



# The Northeast District Monthly Gazette

A Publication of the Crossroads of America Council, BSA – Northeast District

"All the News...That Is News...for Pack, Troop, Crew & Ship Leadership in the Northeast District"

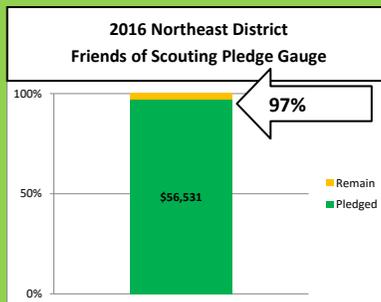
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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



## In the Next 30 Days

- May 18, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)  
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- May 18, 2016 (7:00 PM)  
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Jun 2, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)  
[MB Counselor Training](#)

## Adam Walden Leaves Crossroads of America Council, BSA

Reproduced here is a recent e-mail to district leadership from Steve Creason, Northeast District Committee Chair:

*I regret to announce that Adam Walden will be leaving us as our District Executive on May 10. His former employer, Weaver Popcorn (of Trail's End popcorn fame), approached him unexpectedly with an opportunity that better fit his family's needs. I know that he and Catie found this decision difficult. Above all else, Adam is dedicated to his family, and as you know, a DE's job is difficult for a parent with young children.*

*I've had the privilege of working closely with Adam as we strive to make Scouting in our District as great as it can be. Many of you have also enjoyed serving our youth alongside him. We're all thankful to have gotten to know him as a friend. During the brief time Adam has been with us, he provided admirable professional service to the District and Council for which we are very appreciative.*

*He isn't leaving Scouting entirely, however. He has one son in a Cub Scout pack in Noblesville, and two future Cubs waiting in the wings. So now he'll be able to do what all of us love and become more actively engaged as a volunteer.*

*We expect to have a DE assigned to us soon, and I'll be sure to update you as we learn more. In the meantime, Marilyn Lopez, the Western Section Field Director, is available if you have urgent needs. We should be considerate of her time as she manages half of the Council's districts. You can contact her at 317-813-7065 or via [e-mail](#).*

*Please join me in wishing Adam the best in his future endeavors. Adam, from all of us in the Northeast District, thank you for your hard work and exceptional dedication on our behalf. Godspeed in the next chapter of your career, and we'll see you around the campfire.*

## Welcome New Northeast District Training Chair - Jon Guimont

Last month the Northeast District was able to fill a key volunteer vacancy on the District Committee that has been open for some time...the Northeast District Training Chair. Please join us in welcoming Jon Guimont to this new role. As you will see below, we are excited to have a long-time Scouter in this key role. Below is a short self-introduction authored by:

*Jon Guimont grew up on the northeast side of Indianapolis; attending grade school at St. Matthew's where he was a member of both Pack and Troop 443. He then attended and graduated from Brebeuf Jesuit High School and Purdue University. He is the third generation in his family's business, R.L. Guimont Co., and is an Application Engineer and Quality Manager where much of his time is spent on software training.*



*Jon became involved with Pack 831 in 2012 when his son joined as a Tiger. He has served as a Den Leader since joining and as Cubmaster for the past two years. Jon also has two daughters who are in Girl Scout Troop 1863, which his wife serves as the Brownie leader. Jon's family also has a Border Collie named Stella, who loves to hike as much as they do. They are active in Lawrence Township schools and attend Northview Church – Indy North Campus.*

- Jun 5, 2016 (3:30 PM)  
NED Eagle BoRs
- Jun 6, 2016 (6:00–9:00 PM)  
[CPR/AED Training](#)
- Jun 8, 2016 (7:00 PM)  
NED Committee Mtg
- Jun 11, 2016 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)  
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)
- Jun 13-17, 2016  
[Dan Beard Week 1](#)
- June 13-17, 2016  
[Baden Powell Week 1](#)
- June 15, 2016  
NED Commissioners Mtg.

