



A Mom's Manual:

How to NOT Pull Your Hair Out

On the Trail to Eagle

Mom's Manual: How to NOT Pull Your Hair Out On the Trail to Eagle

Forward

What steps he goes through on his way to Eagle

Am I done after the Eagle Project?

Life after Eagle

Eagle Scout Advancement Check List

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What is the male role in scouting?

Moms are always welcome to be leaders in scouting from Committee members to ASM, even Scoutmasters. But men have a vital role for our boys in scouts. Be it father, uncle, big brother, grandfather, or close neighbor, I have found that men are vital in helping our boys learn to become men. In Boy Scouts, they show our boys what it is to be a man with scout virtues from Honesty to Reverence to God.

How wonderful it is to see them at the meetings, guiding the boys along as they learn so many life skills! My favorite is when on campouts, they all go to church. The boys see the adults show so much reverence to God when praying, and kneeling in front of our Lord.

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What is the mother's role in scouting?

When it comes to discipline in the home, dad "usually" is the one with the boots on. But I've noticed that for me and my Eagle, I had to borrow those boots to put a few "gentle" imprints on the back side of my "soon to be Eagle" son.

You may hear, "it'll be alright", "things will happen", "I'm not worried about it"... and that was from my husband. But who has to do the driving? Who takes him to ask for donations? Who sees him stuck on a plateau because the little details are going on forever, and it is so overwhelming?

No, we are not going to run his project for him or tell him what to do (he's too proud to have his mommy do that anyway), but we can ask questions like: what have you done so far; have you heard back from MR. so-n-so about that... You can give helpful hints like: I know that MR. so-n-so leader hasn't shown up to a meeting in 2 months, so I'd suggest you call or send an email asking "In the next week, what date and time would be most convenient for you to meet with me?"

Sometimes your scout may be really feeling the pressure and will actually push you away. For this I would suggest 3 things:

First: Time permitting, create space and time for him to work on his project. We are always so busy with day to day life, that we may not give our boys time for planning, emailing, calling... You may need to tell him: At "this time", I will set aside time for you to work on your project; or The computer is yours for Eagle work; or I will keep this time free to take you places to get donations.

Second: With great sincerity, ask him if his goal truly is to get Eagle before he's 18. If he says "no", find out if it is because he really had no interest in it, or if he is running into problems and needs more direction.

Third: As a mom, the most important thing is to talk to an adult leader. This is usually the Scoutmaster, or (if one exists) the Eagle Advisor. They may give you suggestions, let you know if he is doing what he needs to be doing and not to worry, or he may use **HIS** specialized boots on your scout to give him a well needed jump-start.

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What steps does he go through on his way to Eagle?

The order

Earn Life Scout Rank

Finish badges

Your scout may be ready for his project, but he still needs to finish all Eagle required badges, and a certain number of extra badges, before getting the rank of Eagle. This can be done while working on his project.

Pick an Eagle project

Meet with Scoutmaster. He will assign an Eagle Advisor.

The project cannot be for his troop or the BSA

Go to an organization he wants to do work for, with some ideas (1st approved by Eagle Advisor).

(Remember, this is a service for the organization, so give them what THEY want)

Start filling out the Eagle Scout Rank Application

Go to the Sam Swope Scout Office and ask for a verified (not working) copy of your son's profile.

This will let your son know if all the badges and ranks needed for Eagle are finished.

When all the required badges are finished, enter this info into the Eagle Rank Application

Can be filled in online then printed

go to www.lhcbasa.org;

press Unit Resources;

press on left near bottom Forms;

pdf for Eagle Scout Rank Application.

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Start filling out the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook:

Scout will use this Workbook as a checklist.

Can be filled in online then printed

go to www.lhcbasa.org;

press Unit Resources;

press on left near bottom Forms;

pdf for Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook

If not found, PC and Mac version:

<http://www.scouting.org/Home/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/EagleWorkbookProcedures.aspx>

About half of the workbook will be filled out during this planning phase.

Have Eagle Advisor look over paperwork for completeness.

