

**Mattabesett Trail District**  
**March Merit Badge Madness**

**Xavier High School**  
**Middletown, CT**

*March 20, 2010*

**For ALL Scouts:** Read the Merit Badge pamphlet and complete to the best of your ability the worksheet from meritbadge.com for the class you are taking. Scouts are responsible for reviewing, verifying and completing all pre-requisite requirements. You must bring a written letter from your scoutmaster verifying completion of requirements or the actual work.

**All Scouts Must Bring:**

1. Merit Badge Pamphlet {Book}
2. Merit Badge Worksheet
3. Notepaper with pen or pencil
4. LUNCH (no lunch sold)
5. Wear Class A Uniform

## **Prerequisites for each Merit Badge are as follows:**

**For Every Merit Badge, thoroughly read through Merit Badge Booklet. Print out worksheets from Meritbadge.org and fill out to the best of your ability. Listed below are the requirements needed to be completed prior to attending Merit Badge Workshops. There is an additional charge for Electricity, Electronics, and Sculpture.**

### **Auto Mechanics**

No advance requirements

### **Citizenship in the Nation**

- Tour a Federal Facility OR, Visit a place that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Visit the <http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/> web site on the internet.
- Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Discuss the national issues you learned about with your counselor. Choose one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family.
- With the help of your Scout Leader choose a speech of national historical importance. Find out about the author and be prepared to tell your counselor about:
  - the person who gave the speech.
  - and explain the importance of the speech at the time it was given
  - and tell how it applies to American citizens today.
- Name your two senators and the member of Congress from your congressional district. Write a letter about a national issue and send it to one of these elected officials, sharing your view with him or her. Show your letter and any response you receive to your counselor.
- Bring all work done to Merit Badge class.

### **Coin Collecting (1/2 day)**

- Describe the 1999-2008 50 State Quarters Program. Collect and show your counselor five different quarters you have acquired from circulation.
- Do ONE of the following:
  - Tour a U.S. Mint facility, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, or a Federal Reserve bank, and describe what you learned to your counselor.
  - With your parent's permission, attend a coin show or coin club meeting, or view the Web site of the U.S. Mint or a coin dealer, and report what you learned.
  - Give a talk about coin collecting to your troop or class at school.
  - Do drawings of five Colonial-era U.S. coins.

## Communications

- Attend a public meeting (city council, school board, debate) approved by your Scoutmaster where several points of view are given on a single issue. Practice active listening skills and take careful notes of each point of view. Present an objective report that includes all points of view that were expressed, and share this with your counselor.
- Do ONE of the following:
  - Write to the editor of a magazine or your local newspaper to express your opinion or share information on any subject you choose. Send your message by fax, email or regular mail.
  - Create a Web page for your scout troop, school, or other organization. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration, and one link to some other web page that would be helpful to someone who visits the web page you have created. It is not necessary to post your web page to the internet, but if you decide to do so, you must first share it with your parents and counselor and get their permission.
  - Use desktop publishing to produce a newsletter, brochure, flier or other printed material for your scout troop, class at school, or other group. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration.
- Plan a troop court of honor or campfire program. Have the patrol leaders' council approve it, then write the script and prepare the program. Serve as master of ceremonies.

## Dentistry

- Keep a record of everything you eat for three days. Circle those items that may provide the sugars that bacterial plaque needs to make acid. List snacks that you should avoid to help maintain the best oral health
- Do TWO of the following:
  - Make a model tooth out of soap, clay, papier-mâché, or wax. Using a string and a large hand brush, show your troop or a school class proper tooth-brushing and flossing procedures.
  - Make a poster on the prevention of dental disease. Show the importance of good oral health.
  - Collect at least five advertisements for different toothpastes. List the claims that each one makes. Tell about the accuracy of the advertisements.
  - Write a feature story for your school newspaper on the proper care of teeth and gums.
  - Make drawings and write about the progress of dental decay. Describe the types of dental filling and treatments a dentist can use to repair dental decay problems.

## **Electricity**

- Complete an Electrical Home Safety Inspection, using the checklist found in the Electricity Merit Badge Booklet. Bring with you to workshop.
- On a floor plan of a room in your home, make a wiring diagram of the lights, switches, and outlets. Show which fuse or circuit breaker protects each one.

## **Electronics**

No advance requirements

## **Fingerprinting (1/2 day)**

No advance requirements

## **Fire Safety (1/2 day)**

- Conduct a home safety survey with the help of an adult. Then do the following:
  - Draw a home fire-escape plan, create a home fire-drill schedule, and conduct a home fire drill. Bring these with you along with signed documentation of completed fire drill.

## **First Aid**

- Make a First Aid kit for your home and bring it with you to the workshop.

## **Law**

- Ask five people (not more than one from your immediate family) about the role of law enforcement officers in our society. Discuss their answers with them. Go to a law enforcement officer in your neighborhood and ask about his or her responsibilities and duties. Report your findings.
- Define “law.” Tell some of its sources. Describe functions it serves.

## **Medicine**

- Serve as a volunteer at a health-related event or facility in your community (e.g. blood drive, "health fair", blood pressure screening, etc.) approved by your counselor.
- Be prepared to discuss in your workshop the health-care delivery systems in the United States, Sweden, and China.

## **Music ( ½ day)**

- Bring an instrument to play or be prepared to share a song with the group.
- Do ONE of the following:
  - Attend a live performance, or listen to three hours of recordings from any two of the following musical styles: blues, jazz, classical, country, bluegrass, ethnic, gospel, musical theater, opera. Describe the sound of the music and the instruments used. Identify the composers or songwriters, the performers, and the titles of the pieces you heard. If it was a live performance, describe the setting and the reaction of the audience. Discuss your thoughts about the music.
  - Interview your parents and grandparents about music. Find out what the most popular music was when they were your age. Find out what their favorite music is now, and listen to three of their favorite tunes with them. How do their favorites sound to you? Had you ever heard any of them? Play three of your favorite songs for them, and explain to them why you like these songs. Ask them what they think of your favorite music.
  - Serve for six months as a member of a school band, choir, or other local musical group; or perform as a soloist in public six times.

## **Radio**

To be supplied at a later date via the councilor.

## **Sculpture**

No advance requirements.

## **Weather**

- Name 5 dangerous weather-related conditions. Give Safety rules for each when outdoors and explain the difference between a severe weather watch and a warning. Discuss the safety rules with your family, bring documentation of completion.
- Do ONE of the following:
  - Make one of the following instruments: wind vane, anemometer, rain gauge, and hygrometer. Keep a daily weather log for one week using information from this instrument as well as from other sources such as local radio and television stations, NOAA Weather Radio, and Internet sources (with your parent's permission). Record the following information at the same time every day: wind direction and speed, temperature, precipitation, and types of clouds. Be sure to make a note of any morning dew or frost. In the log, also list the weather forecasts from radio or television at the same time each day and show how the weather really turned out.
  - Visit a National Weather Service office or talk with a local radio or television weathercaster, private meteorologist, local agricultural extension service officer, or university meteorology instructor. Find out what type of weather is most dangerous or damaging to your community. Determine how severe weather and flood warnings reach the homes in your community.