

# YANKEE CLIPPER COUNCIL

## Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Guidelines

*What is an acceptable Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project?*

### Eagle Scout Application, **REQUIREMENT 5.**

While a Life Scout, **plan, develop, and give leadership to others** in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community. The project plan must be approved by your Scoutmaster and troop committee, by the council or district, and by the organization benefiting from the effort before you start. **You must use the *Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927*, in meeting this requirement.**

- Priorities 1, 2, and 3: “give leadership to others”.

### Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project vs Troop/Community Service Project?

The primary object of an Eagle Scout ***Leadership Service Project*** is leading other people to accomplish the ‘vision’ of the Leader. The ‘vision’ is the goal or objective the Eagle Candidate has chosen to achieve in his Eagle Project. The measure of success of an Eagle Leadership Service project is how effectively the Candidate is able to apply the art of motivating a group of people to act towards achieving a common goal.

The primary objective of a ***Troop or Community Service Project*** is providing a new or enhanced capability for others. The measure of success of a Troop or Community Service Project is the utility of the final product.

### Leadership vs Project Management

What is Leadership?

**Leadership** has been described as: “process of [social influence](#) in which one person can enlist the aid and support of others in the accomplishment of a common task”.

What is Project Management?

**Project management** is the [discipline](#) of [planning](#), [organizing](#), and [managing resources](#) to bring about the successful completion of specific project goals and objectives.

The primary challenge of project management is to achieve all of the project goals and objectives while honoring the preconceived project constraints. Typical constraints are [scope](#), [time](#), and [budget](#).

- An Eagle Leadership Service Project begins with Project Management, but can only succeed when the Eagle Candidate demonstrates Leadership.

## Sample Eagle Projects



### Professionally Assisted Projects

CPR classes, blood drives, and bicycle safety course are very worthy Troop/Community Service Projects, but offer little to no opportunity for the Eagle Candidate to demonstrate his leadership ability. Because direct supervision by the Eagle Candidate is practically impossible, these types of projects are not acceptable.



### Reclamation/Renovation Projects

A project to make a previously unusable area suitable for use is acceptable. Examples include outdoor and indoor areas that are underutilized/defective and can be reclaimed/renovated to higher utility.



### Gathering Projects

Food, clothing, and book drives are totally dependent on the public's willingness to donate. Great care must be taken to ensure that donations will be sufficient to meet the project goals. These projects are not generally acceptable, however the key to making this an acceptable Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project is that Eagle Candidate must plan, organize, and lead a large number of helpers to achieve the goal.



### Fund Raisers

Fund raisers for other organizations are unacceptable as Eagle Scout Leadership Service Projects and specifically prohibited by National BSA policy.



### Routine labor

Roadside trash pickup, pulling weeds, washing windows, and painting are excellent service Troop/Community Service Projects, but are not acceptable Eagle Scout Leadership Service Projects



### Research Projects

Working with genealogical records, cataloging books for a library or establishing a file for records are worthy projects. The key to making this an acceptable Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project is that Eagle Candidate must plan, organize, and lead a large number of helpers to achieve the goal.



### Construction Projects

Most any construction project is acceptable as an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project, provided the following criteria are met:

- The project must have lasting value
- The project must be complex enough to present a challenge to the Candidate, but something he is able to plan, organize, and lead himself.

## General Thoughts

The Life Scout must show that he:

- Planned the work by developing a detailed project plan (A guideline often provided to Life Scouts is that the Eagle Leadership Service Project Workbook must be complete enough that another Life Scout could execute the plan if the author were absent.)
- Secured the approvals
- Secured the funding
- Managed Safety issues
- • Gives leadership by recruiting, training, and leading the personnel to accomplish the project vision/goal.

The Life Scout must use the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927.

The objective of the Eagle Scout Leadership project is to demonstrate leadership. As a result, the proposal should be written in the **first person**, clearly articulating how the Life Scout will lead.

Although the project idea must be approved before work is begun, the Eagle Scout Board of Review must determine the manner in which the project was carried out. Questions that may be addressed include:

- Did the Life Scout demonstrate leadership of others?
- Did he indeed direct the project rather than do all of the work himself?
- Was the project of real value to the religious institution, school, or community group?
- Who from the group benefiting from the project may be contacted to verify the value of the project?
- Did the project follow the approved plan or were modifications needed to bring it to its completion?