



THE EAGLE SERVICE PROJECT

One of the difficult aspects of an Eagle project is deciding what your project will be. As an Eagle candidate, your project gives you the opportunity to demonstrate the leadership skills you have developed through your experiences in Scouting. Your project should have impact to the beneficiary organization, and just as importantly, your ability to plan, organize and provide leadership is on display to prove your worthiness to be called an Eagle Scout.

ORIGINALITY

The project must be yours and yours alone. You can certainly solicit suggestions from your leaders, parents and fellow Scouts but you should decide on a project that you like and are comfortable with. As mentioned above, it should have impact on the organization for which you are doing the project. Your project cannot be for the benefit of the BSA, whether at the unit, District or Council level.

LIMITATIONS

Routine maintenance work, such as cleaning an outdoor area, painting walls or doing basic repairs, is not an acceptable project. The project also may not be performed for a business, be of a commercial nature or be a fund raiser. Fundraising is permitted only for purchasing materials and/or supplies needed to carry out the project. It should not be the main component of your project. Also, events such as blood drives or collections (i.e., e-waste recycling, hazardous waste collection) are discouraged since the opportunity to show leadership is limited.

SIZE and SCOPE

There is no minimum or maximum number of hours that you must spend in completing your project. However, a good rule of thumb is a **minimum of 100 hours**. The typical project is from 125 to 500 man-hours. The number of hours you spend planning your project as well as the hours you and your volunteer helpers spend actually working on your project is included in the total hours of your project.

EAGLE SCOUT SERVICE PROJECT WORKBOOK

Select a non-profit organization (beneficiary). Discuss with their representative a possible project. Your beneficiary may have some projects you can choose from, or you may suggest a project to do for them. Consult with your Scoutmaster and/or other adult leaders in your unit for advice and guidance about the appropriateness of the project you have chosen.

1. The Project Workbook (Form 512-927) is available on-line at:

www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-927_fillable.pdf

2. Begin the Workbook by filling out the Contact Information (page 1-6)
3. Pages 2-1 to 2-4 are where you will be writing your "Project Proposal." Preparing the following information beforehand will make it easier to write your "Project Proposal:"
 - a) "Before" photos
 - b) Description of actual work to be performed
 - c) Manpower allocation - how many volunteer helpers and how you will deploy them
 - d) Estimated project hours
 - e) Tools and materials needed
 - f) Budget and funding source
4. Begin your log of the hours you spend planning your project.
5. APPROVAL SIGNATURES: **Page 2-4** is where you must obtain the approval signatures for your "Project Proposal." **In your Dress Uniform** (aka "Class A"), obtain signatures of approval from the following individuals:
 - An official of the organization (beneficiary) that will benefit from your project
 - Your Unit Leader (Troop Scoutmaster, Team/Varsity Scout Coach or Venturing Crew Advisor)
 - Unit Committee Chairperson
6. When the Project Proposal section of the workbook is complete, along with the necessary three signatures, contact the District Advancement Chair. The District Advancement Chair will either meet with you himself or assign a member of the District Advancement Committee to meet with you. At this meeting (**in your Dress Uniform**), be prepared to present and discuss your "Project Proposal" and obtain the signature of approval.

Once this final signature of approval of the District Advancement Chair has been obtained, you then write your **Project Final Plan** (pages 3-1 to 3-8). After you have written your final plan, you can proceed to work on your project.

7. If it is necessary for you to formally conduct fundraising activities to pay for your project, then you must complete the Fundraising Application (page 3-8). If your project is funded by you or your family's personal funds or by the beneficiary organization, then this application is not necessary. Confer with your Scoutmaster or the District Advancement Chair if you are unsure about fundraising.
8. Be sure to submit to Council, Tour Permit Applications for fundraising and/or projected work dates for your project. The approved Tour Permits should be included in your final Project Report.
9. When you have finished your project, you must complete the "Eagle Scout Service Project Report" (pages 4-1 to 4-3). On page 4-4, you must sign the final report. Also, be sure and obtain the completion approval signatures from the beneficiary organization and your Unit Leader.

CHANGES

It is very rare that a project will proceed exactly according to your plans. Circumstances may arise that are beyond your control or the organization benefitting from your project may ask you to make last minute changes while you are working on the project. There is a page in the Eagle Project Workbook where you can discuss any changes that were made to your project from the original plan. This can be an opportunity to show your leadership skills in how you adapted to the changes and overcame any adversity in completing your project.

PHOTOS

"Before" and "After" photos of your project are very important. The more photos you have, the better. Your project is going to be reviewed by individuals (Council Advancement Chair, Eagle Character Board members) who will not be familiar with your project. Visual images are quicker and easier to grasp than written descriptions and explanations. Although digital format photos are easier to work with, photos using an inexpensive disposable camera are perfectly acceptable.

ADULT SUPERVISION

This is your Eagle project and you are responsible for directly leading, managing and supervising the work. However, all BSA activities require two-deep adult supervision (with Youth Protection training) in attendance. The adults must understand and accept responsibility for the safety and well-being of all the youth involved in your project. In addition, they must be sufficiently skilled

and experienced in the activity (including the use of tools) to determine if any portion of the activity is not safe for youth.

TOUR PERMITS

A Council Tour Permit is required for all Eagle projects. For more information, please refer to the Council's website under "New Tour Plan Guide." A separate permit is required for each date for fundraising and/or the dates that your group meets to work on your project.