

TRAIL CREW TREK – 2009

The Trail Crew Trek Program (TCT) is an exciting new program at Philmont Scout Ranch for Scouts and Venturers who have an interest in the environment and are committed to good stewardship of our natural world. Participants will enjoy a fourteen-day trek through a part of Philmont's 136,493 acres of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rocky Mountains of Northeastern New Mexico.

The TCT Program will emphasize the William T. Hornaday Award. This award was initiated in 1914 to inspire Scouts to work constructively for conservation. The Trail Crew Trek will help prepare participants to develop a path that will help them achieve the William T. Hornaday Silver Award upon return to their homes. This multi-year path will include advancement requirements and planning, leading and carrying out four significant projects that should contribute to sound conservation and environmental improvements in the local community, the region or the nation. Only about 1,000 individuals have achieved the William T. Hornaday Silver Award since it began. By participating in the Philmont Trail Crew Trek, we hope we can encourage you along with others to achieve this important award, the oldest conservation award in America. Each participant will prepare a detailed plan to achieve the award.

During the 14-day Trail Crew Trek, in addition to the William T. Hornaday Award, participants will:

- Learn about trail construction. You will experience both new trail construction as well as trail maintenance techniques in a variety of locations on the Ranch. These skills will prepare participants to help with trail projects in their home area.
- Leave No Trace Principles will be covered during the trek. Each participant will have the opportunity to earn the Leave No Trace Trainer recognition. This level of training will prepare the participant to lead LNT training in their local area.
- Leadership techniques will be taught and practiced throughout the trek. A wilderness setting is a wonderful environment to learn and practice skills of being a member of a team as well as leading the team.
- Advanced outdoor skills will not only be taught but experienced as the group shares a unique experience in a wilderness setting in all types of weather conditions.

Philmont Scout Ranch covers 215 square miles, with more than 350 miles of trails. Philmont ranges from 6,500 feet to 12,441 feet in elevation above sea level. Because of the remote settings and elevation, participants need to be prepared, both physically and mentally, to handle the challenges of the trek. Philmont experiences a wide variety of weather conditions. Participants should be prepared for possible 100 degree days, 40 degree nights as well as days of rain and even snow. All this adds to the Trail Crew Trek Philmont experience.

For the summer of 2009, **FOUR** Trail Crew Treks will be offered. **Session One and Two** will take place at the same time, **June 9 -- 23**. **Session Three and Four** will also take place at the same time, **July 28 -- August 11**. Session One will be an all male crew. Sessions Two, Three and Four will be coed with coed leadership. They will operate as Venture Crews.

Please Note: If less than six participants register for a session by April 1st, the session may be cancelled. Participants will be promptly notified and alternative programs suggested.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the enclosed application. Have it approved by a parent or guardian, a unit leader and your Scout Executive. Attach a letter of recommendation from an adult Scouter detailing your backcountry experience and your character. Mail your completed application, letter of recommendation and \$50 deposit to: **Trail Crew Trek, Philmont Scout Ranch, 17 Deer Run Road, Cimarron, NM 87714**. Philmont will notify you of your acceptance. If accepted, a packet of materials will be sent to assist you in preparing for your Philmont experience.

REQUIREMENTS

- Be at least 16 years old the day your program begins, but not 21 by its conclusion
- Be physically fit, able to lift and handle materials up to 50 lbs. (Philmont height and weight guidelines listed with this application will be strictly enforced.)
- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout or Venturer).
- A complete physical examination is required. (Philmont's Health and Medical Form will be sent to those who are accepted.)

UNIT AND LOCAL COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The participant's unit leader and the local council must approve only those young adults who meet the qualifications for this program. Philmont is not an easy experience and is a risk for those not physically prepared for the rigors of the New Mexico mountains.

PROGRAM COSTS AND TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Participant cost is \$290 for the two week experience. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required with this application. The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance as a participant in the program. Additional expenses, including travel to and from Philmont as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant. Those applicants not accepted will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received at Philmont by May 1, 2009. No-shows are not eligible for a refund.

