



Boy Scouts of the Philippines

National Office

181 Natividad Almeda-Lopez Street, Ermita, 1000 Manila

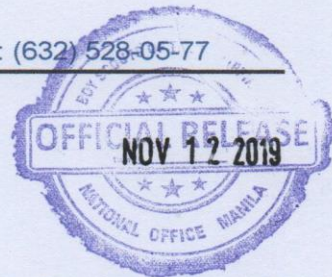
PO Box 1378, Manila CPO, Philippines

Website: www.scouts.org.ph

E-mail: bsp@scouts.org.ph

(632) 528-05-55 / (632) 527-51-09 / (632) 527-83-17 to 19 / Fax: (632) 528-05-77

12 November 2019



NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Number 77

Series 2019

TO : All Regional Scout Directors, Council Scout Executives, and Officers-In-Charge

SUBJECT : Integration of Tree Planting Activity to all Program and Activities of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines

1. Trees play a critical role for people and the nation. Numerous studies have demonstrated that the presence of trees and urban nature can improve people's mental and physical health, the property values in a neighborhood and beyond. Trees are essential for healthy communities and people. The benefits that trees provide can help the country meet 15 of the 17 internationally supported United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This critical review provides a comprehensive argument that trees should be considered an important part of all of the program and activities of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines as we do our part toward reaching these sustainability goals.
2. Over the last century, the trees that cover around us has been greatly compromised due to deforestation, leaving the green cover down to an all-time low of about thirty percent (30%). According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), an estimated Eighteen Million (18M) acres, or (7.3 million hectares) of forest are lost each year. The overwhelming evidence from the scientific literature suggests that investing in trees is an investment in meeting the UN SDG, and ultimately an investment for a better world. The Boy Scouts of the Philippines believes that an effective strategy to assist in meeting these goals is to plant and protect trees, in cities and provinces where our Scouts and Scout Leaders live.
3. In this connection, the Boy Scouts of the Philippines is integrating Tree Planting and Nurturing Activity to all of its program and activities starting November 2019. This environmental project is envisioned to be a holistic endeavor designed in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UN-SDG) and at the same time to implant into our Scouts' and Scout Leaders' mind the benefits of trees for a liveable and sustainable nation.
4. All National, Regional, Local Councils and Institutional Level programs and activities are henceforth be integrated with Tree Planting as the highlight of the activity. These activities include, but not limited to the following:
 - All Jamborees (Camporees, Rover Moot, Venture Camps, etc.)
 - Advancement Camps/Backyard Camps/Overnight Camps
 - Kawan and Kab Holidays
 - Betterworld Programs and Activities

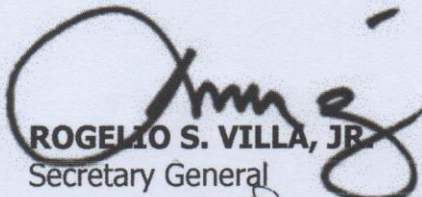
- Training Courses (BTC, ATC, CMT, CLT)
- Seminars and Workshops
- Board of Reviews
- Meetings/Group Planning's, etc.
- General Assemblies/Christmas Parties

5. In the same manner, *Tree Planting and Nurturing Activity will be made as component and important requirements in the following:

- a. Higher Awards Candidate –must have planted and nurtured at least ten (10) trees
- b. Lower Awards Candidate - must have planted and nurtured at least five (5) trees
- c. Eagle Scout Candidate – must have planted and nurtured at least ten (10) trees
- d. Venture Scout Candidate - must have planted and nurtured at least five (5) trees
- e. Chief Scout Nation-BUILDER - must have planted and nurtured at least ten (10) trees
- f. Lorillard Spencer Award – Tree Planting and Nurturing Activity will be one of the criteria under Council activities.

**to take effect January 2020*

6. For information, compliance and widest dissemination.


ROGELIO S. VILLA, JR.
Secretary General
