



The Star and Life Service projects are a chance for the scouts to begin to plan, enjoy and experience a project for the benefit of others. This is also good practice for their Eagle service project. The service project must demonstrate service to others. At the Star and Life level a scout is not expected to lead a service project. They are expected to participate in a service project for a total of total 6 hours of service.

An appropriate service project cannot benefit a scout's troop, another scout, scouting related organization (such as a scout camp), individual or business. Some examples of an acceptable institution could be a religious institution, school, community, parks, library, and so on. You may complete this service requirement on your own or do it with other members of your patrol or troop. Each scout must complete 6 hours of service.

Service project ideas can be found in many places: at your religious center, at your school, or from community organizations. Let the word out that you are looking for service project ideas and see what input you get - talk to your religious leader, teachers, sport coaches, adult Scout leaders, etc. As you look around for ideas, write down several which interests you. Take detailed notes to use when talking to your Scout Leader about your service hour plans -- you cannot remember things nearly as well as you can read them from your notes later.

After you have talked over possible service project ideas with your Scoutmaster you may begin the project. Make sure to get prior approval.

Also read your BSA Handbook.

Additional requirements:

- No scout is allowed to perform a service project alone with an adult (to comply with BSA youth protection guidelines)
- Scouts may not drive other Scouts to/from scout service projects
- Scouts may not include driving as part of their service project time requirement
- **Parents are not to do the work for the scouts**
- In general, scouts should not do their service projects for their parent's organizations (any exception must be approved by the Scoutmaster)

Guidelines – How do I know if this is a good service project?

Use these questions to help guide you in determining if the project you want to do will be a good choice. While we do not and cannot require a scout to turn in these questions it is helpful in planning if this is the right service project for you. Remember a scout is **ONLY** required to do what a requirement states; no more, no less.



Service Project Guiding Questions:

1. Will I enjoy working on this service project? Why or why not?

2. Is the work something I can do physically and mentally? Why or why not?

3. Is it challenging to me? Why or why not?

4. Did I choose to complete this service project? If not, who did?

5. Will I be able to complete all 6 hours with this service project? How many hours will I still need to complete? (You do not have to do all 6 hours with the same project)

6. Will I need any special skills? If I do not have the skill, who can help me?

7. Who will benefit? Do they fit within the guidelines of who can benefit from a service project?

8. How will they benefit?

9. How will I benefit?

10. Would I want to do this project again? Why or why not?
