

Connecticut Yankee Council
Scouting America
Presents:



Leader Guide for Troops, Crews,
Ships and Posts

Orange Fairgrounds / High Plains Community Center
525 Orange Center Road, Orange, Connecticut
May 16 – 18, 2025

How to Enjoy ConnJam 2025

Adventure Awaits at ConnJam! Scouts are invited to embark on an unforgettable journey filled with exploration and excitement. Our mission is to inspire Scouts of all ages to embrace new challenges, forge friendships, and create lasting memories. With activities designed for both Cub Scouts and older Scouts seeking more challenging experiences, ConnJam offers a vibrant mix of adventures.

Join us for a thrilling showcase featuring over 100 activities for Scouts and Scouters! Discover programs that enhance your unit's experience and learn more about Scouting in our Midway, culminating in a spectacular Saturday night of entertainment and fireworks! Activities will be held in and around the Community Center.

Stay informed with our Program Guide, Site Map, and a special ConnJam app for your smartphone. For more details, visit www.connjam.org. Get ready to explore, achieve, and celebrate the best of Scouting—**because Adventure Awaits!**

Participation in some events is restricted by age group; some events are for younger participants, some are for older participants and some are open to participants of all ages. Wrist bands will be provided upon check-in for Cub Scouts and adults. You must be wearing a wrist band to participate in events.

Food service will be provided throughout the weekend, beginning Friday evening through Sunday breakfast. Breakfast sandwiches, lunch and dinner may be purchased at the food pavilion. Snacks and candy will be available at the ConnJam Trading Post in the food pavilion.

The closing show on Saturday night is open to everyone. Scouts get priority seating; adults should take a position in the rear where they can watch their Scout(s) and enjoy the show. Chairs will not be allowed in the main seating area. You may bring a chair, but you must sit in the back or off to the far side of the show area.

The registered participants will receive their event patches in their registration packet when they check in. All other participants will receive their patches at the registration booth when they pay and register. Participation ribbons for units camping at the site will be issued when the unit checks out on Sunday and their campsite has been inspected.

In the event of an emergency, unit leaders should assemble their Scouts/Venturers in their campsite and remain there until a staff member provides further instructions. Staff members should report to their preassigned positions. Day visitors/participants should assemble in the vicinity of the main registration booth and wait for guidance from a staff member. Staff members will be wearing event staff shirts. Everyone should assist emergency vehicles and personnel, as appropriate, and stay away from the emergency site and keep access roads open.

The Community Center cafeteria is closed to participants, guests and volunteer unit leaders. The Community Center cafeteria is open to registered volunteer staff only. Staff registration must be purchased prior to the event. The staff camping area is off limits to all participants.

As with any scouting event, the more hands, the easier the load. Units are requested to designate two adult unit members as program volunteers to assist the event staff for a portion of the weekend. If possible, units should provide contact information for their volunteers in advance. Additional adults

are encouraged to volunteer their time to assist with the administration, commissioning, program activities and site maintenance. Volunteers may contact specific ConnJam committees to offer assistance in advance, using the information on the website or contact the committee chairs listed at the end of this document. All volunteers should check in at the ConnJam Registration tent.

ConnJam 2025 Directions

From the Merritt Parkway (either direction):

Exit 57 east (towards New Haven). At the first light on Route 34 turn right onto Orange Center Road (Route 152). Go about 2.2 miles, the High Plains Community Center will be on the left.

I-95 from New Haven:

Exit 41. Go right at the end of the ramp onto Marsh Hill Road. At the first light Marsh Hill Road becomes Lambert Road. Continue to Route 1 and make a left onto Route 1 and then right at the next light onto Route 152 (Orange Center Road). Go about 1.1 miles; the High Plains Community Center will be on the right.

I-95 from Bridgeport:

Exit 41. Go left at the end of the ramp onto Marsh Hill Road. At the second light Marsh Hill Road becomes Lambert Road. Continue to Route 1 and make a left onto Route 1 and then right at the next light onto Route 152 (Orange Center Road). Go about 1.1 miles; the High Plains Community Center will be on the right.

