



A Community Involvement Initiative
January 2018

Guide for Colonies

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What is Beaver Scouts Share & Care?

This is an initiative from the National Beaver Scout Team that aims to **increase, promote and highlight community involvement** by Beaver Scout Colonies all over Ireland.

What is involved?

During the month of **January**, we encourage all Colonies to get involved in some type of **local community project**, fundraising endeavour or any other act-of-kindness! What your Colony does is up to your Beaver Scouts and the organising is up to you. Apply via e-mail, send on photos and your Colony will be sent a certificate of participation and congratulations.

How does this tie into Beaver Scout Programme?

The Beaver Scout Motto is “Sharing, sharing sharing” and Beaver Scouts shout, “We are friendly and we help others!” during the Tribal Ceremony. An essential part of the Scout Method is **Service and Commitment**, and this initiative seeks to recognise good deeds carried out by Beaver Scouts in their communities.

Tip!

Your Colony may also choose to tie participation in this initiative with the earning of the ‘**Community**’ Special Interest Badge.



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In order for your community project to qualify for the 'Share & Care' initiative, it must fulfil one of these categories:

- be of **benefit to members of the community**- the elderly, service users, adults or children living with disabilities, international or religious communities, the homeless community, etc. Example: singing songs in a nursing home.
- raise funds or collect resources** for a local or national charity through a community event. Example: food can drive, bake sale, etc.
- be of benefit to the local environment.** Example: planting flowers, clearing litter.

While Scouting is indeed is indeed a charity itself, we request that any projects take place **outside (or are focused outside) the Scout Den or meeting place.** We want to get the good word of Scouting around local communities and teach Beaver Scouts the importance of community involvement. **Small actions locally eventually make a big difference globally!**

Important to Note

- Your project **does not have to focus on raising money** unless your Colony wishes it to. Positive action locally is what we are seeking!
- As ever, be cognizant of child protection issues if dealing with external community agencies.





Once your Colony has decided what their Share & Care project will be, a Scouter must **register their project by e-mailing beaverscouts@scouts.ie, with:**

- 1. Your Group name and Scout County and the amount of Beaver Scouts participating.**
- 2. A brief description your Colony's proposed project.**
- 3. A postal address to which we can send a certificate of participation when the project is completed.**

Please include the subject line: 'Beaver Scouts Share & Care 2018'.

Register via e-mail before starting your project in December 2017 or January 2018.

Please note, your Share & Care project must be completed and photos submitted by **Sunday 28th January 2018.**





The next step is to complete your project **any time between 1st-28th January 2018**. If you're doing something like a food drive, your project may be a few weeks' long. If you're doing something like a nursing home visit, perhaps it will just be a weekend daytime activity!

Be sure to take a few photographs- you will need to **e-mail these as your 'proof'** in order to get your Colony's certificate! Your e-mail correspondence from the National Beaver Scout Team will instruct you on how to send on your photographs to us. Once we get these by 28th January, we will send out your Colony's certificate via post.

Important Note about Photographs

The photographs you send us will be used in a slideshow celebrating the Share & Care initiative. It will be published on the Beaver Scout Facebook page and shown at Scouting Ireland's Founder's Day Ceremony in February. Please ensure, therefore, that you have permission from all those photographed that they can be published (on Consent Forms for youth members). Your Colony can opt out of having their photographs as part of this slideshow.



review

Your Colony has put some really fantastic work into their community project and should **be proud of their achievements**. The message should be clear: **doing good locally helps make the world a better place!**

Perhaps your Beaver Scouts will want to continue to 'do good'. Encourage them to keep a **good deed chart or diary** with actions they take at home, in school or in their communities that help others and make the lives of their family and friends that bit better!

If photographs are e-mailed by 28th January, **your Colony's certificate will arrive to your designated address in February 2018**. When it arrives, make it a big deal for your Beaver Scouts. Perhaps have a **mini** celebration. You could invite parents and guardians to a portion of the meeting night and let the Beaver Scouts explain what they did.

"...the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it..."

-Robert Baden Powell



Let the Fox Lodge give you some ideas!

Fionn here! I like to share my toys with others... How about helping by giving **a toy as a donation** to help others? Ask your Scouter to help you find charities that take toys!



It's me, Star. I like learning new skills. Why not use a new skill like baking and **sell your treats** to raise money for a local charity?

I'm Moon. I love to make people happy! Last week, I went with my Colony to a **nursing home** and sang songs to the elderly and then we had tea and biscuits together. How have you been caring this month?



My name is Casper! I like caring for the world around me. Our Colony went on a **spring clean of our local area**. We even got permission from the park ranger to put up our homemade bird feeders in the park!



Review

Our favourite parts of our Share & Care project were...

Draw how your Share & Care project made your Lodge feel!

