

## **Pere Marquette State Park Climbing Program General Information Sheet, Fall 2009**

Greater St. Louis Area Council Boy Scout Troops and Venture Crews have a new climbing site program available due to the generosity of a memorial gift and the cooperation of the Pere Marquette Illinois State Park. Pere Marquette State Park is located north of Grafton, Illinois along the Illinois River. The climbing site is located close to the river at the Brussels Ferry area. The climbing site is adjacent to the paved bicycle trail that runs from the state park and along the Great River Road down to Alton, Illinois. The state park offers great group camping and a combination camping/climbing/bike trip is a super weekend in one of the area's most scenic locations. Eagle watching in the winter is great along the Great River Road and at the Brussels Ferry location on the Illinois River and the Ferry is very close to the climbing site.

There is no additional training involved for Climbing Instructors to use this site. The equipment and set-ups for this climbing area are the same as used at Giant City/Pine Ridge Scout Camp. The cliffs are different - some are easier and some are more challenging. Plus you have some great views of the river in this historic area.

### **There is gear for 2 climbs and 2 rappels**

#### **Reservation and gear check-out procedures:**

- Reservations can be made at any of the council service centers just like any of the other climbing programs. Cost is \$60 for the gear for the weekend. Because the state park is outside the boundaries of the Greater St. Louis Area Council you will also need to file a Local Tour Permit (form is included in this packet about the Pere Marquette program). Because you will be using council trained Climbing Instructors you do not need Climb on Safely training as specified on the Local Tour Permit.
- Only certified Climbing Instructors or Instructors becoming certified will be able to use and check out the council's climbing gear. See the Pere Marquette/Beaumont Scout Reservation Climbing Check-Out Procedures for more detailed procedures and explanations.
- The climbing gear for the Pere Marquette site is stored and checked out from the Beaumont Scout Reservation. Because of the distance involved from Beaumont to the park, a 1 hour and 15 minute drive, the gear is reserved for the weekend, not just one day. You can use the gear for just one day or both days of the weekend, you have the gear for the weekend.
- The park does not take reservations for the climbing site but they do have a procedure that climbers must follow and you must check in with the park before climbing. See the Pere Marquette State Park Climbing Registration form. **Do not allow Scouts to set up or start climbing before checking in with the park office; do not jeopardize the program by not following their procedures.** Others may also be using the climbing sites but the area is not used very often. You may end up sharing the site just as we currently do at Giant City State Park.
- Pere Marquette camping reservations must be made with the park by calling 618-786-3323. Their website, <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/PARKS/R4/Peremarq.htm>, has a group camping reservation form. Duncan Hill is the name of the tent camping group area.

## Pere Marquette State Park Gear Check-Out Procedures For Beaumont Scout Reservation

Since the climbing gear is stored and checked out from the Beaumont Scout Reservation and the Pere Marquette State Park is 1 hour and 15 minutes away the gear check-out and return procedures are different than other council climbing programs.

- You can reserve the Pere Marquette Climbing Gear thru any of the council service centers. Cost to use the gear for a weekend is \$60.
- At least a week before you will use the Pere Marquette gear call the Beaumont Scout Reservation office at 636-938-5444 to make 2 appointments with the Ranger Staff; be prepared to leave a message and return phone number so the Rangers can return your call if they are not in the office.
  - 1 appointment to pick up the gear and 1 appointment to return the gear.
  - First appointment to pick up the gear can be made for Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Appt: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Second appointment to return the gear must be made so that it is returned no later than the following Tuesday. Appt: \_\_\_\_\_
- At the time your unit representative arrives to pick up the Climbing Gear they must bring the following:
  - Copy of the Unit Reservation form and approved Local Tour Permit
  - Climbing Instructor's Certification card of the Climbing Instructor(s) who will lead the program for the weekend or the name of the Climbing Instructor Staff member who will be certifying the Instructor(s). The unit must have made prior arrangements with the Instructor Staff member who will do the certification before your unit picks up the gear.
  - The First Aid and CPR cards of the people who will be on site providing those services for your unit the entire time your unit is at the climbing site.
  - The person who picks up the gear does not have to be the Climbing Instructor or the certified FA/CPR person. We realize that would cause some undue hardships but the person picking up the gear must have be able to show those cards to the Ranger Staff; A Scout is Trustworthy is the name of this game.
- When your unit returns the gear to the Ranger office at the appointment time be aware that the Rangers may have been called away and located somewhere else in camp. If they are not there they always leave a sign in the office window with their location; you may have to drive into camp to find them. Do not just dump the gear at the office door; you may jeopardize your unit's ability to use the gear in the future.
- When you go to Pere Marquette State Park for your climbing activity be sure to have a Annual Health and Medical Record with parts A & C filled in and signed by parent or guardian for each Scout and Adult at the activity at the site with you.

