



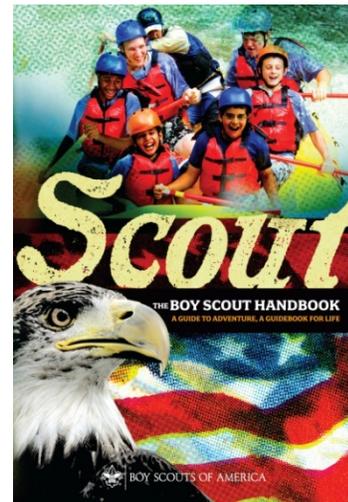
NEW BOY SCOUT HANDBOOK IS 21ST CENTURY GUIDE FOR LIFE

It's green-friendly, it's online, and it will have its own iPhone application

DALLAS, August 10, 2009 – The Centennial Edition of the *Boy Scout Handbook* unveiled by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) prepares the 21st century Scout for new technology while celebrating the organization's rich heritage. The 475-page paperback features nostalgic illustrations from the previous 11 editions alongside references to emerging technology and expanded online information.

Touted by some Scouts as the ultimate adventure manual, the 12th edition *Handbook* teaches preparedness and responsibility in both traditional and new ways: think compass and GPS devices, tying a knot as well as a necktie, and first aid and Internet safety. For the first time, the *Handbook* is accompanied by an online site, www.bsahandbook.org, which contains expanded content and illustrations on handbook topics and advancement requirements.

“The *Handbook* – like our organization – adopts new and modern while maintaining the message of preparedness, responsibility and eeliance,” said Boy Scouts of America Chief Scout Executive Robert “Earlier Scouts earned merit badges in bee farming, blacksmithing, signaling, but now our Scouts work on 21st century subjects like materials, nuclear science, and oceanography.”



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Other features of the 12th edition *Boy Scout Handbook* include:

- A first-ever iPhone application of the iconic guide available in September
- 100-percent recycled paper printed using environmentally friendly processes, creating the first-ever “green” edition
- Tips on long-term personal financial management and budgeting
- Expanded sections on nutrition and physical fitness
- Updated information on bullying, hazing, physical violence, and avoiding Internet dangers
- A nostalgic look of past handbooks with 21st century technology
- A Spanish version will be available in December

The 12th edition *Handbook* was written by Robert Birkby, an Eagle Scout and former conservation director at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Birkby also authored the previous two editions and the BSA *Fieldbook*. A lifelong Scouting and outdoor enthusiast, Birkby has traveled the world on mountaineering expeditions and

backpacking adventures. Birkby is a respected outdoor leader, writer, and expert in trail construction and maintenance. He is also the author of *Lightly on the Land* and *Mountain Madness*.

In celebration of the BSA's centennial, the new edition of the *Handbook* models the first edition in its three main categories:

- **Scoutcraft** —Preparing for Scouting's adventures and for life
- **Woodcraft** —Understanding, appreciating, and caring for nature
- **Campcraft** —Learning skills useful along the trail, in camp, and beyond

The 12th edition *Boy Scout Handbook* is available in Scout shops across the country and online at www.scoutstuff.org. Since its first printing in 1910, the *Boy Scout Handbook* has sold more than 40 million copies. Additional information about the *Handbook* is available at www.bsahandbook.org.

More information about 100 Years of Scouting can be found at www.scouting.org/100years.