



Citizenship in the Community

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215.

Requirements revised: 2005. Workbook updated: November 2008.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

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.

Online Resources (Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)

Boy Scouts of America: ► scouting.org ► [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ► [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ► [Safe Swim Defense](#)
► [Scout](#) ► [Tenderfoot](#) ► [Second Class](#) ► [First Class](#) ► [Rank Videos](#) ► [Safety Afloat](#)

Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks: usscouts.org -or- meritbadge.org Merit Badge Books: www.scoutstuff.org
[Guide to Safe Scouting](#) [Safe Swim Defense](#) [Safety Afloat](#) [Blood Borne Pathogens](#) [Youth Protection Training](#)

Requirement Resources

See: http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Citizenship_in_the_Community for these links and much more

- 1: [Citizenship](#) [Rights](#) [Duties](#) [Jury Duty Obligations \(Responsibilities\)](#)
- 2a: [Google Maps](#) - Make and save a map of your community [Sample Google Map Made By A Scout](#)
- 3a: Find Information about your county's government: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_\(United_States\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_(United_States))
- 4: Major daily newspaper websites: <http://www.newspaperlinks.com/voyager.cfm>
- 4a: Branches of Government: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Branches_of_government#United_States:_three_branches
- 5: Movies With A Meaning : http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Citizenship_in_the_Community#Movies_With_a_Meaning
- 7a: [IRS definition of a Charitable Organization](#) - Qualified organizations include nonprofit groups that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, or literary in purpose, or that work to prevent cruelty to children or animals.

Charitable Organizations (outside of Scouting) in general may include: Churches, religious organizations, federal, state, and local governments, Salvation Army, Red Cross, CARE, Goodwill Industries, United Way, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, war veteran's groups, fraternal lodges, and nonprofit schools, hospitals, museums, etc.

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[IRS online search for charities](#) by name or city

[GuideStar Directory of Non-profit Organizations](#) - find charitable organizations in your area.

[BBB Wise Giving Alliance](#) - list of charities

- 8: [Photography](#) #4 overlaps this requirement and gives tips.

General Resources

BBB Wise Giving Alliance: <http://www.give.org>

GovSpot: <http://www.govspot.com>

National Crime Prevention Council: <http://www.nationaltcc.org>

VolunteerMatch: <http://www.volunteermatch.org>

Youth as Resources: <http://www.yar.org>

FirstGov, U.S. Gen. Services Admin.: <http://www.firstgov.gov>

National Constitution Center: <http://www.constitutioncenter.org>

U.S. Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov>

Youth Activism Project: <http://www.youthactivism.com>

Youth Service America: <http://www.ysa.org>