

TROOP 50 BSA PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM – APRIL CAVING & BIKING TRIP

a.k.a. The Most Excellent HardCore-Mountain-Cave-Fort-n-GoodFood Expedition

BSA Troop 50 will be camping at Ohiopyle State Park, caving at Laurel Caverns, mountain biking along the Youghiogheny River, and touring near Framington, Pennsylvania during the weekend of April 11 – April 13, 2008. Attached is the Troop 50 Parental Permission Form, Laurel Caverns Caving Release Form(s) and Mountain Biking Release Form. **The Parental Permission Form and relevant activity release forms for you and your son’s activities must be completed and returned by Thursday, April 3.**

Emergency Phone Numbers: 302-547-1058 (Falkenau), 302-545-8654 (Schiff), 800-515-4150 (Laurel Caverns)

The troop will depart at **5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 11th from Ebenezer United Methodist Church**

Please be prompt since we have a long drive to Ohiopyle State Park on Friday evening.

Return: Approximately **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 13th at Ebenezer United Methodist Church**

Costs: **please complete the tables on page #2**, then submit a check payable to BSA Troop 50 to cover activity and camping fees, **plus \$8.00 cash** to Patrol Leader for food.

Scout to Bring: **Bag lunch for Saturday, \$10-\$12 cash** for snack during travel on Friday night and lunch on the way home on Sunday.

Special Equipment Needs:

- Old boots or old sturdy sneakers for caving**
- Long pants and a long sleeved shirt (clothes will get wet and muddy)**
- Leather gloves**
- Hard hats (supplied by Troop 50) with at least 1 light attached**
- Two additional flashlights (no keychain lights)**
- Complete change of cloths (pants, underwear, socks, shoes), towel & plastic bag to store muddy cloths after caving on Saturday**
- Bike Helmet – if taking your own bike**
- Blue Card – if taking Geology merit badge**

Detach and return lower half of this form and release forms with payment to Mr. Falkenau or Mr. Schiff by **April 3, 2008** along with \$8.00 in cash to your patrol leader for food. Please make check payable to BSA Troop 50.

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As parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of Scout _____ of [Troop / Pack] (circle one) No. _____ I/We hereby grant my/our permission for him to attend the above referenced Troop 50 Event on April 11 to 13, 2008.

Scout will be arriving late on _____ at _____ o’clock. Scout will be leaving early on _____ at _____ o’clock.

During the event I/We can be contacted at: _____ Phone: _____

Alternate Contact person: _____ Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

Note any changes in Scout’s medical information, history, or required medication: _____

Note change in parent’s medical insurance or carrier: _____

I/We hereby authorize, nominate and appoint the Troop 50 Scoutmaster and any other Troop 50 adult leader at the event as my/our lawful attorney in fact to act on my/our behalf to seek, obtain and authorize first aid, emergency or other immediate medical treatment or care from a qualified physician or other professional medical care provider, as is reasonably deemed necessary by such Scoutmaster or adult leader, in the event of any personal injury to my/our son at the event provided no surgical procedure is authorized without my/our express consent, unless required to save life, limb, or any other serious bodily function as an emergency matter. It is understood that the Scoutmaster or other Troop 50 adult leader will make all reasonable efforts to contact me/us by my/our alternate contact designated above as soon as practicable following any such accident or personal injury.

I/We hereby waive, release and hold harmless the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 50, the Scoutmaster and any adult leader of Troop 50 from any claim or liability arising out of any accident or personal injury of my/our son of the good faith exercise of authority granted hereby, except in the case of gross negligence on the part of such person.

Parent(s): _____ Date: _____

Guardian(s): _____ Date: _____

PARENT TRANSPORTATION

	YES	Maybe	NO	Bike Rack	# of Scouts (seatbelts)	Staying overnight?
I can drive to Ohiopyle				Yes / No		Yes / No
I can drive from Ohiopyle				Yes / No		-----

Detach and return the lower half of this form and release forms with payment to Mr. Falkenau or Mr. Schiff by April 3, 2008 along with \$8.00 in cash to your patrol leader.

Please make check payable to BSA Troop 50.

If you will not be at the April 3rd troop meeting completed forms and trip payments, excluding payment to your patrol leader for food, may be mailed directly to:

Mr. Falkenau
3 Wilkinson Drive
Landenberg, PA 19350

If you are caving be sure to sign both **Lower and Upper Caving** release forms on pages 4 & 5.

Space for personal bikes may be limited. Personal bikes will be allowed on a first-come basis. Bikes and helmets must be in good working order and be inspected at the March 27th or April 3rd troop meeting bike check. Mountain Biking is not offered for Webelos scouts. If biking be sure to sign the **Wilderness Voyageurs release form on page 6.**

Please read the following information carefully. Make sure that all fields are completed.

