

Scouting for Food

March 2012

Unit Coordinator Guide

Boy Scouts of America, Atlanta Area Council



www.AtlantaBSA.org/ScoutingForFood



December 19, 2011

Dear Scouting Volunteers:

It is my pleasure to serve as the 2012 Chairman of the Scouting for Food service project. As you know, a central value of the Scouting program is that of service, found easily in the Scout Oath to "Help other people at all times." It is likewise our duty as volunteers in the Boy Scouts of America to ensure that each and every Scout has the opportunity to engage in service projects with meaning and profound impact-- and Scouting for Food is this type of project.

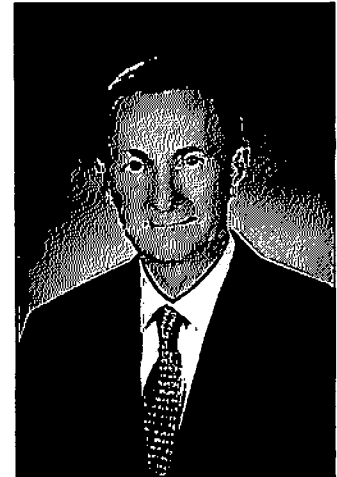
One in five people in our community struggle with the daily need of wholesome and nutritious meals. When Scouts go into our neighborhoods and collect food, they are truly helping those in need while developing a lifelong virtue of community service. Last year Scouts collected more than 140,000 pounds of food. With our goal of 100% Scout participation in this year's effort, the food banks in Atlanta are sure to have well-stocked shelves.

The Boy Scouts of America has a strong tradition of teaching community service in the Atlanta community and SunTrust is proud to be a partner in the Scouting for Food project. While Scouts are working in our neighborhoods to collect food for the hungry, our SunTrust team members and partners will be learning about the third point of the Scout Law, "Helpful", as we, too, will be collecting food at our downtown Atlanta offices.

It is our privilege to support Scouting in this important service project and character building program. Thank you for being a Scouting volunteer, and thank you for organizing your unit in the Scouting for Food project!

Yours in Scouting,

Craig Smith
2012 Scouting for Food Chairman



Craig Smith, Executive Vice President, Corporate Communications & Community Engagement, SunTrust.

An Overview of 2012 Scouting for Food

Who helps make Scouting for Food possible?

Our Scouts, their friends and families, as well as our corporate partners that include Publix Super Markets and SunTrust Bank.

What is Scouting for Food?

Scouting for Food is the nation's largest single-day food drive which began as a Scout's service project in St. Louis in 1985 and was adopted by the National Organization in 1988.

Where does the donated food go?

After the Scouts collect bags filled with canned/non-perishable foods, they deliver them to a local drop-off location where volunteers sort and box food to be delivered to local food pantries. Your donated food will help feed people in Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Haralson, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, and Rockdale Counties.

In any given week, almost 60,000 people receive assistance from the Atlanta Community Food Bank and an estimated 30 million pounds of food are provided annually—and this is just one of many organizations in the Atlanta metro area. In 2011, Scouting for Food collected more than 140,000 pounds of food for Atlanta Community Food Bank and other local food pantries which provided more than 100,000 meals for needy families in metro Atlanta.

When does it take place?

A Saturday in March is Bag Distribution Day. More than 225,000 Publix grocery bags will be hung on doorknobs throughout metro Atlanta.

A Second Saturday in March is Bag Collection Day. Scouts return to pick up bags filled with donated food and take them to their local collection site

Why do we participate in Scouting for Food?

As an organization, the Boy Scouts teaches youth the value of helping others and to give back to their communities. By collecting food for people in need, Scouts are fulfilling the Scout Oath and Slogan of "doing a good turn daily" and "helping other people."



