**William T. Hornaday**

The Hornaday Awards Program emphasis is designed to incorporate an awareness and understanding of conservation as wise and intelligent management of natural resources throughout Boy Scouts of America programs and activities. The BSA National Council describes the Hornaday Award as being “equivalent to an Olympic medal bestowed by the earth.”

The development of good citizens is one of Scouting’s aims, and citizens need to practice sound environmental living and conservation of natural resources. This is an extended program that encourages young people to:

• Look at the entire process of resource use

• Analyze how actions and judgments often create problems

• Understand decision-making processes related to the environment

• Seek out commonsense methods that can be applied at home, in the community, state, and in the nation

• Help improve the quality of life

This emphasis is directed toward making those active in Scouting - youth, adult members, and their families - aware of their responsibility for the future. There is an increasing awareness that Scouting members and other individuals are an integral part of their environment and that their action or inaction affects the quality of life throughout this nation and the world.

Personal experience teaches the most lasting lessons. The conservation program emphasis has been developed to create a positive commitment to improving the environment and conserving natural resources through firsthand experiences and “learning by doing.”

Because Scouting’s youth generally have an active interest in the outdoors, they possess a ready curiosity that can be expanded. These young people can find their own answers, learn how to make sound judgments, and find social and environmental significance in actions that they undertake.

This conservation awards program was initiated in 1914 by Dr. William T. Hornaday (December 1, 1854-March 6, 1937), then director of the New York Zoological Park, in an effort to reward anyone service to conservation. It then developed into a partnership with the BSA, but was not totally incorporated into Scouting until after Hornaday’s death. For 20 years the program was funded through Hornaday’s Permanent Wildlife Protection Fund. Upon his death, the program was sponsored for 35 years by the New York Zoological Society and named in Hornaday’s honor. The award is the oldest conservation award given in America.

Dr. Hornaday was an active and outspoken champion of natural resource conservation, and is considered to be one of this country’s first advocates for wildlife. His efforts resulted in the recovery of several species and educated countless numbers of people about the importance of environmental awareness. He played a critical role in the establishment of our current zoological system and is personally credited with saving the American Bison from extinction. Dr. Hornaday helped pass the Federal Migratory Bird Law, the 1911 Fur Seal Treaty, helped to found the Campfire Clubs of America, and was a longtime supporter of the Boy Scouts of America. **Dr. Hornaday believed strongly in the power of youth, that a single individual could make a difference. He also believed that “almost any reform is possible” and his motto was “open wide to youth all gateways to nature.”** After his death in 1937, the award was renamed in Dr. Hornaday's honor and became an award of the Boy Scouts of America. In the 1970s, the present awards program was broadened to include sound conservation and environmental improvement and awareness that will benefit the local community, the region, or the nation.

Dr. Hornaday (1854-1937) was a pioneer in wildlife conservation. He believed in Scouting. He helped found the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., and was founder, then director, of the New York Zoological Park for more than 20 years.

Dr. Hornaday is generally credited with saving the American bison and other wildlife species from extinction. For years, he wrote articles for *Boys' Life* and sections of the *Boy Scout Handbook,* and encouraged every Scout to work on behalf of renewable natural resources. Earning this award is a way Scouts can thank him for his good work.

**Through 2010: Eagle Scout Awards 2,099,551**

**William T. Hornaday Awards Since 1914 Less than 2500**

**For historical record, between 1920 and 1950 there was never more than one medal awarded within the BSA in any given year; many years (21 of them) saw none awarded)**

**In 2010: Eagle Scout Awards 56,176**

**William T. Hornaday Silver Medals 6**

**In Hudson Valley Council less than 50 Hornaday awards have been awarded in the 100+ years of scouting in the Hudson Valley**

**Types of Hornaday Awards**

There are several different Hornaday awards. (The gold badge and gold medal are for adults.) Think of them as an "olympics of conservation," with an ever-increasing scale of challenge.

The award is given in one of seven forms.

* The local council may present the William T. Hornaday unit certificate for a conservation project by a pack, troop, team, or crew.
* The council may award the Hornaday badge to individual Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturers for outstanding service in conservation.
* The council may award the Hornaday gold badge to adult Scouters who have given significant leadership to conservation at a council or district level.