#### In the Next 60 Days

- June 16, 2016  
Cookout on the Circle
- June 20-24, 2016  
[Dan Beard Week 2](#)
- June 20-24, 2016  
[Baden Powell Week 2](#)
- Jun 25-26, 2016  
[WD9BSA ARRL Field Day](#)
- June 27-July 1, 2016  
[Dan Beard Week 3](#)
- June 27-July 1, 2016  
[Baden Powell Week 3](#)
- Jul 7, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)  
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- Jul 7, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)  
Launching into Scouting Rally
- July 11-15, 2016  
[Dan Beard Week 4](#)
- July 11-15, 2016  
[Baden Powell Week 4](#)

#### In the Next 90 Days

- July 18-22, 2016  
[Dan Beard Week 5](#)
- July 18-22, 2016  
[Baden Powell Week 5](#)
- July 25-29, 2016  
[Dan Beard Week 6](#)
- July 25-29, 2016  
[Baden Powell Week 6](#)

## Spring Camporee Summary and Award Winners Announced

Over the **April 22-24** week-end 100 Scouts and Scouters from 11 units descended on [Ransburg Scout Reservation](#) for the **Northeast District Spring Camporee**. Over the week-end, wilderness survival skills of participants were tested, and great news...everyone had a great time and, oh yea...everyone survived!



The Troops that were recognized for excellence in the various competitions that were held over the week-end were as follows:

### Cooking Award

Each group was given five ingredients to make a special survival meal. These five ingredients could be made to complement any items found in nature. **Troop 276** used their ingredients along with wild garlic, wild onion and mushrooms to create the award-winning meal. Foods prepared by other units included sassafras tea, special garden salads and stir fry dishes.

### Campsite and Gateway Award

Each unit was challenged to build a gateway entry into their campsite using all-natural materials and demonstrate their skills with knots and lashings. Additionally each unit was graded on the appearance cleanliness and organization of their campsite. **Troop 133** created a Gateway featuring the requirements and included a tarp that could also be used as a Wilderness Survival shelter. The US and Troop flags were a part of the winning Gateway.

### Spirit Award

The Spirit Award is presented to the unit that demonstrates Scouting Spirit throughout the duration of the Camporee. **Troop 133** was presented the Spirit Award for their willingness to help with the flag ceremonies, consistently wearing Class A uniforms at flags and meals, wearing Class B uniforms at other times during the Camporee, and presenting the idea of an evening campfire program which they did in combination with Troop 276.

### Overall Award

**Troop 133** was presented the Overall Award for the camporee for their willingness to be helpful, wearing Class A uniforms, enthusiasm, and their earlier wins in the Campsite, Gateway and Spirit Awards.

Congratulations to all Scouts and Scouters who “survived” the Northeast District Spring Camporee and special congratulations are extended to the Troops winning the various competitions. Also a very special thanks needs to be extended to the scouts of Northeast District’s **Troop 275** for designing and successfully implementing the Wilderness Survival stations at the Camporee. Finally, special thanks are also extended to members of **Crew 1776** (and additional adult volunteers) for preparing Saturday night’s dinner of chili hot dogs and side dishes. Plenty of food was available for all Camporee participants!

Check out a few photos from this fun event (*courtesy of Jerry Phillips, Troop 133*).



- Aug 1, 2016 (6:00-9:00 PM)  
[First Aid Training](#)
- Aug 2, 2016 (6:00-9:00 PM)  
[CPR/AED Training](#)
- Aug 3, 2016 (7:00 PM)  
NED Committee Mtg
- Aug 4, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)  
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- Aug 7, 2015 (3:30 PM)  
NED Eagle BoRs
- Aug 10, 2016 (7:00 PM)  
NED Roundtables



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#### Who Can I Contact

*Do you have feedback on the current issue?*

*Do you have ideas for news items in a future issue of*

***The Northeast District Monthly Gazette?***

Contact: [Mike Chambers](#)

### Need BALOO Training? Opportunity Knocks!

**Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training** is required for at least one adult on every Cub Scout camping or trekking trip. If your Pack needs to increase the number of BALOO trained adults, then we have an opportunity for you. The Northeast District is happy to offer this all day session on **Saturday, May 21, 2016** from **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM** at the **Golden-Burke Scout Center**.

