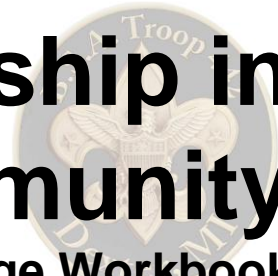


Citizenship in the Community

Merit Badge Workbook



Scout Name: _____

Requirements revised: 2005, Workbook updated: February 2008

Counselor: Ed Smith

Phone: _____

1. Discuss with your counselor what citizenship in the community means _____

and what it takes to be a good citizen in your community. _____

Discuss the rights, _____

duties, and obligations of citizenship, _____

and explain how you can demonstrate good citizenship in your community, Scouting unit, place of worship, or school.

2. Do the following:

(a) On a map of your community, locate and point out the following:

(1) Chief government buildings such as your city hall, county courthouse, and public works/services facility

(2) Fire station, police station, and hospital nearest your home

(3) Historical or other interesting points

(b) Chart the organization of your local or state government. Show the top offices and tell whether they are elected or appointed.

3. Do the following:

(a) Attend a city or town council or school board meeting, or a municipal, county, or state court session. _____

(b) Choose one of the issues discussed at the meeting _____
where a difference of opinions was expressed, _____

and explain to your counselor why you agree with one opinion more than you do another one. _____

4. Choose an issue that is important to the citizens of your community, _____

then do the following:

(a) Find out which branch of local government is responsible for this issue. _____

(b) With your counselor's and a parent's approval, interview one person from the branch of government you identified in requirement 4a. _____

Ask what is being done about this issue and how young people can help. _____

(c) Share what you have learned with your counselor. _____

5. With the approval of your counselor and a parent, watch a movie that shows how the actions of one individual or group of individuals can have a positive effect on a community. _____

Discuss with your counselor what you learned from the movie about what it means to be a valuable and concerned member of the community. _____

6. List some of the services (such as the library, recreation center, public transportation, and public safety) your community provides that are funded by taxpayers.

Service Tell your counselor why these services are important to your community.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Do the following:

(a) Choose a *charitable organization outside of Scouting* that interests you and brings people in your community together to work for the good of your community. _____

(b) Using a variety of resources (including newspapers, fliers and literature, the Internet, volunteers, and employees of the organization), find out more about this organization. _____

(c) With your counselor's and your parent's approval, contact the organization and find out what young people can do to help. _____

While working on this merit badge, volunteer at least eight hours of your time for the organization. _____

After your volunteer experience is over, discuss what you have learned with your counselor. _____

8. Develop a public presentation (such as a video, slide show, speech, digital presentation, or photo exhibit) about important and unique aspects of your community. Include information about the history, _____

cultures, and ethnic groups of your community; _____

its best features _____

and popular places where people gather; _____

and the challenges it faces. _____

Stage your presentation in front of your merit badge counselor or a group, such as your patrol or a class at school.