All other Hornaday Awards are conferred by the National Council:

* Scouts and Venturers may apply for the bronze and silver medals.
* Adult Scouters may be nominated for the gold medal.
* Organizations unaffiliated with Scouting may be nominated for the gold certificate.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hornaday Award** | **Administered by** | **Awarded to** | **Type of Award** | **How to Qualify** | **Maximum Awards/Year** | **Requirements** |
| [**Unit award**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#u) | Council | Pack, troop, team, crew | Certificate | Be nominated or apply | Unlimited | Complete one project; 60% of unit contributes |
| [**Badge**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#b) | Council | Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer | Badge and certificate | Apply | Unlimited | Complete advancement requirements; complete one substantial project |
| [**Bronze medal**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#m) | [National](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards1/national.aspx) | Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer | Medal, certificate, and square knot | Apply | Unlimited | Complete advancement requirements; complete at least three bronze substantial projects, each from a different project category |
| [**Silver medal**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#m) | [National](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards1/national.aspx) | Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer | Medal, certificate, and square knot | Apply | Unlimited | Complete advancement requirements; complete at least four silver substantial projects, each from a different project category |
| [**Gold badge**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#gb) | Council | Adult Scouter | Badge | Be nominated | Unlimited | Adult Scouter; leadership to conservation at council or district level for at least three years |
| [**Gold medal**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#gm) | [National](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards1/national.aspx) | Adult Scouter | Medal, certificate, and square knot | Be nominated | Six | Adult Scouter; leadership to conservation at national or regional level over a lifetime (at least 20 years) |
| [**Gold certificate**](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/HornadayAwards/Awards.aspx#gc) | [National](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards1/national.aspx) | Organization or individual | Certificate | Be nominated | Six | Outstanding contribution to youth conservation education for at least three years |

**William T. Hornaday Unit Award**

A Hornaday unit certificate, No. 21-110, is awarded to a pack, troop, team, or crew of five or more Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, or Venturers for a unique, substantial conservation project. At least 60 percent of registered unit members must participate. These units may be nominated, or they may apply to their BSA local council for recognition.

**William T. Hornaday Badge**

The Hornaday badge is awarded, upon approval of the local council, to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for outstanding service to conservation and environmental improvement. Applicants meeting all requirements receive a certificate, No. 21-111, and the William T. Hornaday badge.

**William T. Hornaday Bronze or Silver Medal**

These individual awards are granted by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for exceptional and distinguished service to conservation and environmental improvement.

The silver medal, the most distinguished in Scouting for exceptional conservation service, will be awarded for clearly outstanding efforts in planning, leadership, execution of plans, involvement of others, and opportunities taken to help others learn about natural resource conservation and environmental improvement. The distinction between the bronze and silver medals is based primarily on the number and quality of the projects and their impact on the local community. The William T. Hornaday Awards Committee may award a bronze medal if the application does not meet the standard of exceptional service required for the silver medal. There is no limit on the number of bronze medals that may be awarded each year. Both awards include the medal (bronze or silver), a certificate, and an embroidered square knot.

**William T. Hornaday Gold Badge**

The gold badge is by nomination only and is awarded by the local council to an adult Scouter. The nominee should have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the education of youth on a council or district level for significant conservation efforts for a period of at least three years. Nominations are made to the local council. The award includes the gold badge.

**William T. Hornaday Gold Medal**

The gold medal is by nomination only and is awarded to an adult Scouter. It recognizes unusual and distinguished service in natural resource conservation and environmental improvement at the regional, national, or international level. Nominations must be approved by the Hornaday Awards Committee and by the Conservation Committee of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. Any recognized conservation/environmental organization may submit a nomination. The award includes the gold medal, a certificate, and an embroidered square knot. Six gold medals may be awarded annually.

**William T. Hornaday Gold Certificate**

This conservation award is granted to organizations or individuals by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Nominations are accepted from any recognized conservation or environmental protection organization. The organization or individual should have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the education of youth on a regional, national, or international level reflecting the natural resource conservation and environmental improvement mission of the William T. Hornaday Awards program.

**Awards Presentation**

The Hudson Valley Council Camping Committee reviews & bestows the Hornaday Badge relative to youth applicants.

The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America supplies certificates, medals, and badges at no charge to local councils. Certificates are printed with the recipient's name.

