Appendix F

Patrol Outdoor Program Activity: Session Two
Assignment Four—Urban Setting

The setting is a privately owned park at the edge of a metropolitan area. The owners of the park are supporters of Scouting and have offered to let the troop use the facilities without charge. The property has a camping area, and there is a lake with a swimming beach but no lifeguards. Canoes are available for use. A trail around the lake leads to a city park with a thriving natural history program for young people. The campout the Scouts are planning is for mid-July, two months from now. The weather that time of year can be hot and humid, and there may be mosquitoes.

1. What opportunities are there in this scenario for a successful Scouting event?

2. As you consider this event, what are your issues of concern?

3. What ethical choices are likely to come up during this activity?

4. What leadership roles can Scouts assume in planning and carrying out this weekend event?

5. How can the patrol method best be utilized?
6. What opportunities for advancement can be woven into this event?

7. Using the resources of *The Scoutmaster Handbook*, write down the names of the checklists you as Scoutmaster will need to consider for this event to be a success, and note the importance of each one. (For example, rather than listing every item of gear that will be needed, simply write down the name of the appropriate gear checklist and then a sentence or two of explanation.) Include in your notes any other gear or supplies that are not covered by the standard checklists.

8. What portions of the planning and leadership of this event can be delegated to the troop’s assistant Scoutmasters? What support should be requested from the troop committee?

9. Taking advantage of the opportunities for swimming and canoeing poses a challenge for troop leaders. What guidance for these activities can you find in *The Scoutmaster Handbook*? What ideas do you have for solving this problem? Where can you go to get more information about this issue and other considerations for troop activities in an urban setting?

10. Discuss the importance of the following four points of Trek Safely, especially as they apply to your preparations for this specific activity.
   - Qualified Supervision
• Plan Ahead

• Keep Fit

• Discipline

11. In the activities you plan, consider how the troop can conform to the principles of Leave No Trace.

12. Give thought to an appropriate conservation project that could be incorporated in the troop’s activities. (An important aspect of this consideration is that troop leaders consult local land managers well ahead of time to develop a project that is both appropriate for the environment and meaningful for the Scouts.)