



Scoutmasters,

One of the old jokes in the military is, "I'm with the federal government and I'm here to help you!" I assure you this message comes in a much more helpful spirit.

As the Ecology Director for Buckskin Council, I am committed to supporting you and your Scouts in all areas of conservation service—whether that involves the Environmental Science Merit Badge, helping a Life Scout identify and complete a three-hour conservation service project, or guiding your troop toward earning one of the Conservation Awards.

On March 21 at the University of Scouting at West Virginia State University in Institute, I will be offering a class on the role and responsibilities of the "Outdoor Ethics Guide." After speaking with several Scoutmasters, I have found that this leadership position is often underutilized and not well recognized. This class will be open to both adult leaders and Scouts.

Given the responsibilities of the position, I believe it is generally best suited for a Life Scout, though it ultimately depends on the maturity of the individual Scout.

If you are unable to attend, please feel free to reach out to me and we can arrange a personal visit. I will also be offering this training during our summer camp sessions at Arrowhead from June 14–28.

Yours in Scouting,

Gerry D. Stover Colonel, USAF (Ret.)

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