ConnJam 2025 Check-in Procedure

Units may arrive after 4:00 pm on Friday. Only the south entrance to the site will be open for traffic. All vehicles, except for the one designated drop-off vehicle, will drive directly to the parking area. Units are not allowed to proceed to their designated campsite until their unit or youth leader checks in.

After parking, unit leaders or youth leaders for units that have (1) pre-registered, (2) have no additions, (3) have no roster changes and (4) do not owe fees, may proceed directly to either the Registration tent (located in the Cub Scout camping area) or to the appropriate District Commissioner table in the Scouts BSA Troop/Venturing Crew camping area. For units that did not pre-register, or that have additional participants to register, or have a balance due should proceed to the Main Registration tent located in the Cub Scout camping area.

All campsites are 30' x 30' square so please plan accordingly with others from your unit that will be camping with you.

Scouts BSA, Venture, Explorer and Sea Scout units will be allowed one vehicle to drop off gear. In many cases, the designated Gear Drop-Off vehicle will be the one pulling the unit trailer. A Gear Drop-Off Permit must be requested by registering the designated unit vehicle online prior to arrival.

NO VEHICLE may park in the camping areas. **NO TRAILERS ARE ALLOWED TO BE UNHITCHED AND LEFT AT THE CAMPSITE.** Vehicles with trailers must proceed to the designated trailer parking area after unloading.

Adults **dropping off Scouts** will be directed to the parking area where they will park and escort their Scout to their campsite. Adults may not leave a youth until the unit leader has checked in and two-deep adult leadership is present.

ConnJam 2025 Check-out Procedure

Units may begin loading at 8:00 am Sunday morning. The one vehicle with the designated Gear Drop-Off Permit will be allowed on the road near the camping area. They should be loaded as quickly as possible and depart when loaded. No vehicle may drive in the camping area. Individual Scouts must carry their gear to the parking lot. There will be no campsite pickup.

Saturday arrivals and departures: **Please note that units will NOT be able to bring vehicles into the area on Saturday.** Be prepared to pack in/pack out unit and personal gear.

All trash must be removed from the site. Participation ribbons will be given to the unit leader after the Commissioner checks the site.

Rules and Safety Guidelines – Program Information

Activity Restrictions: Units with exhibits featuring climbing towers, zip-lines, monkey bridges, rides, swings, and displays involving projectiles, etc. must provide adult supervision for all activities. Exhibits and activities must be in compliance with the Scouting America Guide to Safe Scouting.

Adult Leadership: Each unit must have adult, two-deep leadership at all times. All adults providing unit supervision must be registered and current with Scouting America Youth Protection Training. Leaders are responsible for the conduct of their Scouts.

Campsites: The Administrative staff will assign the campsites. Sites will be assigned according to the unit's district and number of participants registered for the event as of May 5. Participants are to camp in the unit's **30' x 30'** area. **NO VEHICLE** may park in the camping area. All gear must be kept within the designated campsite boundaries. Larger registered units may be assigned an oversized or double site. Tentative campsite assignments will be made starting May 5. **Please note that participants registering after May 5 may need to be accommodated in an alternative camping area and may not be camping with others in their district.**

Campsite Breakdown: Scouts BSA, Venture Crews, and Sea Scout Ships may bring in their **one vehicle with a designated Gear Drop-Off Permit** starting at 8:00 am Sunday. Gear Drop-Off Permits must be requested via online registration. This **one designated vehicle** will be allowed on the road near the camping area. Gear should be loaded as quickly as possible and depart when loaded. No vehicle may drive in the camping area. Any individual Scouts must carry their gear to the parking lot. There will be no campsite pickup. Units departing on Saturday will not be able to bring vehicles into the area and should be prepared to walk their gear to their car/trailer.

Campsite Setup: Units may arrive after 4:00 pm on Friday. Only the south entrance to the site will be open to traffic. All cars, with the exception of the one designated drop-off vehicle, will drive directly to the parking area. Gear Drop-Off Permits must be requested via online registration. Units are not allowed to proceed to their designated campsite until their unit or youth leader checks in.

Scouts BSA, Venture, and Sea Scout units will be allowed **one vehicle per unit to drop off gear**. A **Gear Drop-Off Permit** must be requested by registering the vehicle online prior to the event. The permit will be issued when requested online.

