

Service is one of the Methods of our Scouting Program. "Do a Good Turn Daily!" and "Do your Best!" are synonymous with BSA. Service-related hours is an easily-quantifiable metric that IS tracked and reported, both within our Scouting family (not only locally, but Nation-wide) but also with members in our communities. Our Scouting professionals can use these results as a visible demonstration of the attributes of our Program, especially when they are out in the field trying to recruit participants and sponsors. Picture Jon Yates or Will Gregorcyk reporting to your Chamber of Commerce or your School Board and telling them that Boy Scouts and their parents performed xx thousands of hours of service (worth 10-times-xx thousands of dollars) last year IN YOUR COMMUNITY! We need to do our part in helping them out with this data!

The website that you need to log these hours is <https://servicehours.scouting.org>. The person entering the info must get their Unit's login code from your District Executive.

I've received some recent Service Project Hour reports from Gary Wyatt and have done a little analysis on the data. I actually believe that we're doing a little better about logging our hours than we did last year, but I truly believe that we're leaving A LOT of Service Project hours not reported!

A couple things jump out at me:

- To date, we have logged a total of over 35,000 community service project hours this year!
- Over 25,000 of these hours have been reported in concert with 184 Eagle Projects.

A couple things where I feel we can improve:

- As a Council, only 125 of our 535 Units (23%) have logged Service Projects year-to-date!
- 22 of our 223 Packs (<10%) have logged a Service Project; note that 12 of these 22 Units are from Waterloo District!
- 89 of our 188 Troops (47%) have logged Service Projects.
 - 78 of these Troops logged Eagle Scout Service Projects
 - Only 18 Troops (<10%) have logged non-Eagle Scout Service Projects!
- Four of our Districts (Bee Cave, Colorado River, Live Oak, and Sacred Springs) have not had a Unit log a non-Eagle Scout Service Project.

I KNOW in my heart that many of our Troops perform Service Projects on every campout! And many others perform Service Projects on a monthly or quarterly basis. Don't forget about all the Service Projects being conducted in response to the devastation left by Hurricane Harvey.

Our members HAVE ALREADY DONE THE HARD PART -- the Service. Now it's up to us to ensure that they go that last step and log these hours! Again, the website to use is <https://servicehours.scouting.org>. Help me to get this message out to the leaders of your Units!

If I can help out in any way, please let me know.

Yours in Scouting Service!

Dave Walshak

Dwalshak.bsa@gmail.com