## **Pere Marquette State Park Climbing Registration & Emergency Information**

Follow Highway 100 north to the Pere Marquette State Park office, across the road from the Lodge, to check in. You should fill out and give them the Pere Marquette State Park Climbing Registration form. Their office opens at 9 am. Once you turn in the Climbing Registration form one of the staff will drive down to the climbing site and open the gate. This will allow you drive to the parking area that is very close to the climbing area. The park does not take reservations for the climbing site but you can call them in advance to tell them you are coming so that they'll be ready for you - might be a good idea in case they are busy that day.

### **Park Contact Info:**

Pere Marquette State Park  
P.O. Box 158  
Grafton, IL 62037  
618-786-3323

### **Emergency Info:**

Area has 911 service but cell phone service can be spotty.

Nearest hospitals:

St. Anthony's  
1 St. Anthony's Way  
Alton, IL 62002  
618-465-2571

or

Alton Memorial  
1 Memorial Drive  
Alton, IL 62002  
618-463-7311

### **BSA Medical Information forms:**

Effective Jan. 1, 2010 all Scouts and leaders must have a current Annual Health and Medical Record with parts A & C filled in and signed by parent or guardian to participate. A current doctor's medical exam (Part B) is not required for events lasting less than 72 hours. Be sure that you bring these records with you and have them available when you arrive at the park climbing site. The park staff will not ask for these forms, it's a BSA requirement.

## **Pere Marquette State Park Climbing Program Travel Directions**

Cross the Mississippi River into Alton, Illinois on US 67

Follow IL 100 West thru Alton towards Grafton

IL 100 in Clifton Terrace to junction with IL 3 in Grafton - 10.4 miles

The junction of IL 3 and IL 100 in Grafton to climb site is 3 miles

Climb site is small paved road on right with unmarked wooden gate right before Brussels Ferry

Brussels Ferry is 1/3 mile ahead on IL 100

Pere Marquette State Park office is 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles ahead on IL 100

Drive to State Park office to check-in before setting up climb program

Parking at Climbing site:

Slowly drive up the small asphalt lane, parking area ahead

Trail to Climb site:

Follow trail that is marked with "No Horses" sign, about 200 feet

Trail leads to base of climbing area

Pere Marquette State Park

Grafton, IL 62037

Pere Marquette State Park Climbing Registration Form

Acknowledgement Notice for  
Rock Climbing and/or Rappelling

It is hereby acknowledged that \_\_\_\_\_ will participate in rock climbing and/or rappelling at Pere Marquette State Park on the following date:

\_\_\_\_\_.

It is understood that there will be approximately \_\_\_\_\_ participants in the group and that you will arrive at approximately \_\_\_\_\_ and depart at about \_\_\_\_\_.

- It is required that groups of minors (under the age of 18 years) have adequate supervision

and that at least one responsible adult accompany each group not exceeding 15 youths.

- This letter does not constitute a reservation. It is simply an acknowledgement of your request to visit the site on the date and time specified. Groups are asked to check in at the park visitor center or with a Ranger or Security Officer upon their arrival.

- While the Department of Natural Resources does recognize and provide areas for the activity, it assumes no liability for the participants, nor their proficiency, equipment, or the natural conditions of the area.

Please print the name, address and phone number of the person responsible for the group:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Park Official

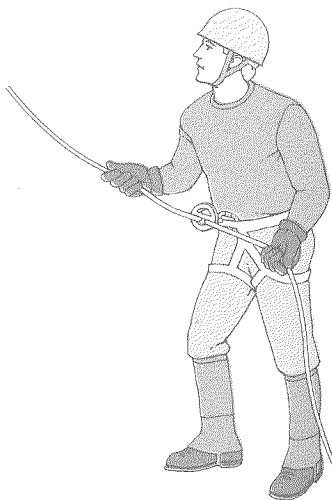
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Person Responsible For  
Climbing/Rappelling Group \_\_\_\_\_

## Stance for Pere Marquette Climbing Belayers

There are many substantial anchor trees at the Pere Marquette climb site for rappelling anchors and for the top anchor for climbing but there are few good anchor trees at the bottom of the climbing routes. Because of this shortage of good anchor trees for the bottom climb belay the climbing belayer will become the bottom anchor for the climbing routes and the climbing belay rope.