Complete the following tables to calculate your individual trip cost. **Choose and circle one morning activity and one afternoon activity, then enter costs and calculate total dollars.**

Age of Scout:	Scout Bringing Bike? yes / no	Adult Bringing Bike? yes / no	Adult staying in camp? yes / no
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			Scout	Adult
Base Fee	(Camp fee and transportation)	\$ 6	\$ 6	\$ 6
Morning (circle one)	Upper Caving	\$ 16		
	Lower Caving (must be 12 yrs or older)	\$ 19		
	Mountain Biking* (\$35 bike rental / \$5 shuttle fee)	\$ 35 + 5		
Afternoon (circle one)	Geology Merit Badge (\$17 scout / \$8 adult).....	\$ 17 / 8		
	Ft. Necessity Battlefield **.....	\$ 2 or 7		
	Back to Camp	\$ --		
	Trail Biking ***	\$ 12 or 0		
		Scout Total	(a)	
		Adult Total	(b)	
		Total (make check payable to BSA Troop 50)	(a)+(b)	

* If bringing your own bike enter \$5 for the shuttle fee, otherwise enter \$40. Partial refund may be given if rental bike is used by another scout for afternoon trail biking – (to be determined).

** \$2 for scouts under 16 yrs old, \$7 for all others

*** If bringing your own bike enter \$0, otherwise enter \$12 (this fee will be used to offset morning bike fees)

Plus cash to patrol leader for food..... \$ 8 per person

The following items must be completed as applicable and returned to Mr. Falkenau or Mr. Schiff by April 3, 2008:

- 1) Parental Permission Form
- 2) Upper Caving Release Form
- 3) Lower Caving Release Form
- 4) Biking Release Form
- 5) Check made out to BSA Troop 50
- 6) \$8 cash to your Patrol Leader to cover food costs

For official use only		Webelos Pack:		Date submitted:
Payment	\$	Check #	Cash	# of Bike Rentals:

LAUREL CAVERNS
LOWER CAVING RELEASE FORM

(A signature is required at end of form.)

Be sure to carefully read each numbered “point to know.”

1. Laurel Caverns has 28 programs, only four of which require release forms.
 - upper caving (ages 9 & up)
 - lower caving (ages 12 & up)
 - Adventure Sports Badge (ages 9 & up)
 - climbing and rappelling (ages 12 & up)

This form only applies to the LOWER CAVING program.

2. Lower Caving has requirements for group rates, registration, and the like. Open registration caving is available at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. on every Saturday and Sunday Laurel Caverns is open. Reservations are not required for the open registration trips. Groups of six or more may enter on other days with prepayment and ten days advance arrangements. Please visit our website at <http://www.laurelcaverns.com/> or call us at 724-438-3003 for further information.

3. Our cave has four zones: (1) the easy and well-lit portions of the traditional guided tour, (2) the untouched maze of unlit but safe crawl passages off the guided tour, (3) the untouched, unlit, huge rooms below the guided tour path, and (4) the mile of untouched, unlit, forty-foot high corridors that go to the bottom of the mountain.

4. Lower Caving involves zones (1), (3), & (4) and is strenuous.

Laurel Caverns is the only developed cave in the northeast United States that offers exploring. It is Pennsylvania’s largest, with three miles of passages having over 2.5 million cubic feet of volume. Laurel Caverns has a total elevation drop of 464’, the deepest in the Commonwealth. Most of the cave is left in a natural state and it is its large, deeper, passages that necessitate this form. Be prepared for steep slopes, slippery mud, streams and hard sharp rocks. None of the lower caving passages is lighted and no conveniences exist in this section of the cave. It is just as it was a thousand years ago. As a rule of thumb, if your health prevents you from the ability to climb the steps of a 45-story building you should not engage in this program

5. Participants must have reached their 12th birthday, no exceptions.
6. Participants under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign this form in addition to the participant.
7. Participants who appear under chemical influence or are resistant to rules will not be allowed to enter.
8. Lower caving is dangerous.

We cannot make the cave safe for those of you going into its undeveloped areas. To do this would mean complete commercialization and the idea of the exploring trip is to let you see the cave in its natural state. Accidents have occurred involving broken bones and the removal of an injured person is extremely difficult, taking as long as twelve hours. In that 60we cannot research each one of you we must rely on

your word that you have sufficient background and physical ability to handle yourself in the cave. Please be aware that participants go into an underground area completely in its natural state and that in many places the footing is slippery, uneven, and treacherous.

9. Participants not properly prepared will not be admitted.

10. Proper preparation involves FIVE things. (← very important)

1. Participants must be wearing shoes with good tread and good ankle support.
2. Participants should wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt.
3. Participants must bring their own lights. Two sources of lights are required, no keychain lights, please.
4. Knapsacks will be searched. Picnic food and weapons are prohibited.
5. Hard hats are required and Laurel Caverns will supply hard hats at no extra charge, for anyone not having his or her own hard hat.