Scouting for Food 2012

Unit Coordinator

Position Description

- Sign your unit up to participate in Scouting for Food by January Round Table.
- Sign your unit up for a specific area of coverage. Make sure you identify gated communities to your Scouting for Food Chair. Make sure the area you sign up for is the right size for your unit.
- Collect your Scouting for Food bags at February's Round Table.
- Recruit adult help within your unit to drive vehicles for distribution and collection day. Please note, no Scouts are to be driven in the back of pickup trucks without a safety restraint. Make sure all houses are collected from and do not start any earlier than 10 a.m.
- Distribute detailed instructions and copies of the map of your assigned area to each den or patrol. Distribute the appropriate number of bags to each of the leaders and drivers in your unit.
- Instruct the leaders to distribute their bags on the Saturday in March decided by your unit committee. It is important that the bags go out on that day in order to coincide with our publicity efforts. Do not hang bags on or put them in mailboxes.
- Make sure that the bags are collected on the Saturday in March directly following your distribution Saturday. If it is at all possible, it is best to have the same Scouts collect the bags in the area that they distributed the bags. Have Scouts carry empty bags with them and knock on doors that have not placed a food bag outside and ask them to participate. If your unit needs help collecting please contact your District Scouting for Food chair.
- Remind your Scouts and Volunteers not to begin the collection of bags until 10:00 a.m. on your chosen Saturday in March to insure that people have time to put the bags on their doorsteps.
- If at all possible, re-visit the areas assigned to your unit at least one time in the early afternoon in order to avoid missing bags. Please make sure the bags are delivered to your district's designated collection site as soon as possible.
- Log onto the Journey to Excellence Service Hours website and log the service for the number of Scouts and adults who participated in Scouting for Food. Make sure to include the time you spent on Scouting for Food. Make sure that other service projects your units does throughout the year are entered into this website database.
- Follow the link provided by the Atlanta Area Council, BSA to log your service and food collected with the council no later than Friday, April 13, 2012. Once you have logged your service with the council, your Scouts' patches will be mailed to you.

Here is all you need to do to ensure a successful Scouting for Food !

Attend January's Roundtable:

- Pay careful attention to the presentation at Roundtable; Should help with ideas for your unit presentation in January/February (*see agenda, following page*)
- Turn in your unit commitment form with bag order & get your distribution area on a map

Before your next Unit Meeting:

- Prepare maps and materials for your Scouts & families
- Contact all Scouts & parents to attend scheduled Unit Meeting for Scouting for Food Kickoff
- Confirm your dates for bag distribution and bag pick-up.

Unit Meeting (Scouting for Food Unit Kickoff):

- Lead/coordinate a 5-10 minute unit presentation to inspire your Scouts & families
- Secure their commitment to help with Scouting for Food this year

Attend February's Roundtable:

- Pick up your units bags

1st Saturday (Distribute bags to all households):

- Coordinate a check-in location for your Scouts/Families. Arrange for refreshments and get them excited for their morning
- PLEASE SECURE BAGS ON DOORS NOT MAILBOXES
- Have families contact you when their area is completed

2nd Saturday: (Collecting bags & drop off at assigned location)

- Coordinate a check- in location with your Scouts/Families. Arrange for refreshments and get them excited for their morning
- Remind Scouts to walk door to door in uniform to collect bags; knock on the door if missing a bag and offer another chance to participate
- Have Scouts and Leaders proceed to your assigned district drop off location:

Report Your Success!

- Report your volunteer hours by Logging into the Journey to Excellence service hours website: www.goodturnforamerica.org
- Report your unit's service to the Atlanta Area Council using the link emailed to you in February 2012 (will be posted on www.AtlantaBSA.org). This will register you for your participation patches.

Scouting for Food

Unit Kick-off Meeting Agenda

Be prepared to lead a 5-10 Minute presentation to inspire your Scouts and Parents

- Have a map with your Scouting for Food area blown up & copies for all families/Scouts with their assigned area highlighted
- With the map have your contact information and schedule for both Saturdays.
- Pre-assign streets/neighborhood areas for each family. Scouts should work in pairs.
- Rehearse your presentation prior to the meeting
- Remind Scouts to wear their uniform!

