



# 2023 NATIONAL JAMBOREE

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<https://jamboree.scouting.org/media>

## **15,000 Scouts Unite for Flood Victims: National Jamboree to Feature Massive Service Project Producing 5,000 “Flood Bucket” Cleaning Kits**

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*Scouting’s Longstanding Commitment to Provide Service to Others Continues with Ongoing Project During the 10-Day Gathering*

**MOUNT HOPE, West Virginia (July 5, 2023)** — The Boy Scouts of America announced today that the program at its [2023 National Jamboree](#) – scheduled for July 19 – 28 at Scouting’s [Summit Bechtel Reserve](#) in West Virginia – will feature a large-scale “Flood Bucket” service project involving the assembly of at least 5,000 [cleaning kits](#) by the more than 15,000 young leaders who are attending the event.

The “Flood Bucket” cleaning kits – consisting of 15 items ranging from rubber gloves and scrub brushes to scouring pads and towels packed tightly into a 5-gallon bucket – serve as essential “first aid” resources that provide flood victims with the practical and emotional support necessary to begin restoration of their homes and personal belongings.

Participating Scouts will assemble the kits and include a personalized note to the flood victims. The completed kits, valued at \$375,000, will be wrapped and transported to a warehouse and then distributed as needed to flooded areas throughout West Virginia.

According to research from NASA, the proportion of people across the globe living in flood-prone areas has risen by as much as 24% since 2000 — 10 times greater than the number previous models had predicted, as climate change drives extreme rainfall, rising sea levels and more intense hurricanes.

The Flood Bucket project was organized by volunteer Scouters, and underwritten by contributions from volunteers and supporters of Scouting. The Disaster Response Ministries of the West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church will be providing assistance.

According to the Volunteers in Mission (VIM) coordinator for West Virginia, David Stilgenbauer, who will oversee the Jamboree’s Flood Bucket service project, “Harnessing the power of Scouting at the Jamboree, both in terms of its sheer numbers, as well as the organization’s stated commitment to “help other people at all times,” will have a positive impact on the health and welfare of many flood victims for a significant length of time.”

Last year alone, Scouts recorded nearly 7 million hours of service to the nation, involving a broad range of projects that benefitted individuals and organizations in local communities. “When the BSA decided to develop the Summit, we made a promise to the State of West Virginia that we would always strive to do things to make a positive difference in the local community,” said Russell Smart, who is coordinating the initiative for the BSA.

“Flooding is a major issue in this area of the country and West Virginia is one of the states most impacted by this type of natural disaster. The flood bucket project is another opportunity to honor our promise and make that positive difference in a unique way,” added Smart.

In addition to assembly of the buckets by Scouts, UMCOR’s program will include physical displays that demonstrate the aftereffects of flooding on homes and personal items, and also include educational and inspirational explanations of the impact of flooding on families and communities, as well as the importance of aiding victims.



#### **About the 2023 National Jamboree**

Media can find more information about the National Jamboree, as well as [register for media credentials](#) at <https://jamboree.scouting.org/media/> or contact [PR@Scouting.org](mailto:PR@Scouting.org)



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#### **2023 National Jamboree Logo**

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#### **About the Boy Scouts of America**

The Boy Scouts of America provides the nation’s foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training, which helps young people to be “Prepared. For Life.®” The Scouting organization is composed of more than 1 million youth members between the ages of 7 and 21 and approximately 960,000 volunteers in local councils throughout the United States and its territories. For more information on the Boy Scouts of America, please visit [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org).



### **How to Join Scouting**

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