will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received at Philmont by May 1. No-shows are not eligible for a refund.

Shuttles are available from the Albuquerque, New Mexico and Colorado Springs and Denver, Colorado Airports to Philmont. The shuttles depart the airport at 1:00 to 3:00 pm, depending on the location, on the day **before** your scheduled start date, arriving at Philmont at 6:30 to 7:00 pm (approx). The return shuttles leave from 6:00 to 7:30 am on your departure date, arriving at the Airports at 9:45 am to 12:00 noon, depending on location. You may also consider the bus or train arrival at Raton, New Mexico (45 miles from Philmont). A roundtrip shuttle is available from Raton. If you do not arrive by shuttle, plan to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 - 11:00 am on your scheduled start date. The Shuttle information/registration forms will be included in your March packet. **Note:** Shuttle times may change so please check shuttle registration forms upon receiving them or call Philmont for updated information. The Trail Crew Trek is a fourteen (14) day program. Participants depart the morning of the fifteenth (15th) day (June 28 and August 9 are departure dates).

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For additional information about the Trail Crew Trek such as physical requirements (BSA Health and Medical Record), equipment needs, service worksites, hiking questions or shuttle arrangements, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281 or email [camping@philmontscoutranch.org](mailto:camping@philmontscoutranch.org). Another source of information to assist you in preparing for your adventure can be found at <http://www.philmontscoutranch.org>.

During the dates of the program, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281, seven days a week, and ask for the Conservation Department or Camping Registration. During this time, Philmont Logistics will also be able to assist with transportation concerns or problems.

## **TRAIL CREW TREK CODE OF CONDUCT**

The general welfare of any group depends on the conduct of each individual member. This ensures the success of our projects and provides the maximum benefit to every participant.

## **AS A TRAIL CREW TREK PARTICIPANT, I UNDERSTAND THIS, SUPPORT THE REASONABLE DEMANDS OF CONDUCT EXPECTED OF ME, AND WILL:**

- Live the Scout Oath and Law or Venturer Code and Oath.
- Observe, respect, and strive to live the Philmont Wilderness Pledge.
- Observe the rules of the Philmont Conservation Department and my instructor.
- Wear my full \*BSA uniform or work clothes as required. (Unofficial decorations are not part of \*uniform).
- Attend and participate in all functions of the program.
- Be personally responsible for damage and loss of property.
- Observe quiet hours.
- Respect all safety procedures and learn to properly use equipment.
- At all times, be considerate of participants and staff at Philmont Scout Ranch.
- Understand the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes or illicit drugs at any time during the program will not be permitted and will result in dismissal from the program, at the expense of the participant. This standard shall apply to all participants. Compliance with state law regulations will apply at all times.
- Respect the laws of the State of New Mexico, the Village of Cimarron, and Philmont rules prohibiting the use of fireworks, firearms and gambling. Infractions of these regulations will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant.

**By signing along with my parent/guardian on the final page of this application, I acknowledge I have read and promise to abide by the code of conduct for the Trail Crew Trek and have read and understand all the information about the Trail Crew Trek as listed on this application.**

2017 / 2018 TRAIL CREW TREK APPLICATION

(Please print clearly)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_
first middle last

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\*DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ (\*must be 16 years of age by date program begins)

CURRENT INFORMATION: Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_
male / female

SCOUTING AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE:

Registered with: (circle one) Troop Team Venture Crew Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Tenure \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Council # \_\_\_\_\_ Council Name \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Positions Held \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Philmont Experience \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Other High Adventure Experience / Backpacking Experience (please be specific) \_\_\_\_\_

Total no. of backpacking overnights \_\_\_\_\_ Longest backpacking expedition in: Days \_\_\_\_\_ Miles \_\_\_\_\_

Extracurricular Activities \_\_\_\_\_

Honors / Awards Received \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Staff Experience (When and Where) \_\_\_\_\_

CPR/First Aid Certifications \_\_\_\_\_

I PREFER THE FOLLOWING YEAR: 2017 \_\_\_\_\_ 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

SESSION: (indicate 1st and 2nd choice of session) #1: June 14 – 28 \_\_\_\_\_ #2: July 26 - August 9 \_\_\_\_\_

I request a vegetarian meal plan: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ I request a special diet meal plan: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Find Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 deposit OR \_\_\_\_\_ \$300 (full fee for 2017 or 2018)

Make check payable to Philmont Scout Ranch.

