



Dear Program Participant,

Thank you for signing up to attend our Insect Study Merit Badge program scheduled **1 to 5 pm, Saturday, June 9, 2018**. We look forward to working with you to complete your badge. The program will take place at the Ryerson Woods Classroom Cabins. Please park in the Welcome Center parking lot and walk to the cabins. This is a drop off program and no need for adults to stay but, it is advisable to **accompany the scout to the cabins** to confirm details of the program.

We have allotted enough time for the scouts to complete **all requirements except #5b & #9**. 5b will use the insects that we observe during the program. Work will begin on the scrapbook during the program and be completed at home after the program. Scouts will email or postal mail completed scrapbooks to the staff Merit Badge Counselor who will then sign and return the scout's Blue Card.

Regarding #9, the forest preserve does not support collecting of any insect to observe the metamorphosis process. Taking caterpillars from the wild to raise often has negative results. To better benefit insects survival we suggest this activity be replaced with a habitat restoration project. Search our website for restoration workdays or see the calendar for dates and locations www.LCFPD.org. If you have participated in previous butterfly raising such as a school project, that will count for #9. The restoration project can be completed before the program.

Here is the link to the [Worksheet](#) specifically designed for this program. They will also be provided at the program.

Please bring the following on the day of the program:

- Your Blue Card, signed by your unit leader
- A snack and water bottle
- Signed forms (see PDFs on website)
- Camera, optional
- Dress for the weather and wear **long pants and close toed shoes**. You may bring bug spray and sunscreen if needed.

We look forward to meeting you and helping you complete your badge. If you have any questions, please contact Jill Stites at jstites@lcpfd.org or 847-968-3323.

Thank you,

Jill Stites, Environmental Educator II
Lake County Forest Preserves