During this session participants will learn about topics including planning for outings, acceptable camping locations for Cub Scouts, permits and paperwork, Cub Scout cooking, camping equipment, campfire program planning, health and safety, first aid and sanitation, and nature hikes and games.

The cost for this training session is only \$5.00 and lunch will be provided! While the sign-up deadline (May 17, 2016) for this required training is rapidly approaching, there is still time to register on-line. If you have any questions about this opportunity don't hesitate to contact the Northeast District Training Chair [Jon Guimont](#).

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### Marsh Supermarkets Cookout on the Circle Approaching

Mark your calendar! The twenty-fifth year of Marsh Supermarkets Cookout on the Circle is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2016 on Monument Circle. The event raises awareness of Scouting and supports Scouting's camp scholarship fund which enables hundreds of central Indiana Scouts to receive financial support they need to attend summer camp. We encourage everyone to join the fun on the circle in support of Scouting!

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### Northeast District Has a One Time Volunteer Opportunity

Have you thought about getting involved at the district level, but aren't able to make a long-term commitment? Here's your chance! The Northeast District needs a volunteer (or co-volunteers) to organize a district entry into the Lawrence 4th of July Parade. This will involve contacting troops and packs and offering scouts the chance to march in the parade as a group. Your organization skills will also be needed to coordinate with the parade committee and locate volunteers to host a scout information table at the end of the parade. Please contact Terry Prather via [e-mail](#) or by phone (317-372-9347) for more information.

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## Northeast District Friends of Scouting Campaign Update

As shown above at left, the Northeast District currently has secured pledges/contributions that place us at 97% of our \$58,300 goal for this year's Friends of Scouting campaign. We now need your help for the final push...we still need to secure pledges/contributions that amount to just a little over \$1,770 to make our goal. How can you help?

- (1) If you have not pledged to this year's Friends of Scouting campaign yourself, please do so immediately.
- (2) If your unit has not requested a Friends of Scouting presentation yet, please contact [Mike Chambers](#) so that one may be scheduled at your next Blue and Gold, Court of Honor, or other appropriate unit event.
- (3) If you know of individuals who have not already pledged to this year's Friends of Scouting campaign (either current or formerly registered with your unit) that you believe would support Scouting in Crossroads of America Council, BSA please contact them and ask them to contact [Mike Chambers](#) to arrange for their pledge to this year's campaign.

With your help, the Northeast District will meet or exceed this year's goal!

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## Northeast District Scouting for Food Competition Results

This year Crossroads of America Council-Kroger Scouting for Food campaign took on a different "flavor" in the Northeast District with the introduction of our first district-wide unit competition. This competition was structured in two divisions, one for Cub Scout units and one for Boy



Scouts/ Venturing units. Regardless of division, units were urged to collect food during the Scouting for Food campaign, weigh all food collected, and report the number of Scouts participating, as well as how many service hours were logged during the campaign. The winner of the both divisions would be decided by the highest average pounds of food collected per Scout participating. In the event of a tie, the total service hours logged would be used to decide the winner.

This year, one-hundred and twenty Scouts and Scouters (120) from eight (8) units in the Northeast District participating in the competition collected **just short of ONE TON OF FOOD** (1,965 pounds) which was donated to local food banks; they also logged a total of 193 service hours while Scouting for Food.

And now what you have all be waiting for – which units have earned the right to display the Northeast District Scouting for Food recognition for 2016. We are happy to announce that **Pack 444** and **Troop 427** were the winners of their respective divisions. The data from all participating units is provided below:

Unit Designation	Total # Collected	Number Scouts Participating	Average #/Scout Participating	Total Service Hours Logged
<b>Pack 444</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>36.14</b>	<b>35</b>
Pack 335	188	7	26.80	13
Pack 127	319	15	21.27	32
Pack 831	132	8	16.50	4
Pack 88	38	4	9.50	11
<b>Troop 427</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>64.63</b>	<b>34</b>
Troop 157	308	9	34.22	30
Troop 88	210	15	14.00	34

Thanks to all who made this year's Scouting for Food in the Northeast District such a success!

