



# Beaver Meeting Schedule – Week \_\_\_\_

## Theme: Scoutrees

Time	Activity	Program Details	Leader Responsible
5 mins	Gathering Activity	Leaf Matching	
5 mins	Opening Ceremony	Details can be found in the <i>Beaver Leader's Handbook</i>	
10 mins	Game	Hug a Tree Tag	
15 mins	Theme Activity	Preparation for Planting Trees A World Without Trees	
15 mins	Song/Story	<i>The Lorax</i> by Dr. Seuss Drawing/Colouring	
10 mins	Lodge Meeting		
5 mins	Spiritual Fellowship	Recite Promise / Law Prayer / Talk	
5 mins	Closing Ceremony	Details can be found in the <i>Beaver Leader's Handbook</i>	
15 mins	Leader Discussion Time	Review meeting and discuss next week's plans	

Meeting Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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# Beaver Meeting – Detail Planning

## Theme: Scoutrees

### Introduction

Scoutrees is a Canada-wide environmental program designed to give all members of Scouts Canada the opportunity to demonstrate, through the planting of trees, their concern for the environment. The results of this program, both immediate and long-term, will be a more beautiful Canada, with cleaner air, and a land which is less susceptible to flooding.

Trees produce the oxygen that we need to breathe. Two large trees produce about 400 pounds of oxygen each year, which is the amount of oxygen that the average person uses in a year. Trees use the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide during photosynthesis from the air and convert it to the sugars it needs to grow and survive.

One large tree can absorb up to 10 lbs of air pollutants each year. These include (the primary component of smog), nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide, two major contributors to acid rain, and particulate matter (e.g. dust, soot, and smoke). Each of these pollutants have been shown to have adverse health effects, including asthma, lung cancer, and cardiovascular disease.

But wait! Scoutrees is also a fundraising project. Although most of the funds stay in the community, a very important 15% is forwarded to the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund. These funds assist Scouting members in developing countries run self-help and community betterment programs that are adapted to local needs and conditions. Brotherhood monies contributed to these projects only pay for construction materials or equipment costs; no payments for travel by visitors are considered.

Scoutrees is a program concerned with tomorrow — a tomorrow which will be better because communities supported Scouts in this program today!

## **Start thinking about next year!**

If you hope to have a successful Scoutrees project, it requires planning and coordination. Here are a few areas of consideration as you plan for the next Scoutrees season.

## **Where Are You Going to Plant?**

Start looking around now for a landowner with a planting site. Provincial parks, conservation areas and municipal parks are very good sites, as well as Scout camps. Work with a provincial government agency, a regional or municipal department, or your own camp committee. Some groups plant on private lands or areas that have been given to companies as a woodlot to grow trees for harvest (e.g. for building materials or wood pulp). If you're planting on private lands, it's the responsibility of the landowner to get and pay for the trees. Check with your council, as these arrangements might already be in place.

## **Order Your Trees**

Because government cutbacks have increased the demand for seedlings, some Scout groups have found themselves with fewer trees than they need. In some cases, they have had no trees at all. A few groups have even found they had to buy trees. If you want to avoid these problems, get your tree order in to the right people early. Sections/groups should tell their council office that they intend to participate, and then estimate the number of participants. Typically, each member will plant at least 25 trees. A district with 150 planters will want to order 3,750 trees, minimum.

## **Get Your Scoutrees Materials**

Scouts Canada provides each council the ability to order materials to help planning and PR aspects of the program. Materials include: council kit, clipart, appreciation certificates, and enough Scoutrees crests for each participating youth and adult. As well, councils can order Planters Kits (one per youth participant) which will help prepare members for dig day. These Kits also provide a place to record donations received from family and friends. To receive kits, call your council office.

# Gathering Activity

## Leaf Matching

### *Objective:*

Beavers will become excited about being outside in nature, and becoming familiar with trees and leaves.

### *Equipment:*

- Tree Identification Book (appropriate to your area)
- Tarp or Large Blanket
- Forested Area, with different kinds of trees if possible.

### *Instructions:*

Give Beavers a designated time period (30 seconds to a minute), in a designated area, to run around the forest floor and pick up leaves. Have them bring them back to the blanket and sort them into different kinds of leaves, or different sizes of leaves.

Using the book, identify the types of trees in the area.

# Game

## Hug a Tree Tag

### *Equipment:*

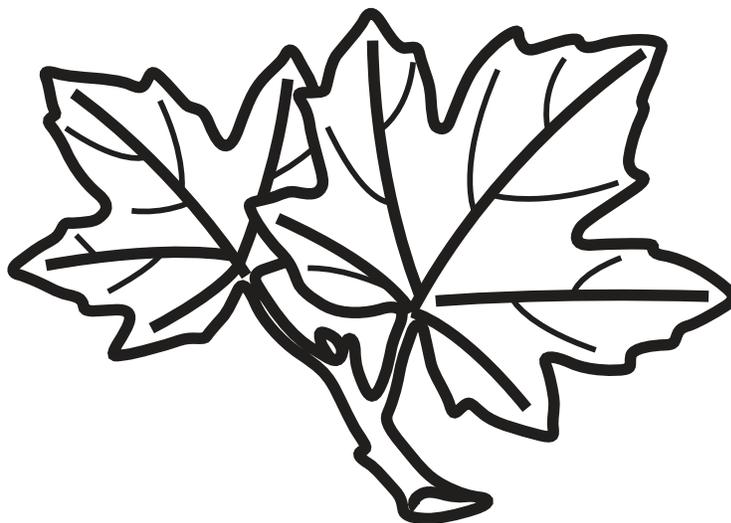
A well defined playing area, with trees if possible.

### *Instructions:*

Play tag in the area, with players traveling from one side of the playing area to the other. If a player “hugs a tree,” while on their way to the other side, they are safe.

If playing indoors or in an area without trees, designate two to four people to be “trees,” standing in the middle playing area, and holding their arms out as branches. Players must touch the “tree” on a “branch” in order to be safe.

Players must not touch a tree to be safe for more than 5 seconds.



# Theme activities

## Planning for Scoutrees Planting

### *Instructions:*

Plan a Scoutrees planting with another unit or section, if possible. Talk to the Beavers about the benefits of trees, including oxygen production, carbon dioxide usage, erosion protection, provision of shade, etc.

Read *Scoutrees: The Future without Trees* by Julian Celms and Ian Mitchell

<http://www.scouts.ca/dnn/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=5kfhWu1psU0%3d&tabid=751>

Discuss the story about camping without trees. What would that be like?

Discuss your unit's plans for the Scoutrees planting: when, where, how. Show the Beavers a "slip" tree if possible, so that they can better understand the mechanics of planting.

## The Lorax

### *Equipment:*

*The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss

### *Instructions:*

Read the book to the Beavers and discuss the events that take place. Why is the Lorax upset with the Once-ler? What happens when the Truffula trees are all gone? Why is it important to have trees?

## Draw a Picture

### *Equipment:*

- Paper
- Crayons
- Animal stickers (optional)

### *Instructions:*

After reading the first part of *Scoutrees: A Future without Trees* or *The Lorax*, discuss with the Beavers what life would be like without trees.

Have them draw a picture of a scene from their lives as if there were not any trees. For example, they could draw a picture of themselves camping without trees, or their house without trees, playing on a playground without trees, etc. Decorate with animal stickers, and discuss how the other animals and plants would be affected by the disappearance of trees.