While planning, scout should take into account that he wants his District Board of Review finished before his 18th birthday.

Present Eagle plan, in writing, for approval.

Get Committee Chair's signature on Eagle Project Workbook form.

Get Scoutmaster's signature on Eagle Project Workbook form.

Present Eagle plan, in writing, to the organization for approval.

Get signature of the organization the Eagle project is for on Eagle Project Workbook form.

Present Eagle plan, in writing, to the District Advancement Chair for approval.

Get signature of the District Advancement Chair on Eagle Project Workbook form.

-you need to call the Scout Office (502-361-2624) and ask for his name/contact info, then set up a meeting.

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Do fundraisers; Get donations

Follow the guidelines in the Eagle Project Workbook

Donations are the best!!!

Scout creates a request letter with the troop symbol as the letter head

(We did cut and paste from the troop's web site)

Scout, print a map and look up stores (hardware, paint...)

Drive your son, in full uniform, to ask for donations with letter in hand

I had a lot of luck with the LOWES closest to our project.

Plan a date for the project, and get workers

Many workers talk with their stomachs. Let them know you'll feed them.

Businesses love Scouts!!! Discounts and Donations can be acquired for:

Pizza, donuts, coffee, soda, use your imagination!!!

Getting workers really is a multi-step thing. Suggestions for your scout could be:

Tell everyone at the scout meeting during announcements for 1 – 2 weeks

Have a blurb put into the weekly email for 1 – 2 weeks

*** **call** those you really want there to help you ***

Send an email reminder .

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Do the project

Your scout will be organizing the boys and adults by the work he wants them to do. For example, if he is painting, he may be teaching the boys the proper way to pour the paint, paint the wall, clean brushes, do touch-up, and clean-up messes. He will probably be using the EDGE method of learning and teaching. If, for example, he does not know how to paint, he may want to talk to a professional painter, or someone at a paint store.

Have a sign-in/sign-out sheet. Everyone's hours count (even yours and your scout's).

***** mom alert ***** during the Eagle Project, you need to make sure your son is in charge. It is very easy for us moms to want to do it for our boys. Likewise, it is very easy for other dads and leaders to want to "run the show". **Don't** let this happen. If you see something that doesn't look right, tell your scout about it and ask him what he thinks. If an adult looks like he is trying to run the project, gently remind him that the scout needs to demonstrate his leadership skills. You can always make suggestions, but leave it up to the scout to run the show and make decisions.

***** what can I do ***** Whatever needs to be done. I always called myself the "go to" person. During his project, I'd go pick up extra paint and supplies as my scout told me he needed them. I'd pick up the food and drinks. I'd basically do the back-ground, loose ends things, to make it all run smoothly, and leave the "real work" to everyone else. Another important thing to do is "**take pictures**" before, during, and after. These will come in handy at the Eagle reviews and at Court of Honor.

Your scout may think that something as simple as painting a wall will only take a few hours. If everything goes right, well I'd congratulate him, otherwise, your scout will learn, as a leader, how to deal with the dreaded "things happen". Know that your scout will estimate how long it will take, but be prepared for 3 times that.

Get sign-off signature from the organization

When the project is completed to the organization's satisfaction, they will sign his workbook.

Finish the paperwork

Finish filling out the Eagle Project Workbook

Finish filling out the Eagle Rank Application

Make sure the Statement of Purpose has been written.

The Statement of Purpose is a paragraph stating "what I want to be when I grow up." Religious, single, married, engineer, business owner, ... Usually you include how getting Eagle will help you achieve your future goals.

Scout will meet with his Eagle Advisor to make sure all paperwork is filled out properly.

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Do Scoutmaster Conference and get signature

You son will set it up via email, phone, or at a scout meeting. Do NOT hesitate!!!

Your son must have all required badges finished, Eagle project signed by the organization, and the Scoutmaster's signature before his 18th birthday. Otherwise there must be letters of documentation stating why it is late. Trust me, earlier is better.