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## Summer Camp in Crossroads of America Council = Firecrafter

Week-long summer camp stays at Crossroads of America Council properties offers Scout campers (both Webelos and Boy Scouts) a unique opportunity to distinguish themselves by earning camp ranks in a scouting organization called [Firecrafter](#). Firecrafter was started at Camp Chank-Tun-Un-Gi (now Camp Belzer) in 1920 by then Scout Executive Francis O Belzer and his assistant, Stanley Norton to inspire the interests of young Scouts and emphasize camping, Scouting skills, and now service to Crossroads of America Council.

While the Order of the Arrow and Firecrafter are both Scouting organizations with similar objectives (Friendship, Leadership and Service), there is one big difference. Scout membership in Order of the Arrow is by Troop-election only; only those Scouts who are elected and complete an Ordeal may be considered members of the Order of the Arrow. In contrast, any Webelos/Boy Scout who attends a Crossroads of America Council summer camp may earn ranks in Firecrafter.

The specific Firecrafter requirements that must be completed while at either Cub Scout Day Camp or Webelos Adventure Camp for the ranks of [Webelos Camper](#) and [Webelos Firelight](#) are found on the Firecrafter website. A closer review of these requirements shows that they are all capable of being completed while at camp with a little extra effort by the Webelos Scout.



Webelos Camper



Webelos Firelight

The **Camper** rank is typically earned by first year Scouts, but can be earned by any Scout under the age of 21. The specific requirements to earn the rank of [Camper](#) are found on the Firecrafter website. A closer look at these requirements reveals that many are identical to Tenderfoot and/or Second Class rank advancements. The one requirement that goes beyond typical rank requirements calls for the Camper candidate to demonstrate how to create a flame using one of the following methods: (1) magnifying glass, (2) flint and steel or (3) steel wool and a battery.



Boy Scout Camper

The **Woodsman** rank is typically earned by second year Scouts, but can be earned by any Scout under the age of 21. The specific requirements to earn the rank of [Woodsman](#) are found on the Firecrafter website. The key requirements are: (1) demonstrate proper methods in the use of woodsman's tools by making a useful camp gadget involving dovetails, (2) build and light a fire with no more than 2 matches, with the fire to burn for a minimum of 15-minutes without any additional wood or alteration, and (3) cook (and eat) a simple meal without utensils.



Boy Scout Woodsman

The **Firecrafter** rank is typically earned by third year Scouts, but can be earned by any Scout under the age of 21. The specific requirements to earn the rank of [Firecrafter](#) are found on the Firecrafter website. The key requirements are: (1) plan, prepare, and conduct a campfire program that demonstrates leadership, (2) construct a fire by friction set and successfully use this approach to light a 15 minute fire, and (3) attend and successfully complete a Firecrafter Ritual – this is separate from all other requirements that must be earned while at summer camp.



Boy Scout Firecrafter

Accomplishing the Firecrafter ranks require a demonstration of very important character values: persistence, initiative, desire, and dedication to the basic ideals of Scouting. Units are strongly encouraged to support the Firecrafter organization in their respective units and across the Northeast District. If you have further questions about the Firecrafter organization talk to Firecrafter members in your unit, or you may contact the Northeast District's Firecrafter Advisor, [Bryan Swift](#).

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## Spring Membership Wrap-Up – Looking Forward to Fall!

Just a few notes from your Northeast District Membership Team...

