

Traffic Safety Merit Badge Activity Booth

The Boy Scouts of America will be holding its National Scout Jamboree from July 19-28, 2017 at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve or "The Summit" for short (<http://www.summitbsa.org/>). The Summit is located in the New River Gorge Region of West Virginia.

At the upcoming Jamboree, more than 30,000 Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts, boys and girls, mostly aged 13-17 years will get a chance to sample some of the most exciting, challenging and fun activity and merit badges that they can earn. One of those badges will be the Traffic Safety Merit Badge. At previous jamborees, Traffic Safety was one of the most popular merit badge programs. This badge introduces the scouts to traffic safety in terms of driver behavior, highway design and traffic control devices, vehicle and traffic law, and vehicle safety features. It is designed to make them safer drivers, passengers, pedestrians, and cyclists. It also offers an opportunity for career guidance about the transportation engineering and planning profession.

Beginning in 2005, the Traffic Safety Merit Badge program has been sponsored by ITE. The booth's volunteer staff included ITE members, staff from FHWA, and others adults involved or interested in traffic safety. These volunteers contributed to enhance traffic safety awareness for young drivers and future drivers, and had great fun doing it for the 10 days of the Jamboree.

There are several ITE members who have already volunteered to participate on the booth's staff in 2017, but more are needed. If you are involved in Scouting, please consider this opportunity to promote traffic safety and your profession in a very special way at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree.

The participation dates for staff are from July 15 to 29, 2017. You can participate for the first part (July 15-22), for the second part (July 22-29), or for the entire Jamboree, whatever best fits your schedule and personal budget. For information on the 2017 National Jamboree, visit its website at <http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/>.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information on this opportunity, please contact program coordinators John Davis at DavisJ@AyresAssociates.com, Steven Gayle at gaylegvill@frontiernet.net or Roberta McLaughlin at robertamcl@hotmail.com.

Hope to see you at THE SUMMIT in 2017!

