

Troop 31 Service “Credit” Guidelines

Service hour requirements for each of the rank advancements is clearly spelled out in section 4.2.3.3 of the Guide to Advancement. However, there are frequent questions as to what constitutes a service hour. Here are the general and specific qualifiers:

1. The service must benefit the community, a school, or a church organization - not the Boy Scouts. (Therefore, any work at Oljato or other Boy Scout Camp does not count. However work for our Troop sponsor (the Lutheran Church) does count.
2. Eagle Scout Projects, since they must benefit organizations other than Boy Scouts, do count for service hours (they also count as "Activities" to meet advancement requirements.)
3. There have been questions about Scouting for Food (the Boy Scouts annual holiday food drive). For Scouting for Food – 1 hour of service credit will be given for hanging flyers and 1 hour of service credit will be given for food pick-up.
4. Any service activity that has not been initiated by the troop, but rather by the scout himself should be approved by the Scoutmaster and some form of documentation of the service activity and hours must be provided to the Advancement Chairperson for credit to be given.

Helping others when it doesn't “count” is still a great opportunity for a Scout to display Scout Spirit by doing a “Good Turn” and living the Scout Oath and Law.

If there are any other questions please contact the Scoutmaster.