NO VEHICLES may park in the camping area. **NO TRAILERS** are allowed to be unhitched and left at the campsite. Vehicles with trailers must proceed to the designated trailer parking area after unloading.

Adults dropping off Scouts will be directed to the parking area where they will park and escort Scout to their campsite or their unit leader. Adults may not leave a youth until the unit leader has checked in and adult, two-deep leadership is present.

Saturday arrivals: **Please note that units will NOT be able to bring vehicles into the area on Saturday.** Be prepared to carry in your own gear.

Camp-Wide Activities: Several camp-wide activities will be part of Saturday's program. They will be geared toward building the brotherhood of Scouting.

Charging Stations: Please note that charging stations WILL NOT be available. Be prepared with your own charging device.

Commissioner's Challenge: The Commissioner's Challenge will provide leaders with an opportunity to connect with resources that can enhance your skills, unit program and bring new opportunities to your Pack, Troop, Crew, Post or Ship program. Are you ready to step up to the challenge?

Concession Stand: ConnJam staff will operate the food pavilion. Hot food and beverages will be available for purchase from Friday evening through Sunday breakfast.

Conduct: Scouts and Scouters are to conduct themselves in accordance with the Scout Oath and Law.

Day Visitors: If you are not camping and are attending only for the day on Saturday, the cost is \$25 per person. Children aged 4 and under are free.

Dish Water: see Gray Water Disposal.

Drones: Drone flights over ConnJam and the Orange Fairgrounds are absolutely prohibited without 45-day advanced written consent of the Connecticut Yankee Council and the Town of Orange, as well as the written consent of the Federal Aviation Administration. FAA consent is evidenced through a current FAA license to operate a drone.

Early Bird Rates: To obtain an early bird rate of \$40 per person, the unit needs to pre-register with a \$100 deposit by January 31 and full payment by April 1. The fee after that is \$50 per person. (See Family Rates for more info for Cub families and see Day Visitors for cost of visiting only on Saturday.)

Electricity: A limited source of electricity is available on the Midway. Arrangements must be made in advance with the Facilities Committee. Power cords must not cross walkways. **YOU MAY NOT BRING YOUR OWN GENERATOR.**

Family Rates: There is a \$125 maximum for Cub families of 4 or more. This excludes any youth registered in a troop, crew or ship. This only applies to Cub scouts and adult family members. To obtain family rates, the family should register separately from the Pack (their pack number will be indicated on their family registration.) Children aged 4 and under are free.

- Fires:** **No ground fires are permitted.** Cooking must be done on above ground grills or stoves with propane only. Neither charcoal nor wood will be allowed. Units should provide fire extinguishers in case of emergencies.
- Food Delivery:** Outside food delivery is not allowed on the property due to local health department regulations. Units may bring in food only for their own consumption.
- Foul Weather:** The event is taking place in New England in May. Be prepared for hot, dry weather and for cold, wet weather. Bring wet weather gear (raincoats, ponchos, and dining fly). This event will take place rain or shine.
- Fund Raising:** Units will not be allowed to run any fund-raising activities on the event site.
- Garbage and Trash:** Dumpsters are available in the parking lot near the Food Service area. Each unit must dispose of its own rubbish. We recommend that trash be put in a plastic bag and taken to the dumpster. **Trash barrels in the food pavilion and the Midway areas are not to be used to dispose of unit garbage. Display materials must be removed from the site by the unit and may not be placed in the dumpster.**
- Gear Drop-Off Permits:** Scouts BSA, Venture, and Sea Scout units will be allowed one vehicle per unit to drop off gear near the campsite. A **Gear Drop-Off Permit is requested online by registering the designated vehicle.** The permit will be issued in advance of the event. To register for the permit, be prepared to provide vehicle and driver information (make, model and plate number of the vehicle and driver name and cell phone number).
- Gray Water Disposal:** 250-gallon drums are located near the campsite latrines, marked as Waste Water. All gray water should be screened before dumping. Do not dump gray water in the portable toilets or storm drains.
- Handicap Parking:** There will be a special area for handicap parking. The car must have a handicap placard or license plate.
- Health Forms:** Each unit is required to carry health records (Parts A & B) for their unit registrants (both youth and adult). The ConnJam committee will not be collecting or checking these records. It is the responsibility of the unit leaders.
- Holes:** Holes and stakes are not permitted in the unit area without approval of the Facilities Committee. There may be underground power lines and water pipes, which must be protected. Don't take chances. However, tent stakes are allowed.
- Latrines:** Portable latrines are available. Adults are asked to help reduce the risk of vandalism by keeping an eye on the latrine areas. The public restrooms at the Orange Fairgrounds will be closed for this event.
- Leaders' Meeting:** A meeting of unit leaders will be held on Friday night to update units on schedule changes and program procedures. One adult from each unit may attend. The location of the Cracker Barrel will be provided at check in.