1. Kudos to the packs that chose to participate in Spring Recruiting and welcome to new Tiger and Cub Scout Families! The next step is ensuring that our new families stay connected. Try one or more of the following ideas:
  - Be sure that they are included in your May pack event.
  - Assign each new family a "mentor family" that will reach out to answer questions and provide personal invitations to pack events.
  - Secure a Tiger Den leader or seasoned or new parent willing to plan a summer fun event with the new Tiger families.
  - Help new scouts sign up for camp! The best way ever to stay excited about scouting!
  - Submit new scout/adult applications and council fees as soon as possible to council so that your new Tigers will be active on June 1.
2. **SAVE THE DATE! Thursday, July 7, 2016** at **Golden-Burke Scout Center - Launching into Scouting Rally!** This event will replace the former Victory Field rally. Be sure that at least one member of your pack leadership attends to receive:
  - Fall recruiting materials (flyers, yard signs, membership forms, etc)
  - Rockets for new members
  - A chance to network with other local leaders and share ideas for programs and membership
  - Food and fun - campfire cooking, ice cream sundaes, and a chance to check out the fitness trail
3. **SAVE ANOTHER DATE! Thursday, August 25, 2016** is **Council-Wide Sign-Up Night**. Be sure to contact your school this spring before school is out to reserve a spot on that date. It is also important to find out the dates for Meet your Teacher and Back to School nights. Packs are also encouraged to set up sign-up or information tables at these events. Catch the families when they are at school. Fall will be here before we know it!

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## Index to *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette* Articles Created

Have you ever been a situation where a topic comes up in a conversation and somewhere in the back of your mind you know you have seen something about this topic before? You're pretty sure that you remember seeing something in a past issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, but you can't remember which back issue to check for the information you need. Great News...help has arrived! An [index of past articles](#), arranged alphabetically by topic is now available on our [District News website](#). Please contact [Mike Chambers](#) if you have any questions or suggestions for future articles.

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## BSA National Training Centers – Training at the Next Level

Did you know that the four Scouting “crown jewels” of high adventure also offers numerous opportunities for volunteer and professional scout leaders to take their skills to the next level? Yes, we’re talking about the National Training Centers. Both Philmont in New Mexico and the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia offer numerous learning conferences during the summer months, while Northern Tier in Minnesota and Sea Base in Florida also offer a shorter list of offerings, with their training focus being during the winter months. Let’s take a closer look at what each Nation Training Center has to offer.

[The Philmont Training Center](#) (PTC) is the national volunteer training center for the Boy Scouts of America. Since 1950, PTC has provided a unique environment for training volunteer and professional leaders. Each year, more than 6,000 Scouters from across the United State attend PTC. This year, there are close to 90 different [learning opportunities](#) available beginning in early June and running through September.



Each conference features the latest tools and techniques, audiovisuals, discussions, idea sharing, and activities led by a faculty of experienced Scouters. All registered Scouters are invited to attend training center courses; council approval is no longer required. The PTC is unique in that it also offers [family programs](#) for boys and girls of all ages and spouses while a Scout leader is in a summer conference. Where else can a Scouter combine enhancing their scouting skills with a once in a lifetime family vacation in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northern New Mexico!

The new [John D. Tickle National Training and Leadership Center](#) (Tickle NTLC) at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia also provides courses that support adult volunteers and commissioned professionals, as well as youth participants who want to enhance leadership and program delivery skills. This year, the Tickle NTLC will offer twenty-three (23) different conferences that range in duration from [week-end offerings](#) to those offered for either [five](#) or [seven](#) days between the middle of June to the end of July.



Please note that unlike the Philmont Training Center, the Tickle NTLC does not currently offer family programs, so plan accordingly.

The [Northern Tier Training Center](#) near Ely, Minnesota also offers a smaller, but very unique set of learning opportunities, including [Leave No Trace Master Educator](#), [Wilderness First Aid](#), [Wilderness First Responder](#) and [Cold Weather Leader Training](#). Probably the most unique learning offering here is the Cold Weather Leader Training. This is a five day Our Cold Weather Leadership Training program combines an on-base seminar curriculum with a hands-on, on-ice training (including two nights on the trail).



[The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base Conference, Training, and Retreat Center](#) also offer a limited number of BSA training opportunities, usually held in January (not a bad time of the year to be in southern Florida). While the actual offerings have not been set for January 2017, checkout their [learning opportunity line-up](#) from January 2016 to get some ideas of what was offered earlier in 2016.



