**Yahara District Thunderbird Trailblazer Program**

The Yahara District Thunderbird Trailblazer program promotes hiking, can be completed as a family, den or pack, and is meant to supplement the advancement program. To participate in the program, choose a hike from the Thunderbird Trailblazer Hike list. Plan for the hike and complete the hike at a local park, recreation area, scout camp, or other outdoor space. Once the hike is complete, fill out a Trailblazer Report through Black Pug and purchase your patches.

**Trailblazer Hike Guidelines**

1. Chose a hike from the Thunderbird Trailblazer Hike list.
2. Plan a hike that is at least 1 mile long.
3. Dress appropriately and bring along essential items for hiking.
4. Follow the Guide to Safe Scouting and Youth Protection guidelines at all times.
5. Practice Leave No Trace principles and adhere to the Outdoor Code while on the hike.
6. Once the hike is complete, fill out a trip report and purchase patches.
7. Most of all – have fun!

**Thunderbird Trailblazer Hike List**

* Service or Conservation Hike – Scouts participate in a service or conservation project while on the hike. Check with the local park personnel or authorities to determine if there are any service or conservation opportunities. Be sure to consider the abilities of your scout and make the project age appropriate.
* Paint Chip Color Hike – Give one of more color strips from the paint store to each hiker. Let them find objects on their hike that match their colors as closely as possible. Take pictures to show your finds. For a challenge, have a couple colors that aren’t as easy to find in nature.
* Homes Hike – Look for animal homes, such as burrows, nests, spider webs and so forth. Look high, low and in places you wouldn’t necessarily look on a normal hike. Take care not to disturb the animal homes!
* Night Hike – Using flashlights, explore what nature is like after the sun goes down. If the moon is bright enough, turn off the flashlights and look around. See how different things look, sound and smell after dark. If the night is clear, see if you can identify any constellations, planets, or satellites.

**THUNDERBIRD TRAILBLAZER HIKE JOURNAL ENTRY**

Complete a journal entry for each hike that you go on. Keep them in a binder or folder to help build a hiking journal of your own.

Type of Hike Completed:

Location of Hike:

Date of Hike:

What was the weather like?

What interesting things did you see/do on your hike?

What is something you learned on the hike?

If you were to take this hike again or recommend it to a friend, is there anything you would recommend that you do differently?

Drawings/Sketches from Your Hike