- Lost & Found:** Lost & found items should be turned in or looked for at the Registration Tent. Any items unclaimed at the end of the event will be taken to the Milford Scout office where they will be held until May 31. Items remaining on June 1 will be donated to a charity or discarded.
- Medical:** All health and medical incidents and emergencies, major and minor, must be treated at the ConnJam First Aid Station. Emergency Medical Technicians and/or First Aid staff will be present throughout the weekend and readily available to treat any injuries. The staff will request emergency medical services, (i.e. 911) if it is necessary. The First Aid Station will be located under the same tent as for Registration.
- Parking:** Parking is available for all participants. Site officials will help you get to a designated parking lot. No one may park within the Midway nor in the sub camp areas. Vehicles in these areas as part of the Saturday exhibits may not leave the area prior to 4:30 pm.
- Permission Slips:** Each unit is required to have permission slips for all of their Scouts. The permission slips and their content is the responsibility of the unit committee. There is a sample form in the Scouting America Guide to Safe Scouting (https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/19-673.pdf?_gl=1*1b5yava*_ga*MjY5MzQzNjEyLjE2NDIxNzEzMTg.*_ga_20G0JHESG4*MTY0NjMzMzAxMC43NTUuMS4xNjQ2MzM2NjM4LjU5&_ga=2.227794907.759321249.1646057944-269343612.1642171318).
- Prohibited:** Guns, bows and arrows, fireworks, knives with blades over 4 inches long, sheath knives, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or controlled substances, marijuana, smoking, wood fires, bicycles, motor bikes, skateboards or roller skates, gambling, gasoline power tools, or pets will not be permitted on the property.
- Propane:** Propane stoves and lanterns are permitted. Please follow the Scouting America Guide to Safe Scouting.
- Power Tools:** Use of battery-operated power tools should be kept to a minimum. Use of gasoline-powered tools is prohibited. All power tools must be used under adult supervision.
- Recycling:** There will be recycling receptacles around the Food Service area and we encourage Scouts and leaders to recycle.
- Refunds:** Refunds will only be made for the following reasons: (1) serious illness, accident, or death in the immediate family, or (2) the family moves to a new residence out of state. All refund requests should be made in writing and submitted to the CT Yankee Council office. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Safety:** All youth participants must remain on the event property. First-time violators will be given one warning. Second-time offenders will be asked to leave the event.
- Sales:** Commercial activities of any type are prohibited unless approved in advance by the Event Committee.

Saturday departures: **Please note that units will NOT be able to bring vehicles into the area on Saturday.** Be prepared to pack out your own gear.

Scout Drop-Off: Adults dropping off Scouts will be directed to the parking area where they will park and escort the Scout to their campsite or unit leader. Adults wishing to stay must also park in the parking lot and carry their gear from there.

Smoking: **Smoking is not permitted on the Orange Fairgrounds property.**

Snack Food: The Trading Post will have prepackaged snack food and beverages for sale. Units are not permitted to sell snack food or candy at the event.

Staff: All paid and registered staff should check in at the Registration tent located near the Food Service area to receive your shirt and patch.

Ticks & Bugs: Ticks are a part of the environment. Take precautions to avoid tick bites. Use repellent, keep a barrier between you and the grass/brush. Report any tick bites to your unit leader as soon as possible.