As Attendees arrive:

- Greet them & mark every 5th person with a dot sticker on their shirt
- Give each Scout/family a copy of the map with their assigned streets/ neighborhoods highlighted

Your presentation:

1. *Why do we do Scouting for Food?*

- Ask marked attendees to stand up (*and remain standing*) -this is a snapshot of our community, look around. Those standing represent the number of people in our community who go to sleep each night on an empty stomach.
- Everyday in our community 20% of us seek food assistance.
- Scouting for Food helps to ensure our neighbors and their families will have an adequate food supply.

2. *What can we do to help make this important project successful?*

- We need 100% family support for Scouting for Food!
- Set a goal of 15 bags of food collected by each Scout
- Scouts that place the bags on the first Saturday should return to same house to collect on the second Saturday. This avoids missing household and neighborhoods.

3. **Collection Tips**

- If there isn't a bag outside, knock at the door with a bag in hand and offer another chance to participate
- Arrange for a collection box at places of worship, schools, home owners association, Apartment/Condo clubhouses and offices.

4. Schedule for First Saturday.

- **Wear your uniform**
- Meet at unit assembly location for instructions and refreshments
- Go to your assigned neighborhood to distribute bags
- Call your unit leader when you have completed your assigned area

5. Schedule for Second Saturday

- **Wear your uniform**
- Meet at unit assembly location for instructions and refreshments
- **After 9:00AM**, return to your assigned neighborhood to collect bags
- Deliver your bags to the designated collection site with total bag count

6. Recognition!

- Every Scout that works both weekends earns a Scouting for Food patch!
- Every Scout that collects at least 100 items gets an achievement Scouting for Food patch!

Scouting for Food - 2012 Scout Participation Roster

District:		Please list only youth that participated both weekends. _____ # bags collected _____ Food collection date	
Pack No.			
Troop No.			
Crew No.			
Unit Leader:			
	First	Last	100 items?
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			

***Please complete this Scout roster before delivering your food to collection site.**

Where did you deliver your food to? _____

Scouting For Food Collection Sites – 2012

Cherokee County (4 Locations)

MUST Ministries
141-B Marietta Rd.
Canton, GA 30144

Cherokee County Fire Dept.
Station #22
9550 Bells Ferry Rd.
Canton, GA 30114

Cherokee County Fire Department
Station #19
100 Ridgemill Ct.
Acworth, GA 30102

Cherokee County Fire Department
Station #23
7625 Vaughn Rd.
Canton, GA 30115

Clayton County (3 Locations)

Calvary Refuge Center
4265 Thurmond Rd.
Forest Park, GA 30297

Clayton County Fire Department
Station #3
1099 Battle Creek Rd.
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Clayton County Police Headquarters
7911 N. McDonough Street
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Cobb County (4 Locations)

Sweetwater Valley C.A.M.P.
6289 Veterans Memorial Drive
Building 12-A
Austell, GA 30168

Storehouse Ministries
1348 Canton Rd. NE
Marietta, GA 30066

MUST Ministries
1210B Kennestone Circle
Marietta, GA 30061

Marietta Police Department
240 Lemon Street
Marietta, GA 30060

DeKalb County (3 Locations)

Caring for Clarkston
1722 Oak Grove Rd.
Decatur, GA 30033

DeKalb Fire Department
Stations TBA

Stone Mountain Cooperative Ecumenical Ministry
5324 West Mountain Street
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Fulton County (2 Locations)

Atlanta Community Food Bank
732 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd., NW
Atlanta, GA 30318

North Fulton Community Charities
11270 Elkins Road
Roswell, GA 30076

Newton County (1 Location)

Newton County Fire Department
Station #1
11545 Covington Bypass Road
Covington, GA 30014

Rockdale County (1 Location)

Rockdale County Sherriff's Office
911 Chambers Drive
Conyers, GA 30012