**BEWARE OF POTENTIAL RISKS**

*Philmont offers High Adventure backpacking treks and program activities in relatively inaccessible mountainous terrain. Parents, advisors and youth participants should be alert to the potential for injury. Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Philmont staff members will instruct you regarding safety measures to be followed. Each participant is expected to follow these safety measures and to accept responsibility for their health and safety.*

**PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL:**

My son/daughter has my complete permission to participate in the Trail Crew Trek during the session indicated on this application. I understand that the program is physically demanding and involves a degree of risk and a potential for injury. I, along with my son/daughter, also acknowledge and agree with the Code of Conduct.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**UNIT LEADER APPROVAL:**

I attest this applicant is a member in good standing and approve his/her participation in the Trail Crew Trek Program.

Unit Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCAL COUNCIL ACTION:**

Council # \_\_\_\_\_ Council Name \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_

We certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (applicant's name) meets the age and physical requirements for the Trail Crew Trek and is a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Scout Executive or Representative Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FEE SCHEDULE:**

The total fee is \$300 (2017 or 2018). A \$50 deposit must accompany this application. The remaining balance will be due upon receipt of confirmation.

**NOTE: Deposit fee, all required signatures of approval and one letter of recommendation must accompany application.**

Please make check payable to Philmont Scout Ranch and mail to: **PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH  
ATTN: TRAIL CREW TREK  
17 DEER RUN RD.  
CIMARRON NM 87714**

