Registration & Payment

Registration information can be found online at [www.mobot.org/scouts](http://www.mobot.org/scouts). Registration and payment processing are handled by the Scout Programs Instructor, (314)577-9473 x6357 or scoutprograms@mobot.org. Payment is due at the time of reservation.

Cancellations & Refunds

For Scout Overnight refunds, **cancellations must be made at least 2 weeks prior to the program**. Refunds cannot be issued for cancellations less than 2 weeks in advance or for missed programs. If the Missouri Botanical Garden or Shaw Nature Reserve must cancel a Scout Overnight, you will be notified and receive a full refund.

What to Bring

We will have plenty of indoor and outdoor activities that may include sitting on the ground, walking, and crafts. You must wear close-toed shoes at all times. Here’s a checklist for you to share with your group with recommendations on what to consider bringing, depending on the weather and if you plan to overnight. Feel free to bring anything else you think you might need for an overnight experience either tent camping or bunking in the lodges. **Remember to label your belongings.**

- 1 comfortable clothes & shoes
- 1 pajamas
- 1 sleeping bag
- 1 pillow
- 1 jacket or sweatshirt
- 1 umbrella or raincoat
- 1 washcloth and soap
- 1 toothbrush and paste
- 1 hair brush
- 1 towel
- 1 flashlight
- 1 camera
- 1 water bottle
- 1 blanket
- 1 bug spray

Optional items:

- Board/card games for free time
- Extra toiletries if utilizing shower facilities in bathhouse

Overnight Parking

Parking at Shaw Nature Reserve’s Dana Brown Overnight Education Center will take place just beyond the lodges in the parking lot.

Check-in Process

Check in begins at 3:30 p.m. We strongly encourage all participants to arrive at the SNR before 4:00 p.m. Arrival prior to 3:30 p.m. will give participants time to orient themselves and drop off their belongings in their lodges or set up their tents before the start of activities at 4:00 p.m.

**Participants are strongly discouraged from arriving after 7:00 p.m.** If it is absolutely necessary for you to do so, you must notify the Scout Instructor **24 hours prior** to the overnight so special arrangements can be made.
Sleeping Arrangements

If you plan to stay overnight, you have two options. You may choose to tent camp outside the Freund Center or bunk in one of the historic lodges. Each lodge contains bunk beds as well as a few single beds (for chaperones) and restrooms. The shower facilities are located in the bathhouse.

*Please note that MBG staff will NOT be staying overnight.*

Dinner, Snack and Breakfast

Your event includes a BBQ-style dinner and a campfire snack. We will include items from the essential food groups and will do our best to provide options for varied diets and “picky eaters”. Peanuts will not be served. Please e-mail scoutprograms@mobot.org regarding significant food allergies.

**OUTSIDE FOOD:** We ask that NO outside food be brought with you. If you have severe food allergies or specific dietary needs, we do allow you to bring in an outside snack under the following conditions:

- It must be sealed in a heavy-duty plastic container (Tupperware, not a Ziploc bag).
- It must be labeled with the participant’s name.
- It must be taken directly to the dining area and left there for the duration of the event.
- Items must be non-perishable, as refrigeration space if very limited.

Any guests needing to bring in outside food for health reasons should notify the staff immediately upon arrival. Staff at the check-in station will show participants to the dining area where they can leave their items. *Please note:* We can’t guarantee the safety of the food that is left there, nor can we take responsibility if it is lost or taken. Participants will be asked to take any food not meeting these criteria back to their vehicles.

**BREAKFAST:** For groups spending the night, you will need to provide your own breakfast food. The kitchen in the Assembly Building will be available for use until 10:00 a.m.

Overnight Etiquette

For the sake of other participants, children are expected to display cooperative and respectful behaviors.

For the enjoyment of all participants who choose to overnight:

- Have fun!
- Respect your fellow participants and their belongings
- Eat only in designated eating areas.
- Stay with your group, both children and their chaperones, at all times. If you get separated from your group, we ask that you meet at the Assembly Building.
- Keep your shoes on (except while sleeping) and leave your wheeled shoes at home.
- As far as we can tell, our plants do not snore. Overnight participants, however, sometimes do. Please be respectful of those who do and mindful of those who do not.
- Please turn off or silence your electronic devices overnight.

Shaw Nature Reserve Lodges

The historic lodges at SNR are old buildings, all built in the mid-1800’s! Please treat them with respect and follow these guidelines:

- No horseplay or running around inside any building.
- There must be adult supervision at all times. No one can be in any building unless there is an adult/teacher/parent/chaperone present. When exploring outside make sure an adult always knows where you are.
- A First Aid Station will be located in the Assembly Building.
- Scouts may only enter the sleeping lodge that they are assigned to.
- No food, candy, gum, juice, soda etc. in the sleeping lodges, only water.
Other important information and guidelines pertaining to the lodges and bathhouse will be given out during orientation.

**Inclement Weather**

Participants should come dressed for the weather. The event will be held rain or shine. In the case of rain, we will be able to relocate the group to an indoor covered area during the event. If we are unable to hold the event due to severe inclement weather, we will notify you by phone if staff decides to cancel prior to the event. If it begins to rain overnight, tent campers will not be able to move to the lodges.

**Security & Emergencies**

Overnight participants are encouraged to leave their belongings in the sleeping area during the overnight activities as a means of staking out their own spot. While we expect that all participants will respect other participant’s belongings, we do highly recommend keeping valuables on your person at all times, as the Missouri Botanical Garden and Shaw Nature Reserve do not take responsibility for any lost or stolen items.

**Special Accommodations & Accessibility**

Please call the Scout Programs Instructor at (314) 577-9473 x6357 or email classes@mobot.org at least 3 weeks prior to the date of the sleepover if you or your child/scout requires special accommodations.

**The Next Day**

Participants are welcome to explore the Reserve after 10:00 a.m. the next morning. All belongings must be out of the lodges by 9:00 a.m. and you will need to pack up and move your vehicles from the DBOEC parking by 10:00 am. Participants must re-enter the Reserve at the main entrance on West Osage Street.

**Contact information**

During the 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. business hours of the Garden, please call the Scout Programs Instructor at (314) 577-9473 x6357.