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## Lesson Learned...It Pays to Frequent Scout-Friendly Businesses

Recently a member of Northeast District's Troop 276 learned a valuable lesson that he wants to share. Due to size of the unit, Troop 276 has an oversized 14' trailer to haul of the gear needed for their outings.



Because of its size, only specially equipped trucks can haul this trailer safely. Recently an adult volunteer wanted to get his truck outfitted with the proper electronic trailer braking system to allow him to tow this equipment for the Troop. We'll let the adult Scouter tell the story from here:

*Last Tuesday morning, April 19, 2016, I called every trailer type company in our area to find someone who could install the electric braking component for me in time to tow the trailer down to Ransburg Scout Reservation for the Northeast District Spring Camporee on Friday evening, April 22, 2016. Everyone laughed at such a quick service request, except for Mike (a Service Technician) at **Braun's Fun Time Campers** located at 9702 Pendleton Pike (just south of 56th St). Mike said that they were backed up 3-weeks or so but that (and he LITERALLY said) **"anything for the Boy Scouts"** and told me to bring my truck in Friday at 11am and he would figure something out.*

*It turned out that my truck has a new wiring system that they had not encountered, so the trailer brake control would not be as easy of an install as they thought. Then, Mike went into action. He rallied his team (Antionette the Parts Manager and another Technician whose name escapes me at the moment) to locate the part they needed and figure out a way to get the part delivered from the supplier ASAP so he could complete the installation. Antionette then ran all over the parts department to quickly put together a large enough order that would induce the supplier to fill it right away and hand deliver the order in about 30 minutes.*

*Mike completed the install and sent me on my way. I towed the trailer down to Ransburg with the confidence that Mike's braking system would provide safe transport of the Troop's trailer with all its gear.*

So, the lesson learned is it always pays to find a Scout-friendly business...once you find one, frequent them often! In closing the Northeast District wants to pass along a big thanks to **Braun's Fun Time Campers** for their timely assistance that led to a recent fun and safe outing for a unit in our district.

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## The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange – Shades State Park

Are you are looking for a local outing venue that offers plenty of day hiking, is close to canoeing on Sugar Creek and is located in the heart of Indiana's covered bridges? If you are, then read on about a State Park that is just a little over an hour's drive west of Indianapolis.

**WHERE:** [Shades State Park](#) is located at 7741 S. CR 890 West in Waveland, IN. As with most Indiana State Parks, there are group campsites available (both running water and primitive facilities are located in the group campsite area).

**WHAT:** Shades State Park offers two distinctly different environments for day hiking. The first option is to hike along the 10 miles of trails that either wind along the beautiful sandstone cliffs overlooking Sugar Creek or through a number of shady ravines. If you elect to hike trails 4 and/or 5, you will have to navigate a series of ladders to climb out of ravines. The second option is to hike through the Pine Hills Nature Preserve through sections of a loop trail called Turkey Backbone, Woolen Mill and Mill Cut, The Slide, Devil's Backbone and Honeycomb Rock. As mentioned in the introduction, if canoeing is more your style, then there are numerous commercial outfitters that can equip your unit with canoes, paddles and personal flotation

devices for day floats down Sugar Creek.

**WHEN:** Shades State Park is open year-round for day use (8 AM until dusk). Camping is available between April and October.

**COST:** Depending on the options selected, this trip can range from inexpensive to moderately expensive. Camping costs at Shades State Park for units is [very reasonable](#). Reservations can be made on-line. For more information, you may call Shades State Park at (765)435-2810.

If a unit elects to use Shades State Park as their access point to canoe, kayak or tube on Sugar Creek and elects to use a commercial outfitter, then the costs will rise to the moderate range. One popular outfitter on Sugar Creek is [Clements Canoes Outdoor Center](#) located at 8295 W State Road 234, Waveland, IN 47989. You may check out their website for more details or call them directly at (765) 435-2070.

Tell us about your outing to Shades State Park by posting on the [Northeast District Facebook page!](#)

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