



SIGNS SIGNALS & CODES Merit Badge Virtual Course

Hosted by Northwest District, Montana Council, Scouts BSA

Who: All youth, ages 11-17, in Montana Council of Scouts BSA

What: Requirements for the SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND CODES Merit Badge.

When: Thursday, April 1st & 15th, at 6:00pm (must attend both)

Where: The classes will be held online via Zoom

Cost: FREE to all youth in Scouts BSA

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 50 SCOUTS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) **BLUECARDS:** Scouts must get approval from their Scoutmaster to begin the merit badge and have a digital BlueCard started on Scoutbook prior to the first class. Scoutmasters will need to connect the merit badge counselor with their Scouts on Scoutbook. Merit badge counselor info will be sent with the login info.
- 2) **REGISTRATION:** Scouts should register for this course by providing their Scoutmaster with a current email. Scoutmasters will submit a list of Scouts participating, with their email addresses, to the course hosts (*listed below*) in Northwest District. Scoutmasters will then receive an email confirming their Troop's registration after they have been verified. This is required to maintain the safety of all Scouts.
Registration ends 48 hours before the 1st class.
- 3) **LOG-IN INFORMATION:** Forty-eight hours prior to the first class a group email will be sent to each Troop, individually, with the login information and merit badge counselor's information. Please log-in with plenty of time prior to the start of class for registration. Remember there will be others logging in as well and depending on the size of the class, that log-in may take a little time. Also, login with your first name.
- 4) **MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK:** Scouts must print the merit badge workbook to help document their knowledge. This must be submitted by each Scout to their merit badge counselor before the merit badge will be approved. A pdf file of the workbook can be found at: <http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/worksheets/Signs-Signals-and-Codes.pdf>
- 5) **UNIFORMS:** Scout uniforms are required

In addition to having a pencil for taking notes it may be useful to have colored pencils or crayons during this course.

PREREQUISITE:

Prior to Part #1 – April 1st	Prior to Part #2 – April 15th
Requirement #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the importance of signaling in emergency communications. Discuss with your counselor the types of emergency or distress signals one might use to attract airborne search-and-rescue personnel if lost in the outdoors or trying to summon assistance during a disaster. Illustrate these signaling examples by the use of photos or drawings. 	Requirement #7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a Scout outing, lay out a trail for your patrol or troop to follow. Cover at least one mile in distance and use at least six different trail signs and markers. After the Scouts have completed the trail, follow no-trace principles by replacing or returning trail markers to their original locations. ⇒ Send photos showing your trail markers and troops participation to your MB counselor.

For more information contact the course hosts in Northwest District:

• Barbara Oxford
Northwest District Committee Vice Chair
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• Leslie Baldwin
Explorer Troop Committee
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