Information packages containing a history of the award and pictures of Dr. Hornaday are available from the national office upon request. Councils are encouraged to maximize press coverage on the occasion of the award presentation—this distinguished honor reflects favorably on the Scouting program.

**What Qualifies As a Hornaday Project?**

First and foremost, the project must be a conservation project - **it must be designed to address a conservation issue or need in the local area, and it must benefit the environment or the creatures that live there.** Making an area more accessible for people is rarely for the benefit of the environment.

Most of the Hornaday awards require the Scout to conduct several significant conservation projects, each covering a different area of conservation. The projects must be based on sound scientific principles, address a conservation problem, and contribute to conservation and environment improvement on a long-term scale. Scouts are required to plan, lead, and carry out these projects and, as Dr. Hornaday stated, actual results count heavily.

There are no guidelines as to what makes a project "significant," but choosing and planning a project could make all the difference. Consider this example of a single project executed two ways. A Boy Scout organizes his unit to plant a few hundred seedlings in a burned-over area. A Venturer researches why the area has not naturally regenerated and what species are common to the area, conducts an inventory, finds a good source for native plants, organizes a tree-planting event, and obtains community assistance in planting by diligently publicizing the efforts. The following year, the Venturer returns to the area to implement a plant maintenance program, document survival, and assess if replanting is necessary. The actual results—planting the seedlings—for these two projects are the same, and some reviewers may consider both significant. However, the results of second project—thorough education of the Scout, the unit, and the community—will stand a better chance of withstanding the rigors of a review.

Guidelines for the Hornaday Award call for the candidate to complete projects in several areas of conservation. **Some projects might fit into several categories depending on local circumstances.** For instance, a single trail-reconstruction project might be categorized as soil and water conservation if it addresses erosion, or categorized as fish and wildlife management if it attempts to erase the impact of human intervention into critical habitat. It would not meet Hornaday qualifications at all if it is attempted only for recreational access.

How big a project should be and how long it should last are commonly asked questions. **Collecting aluminum cans over a weekend along with many other Scouts is a fine public service, but since little learning took place and there was no lasting impact on the community, the project would not qualify for a Hornaday Award. Similarly, a simple, one-time tree planting effort would not qualify.** However, a reforestation project in cooperation with a professional forester or park planner, learning which trees are appropriate to the area, ensuring proper spacing for best growth, following proper planting methods, and caring for the trees after planting might well qualify. **Starting a community-wide recycling project and encouraging people to recycle might also qualify** if an ongoing program was established. Size of the project is not necessarily the important element. Rather, the results, the learning that took place, the applicant's demonstrated leadership, and the significance of the contribution to the community, park, or other lands are what count.

**Project Expectations -** Applicants are expected to:

1. Describe the origination of the idea.

2. State the project's purpose and identify the conservation issue it addresses.

3. Conduct research, investigation, and study.

4. Develop project plans.

5. Implement and manage the projects.

6. Demonstrate leadership and involve others.

7. Describe how the project influenced the attitudes of others.

8. Record the time and resources devoted to each project.

**Earning a Hornaday Medal**

Earning the Hornaday Badge may seem like an impossible task at first, especially when you factor in your commitments to school, community, and friends. The achievement will be difficult, but that is what makes it well worth the time and effort. Remember, you will be making a *real* difference to *real* people and places.

The easiest way to start is by breaking down large steps into smaller ones, and by finding people who can assist you in your efforts. The Boy Scouts of America does not expect a Life Scout to know the ins and outs of conservation and environmental management. The BSA also understands that carrying out a service project is a learning experience, and a Scout may make mistakes along the way. However, locating advisors will allow you to develop an understanding of your project’s significance, and provide you with the knowledge to help you if you get stuck.

What is important to understand is how a Hornaday project differs from an Eagle project. A Hornaday project has several requirements that would not be found in all Eagle service projects. The Hornaday project must contain:

* Research
* Documentation
* Conservation
* Coverage
* Continuation

A good idea is to start with the badge and then work up to the bronze or silver medal. You must be a First Class Scout or a Venturer, and you must have a conservation adviser (non in council yet so project advisor is fine). Then you do your homework to fulfill the advancement requirements and conservation projects you want to complete.