Set up both Committee Reviews

- Scout needs to set-up the Troop Committee review.
Your son will be getting in touch with the Committee Chairman for this.

Troop 243 does Troop Committee reviews. The Troop Committee review is the practice for the District Committee Review.

- Scout needs to set-up the District Committee Review.

Call Scout Office (502-361-2624) Get the name, phone #, and email of your scout's District Advancement Chair. It will probably be the same as before, but verify.

***** mom alert ***** Tell your scout to be persistent!!!

District Advisors are volunteers and are very busy, so your scout may need to call this advisor many times before he gets a call back, to set up his meeting.

Makes sure the District Committee Review's date is AFTER the Troop Committee Review date.

It may be up to 3 months before he can get his District Committee Review.

Do troop committee review and get Committee Chair's signature

Not all troops have an Eagle Committee Review.

The committee chair must sign the application, and that will normally entail a very close review of the application by the chair. It's the last troop level signature, the last chance to catch errors, the final certification by the troop. By signing the original application, the committee chair is giving his word that the scout has indeed earned the rank of Eagle. And two deep leadership requires at least one other adult to be present for that. So many troops make the process of obtaining the committee chair's signature into a mini-Board of Review, with three adults, to help the scout prepare for the District Board of Review.

Once again, Do NOT Hesitate!!!

Scout will have 3 copies of his Eagle Project workbook, and many pictures!!! He will be in full uniform, and have his scout book. The Committee Review is really the practice for the Council Review.

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Turn in paperwork Eagle Rank Application at the scout office

Make sure all the signatures, scoutmaster and committee chair, are on this original paper.

At the scout office, they will verify that all the dates on the Eagle Rank Applications match what is in the computer for badges and rank advancements, and make sure the scout has earned every MB and is currently registered as a scout in his troop.

The scout office will make a copy, and you will get a "certified" copy for the District Board of Review.

Do District Review

The advisor will give you a date and evening time for this meeting.

Scout will be in full uniform, and have his scout book. This is the most important meeting he will ever have in scouts. Don't worry, everything he has done and learned from scouts will have him prepared for this meeting.

What if he messes up the District Review???

We've had several scouts who did not pass the district board, for various reasons (usually paperwork) and they can get another chance, after fixing the problem.

Take the following to the District Board of Review:

- Ø Many before and after pictures from his Eagle Project!!!
- Ø Eagle Scout Rank Application
- Ø Eagle Candidate's Boy Scout Handbook

Bring from the Scout Office:

- Ø Verified Copy of the Eagle Scout Rank Application (get at scout office)
- Ø A blank Troop Advancement Report (No. 34403) (3 page carbon copy) (white, pink, green)

Have 3 copies and the original of the following:

- Ø Response to requirement 6 from Eagle Scout Rank Application
- Ø Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook

The 3 District Committee members will sign off on his original paperwork.

Make an extra copy of the signed off paperwork for his own records.

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Turn in these original forms to the scout office

At this point, your scout is an EAGLE!! Don't worry mom, you are almost done.

Bring the following forms to the scout office: Verified Eagle Scout Rank Application, Response to requirement #6 from Eagle Scout Rank Application, Signed (Eagle Scout Rank Applications, Troop Advancement Report).

The Council (Local) Office will send these original forms to The National Scout Office, and The National Scout Office will send the eagle certificate and congratulation letters to the local scout office. The local scout office notifies the scoutmaster. Either the scoutmaster, or someone he designates, picks up the certificate from the scout office, and usually also stops at the "Scout Shop" to purchase the eagle recognition kit (Contains eagle badge, eagle medal, mother's pin, father's tie tac, and eagle mentor award). In the Lincoln Heritage Council, the council pays for the eagle recognition kit, for each scout, so it ends up being free to the troop and Eagle Scout.

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Am I done after the Eagle Project is done?

Planning an Eagle Court of Honor

Whether he wants the attention or not, he needs a party! This isn't just for him. This is for you, the troop, family and friends too. It gets the other boys excited about wanting to earn Eagle.

Pictures!!!