11. Your Exploring Director has the sole task of showing you the best route through the cave's maze and making sure you do not get lost. He or she can neither provide discipline nor medical advice.

12. It is humanly impossible for your Exploring Director to watch every movement and every step of every caving participant. It is humanly impossible for the Laurel Caverns staff to know the physical abilities of each participant. Responsibility for such things as the tread of shoes, loose clothing, poor ankle support, medical history, physical ability, medical vulnerabilities, the brightness of lights, the fit of hard hats, discipline failures, the rocks and drops before each participant, and all other things which fall under the immediate purview of a participant must be, and in all fairness can only be, the responsibility of each participant.

13. Injuries are inevitable in caving some have occurred in Laurel Caverns even involving broken bones. Something as simple as a twisted ankle may require a long tortuous removal process involving up to twelve hours of immobilization in a rigid basket, thirty or more rescue personnel, an ambulance ride and hospital stay for X-rays and observation at the participant's expense, and finally, exposure to unbelievably hyped media attention on your "dramatic cave rescue."

14. Parental signature is required for participants ages 12 through 17.

Laurel Caverns has no power to research any participant's family situation. A signature by one parent will be taken as consent by all involved. IF ONE PARENT CONTESTS APPROVAL, OR IS IGNORANT OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS FORM, THE OTHER PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST NOT GIVE APPROVAL.

I (we) affirm that I (we) have carefully read and understand ALL FOURTEEN of the above points and that I (we) will neither hold Laurel Caverns, nor its owners, nor its agents responsible for the any problem or injury due to anything covered in the above fourteen points.

Participant: _____

Date: _____

Parent: _____

Birthdate (if under 18): _____

LAUREL CAVERNS

UPPER CAVING RELEASE FORM

Be sure to carefully read each numbered "point to know."

1. Don't confuse this form with the LOWER CAVING RELEASE FORM.

Laurel Caverns has four zones: (1) the easy and well-lit portions of the traditional guided tour, (2) the maze of unlit but safe crawl passages off the guided tour, (3) the untouched, unlit, huge rooms below the guided tour path, and (4) the mile of untouched, unlit, forty-foot high corridors that go to the bottom of the mountain.

Lower Caving involves zones (1), (3), & (4). Participants must be 12 years of age & up.

Upper Caving involves zones (1), (2), & (3). Participants must be 9 years of age & up.

This form only applies to programs involving UPPER caving.

Upper Caving is only involved in our:

Youth Upper Caving Program

Junior Girl Scout Adventure Sports Badge

Junior Girl Scout "Cave Explorer" Badge

Webelos Adventure Caving Program

These programs have requirements for group rates, registration, and times available.

2. Participants must have reached their 9th birthday, no exceptions.

3. All participants must read and sign this form.

Laurel Caverns cannot be responsible for lapses in comprehension or an inability to read English.

4. Upper caving can be dangerous.

Though upper caving involves the safest parts of Laurel Caverns it still involves going into some of its undeveloped areas. The removal of an injured person can be difficult. In that we cannot research each one of you we must rely on your word that you have sufficient background and physical ability to handle yourself in the cave. Please be aware that participants go into an uneven, and treacherous. underground area completely in its natural state and that in many places the footing is slippery,

5. Participants not properly prepared will not be admitted.

Proper preparation involves FIVE things. (← very important)

- 1. Participants must be wearing shoes with good tread and good ankle support.**
- 2. Participants should wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt.**
- 3. Participants must bring their own lights. No keychain lights, please.**
- 4. Knapsacks are subject to search for spray cans, weapons, and the like.**
- 5. Hard hats are required and Laurel Caverns will supply hard hats at no extra charge.**

6. It is humanly impossible for your Exploring Director to watch every movement and every step of every caving participant.

It is humanly impossible for the Laurel Caverns staff to know the physical abilities of each participant. Responsibility for such things as the tread of shoes, loose clothing, poor ankle support, medical history, physical ability, medical vulnerabilities, the brightness of lights, the fit of hard hats, discipline failures, the cave floor before each participant, and all other things which fall under the immediate purview of a participant must be, and in all fairness can only be, the responsibility of participants and their sponsors.

7. Parental signature is required for participants ages 9 through 17.

Laurel Caverns has no power to research any participant's family situation. A signature by one parent will be taken as consent by all involved. **IF ONE PARENT CONTESTS APPROVAL, OR IS IGNORANT OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS FORM, THE OTHER PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST NOT GIVE APPROVAL.**

I (we) affirm that I (we) have carefully read and understand ALL SEVEN of the above points and that I (we) will neither hold Laurel Caverns, nor its owners, nor its agents responsible for any problem or injury due to anything covered in the above seven points.

Participant: _____ Birthdate: _____

Parent: _____ Date: _____