Trade-O-Ree: Similar to the Scouting America National Jamboree, Scouts are encouraged to bring patches to trade and show off to others. A Scout is trustworthy; there are no trading restrictions. Youth may trade with adults, and adults may trade with youth. A Trade-O-Ree will take place in the gym on Saturday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Trading Post: The ConnJamTrading Post will have Scouting paraphernalia and a limited supply of ConnJam 2025 merchandise available. They will also sell ice cream, soda, snacks and bags of ice.

Uniforms: Everyone attending ConnJam 2025 is encouraged to wear their Field (Class A) uniform for the opening ceremony. Class-B (Scout appropriate t-shirt) are acceptable for the daytime activities. ConnJam is offering a special t-shirt that can be personalized with your unit. Visit connjam.org for details.

Unit Flags: The unit flags will be used for the opening ceremony. After the opening, they should be returned to the unit's campsite.

Unit Rosters: Rosters for each unit will be requested by the Administrative chair by May 1. Any changes will need to be submitted at the registration tent prior to checking in at the Commissioner tents.

Unit Site Entrance: Units are encouraged to identify their campsite utilizing their Unit, American and Patrol flags only. Due to limited space, gateways are NOT allowed. No holes may be dug in the campsite area.

Vehicle ID Cards: Every vehicle on the grounds must have a vehicle ID visible on the dashboard that includes their District, Pack, and on-site contact's cell phone number. This is in case your car needs to be moved. Please download, complete and print this ID card (see page 12 of this

guide) and have it displayed on your dashboard when you arrive at the event. Please make sure that it is visible and able to be read from outside the vehicle.

Volunteers: Units are requested to designate two adult members as program volunteers to assist the event staff for a portion of the weekend. If possible, units should provide contact information for their volunteers in advance. Additional adults are encouraged to volunteer their time to assist with the administration, commissioning, program activities, and site maintenance. Volunteers may contact specific ConnJam committees to offer assistance in advance, using the information on the website or listed at the end of this document, or volunteer to help upon arrival by signing up at the Registration tent.

Waste Water: see Gray Water Disposal.

Water: Each unit should arrive with their initial water supplies. Additional water will be available at designated places in the camping and program areas. Please keep these places clean and do not waste the water or cause flooding at the spigot. **No dishwashing is allowed at the water spigots or in the latrines.**

If you need assistance during the event, ask a staff member. Staff members and Commissioners will be wearing event staff hats or shirts. Most of them will be in radio/cell phone contact with other event personnel.

Vehicle ID Card

Name _____

Unit # _____

Cell Phone # _____

Must be displayed on dashboard and visible through windshield

ConnJam Committee

- ConnJam Co-Chairman..... John Hanks (ConnJamChair@ctyankee.org)
- ConnJam Co-Chairman..... Ray Moncevicus (ConnJamChair@ctyankee.org)
- Registration/Staff Advisor..... Karen Caiati (ConnJamReg@ctyankee.org)
- Administration Chairman..... Connie Hemphill (ConnJamAdmin@ctyankee.org)
- Commissioner Service Chairman..... Gene Waring (ConnJamCommissioner@ctyankee.org)
- Facilities Chairman..... John Hanks / Ray Moncevicus (ConnJamFacilities@ctyankee.org)
- Food Service Chairman....., Mike Card (ConnJamFood@ctyankee.org)
- Health & Safety Chairman..... Lloyd Gallup (ConnJamSafety@ctyankee.org)
- Marketing Chairman..... Bob Brown (ConnJamMedia@ctyankee.org)
- Communication Chairman..... Seth Strohecker (ConnJamCommunications@ctyankee.org)
- Owaneco (OA) Service Corps..... (ConnJamOA@ctyankee.org)
- Program Chairman..... Neil Harris (ConnJamProgram@ctyankee.org)
- Shows & Events Chairman..... Jason Van Leeuwen (ConnJamShows@ctyankee.org)
- Staff Advisor..... Eric Brantley (ConnJamAdvisor@ctyankee.org)
- Trading Post Chairman..... Jay Lubin (ConnJamTradingPost@ctyankee.org)
- Town Relations Chairman..... Jeff Cap (ConnJamTownRelations@ctyankee.org)

The Connecticut Yankee Council extends a special thank you to the Town of Orange for their support of Scouting and for allowing us to use the High Plains Community Center.

THANK YOU!

See you at ConnJam!