Set the overhead climbing belay anchor using the same method as we use for the Pine Ridge climbing program, see Chapter 7 of the Greater St. Louis Area Council Climbing Instructor Manual.



- The belayer should belay as close to the bottom of the cliff as possible. If the belayer is too far out from the bottom of the climb they could be knocked off their feet if the climber falls.
- The belayer should be in a straight vertical line with the overhead anchor to themselves. Don't belay in an angle off to the side from the overhead top belay anchor, a fall could cause the belayer to be pulled to the side and off their feet.
- The climber should weigh less than the belayer. No good formula for this; just make sure that the climber doesn't weigh so much more than the belayer that a fall could pull the belayer up in the air.
- The belayer should attach the belay device to their harness and Swami belt with a locking steel carabiner.
- Look at the picture of the belayer above:
  - Wear gloves and helmet
  - Have a good solid stance, lead foot forward as shown (gaiters optional)
- If a scout or non-Instructor belays use the back-up belayer system

# LOCAL TOUR PERMIT APPLICATION

FOR TRIPS AND CAMPS UNDER 500 MILES

LOCAL PERMIT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE ISSUED \_\_\_\_\_

This application must be filed with local council service center two weeks in advance of scheduled activity for proper clearance. It is used for trips of less than 500 miles. If destination is 500 miles or more one way or outside the U.S.A. (local council camp excepted), use National Tour Permit Application, No. 4419B. **If backcountry trip, be sure to know BSA Wilderness Use Policy.**

\_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ hereby applies  
Type of unit  
 for a permit and submits plans herewith for a trip from \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.  
Date Date

Give itinerary if tour; or destination if camp, including route description for reaching campsite (for long trip attach map indicating route and overnight stops):

**Type of trip:**  One day  Touring camp  Short-term camp  Long-term camp (Furnish copy of program and menus.)

**Activity Standards:** Where swimming or boating is included in the program, Safe Swim Defense, No. 34370A, and/or Safety Afloat, No. 34368B, standards are to be followed. If climbing/rapelling is included, then Climb On Safely, No. 3206 (which recommends the American Red Cross's standard first aid and When Help Is Delayed or equivalent course), must be followed.

One adult in the group must be trained as outlined:

Name	Age	Safe Swim Defense Expiration Date	Safety Afloat Expiration Date	Climb on Safely Date Taken

At least one person must be trained in CPR from any recognized agency for Safety Afloat and Climb On Safely.

Name	Age	CPR Training	Agency	Expiration Date

At least one adult on a pack overnighter must have completed Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO, No. 34162A).

Name	Age	Date BALOO Training Completed

**Mode of transportation:**  Car  RV  Van  Bus  Boat  Canoe  Train  Hiking  Truck  Other \_\_\_\_\_

(The beds of trucks and camper trucks are approved for equipment only—passengers are allowed only in the cab.)

Tour will include \_\_\_\_\_ youth and \_\_\_\_\_ adults. Have parents' approvals been secured? \_\_\_\_\_

It is the tour leader's and unit committee member's understanding that all drivers, vehicles, and insurance coverages will meet the national requirements as listed on the reverse side of this application.

**Leadership and personnel:** Boy Scouts of America policy requires at least two adult leaders on all camping trips and tours. Coed Venturing crews must have both male and female leadership. The adult leader in charge of this group must be at least 21 years old.

**Youth Protection Training:**

- All registered adults participating in any nationally conducted event or activity must have completed the BSA Youth Protection Training.
- At least one registered adult who has completed BSA Youth Protection Training must be present at all other events and activities that require a tour permit.

Tour leader's name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Print or type

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I have in my possession a copy of *Guide to Safe Scouting, No. 34416D*, and have read it. \_\_\_\_\_  
Tour leader's signature

Assistant tour leader's name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by member of unit committee

Signed by tour leader

**RETAIN IN COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER**

**OFFICIAL LOCAL TOUR OR CAMP PERMIT  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

This permit should be in the possession of group leader at all times and displayed when requested by Scouting officials or other duly authorized persons.

Permit issued to \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of unit

Name of tour leader \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of tour leader \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Permit covers all travel between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of trip from \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Total youth \_\_\_\_\_ Total adults \_\_\_\_\_

This group has given the local council every assurance that they will conduct themselves according to the best standards of Scouting and observe all rules of health, safety, and sanitation as prescribed by the Boy Scouts of America and as stated in the Pledge of Performance on the reverse side of this permit.