**Philmont Contact Information: Phone: 575.376.2281**

**Email: [camping@philmontscoutranch.org](mailto:camping@philmontscoutranch.org) Web Address: [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org)**

~~~~~  
**FOR PHILMONT USE ONLY**

Recommendation Letters \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Notified \_\_\_\_\_

Packet Mailed \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Exp. # \_\_\_\_\_

## HIGH ADVENTURE RISK ADVISORY

**Philmont Scout Ranch Experience.** The Philmont experience is not risk-free. Staff will instruct participants in safety measures. Be prepared to listen to and follow these measures. Accept responsibility for the health and safety of yourself and others. Each participant must be able to carry 25 to 35 percent of their body weight while hiking 5 to 12 miles per day in an isolated mountain wilderness ranging from 6,500 to 12,500 feet in elevation over trails that are steep and rocky. Summer/ autumn climate includes temperatures from 30 to 100 degrees, low humidity (10 to 30 percent), and frequent, sometimes severe, thunderstorms. Winter climatic conditions can range from -20 to 60 degrees. During a Winter Adventure experience, each person will walk, ski, or snowshoe along snow-covered trails pulling loaded toboggans or sleds for up to 3 miles—or even more on a cross-country ski trek.

**Risk Advisory.** Philmont has an excellent health and safety record and strives to minimize risks to participants by emphasizing appropriate safety precautions. Because most participants are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions, they do not experience injuries. If you decide to attend Philmont, you should be physically fit, have proper clothing and equipment, be willing to follow instructions, work as a team with your crew, and take responsibility for your own health and safety.

Philmont staff members are trained in first aid, CPR, and accident prevention. They can assist the adult advisor in recognizing, reacting to, and responding to accidents, injuries, and illnesses. **Each crew is required to have at least two members trained in wilderness first aid and CPR.** Response times can be affected by location, terrain, weather, or other emergencies and could be delayed for hours or even days in a wilderness setting.

All Philmont participants should understand potential health risks inherent at or above 6,700 feet in elevation in a dry Southwest environment. High elevation; a physically demanding high-adventure program in remote mountainous areas; camping while being exposed to occasional severe weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flash floods, and heat; and other potential problems, including injuries from tripping and falling, falls from horses, heat exhaustion, and motor vehicle accidents, can worsen underlying medical conditions. Native wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes, and mountain lions usually present little danger if proper precautions are taken.

Please call Philmont at 575-376-2281 if you have any questions. All participants and guests should review all materials and websites related to the experiences they are planning to have at Philmont Scout Ranch.

### PHILMONT WEIGHT LIMITS FOR BACKPACKING AND HIKING

Weight limit guidelines are used because overweight individuals are at a greater risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, altitude illness, sleep problems, and injury. These guidelines are for all Scouting high-adventure activities. Each participant's weight must be less than the maximum acceptable limit in the weight chart. Participants 21 years and older who exceed the maximum acceptable weight limit for their height at the Philmont medical recheck WILL NOT be permitted to backpack or hike at Philmont. They will be sent home.

For participants under 21 years of age who exceed the maximum acceptable weight for height, the Philmont staff will use their judgment to determine if the youth can participate. Philmont will consider up to 20 pounds over the maximum acceptable; however, exceptions are not made automatically and discussion with Philmont in advance is required for any exception. Philmont's telephone number is 575-376-2281. Due to rescue equipment restrictions and evacuation efforts from remote sites, under no circumstances will any individual weighing more than 295 pounds be permitted to participate in backcountry programs.

**Philmont Approval.** Staff and/or staff physicians reserve the right to deny the participation of any individual on the basis of a physical examination and/or medical history. Each participant is subject to a medical recheck at Philmont.

**Height/Weight Restrictions.** If you exceed the maximum weight for height as explained in the following chart and your planned high-adventure activity will take you more than 30 minutes away from an emergency vehicle/accessible roadway, you may not be allowed to participate.

#### Maximum Weight for Height:

| Height(inches) | Max Weight | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 60             | 166        | 65             | 195        | 70             | 226        | 75             | 260        |
| 61             | 172        | 66             | 201        | 71             | 233        | 76             | 267        |
| 62             | 178        | 67             | 207        | 72             | 239        | 77             | 274        |
| 63             | 183        | 68             | 214        | 73             | 246        | 78             | 281        |
| 64             | 189        | 69             | 220        | 74             | 252        | 79 & over      | 295        |

This table is based on the revised Dietary Guidelines for Americans from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

A water-displacement test to determine percent body fat will also be accepted in lieu of the height-weight guidelines. Women will need to have a body fat of 20% or less and men will need to have a body fat of 15% or less to be qualified to participate. No other form of test to determine percent body fat (DEXA scan, skin fold, etc.) will be accepted by Philmont.

INDIVIDUAL TREKS
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION

A limited amount of financial assistance is available for Rayado, ROCS (Roving Outdoor Conservation School), or Trail Crew Trek participants. To apply, please complete this application and return it to Philmont by February 1 of the year attending. All information will remain confidential.

\*\*\*\*\*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_
First Middle I. Last

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT # \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

\* How long have you been a member of the Boy Scouts of America? \_\_\_\_\_

\* Leadership position(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\* Local council camp experience (where & when): \_\_\_\_\_

\* Philmont experience: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Other high adventure experience: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Honors/awards (school, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

\* Attach an essay that will help the scholarship committee understand your hopes and expectations if accepted as a participant. Please address the following topics directly: 1) What previous experiences have you had that will help you meet the challenges of this program? 2) What do you hope to learn or accomplish through this experience? 3) How will this experience help you in future service to Scouting; in pursuing other educational, career, or life interests? 4) What will be your greatest contribution (skill, talent, character trait) as a participant of this trek.

Parent/Guardian Information:

Father \_\_\_\_\_ Employer/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Employer/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

State circumstances that require you to apply for financial assistance: (attach additional page if needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of fee to be paid by:
Participant \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Family \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Unit or Chartered Partners \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Total Available \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Financial Assistance Requested \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures required:
Participant \_\_\_\_\_
Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_
Unit Leader \_\_\_\_\_
Date \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED