

# Scouting for Food rules and safety tips

Be sure to have a quick meeting before heading out **both mornings**, to remind them of these rules, and the importance of their efforts and the values of cheerful service to others.....especially those less fortunate than ourselves!

- **NEVER put bags inside or attached to a mailbox. This is against the law!**
- Please make sure the bags are secure on the doorknob, tying it on if needed. We don't want them blowing all over the streets.
- Scouts should be wearing their Class A uniform during this drive. This means that they should also have their shirts tucked in. They should also be wearing comfortable and appropriate footwear.
- The suggested plan is to have 2 adults and 2-3 scouts per vehicle. If there are two adults in a vehicle, there are more eyes on the scouts. Do not proceed with a distribution plan if you do not have the number of adults you feel are needed to do this in a safe manner. Use your best scouting judgment.
- The Scouts are at no time to be able to ride in the back of pickup trucks or have any part of their body that is not completely inside the vehicle. It is understood that some folks that have vans leave the doors open...but only during concentrated delivery times, not any time they will be driving above 5 miles per hour. They are also only allowed to enter and exit the vehicle when it is completely stopped.
- Don't let there be too much distance between the vehicle and the scouts.....you should be in clear view of all scouts at all times. Don't let scouts get too far ahead of the vehicle....they are to stop and wait for the vehicle to catch up. You establish the parameters based on age and the neighborhood.
- It is suggested that the scouts stay on one side of the street or another. There should not be any scouts criss-crossing the streets. If they need to enter the street (for example...to join back up with the vehicle)...they need to stop, look both ways and proceed if clear.
- The drivers need to be courteous to the homeowners, and not drive on their grass. Also, use the hazard blinkers (or right blinker) if you are stopped or driving slow through an area.
- Scouts need to be courteous to the homeowners and not walk on their grass or flower beds, or do anything that could be offensive to the homeowners.
- Watch out for dogs that are not on a leash. If you see an unleashed dog, skip the house. Don't touch a pet, since you never know what will cause a dog or cat to bite.
- Scouts are NEVER to enter a residence. If asked to come in, they should **politely** say they are not allowed to enter houses.

## **FOOD PICK-UP DAY: SPECIAL RULES** (Please review these additional rules on week #2 along with those above)

- Make sure you don't start before official start time, and cover every house where your unit left a bag/door hanger. It is helpful to do a second drive-through, if possible, to catch any "tardy food".
- If there is a doorhanger or bag still on a door the week of "Bags In", please remove the doorhanger and/or bag.
- Scouts need to be very careful with the filled bags as they put them into the vehicles. Many of them contain glass containers that could break and result in an injury to someone unloading the vehicle.
- Remember to say **thank you** to the donors with a smile!

**Important.....**The Guide to Safe Scouting **expressly forbids the use of roller blades or skateboards** during a scouting event.....except in cases where the street or area used is "blocked off from all motor vehicle traffic". We all know that the roads we will be traveling do not meet these criteria. This regulation can be found in the Guide to Safe Scouting. It is further noted in Scouting literature that any adult or scout leader that violates the rules of safe scouting "could" find themselves personally liable for any accidents that result from that behavior. Don't take that chance.

Be sure to remind everyone in advance of leaving that our efforts in this food drive will feed a lot of people. This is really a good thing we are doing. This can also be a fun and meaningful time for the Scouts, so try and make it that way.