

Surveying Merit Badge Instructions

Bring your Blue Card (Application for Merit Badge) signed by your Scoutmaster. None will be available at the class.

Print and review the Surveying Merit Badge workbook. <http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Surveying>

Req 1 - Be prepared to discuss "Show that you know first aid for the types of injuries that could occur while surveying, including cuts, scratches, snakebite, insect stings, tick bites, heat and cold reactions, and dehydration. Explain to your counselor why a surveyor should be able to identify the poisonous plants and poisonous animals that are found in your area."

Req 2 - Bring a scout compass. We will be divided into groups and we will need one for each group.

Req 3 - Bring a ruler or engineers scale, a protractor and an eraser.

Req 2,3,4,5 - Bring paper and pencil to record your survey notes (Req. 2 & 5), to prepare your map (Req. 3) and to write your metes and bounds description (Req. 4).

Complete Req 6 ASAP

Req 6 - "Get a copy of the deed for your property, or a piece of property assigned by your counselor, from the local courthouse or title agency."

In the State of Maryland, this exercise can be done on-line. First, you will need to go to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation website <http://www.dat.state.md.us/> On the home page click on 'Real Property Data Search' in the lower right portion of the page. On the next page select the county the property you are searching for is in from the dropdown menu. Also select 'Street Address' as the method to search in the second drop-down menu. Click the Continue button. In the next window, enter the street address number and the street name. This should take you directly to the SDAT data sheet for the property you are searching for. Under the Owner Information section, it should identify the deed reference. Write these numbers down. This is in the format Book/Page.

Next, go to <http://www.mdlandrec.net/> You will need to set up a user name and password. It may take several days before the state archives e-mails you a password, so do not wait too long to do this requirement. On this webpage, select your county in the drop-down menu in the yellow bar at the top of the screen. On the next screen, select Instruments in the left column. Then in the "Instrument Search by Book/Page" box enter the Book and Page number. Click the Search! button. The next page should show you list of the grantors and grantees. Select one of them by clicking in the column labeled 'Instrument Type'. A new window should open displaying your deed. Print the deed and bring it with you to the merit badge class.

One additional note - While completing Requirement No. 6, if you have gotten a copy of your deed from your family files or if the document is an original or old and irreplaceable, it would be advisable to make a photocopy and bring that.