

LIFE TO EAGLE SEMINAR

Introduction: When a Boy Scout achieves the rank of Life Scout, he is ready to begin the final phase of his trail to the Eagle Scout rank. The purpose of this seminar is to provide additional information and insight to supplement that found in the **Life to Eagle** packet. The River Trails district Eagle Board strongly urges all Boy Scouts to complete their scouting experience by securing the rank of Eagle Scout so that they may enjoy the honor and prestige the accomplishment of that rank brings.

Eagle Board: Chairman: Bob Larson (636)343-6682; Co-chairmen: Doug Inman and George Brand

Project Advisor: Bob Oberle; Members: About 30 Scouters and community leaders

All of the Eagle Board members have been trained and will maintain the BSA National advancement policy and procedure standards.

STEPS TO EAGLE

Soon after a Scout achieves the Life Scout rank he should procure the Eagle Scout Association packet, which contains all the information and forms necessary to become an Eagle Scout. However, Eagle Scout candidates must have completed all six of the Eagle requirements and the applicant, unit leader, and unit committee chair signatures and dates on the EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION form, dated 4/1/99 or later, before their 18th birthday. What follows is a brief summary of the steps to Eagle CHECK LIST, which appears on the cover of the Eagle packet:

1. Read carefully the Life to Eagle instructions in the packet and develop a personal commitment and time schedule to complete the required elements for the Eagle rank. Direct any questions to the Eagle Board chairman. For more information, refer to "Eagle Scout Help" at www.rivertrailsdistrict.homestead.com
2. To qualify for the Eagle Scout rank, a scout must be a Life Scout for a minimum of six months, earn the 21 required and optional merit badges, serve in troop, post, or crew leadership roles, and begin to explore community service project options. Review the information in the EAGLE SCOUT SERVICE PROJECT workbook. If necessary, contact the River Trails Project Advisor. The project should be a significant contribution to a Scout's community and demonstrate his leadership, organization, and planning skills. Maintenance, business related, or Council property projects are not allowed.
3. Discuss the project concept with the Scoutmaster and the service group representative, getting their signatures on page 3[5] in the workbook. Carefully and completely plan the project details and get the required signatures on page 4[6]. Contact the Eagle Board chairman for a Project Review appointment.
4. The Eagle Project Review Board will examine in detail the candidate's project, which should be well documented with photographs, diagrams and scaled drawings, lists of needed materials and expenses, project helpers, and a time and date schedule. Other project factors of importance will be safety, accident insurance, possible legal issues, transportation, environmental concerns, equipment use, commissary provisions, and project limitations. The project review will normally take about 30 minutes.
5. Complete the project and get the appropriate signatures and dates on page 8[8] of the workbook.
6. Deliver to the Council office a life ambition statement, 21 or more merit badge cards, project workbook, four sealed letters of recommendation, and the completed Eagle Scout Rank Application form.
7. After Council has returned all the documents with the Council Director of Advancement signature on the Eagle Application form, the Scout should call the Eagle Board chairman for a Final Board of Review appointment. The final review must occur no later than 3 months after the Scout's 18th birthday, unless there are extenuating circumstances, which should be discussed with the Eagle Board chairman.
8. The Final Review will evaluate the candidate's project report, his perspectives on the Scouting program, and his acceptance of Scouting's ideals, which will take no longer than 45 minutes. If the final review by the Board is successful, the Scout will be asked to submit a public relations release document. If the final review is unsuccessful, the Eagle Board chairman will present the Scout with his future options.
9. The Scout copies and sends only the signed Eagle Application form to Council, which then sends it to the national BSA office in Dallas, Texas.
10. After several weeks the BSA national office will send the Scout a letter informing him of his advancement to the Eagle Scout rank. At this time the Scout, his family, and troop should schedule a Court of Honor. A Scout cannot officially wear an Eagle patch until it is awarded at the Court of Honor.