



Fly Fishing

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook is not required but is designed to help you with this merit badge. No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Use page backs & add pages as needed. Please send comments to: craig@craiglincoln.com. Requirements revised: 2002, Workbook updated: January 2004.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

1) Explain to your counselor the injuries that could occur while fly-fishing and the proper treatment, including

cuts, _____

scratches, _____

puncture wounds, _____

insect bites, _____

hypothermia, _____

dehydration, _____

and heat reactions. _____

Explain how to remove a hook that has lodged in your arm. _____

Name and explain five safety practices you should always follow while fishing.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

2) Discuss how to match a fly rod, line and leader to get a balanced system. _____

Discuss several types of fly lines, and explain how and when each would be used. Review with your counselor how to care for this equipment.

Type of Line: _____

When & how used: _____

Care: _____

Type of Line: _____

When & how used: _____

Care: _____

Type of Line: _____

When & how used: _____

Care: _____

Type of Line: _____

When & how used: _____

Care: _____

Type of Line: _____

When & how used: _____

Care: _____

3) Demonstrate how to tie proper knots to prepare a fly rod for fishing:

- a) Tie a backing to a fly reel spool using the arbor backing knot
- b) Attach backing to fly line using the nail knot
- c) Attach a leader to fly line using the needle knot, nail knot or loop-to-loop connection
- d) Add tippet to a leader using a double surgeon's loop or blood knot
- e) Tie a fly onto the terminal end of the leader using the improved clinch knot

4) Explain how each of the following types of flies are used: dry flies, wet flies, nymphs, streamers, bass bugs and poppers. What does each imitate? Tie at least two types of the flies mentioned in this requirement.

dry flies - Use: _____

imitates: _____

wet flies - Use: _____

imitates: _____

nymphs - Use: _____

imitates: _____

streamers - Use: _____

imitates: _____

bass bugs - Use: _____

imitates: _____

poppers. - Use: _____

imitates: _____

5) Demonstrate the ability to cast a fly consistently and accurately using overhead and roll cast techniques. _____

6) Go to a suitable fishing location and make observations on the types of insects fish may be eating. _____

Look for flying insects and some that may be on or beneath the water's surface. Look under rocks. Explain the importance of matching the hatch. _____

7) Explain the importance of practicing Leave No Trace _____

and how it positively affects fly-fishing resources. _____

8) Obtain a copy of the regulations affecting game fishing where you live. Explain why they were adopted and what you accomplish by following them. _____

9) Explain what good outdoor sportsmanlike behavior is and how it relates to fishermen. _____

Tell how the Outdoor Code of the Boy Scouts of America relates to a fishing enthusiast, including the aspects of littering, _____

trespassing, _____

courteous behavior, _____

and obeying fishing regulations. _____

10) Using the fly-fishing techniques you have learned, catch two different kinds of fish and identify them. Release at least one of them unharmed. Clean and cook another fish.