

Seven Days of Service Award Information

Outside of our members, Skymont is the Council's greatest asset. It is the countless hours of service given by dedicated volunteers that have made Skymont what it is today and it is the hours of service yet to be given that will guarantee its success tomorrow.

One of Talidandaganu' Lodge's primary goals is to help improve and maintain Skymont. The lodge accomplishes this during annual Spring and Fall Ordeals. Many volunteers faithfully attend these Ordeals year after year. Other volunteers attend Beaver Days or participate in service projects with their troops. Regardless of when the hours are worked or of the volunteers' relationship with the Order of the Arrow, all of the work done at Skymont furthers the lodge's goals. With this in mind Talidandaganu' Lodge has established the "7 Days of Service" award to honor Skymont's most dedicated volunteers.

The "7 Days of Service" award is awarded by Talidandaganu' Lodge but it is not limited to Lodge members. To qualify a volunteer must work to improve or maintain Skymont for seven days. Preparation and planning time are not included. Time will be credited in half day increments and projects must be approved in advance by the camp ranger. Only one patch may be purchased (at cost) per seven days worked. An award application and complete instructions are enclosed.

To earn this award a Scout would have to attend every Ordeal for 3 ½ years, but this time can easily be shortened by attending Beaver Days or participating in troop projects at camp. However, the amount of dedication required is substantial. Scoutmasters approve the award and are thus responsible for maintaining its integrity. Credit should not be given for a full day's work unless it has been earned.

With your support, this program can recognize Skymont's most dedicated volunteers, teach the value of hard work, and help maintain Skymont's status as a top rate council camp. If you have any question please do not hesitate to contact Kevin Martin at (423) 344-1601.

Seven Days of Service Award Requirements

1. Be a registered member of the Cherokee Area Council
 - a. Membership in the Order of the Arrow is not required
 - b. This award is focused on Boy Scouts, however Cub Scouts, Venture Crew members or any other registered member of the Cherokee Area Council may qualify
 - c. This award is open to youth and adults.
2. Complete seven days of service at Skymont Scout Reservation
 - a. Credit should only be given in 1 or ½ day increments
 - i. No credit should be given on the application for less than 3 hours work, however the Scoutmaster may, in his discretion, combine multiple short work projects to equal ½ day if appropriate;
 - ii. To receive credit for a full day an applicant should work at least 7 hours,
 - b. All projects must be approved in advance by the camp ranger;
 - c. Each entry on the application should be verified by the initials of the project organizer or an adult leader in the applicants troop, crew, etc. as soon as the hours are earned;
 - d. Only hours worked after June 1, 2000 are eligible for inclusion;
 - e. Hours spent planning and preparing are not eligible for inclusion;
 - f. Hours worked while a member of Skymont Staff are not eligible for inclusion.
3. Obtain Scoutmaster's approval
 - a. Each application must be signed by the Scoutmaster (or equivalent) of the applicant's unit;
 - b. By signing the unit leader certifies that the applicant has met all the requirements listed above.

Instructions

There are two options for awarding the patch:

1. The patch may be awarded at a Lodge Banquet or Ordeal (O.A. members only)
 - a. If the award is to be received at a lodge function, the completed application should be presented when the applicant signs-in at the event. The cost of the patch will be due at that time.
2. It may be awarded at a unit awards ceremony.
 - a. If the award is to be received at a unit awards ceremony, completed applications should be delivered by the unit leader to the Lodge Staff Advisor. The cost of the patch will be due at that time. To avoid any confusion, please contact the Lodge Staff Advisor directly. If possible, the award should be presented by the troop's OA Representative or another member of the Order of the Arrow from the unit.