Shuttles are available from the Albuquerque, New Mexico and Colorado Springs and Denver, Colorado Airports to Philmont. The shuttles leave the airports at 1:00 to 3:00 pm, depending on location, on the day **before** your scheduled starting date (June 8 or July 27), arriving at Philmont at 6:30 to 7:30 pm (approx). The return shuttle leaves at 6:00 am on your departure date, arriving at the Airports at 9:45 to 11:30 am, again depending on location. You may also consider a bus or train arrival at Raton, New Mexico (40 miles from Philmont). A roundtrip shuttle is available from Raton. If you do not arrive by shuttle from Albuquerque, plan to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 - 11:00 am on your scheduled starting date. Shuttle Information and registration forms will be included in your packet. The Trail Crew Trek is a fourteen (14) day program. Participants depart the morning of the fifteenth (15th) day (June 23 and August 11 are departure dates).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information about the Trail Crew Trek Program such as shuttle arrangements, physical requirements (health and medical form questions), equipment needs, service worksites and hiking questions, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281 or email camping@philmontscout ranch.org. Another source of information to assist you in preparing for your adventure can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/philmont>.

During the dates of the program, contact Philmont Scout Ranch at 575-376-2281, seven days a week, and ask for the Conservation Department or Camping Registration. During this time, Philmont Logistics will also be able to assist with transportation concerns or problems.

TRAIL CREW TREK CODE OF CONDUCT

The general welfare of any group depends on the conduct of each individual member. This ensures the success of our projects and provides the maximum benefit to every participant.

AS A TRAIL CREW TREK PARTICIPANT, I UNDERSTAND THIS, SUPPORT THE REASONABLE DEMANDS OF CONDUCT EXPECTED OF ME, AND WILL:

- Live the Scout Oath and Law or Venturer Code and Oath.
- Observe, respect, and strive to live the Philmont Wilderness Pledge.
- Observe the rules of the Philmont Conservation Department and my instructor.
- Wear my full official BSA Class A uniform or work clothes as required. Unofficial decorations are not part of the official uniform.
- Attend and participate in all functions of the program.
- Be personally responsible for damage and loss of property.
- Observe quiet hours.
- Respect all safety procedures and learn to properly use equipment.
- At all times, be considerate of participants and staff at Philmont Scout Ranch.
- Understand the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes or illicit drugs at any time during the program will not be permitted and will result in dismissal from the program, at the expense of the participant. This standard shall apply to all participants. Compliance with state law regulations will apply at all times.
- Respect the laws of the State of New Mexico, the Village of Cimarron, and Philmont rules prohibiting the use of fireworks, firearms and gambling. Infractions of these regulations will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant.

PHOTO (TALENT) RELEASE STATEMENT

I hereby assign and grant to the Boy Scouts of America the right and permission to use and publish photographs/film/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings made during my visit to Philmont Scout Ranch by the Boy Scouts of America, and I hereby release the Boy Scouts of America from any and all liability from such use and publication.

I hereby authorize the reproduction, sale, copyright, exhibit, broadcast, electronic storage and/or distribution of said photographs/film/video tapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings without limitation at the discretion of the Boy Scouts of America and I specifically waive any right to any compensation I may have for any of the foregoing. By signing below, I acknowledge I have read and promise to abide by the Code of Conduct for the Trail Crew Trek, have read and understand all the information about the Trail Crew Trek Program, and agree with the Photo (Talent) Release Statement.

Participant Signature _____

Parental Signature (if applicant under 18) _____

2009 TRAIL CREW TREK APPLICATION

(Please type or print clearly)

NAME _____ EMAIL _____
first middle last

HOME ADDRESS _____ PHONE NO. _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

*DATE OF BIRTH _____ (*must be 16 years of age by date program begins)

CURRENT INFORMATION: Gender _____ Age _____ Grade _____ Height _____ Weight _____
male / female

SCOUTING AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE:

(Circle One)

Now Registered with: Troop, Team or Venture Crew # _____ Tenure _____ Rank _____

Council # _____ Council Name _____

Leadership Positions Held _____

Previous Philmont Experience _____ Year(s) _____

Other High Adventure Experience / Backpacking Experience (please be specific) _____

Total no. of backpacking overnights _____ Longest backpacking expedition in: Days _____ Miles _____

Extracurricular Activities _____

Honors / Awards Received _____

Camp Staff Experience (When and Where) _____

I PREFER THE FOLLOWING SESSION: (Please mark the 1st and 2nd choice in the space provided by each session. Note: Session #1 is all male; Session #2, #3 & #4 will be Coed with Coed Leadership.)

