



Caving

Caving is a specialized activity requiring advanced planning and technical skills. Scouting units participating in caving must follow the guidelines set forth in Cave Safely Cave Softly (www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/COPE/).

Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts are encouraged to visit commercially operated caves and lava tubes. For commercial operations, leaders should follow the guidelines set by the operators and reference Cave Safely Cave Softly for more information. Non-commercial “easy caves” with no access control, such as those in parks where people of all abilities are allowed uncontrolled access, may also be suitable for Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts.

Scouts BSA–age youth are generally mature enough to enter “easy wild caves,” which means easily accessible, non-technical/non-vertical caves. A “wild cave” is anything that is not commercially operated with a professional tour guide.

Older Scouts BSA members, Sea Scouts, and Venturers should be ready to explore more technical wild caves.

Cave Safely Cave Softly

<https://pdscouting.wpenginepowered.com/wpcontent/uploads/2019/01/CaveSafelyCaveSoftly.pdf>

Baden Powell Council high adventure trainers John Udall and Tim Woods would like to offer BSA caving training and trips to Scouts, Ventures, Sea Scouts, adult Leaders and parents beginning in mid 2023.

If your unit is interested, please contact:

Tim Woods at wwwoodsw@earthlink.net or cell 607-708-0470.