



**Scouting  
America**

**Narragansett Council**

# How Scouting is Funded

## **How Units are Funded**

Units typically receive funding through various sources, including:

- Weekly or monthly dues
- Approved product sales such as popcorn
- Specific projects or activities approved by the chartered organization and the Council

The Annual Council Popcorn Sale is the preferred fundraiser for units

- Over 70% of the funds raised are returned to support Scouting at both the unit and Council levels. The Council coordinates the sale, there is no risk, no inventory, and prizes for Scouts!

## **How Units typically use their funding**

- Activities such as camping and other events
- Program supplies for unit activities
- Equipment such as:
  - Tents, camp stoves, Pinewood Derby kits. etc
  - Rank emblems & Merit Badges

## **Teaching Scouts to “Earn their way”**

- Scouts should be taught to "earn their way"
- Units cannot solicit contributions
- Gifts to units are generally not tax deductible
- Units can use the funds they raise for any activities that:
  - Are within the National and Local Council guidelines
  - Are approved by their unit committee and chartered organization
- Only the Council can solicit contributions

## **501(c)(3)**

Scout units, like packs, troops, and crews, need not and should not seek to incorporate under state law and are not permitted to form their own 501(c)(3) organizations. Units may not form a “Friends of” or Boosters of” organization.

Units operate under the tax-exempt status of their chartering organization, which is typically a Local Council or a church or other community group.



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- Annual Growing Leaders Campaign (GLC) donations
- Fundraising events such as:
  - Golf Classic
  - Sporting Clays Shoot
  - Distinguished Citizens Awards Lunch
- Popcorn sale
- Fees for Summer Camp and year-round activities
- Foundation Grants, Investment income, Endowments, Legacies & Bequests

## **How Narragansett Council uses its Funding**

To support units and volunteers through:

- Marketing campaigns to promote Scouting
- Training for both youth and adult leaders
- Membership recruitment campaigns and materials
- Leader support events including Roundtables, Boom! Event, Thrive Drive, and volunteer recognition events
- Financial assistance for all youth to participate
- Maintain 5 camp properties including free tent camping for units
- Insurance coverage for volunteers and units
- Managing membership and advancement records
- Professional and support staff to coordinate Scouting activities to ensure the delivery of a safe, high-quality program for youth
- Supplies for summer camp and year-round activities

## **Unit Funding Resources**

Scan for:

**Fiscal Policies & Procedures**  
**Unit Money Earning Application**  
**Additional on-line resources**

