

★ CONTACT US ★

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KALAMAZOO SERVICE CENTER

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SCOUT OATH

On my honor
I will do my best To do my duty
to God and my country and to
obey the Scout Law; To help other
people at all times; To keep myself
physically strong, mentally awake,
and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW

A Scout is...
Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful,
Friendly, Courteous, Kind,
Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,
Brave, Clean and Reverent.

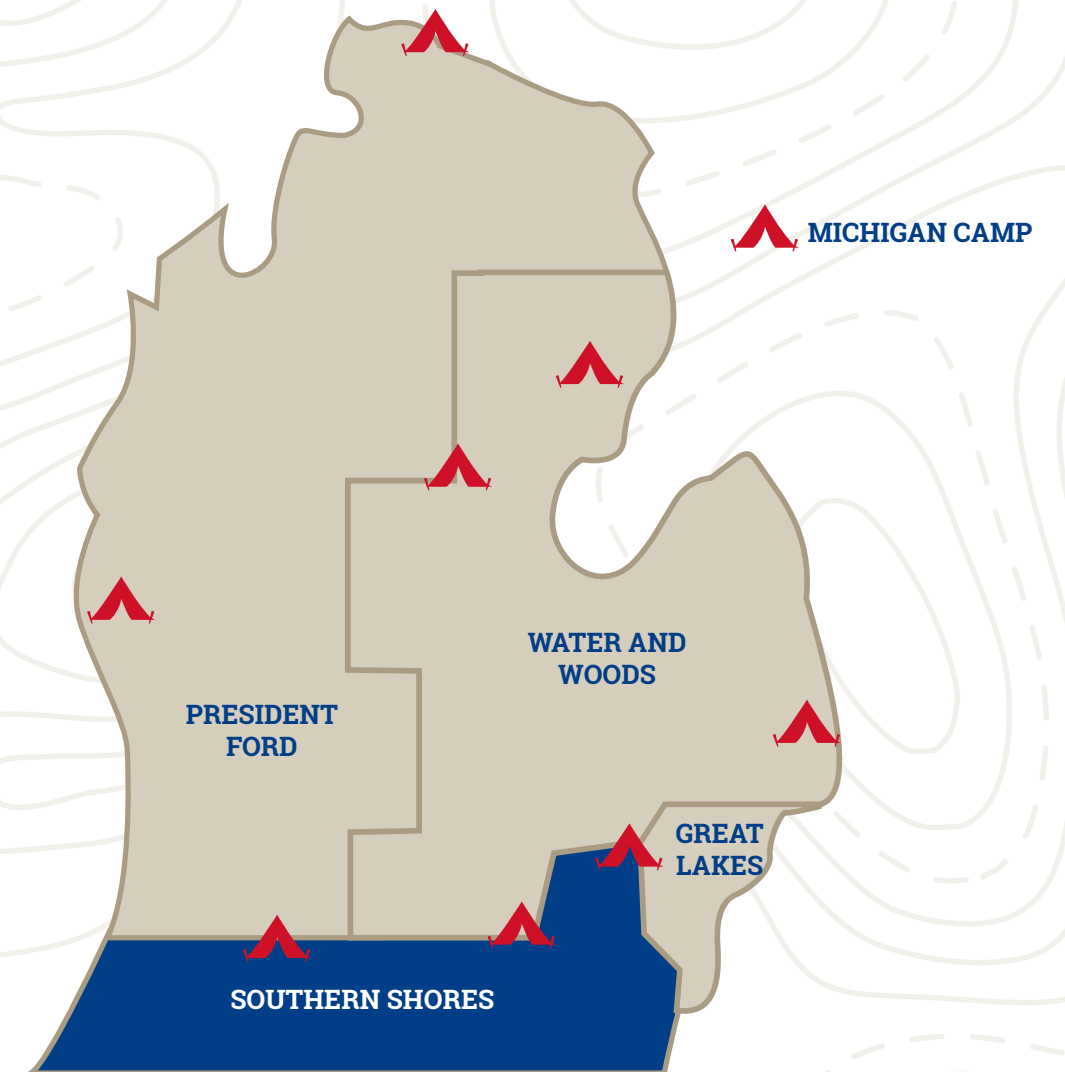
Prepared. For Life.®



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MICHIGAN CROSSROADS COUNCIL

SOUTHERN SHORES FIELD SERVICE COUNCIL

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



★ MESSAGE FROM THE KEY 3 ★



TIM JOHNSON
Council President

2017 was an outstanding year for the Southern Shores Field Service Council! The Council achieved Silver Journey to Excellence status because of the dedication and determination of thousands of volunteers, an excellent board of directors, and a focused Council staff. We are proud to report a year of membership growth, increased youth retention, increased unit retention, increased popcorn sales, increased community service hours and 224 Scouts achieving Scouting's highest honor, Eagle Scout!



RON GARRISON
Council Commissioner

Scouting truly makes a difference in the lives of children, their families, and the communities they live in. Thank you for interest and support.



MELISSA STRICHERZ
Scout Executive

Tim Johnson, Ronald D. Garrison, Melissa Stricherz

★ WHO WE SERVE ★

10,237 YOUTH

6,461
Cub Scouts

Cub Scouting is a family-oriented program designed to let kids ages 5-10 have fun while teaching them skills that will help them later on.

3,422
Boy Scouts

Boy Scouts ages 11-17 can go places, test themselves, and have one-of-a-kind adventures they can't get anywhere else.

191
Venturers/Sea Scouts

Sea Scouting & Venturing's purpose is to provide a positive, co-ed, adventurous experience to help prepare young people ages 14-20 to become responsible and daring adults.

163
Explorers

Exploring provides real-world, hands on career experiences to young men and women ages 11-20.

224
Eagle Scouts



8,190
Merit Badges
Earned



★ 2017 HIGHLIGHTS ★



Seed to Life – Turning Meals into Program at Rota-Kiwan Scout Reservation

The purpose of the Seed to Life Initiative is to improve camper's knowledge and behavior in regard to healthy lifestyles and nutrition by creating real-life experiences and connections to nutrition, food production, and environmental sustainability.

In 2017, Rota-Kiwan created an on-site outdoor interpretive area with a garden, hoop house, chicken coop and compost site. Campers had the opportunity to learn in work in the large hoop house garden. They assisted with the planting, harvesting, weeding and sampled a wide variety of different fruits and vegetables they helped grow.

Read the full story at <http://michiganscouting.org/2018/seed-to-life/>



HEROES – “Helping Each Scout Receive Opportunities for positive Experiences and Success”

The concept of Heroes is to help inner-city youth find the heroes within themselves and their communities. HEROES are a carefully designed, culturally relevant program that combines the resources of Scouting with the strengths of the community to provide youth with a support system that will help them build resiliency, skills, and values necessary for a successful future. Over the past year the Heroes program has been recruiting adult leaders and developing relationships with chartered organizations in the inner-cities of Berrien and Kalamazoo counties. In 2017 181 youth participated in the Heroes program through 14 different Scout units.



Washtenaw County Scoutreach

Through the dedication of funders, staff, and volunteers over 80 low-income boys received a weekly after-school Scouting experience through 5 Scoutreach units. The boys worked diligently, earning 137 awards including knot tying, knife safety, STEM based exploration of air, basic fire safety and first aid, and basic camping skills. A mother with two sons in one of the Packs has shared that she uses Scouts as an incentive for good behavior and school work completion. If they act up, she just has to mention Scouting and they always quickly adjust their behavior because they love it so much and look forward to it every week. She said this has been a great experience for them and is very thankful.