



## Part 4: Scouts BSA Troop 959 Advancement Blog for Families!

### Using Logs to Record Activities

Did you know that our council's Scouts logged over 63,000 hours of community service in 2015? That's worth a contribution of \$1,453,410 in services to the local community!

Scoutbook and the Scouting app provide logs for Scouts to use to record the service, camping\*, and hiking they do.

William's Service Log	55.5	>
William's Camping Log	39	>
William's Hiking Log	43	>

**Logs in Scoutbook and in the Scouting App**

\* For BSA purposes, we track camping nights as those spent *intents*—ones they pitch or the frame tents at summer camp. Nights spent in cabins are terrific, and sometimes aren't much warmer in the winter, but do not count as camping for some requirements, such as for the Camping merit badge. We'll be happy to help your Scout figure it all out, if needed.

### Logging Troop Activities

After camping trips, hikes, and troop service projects, your Scout will want to log those activities in the back of his handbook. A Scouter or the Troop Scribe will take a minute to quickly log the event in Scoutbook for all those who participated. If your Scout doesn't see their activity appear, however, encourage him to ask about it!

### Logging Non-Troop Activities

Sometimes, your Scout will participate in service projects on his own, or with school, family, or another organization, such as a church youth group or another Scout's Eagle project with a different troop.

Your Scout should be sure to get the Scoutmaster's approval *before* recording these hours in his Service Log. This is important because Scouts *do* need to perform a certain number of hours of service for each rank requirement as part of their duty to help others, but they often require prior approval if done outside of Scouting.

No matter how your Scout logs these activities, he'll enjoy watching them add up through his experience in Scouting, and you'll enjoy watching the personal growth that comes from each new adventure and opportunity!

Take

Would you please take just 3 minutes to [complete a brief survey?](#)  
It will help us know how to better communicate with you and answer any

## Brief Survey

remaining questions you may have. Doing so will also help Mrs. Kaser complete a leadership goal she has set to strengthen the troop for all families (part of her Wood Badge training). Thank you for doing us a good turn!

Thank you for reading the Advancement Blog! We hope it has helped you understand the philosophy of Advancement in Scouting, gain ideas in how to support your Scout at home, and feel empowered to use the tools provided.

Should you have any questions about the Advancement method or if you are able to take on a role—big or small—to help sustain the troop, please email us at [info@troop959.com](mailto:info@troop959.com).

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