



AWARD WORKSHEET

National Outdoor Badge: Conservation

Venturing

Name

Started

Completed

The National Outdoor Badge for Conservation recognizes Scouts and Venturers who give back to the outdoors. You'll learn conservation skills, earn related badges, and put in real work protecting nature.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/noa/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

- ☐ **1** Earn First Class rank or Sea Scout Apprentice rank, or finish Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1–6

Tip: Make sure you've finished First Class, Sea Scout Apprentice, or the listed Ranger requirements first.

- ☐ **2** Show you can safely use five of these tools, and talk about using each one ethically: shovel or spade, pick or pickax, bow saw, cross-cut saw, ax, sledge hammer, prybar, loppers or shears, Pulaski, fire rake or McLeod

Tip: Learn safe use of tools like shovels, rakes, and loppers. Talk about using them in ways that help rather than harm nature.

Example: Five tools you might learn: a shovel, a McLeod, a Pulaski, loppers, and a bow saw. Show a safe stance and how to carry each, and discuss ethical use, like cutting only what the land manager has marked.

3 Conservation merit badges

- ☐ **3a** Earn the Environmental Science or Sustainability merit badge, or finish both the Venturing Ranger Conservation core and Ecology elective

Tip: Choose Environmental Science or Sustainability, or the Ranger option. Start with the one you enjoy most.

Example: Environmental Science leans toward ecosystems and experiments; Sustainability looks at water, food, energy, and waste in daily life. Venturers can use the Ranger Conservation core plus the Ecology elective.

- ☐ **3b** Earn the Soil and Water Conservation merit badge

Tip: Soil and Water Conservation teaches how land and water work together. Look for hands-on projects nearby.

- ☐ **3c** Earn the Forestry, Mammals, or Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge

Tip: Choose Fish and Wildlife Management, Forestry, or Mammals based on your interests.

Example: Pick by interest: Fish and Wildlife Management if you like habitat projects, Forestry if you want to learn trees and forest health, or Mammals if you like tracking and studying animals.

- ☐ **4** Do 25 hours of conservation work in Scouting America activities and to its standards; hours from requirements 1–3 count

Tip: Log your conservation hours toward the 25 you need, and what you did. Trail work, planting, and cleanups all count if they're part of Scouting.

Example: Hours might come from a park's invasive plant pull, a tree planting, building drainage on an eroding trail, or restoring a streambank. Note the date, project, hours, and who supervised each time.