**These spaces are for the signatures and comments of officials where the group camps or stays for one night or more. Signatures indicate that the cooperation and conduct of the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturing group were satisfactory in every way.**

Date	Place	Signature	Comment

Local Permit No. _____
Date Issued _____
<b>Council Stamp</b>

Not official unless council stamp appears here.

Council name and address

Council phone no.

Signed for the council

#34426D



INSURANCE

All vehicles MUST be covered by a public liability and property damage liability insurance policy. The amount of this coverage must meet or exceed the insurance requirement of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. (It is recommended, however, that coverage limits are at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000 or \$100,000 combined single limit.) Any vehicle carrying 10 or more passengers is required to have limits of \$100,000/\$500,000/\$100,000 or \$500,000 combined single limit. In the case of rented vehicles the requirement of coverage limits can be met by combining the limits of personal coverage carried by the driver with coverage carried by the owner of the rented vehicle. All vehicles used in travel outside the United States must carry a public liability and property damage liability insurance policy that complies with or exceeds the requirements of that country.

Table with columns: KIND, YEAR, AND MAKE OF VEHICLE; NUMBER OF PASSENGERS; OWNER'S NAME; DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER; WILL EVERYONE WEAR A SEATBELT?; PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE (Each Person, Each Accident, PROPERTY DAMAGE)

The local council may allow a list of the above information to be attached to the permit in order to expedite the process. Each unit may circle the names of the drivers for an event or an activity.

TRANSPORTATION

- 1. You will enforce reasonable travel speed in accordance with state and local laws in all motor vehicles.
2. If by motor vehicle:
a. Driver Qualifications: All drivers must have a valid driver's license and be at least 18 years of age. Youth Member Exception: When traveling to an area, regional, or national Boy Scout activity or any Venturing event under the leadership of an adult (21+) tour leader, a youth member at least 16 years of age may be a driver, subject to the following conditions: (1) Six months' driving experience as a licensed driver (time on a learner's permit or equivalent is not to be counted); (2) no record of accidents or moving violations; (3) parental permission has been granted to leader, driver, and riders.

- b. If the vehicle to be used is designed to carry more than 15 persons (including driver) the driver must have a commercial driver's license (CDL).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

C.D.L. expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours and must be interrupted by frequent rest, food, and recreation stops.
d. Seat belts are provided, and must be used, by all passengers and driver. Exception: A school or commercial bus.
e. Passengers will ride only in the cab if trucks are used.

OUR PLEDGE OF PERFORMANCE

- 1. We will use the Safe Swim Defense in any swimming activity, Safety Afloat in all craft activity on the water, and Climb On Safely for climbing activity.
2. We will use trucks only for transporting equipment—no passengers except in the cab. All passenger cars, station wagons, recreational vehicles, and cabs of trucks will have a seat belt for each passenger.
3. We agree to enforce reasonable travel speed (in accordance with national, state, and local laws) and use only vehicles that are in safe mechanical condition.
4. We will be certain that fires are attended at all times.
5. We will apply for a fire permit from local authorities in all areas where it is required.
6. We will at all times be a credit to the Boy Scouts of America and will not tolerate rowdiness or un-Scoutlike conduct, keeping a constant check on all members of our group.
7. We will maintain high standards of personal cleanliness and orderliness and will operate a clean and sanitary camp, leaving it in a better condition than we found it.
8. We will not litter or bury any trash, garbage, or tin cans. All rubbish that cannot be burned will be placed in a tote-litter bag and taken to the nearest recognized trash disposal or all the way home, if necessary.
9. We will not deface trees, restrooms, or other objects with initials or writing.
10. We will respect the property of others and will not trespass.
11. We will not cut standing trees or shrubs without specific permission from the landowner or manager.
12. We will collect only souvenirs that are gifts to us or that we purchase.
13. We will pay our own way and not expect concessions or entertainment from any individual or group.
14. We will provide every member of our party an opportunity to attend religious services on the Sabbath.
15. We will observe the courtesy to write thank-you notes to persons who assisted us on our trip.
16. We will, in case of backcountry expedition, read and abide by the Wilderness Use Policy of the BSA.
17. We will notify, in case of serious trouble, our local council service center, our parents, or other local contact.
18. If more than one vehicle is used to transport our group, we will establish rendezvous points at the start of each day and not attempt to have drivers closely follow the group vehicle in front of them.