

BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL UNITS

A TREE PLANTING BLITZ

Plant a tree to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Scouting

Who: Units in the Blue Ridge Council

What: A tree planting Blitz: plant a tree on your sponsor's grounds to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Scouting

Why: Trees are a living symbol of our Scouting heritage and our future. Planting a tree embodies the slogan of the 100th Anniversary: Celebrating the Adventure; Continuing the Journey! A tree planting on your unit's sponsor's grounds underscores the importance of the sponsor and strengthens the relationship between the sponsor and the unit.

When: Scout Sunday (Feb 7--the day before the actual 100th Birthday) is the target date BUT any date between now and April 1 is a good date to plant a tree on your unit sponsor's grounds.

Is there a best time? Immediately after your unit Scout Sunday service or any Sunday service (if sponsored by a Church), convene at the planting site on sponsor grounds and finish spreading mulch or at most the last few shovels of soil. Keep it short, make it meaningful and invite members of the congregation.

Where do we get trees? The Arbor Day Foundation is providing 3 - 4 foot CENTENNIAL SCOUT trees including shipping for \$20. Go to (or paste in browser):

http://www.arborday.org/partnerships/bsa/index.cfm?TrackingID=917&utm_source=publications&utm_medium=links&utm_campaign=Boy%252BScouts

But note these trees will NOT be shipped until March so if you want a tree for Scout Sunday, go to a local nursery and ask for advice based on where you are

planting it. If you can wait until March, then by all means, check out the Arbor Day Foundation trees.

How do we plant a tree? Complete guidelines for the proper planting and care of a tree are on the Blue Ridge Council website 100th Anniversary Unit Leader's Toolbox or click here (or paste in browser):

<http://www.blueridgecouncil.org/brcic/resources/14/How%20to%20Plant%20Your%20BSA%20100th%20Anniversary%20Tree%20FINAL.pdf>

Other thoughts:

Involve your scouts! Make them help dig the hole, plant the tree and make them a part of the ceremony. Involve your unit in its care for the first year (especially weekly watering when needed!)

Purchase a plaque from a local trophy shop, In Oconee County for example, Ralph's Trophy shop has tree plaques that can be ordered.

Here is a simple example of wording for the plaque:

<p style="text-align: center;">In Celebration of the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">100th Anniversary</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Boy Scouts of America</p> <p style="text-align: center;">February 2010</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Celebrating the Adventure</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Continuing the Journey</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Boy Scout Troop ___ and Cub Scout Pack ___</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ Church</p>
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