

## Appendix NN

# THE 12 ELEMENTS OF THE CUB SCOUT OUTDOOR PROGRAM

The Cub Scout outdoor program offers 12 elements for success. A successful Cub Scout outdoor event will include several of these elements, and the year-round program should include all of them. The elements support a successful outdoor program by helping event planners focus on the key parts of the Scouting program in general, and on the specifics of the Cub Scout outdoor program.

### The 12 Elements of the Cub Scout outdoor program are:

- 1. Training.** Each type of camping opportunity in the Cub Scout outdoor program is supported by training: National Camping School for Day Camps, Resident Camps and Family Camps and council or district BALOO and Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders provide the skills and knowledge needed for a great event.
- 2. Conservation.** Conservation has always been a part of the Scouting program. The Leave No Trace Awareness Award and Cub Scout World Conservation Award are only the beginning of the opportunities available for service to the out-of-doors.
- 3. Aquatics.** Be sure to use the principles found in Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense and in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.
- 4. Camping.** Day camp, resident camp, pack overnights, Webelos den overnights, Webelos-ree events, and council or district family camps are the keys of the Cub Scout outdoor program.
- 5. Duty to God.** Be sure to include an interfaith worship service during the event, whether staying overnight or not.
- 6. Nature Crafts.** Add a touch of real nature to your craft activities and make it a learning experience and Fun!
- 7. Four-Season Activities.** Keep your program going year-round by using the resources available in your community.
- 8. Cooking, Hiking, and Games.** These are a natural part of any Scouting event; just be sure they are age-appropriate.
- 9. Ceremonies, Campfires, “Pizzazz.”** It’s better outside—don’t miss the chance to create a lasting memory.
- 10. Cub Scout Adventures.** Take advantage of opportunities to incorporate rank advancement when available. Make it a natural part of your Cub Scout outdoor program!
- 11. Themes.** Include a well-thought-out theme and make it Cub Scout special!
- 12. National Awards.** The Journey to Excellence, Summertime Pack Award, and Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award support a great year-round unit program.