Everyone loves pictures! It is time to start digging out things from Tiger through this Eagle project. Many of us moms don't go camping or on trips with the Boy Scouts. Here are some ideas on how to get pictures: See if there are pictures on the troop website; send emails asking for pictures; see if there is a place that the troop keeps pictures.

Congratulations!!!

***** mom alert ***** At his Eagle's C of H, he will be presented with Congratulation letters. These can be from an astronaut, teacher, his boss, pastor... you name it. No, really, you need to name who you want letters from. In troop 243, Frank Hulsman sends out these requests for letters. It can take up to 3 months for letters to come back. Let Frank know who you would like letters from. He normally requests letters from: President, Vice-President, state Senators/Rep., Mayor, Governor, Archbishop Kurtz, the Pope. If you want other letters, ask Frank. See potential list at: usscouts.org/eagle/eaglecongrats.asp but be aware that Frank has found that many of the people whose names are listed here don't actually write the letters anymore.

Frank also orders the name plaque for the troop eagle plaque. Make sure you let him know how your son wants his name displayed, i.e. Bobby vs. Robert.

Announcements of your new Eagle.

The Record (Catholic newspaper) announces new Eagles, but **you** need to call.

Who? Marnie McAllister

Number? 502/636-0296

What does the troop do?

The troop will order and pay for the Eagle Award kit. Badge, medal, pins.

The troop will supply your Eagle Scout's nameplate for the plaque in Gallagher Hall.

Something special for you.

At the scout shop, they have a beautiful necklace with an eagle on it.

Sounds like a wonderful mother's present to me, and it isn't very expensive (maybe \$15).

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Life after Eagle

District Eagle Court of Awards Dinner

You and your Eagle are invited

Typically this happens the 1st Saturday in March.

If he became an Eagle in 2012, his Awards Dinner will be March of 2013

Based on his Statement of Purpose from the Eagle workbook, he will be assigned a mentor for the night.

He is still a Boy Scout

Until his 18th birthday, he can still:

Keep earning badges

Go Camping

Earn Bronze, Gold, and Silver Eagle Palms

He can join Crew 243

From age 14 until his 21st birthday and he is an Eagle:

He can enjoy High Adventure

He can earn more Awards that are recognizable to Colleges for Scholarships

He can be a Scout Leader (ASM or Committee)

If he is 18 or older:

Enjoy the benefits of being a leader

College Scholarships for Eagles

Remember...

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle!!!

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Eagle Scout Advancement Check List

check list	signatures	Rank Advancement	Eagle workbook
Scout Master assigns Eagle Advisor			
Eagle Advisor agrees with project			
Beneficiary agrees with project			
Go to scout office			
* get scout's verified profile			
* get District Advancement Chair (DAC) info			
** name and contact info.			
start filling out paperwork		Fill it out	proposal
Have Eagle Advisor check paperwork			xx
committee chair	xx		xx
Scoutmaster	xx		xx
Project Beneficiary	xx		xx
District Advancement Chair	xx		xx
Do Eagle Project			
Project Beneficiary	xx		xx
Have Eagle Advisor check paperwork		xx	xx
Scoutmaster	xx	xx	xx
committee chair/Troop Board of Review	xx	xx	xx
Go to scout office			
* check over Rank Advancement Application	xx	xx	
* keep original with signatures for District BofR			
* get District Advancement Chair (DAC) info			
** name and contact info.			
Scout (or Troop Eagle Advisor) contact DAC			
* set up District Board of Review			
District Board of Review	See below	See below	See below
Scout Office	See below	See below	See Below

	get Signed	After B of R bring to Scout Office
Bring to District Board of Review (B of R)		
Eagle Scout Rank Application	yes	Turn in
Verified Copy of the Eagle Scout Rank Application (scout office)		Turn in
Response to requirement 6 from Eagle Scout Rank Application		Turn in
Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook	yes	
Troop Advancement Report (No. 34403) (3 page colored carbon copy) scout office	yes	Turn in
Eagle Candidate's Boy Scout Handbook	yes	