1: June 9 - 23 _____ # 2: June 9 - 23 _____

3: July 28 - August 11 _____ # 4: July 28 - August 11 _____

I request a vegetarian meal plan: Yes _____ No _____

_____ \$50 deposit enclosed _____ \$290 full fee enclosed

RISK ADVISORY - PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

Philmont has an excellent health and safety record with over 860,000 adults and young people having attended over the last 65 years. Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Most participants in Philmont programs do not experience injuries because they are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions. If you decide to attend Philmont, you should be physically fit, have proper clothing and equipment, be willing to follow instructions and work as a team with your crew and take responsibility for your own health and safety. For further information please thoroughly read the *Guidebook to Adventure* which will be mailed in mid-March. Like other wilderness areas, Philmont is not risk free and you should be prepared to listen to safety instructions carefully, follow directions and take appropriate steps to safeguard yourself and others.

Parents, guardians and potential participants in Philmont programs are advised that journeying to and from Philmont, and one's stay at Philmont, can involve exposure to accident, illness, and/or injury associated with a high elevation, physically demanding, high adventure program in a remote mountainous area. Campers may be exposed to occasional severe weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flash floods and heat. Other potential problems include: injuries from tripping and falling, motor vehicle accidents, worsening of underlying medical conditions such as diabetes or asthma, heart attacks, heat exhaustion and falls from horses.

Philmont's trails are steep and rocky. Wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes and mountain lions are native and usually present little danger if proper precautions are taken. Please refer to the *Guidebook to Adventure*, speak with previous Philmont participants, or call Philmont for further information concerning risks and measures which can be taken to avoid accidents.

Philmont has staff trained in first aid, CPR and accident prevention, and is prepared to assist in recognizing, reacting, and responding to accidents, injuries and illnesses. Each crew is also required to have at least one member trained in wilderness first aid and CPR. Medical and search and rescue services are provided by Philmont in response to an accident or emergency. However, response times can be affected by location, weather or other emergencies and could be delayed six (6) or more hours.

PHILMONT WEIGHT LIMITS FOR BACKPACKING & HIKING

Each participant in a Philmont trek must not exceed the maximum acceptable limit in the weight for height chart shown below. The right hand column shows the maximum acceptable weight for a person's height in order to participate in a Philmont trek. Those who fall within the limits are more likely to have an enjoyable trek and avoid incurring health risks. Every Philmont trek involves hiking with a 35-50 lb. backpack between 6,500 and 12,500 ft. elevations. Philmont recommends that participants carry a pack weighing no more than 25-30% of their body weight.

Participants 21 years and older who exceed the maximum acceptable weight limit for their height at the Philmont medical recheck, will not be permitted to backpack or hike at Philmont. For example, a person 5'10" cannot weigh more than 226 lbs. All heights and weights will be measured in stocking feet.

For participants under 21 years of age who exceed the maximum acceptable weight for height, the Philmont physicians will use their best professional judgment in determining participation in a Philmont trek . Participants under 21 years of age are strongly encouraged to meet the weight limit for their height. Exceptions are not made automatically and the maximum allowable exception will be 20 lbs. Discussion in advance with Philmont regarding any exception to the weight limit for persons under 21 years of age is required, whether it is over or under.
Philmont's phone number is 575-376-2281.

Under no circumstance will any individual over 295 lbs. be allowed to participate in backcountry program. This limit is necessary due to limitations of rescue equipment and for the safety of Philmont personnel. The maximum weight for any participant in a Cavalcade Trek and for horse rides is 200 lbs.

This table is based on the revised Dietary Guidelines for Americans from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

Height	Recommended Weight (lbs)	Maximum Acceptance
5'0"	97 - 138	166
5'1"	101-143	172
5'2"	104-148	178
5'3'	107-152	183
5'4"	111-157	189
5'5"	114-162	195
5'6"	118-167	201
5'7"	121-172	207
5'8"	125-178	214
5'9"	129-185	220

Height	Recommended Weight (lbs)	Maximum Acceptance
5'10"	132-188	226
5'11"	136-194	233
6'0"	140-199	239
6'1"	144-205	246
6'2"	148-210	252
6'3"	152-216	260
6'4"	156-222	267
6'5"	160-228	274
6'6"	164-234	281
6'7" & over	170-240	295