The following merit badges and project categories are the building blocks for a Scout to earn a Hornaday Award. See the Hornaday application for the Venturing requirements.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MERIT BADGES** | |
| * **Energy** * **Environmental Science** * **Fish and Wildlife Management** * **Forestry** * **Public Health** * **Soil and Water Conservation** * Bird Study * Fishing * Fly-Fishing * Gardening | * Geology * Insect Study * Landscape Architecture * Mammal Study * Nature * Nuclear Science * Oceanography * Plant Science * Pulp and Paper * Reptile and Amphibian Study * Weather |

**\*FOR THE HORNADAY BADGE,** Scouts earn three of the merit badges listed above in **Red boldface**, plus any two others. Then plan, lead, and carry out a significant project in natural resource conservation, from one of the project categories listed.

**\*FOR THE HORNADAY BRONZE MEDAL,** Scouts earn the Environmental Science merit badge and at least three additional merit badges listed above in **red boldface**, plus any two others. Then plan, lead, and carry out three significant projects from three separate categories listed.

**\*FOR THE HORNADAY SILVER MEDAL,** Scouts earn all the merit badges listed above in **red boldface**, plus any three others. Then plan, lead, and carry out four significant projects in natural resource conservation or environmental improvements, one each from four of the eight project categories listed.

* Energy conservation
* Soil and water conservation
* Fish and wildlife management
* Forestry and range management
* Air and water pollution control
* Resource recovery (recycling)
* Hazardous material disposal and management
* Invasive species control

**KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER**

**Start a PROJECT NOTEBOOK and write down EVERYTHING: (suggest following the Eagle Scout Workbook)**

* + People you talked to and their contact information
  + Books and other resources you researched
  + Who helped you – what they did, when, and how much time they spent that day. Remember that if 60% of your troop or post helps with the project, they are also eligible for a Hornaday Unit Award.
  + All of your time – researching, organizing, leading the project, assessing the results, documenting it

**Conservation Project Ideas – What Can You Do?**

**Energy Conservation** - Work with adults in the Sponsoring Organization to conduct an energy audit of the home of a low-income family, preparatory to weatherizing it for energy conservation. Determine the materials needed and their costs. Help organize a workforce and undertake the needed improvements over several weekends. This effort should be part of the chartered organization's community outreach. Record the long-term impact by analyzing utility savings.

**Soil and Water Conservation** - Work with a local park authority to develop and maintain trails and paths, control stream bank erosion (with water bars, ripraps, grass and shrub planting), conduct a wildlife census, and "adopt" a stream.

**Fish and Wildlife Management** - With advice and assistance from state conservation department officials, introduce carp and catfish into algae-choked farm ponds to help reduce the algae load. Build nesting boxes and set them out for waterfowl. Plant hundreds of trees for windbreaks in at least 10 fields for wildlife habitat and to help control soil erosion. Plant native grasses that benefit wildlife. Using a portable puppet theater, make presentations on fish and wildlife conservation to young children.

**Forestry and Range Management** - Work with a range specialist to collect, analyze, plant, and maintain trees and native grasses suitable to the local environment to control erosion and provide wildlife habitats. Record the short-term and long-term impacts.

**Resource Recovery (Recycling)** - Design a survey of fellow students to discover recycling and pollution-prevention opportunities in the school. This could include activities such as recycling high-grade paper, reusing some paper products in the classroom, making use of disposable materials from the school cafeteria, and collecting glass and recyclable metal containers. Present the findings of the survey to school administrators and the school board. Achieve, as a result, the launch of an innovative recycling program in your school that delivers considerable dollar savings to the system with strong student, teacher, and school administrator support.

**Air and Water Pollution Control** - Work on a legislator's staff to draft legislation and encourage enactment of state laws that require the planting of trees along all state highway rights-of-way to assist in reducing motor-vehicle air pollution, as well as filtering silt and many toxic substances.

**Hazardous Material Disposal and Management** - Working with local environmental officials, design and organize a program in which special plastic bags to dispose of hazardous materials are distributed by Scouts to homeowners. The homeowners are asked to bag and deposit their used household batteries at special locations operated by city hazardous waste officials for appropriate disposal. Scouts design the informational brochure and run the public information campaign to explain the environmental problems created by household batteries. The program reduces serious discharge of pollutants by the local waste incinerator.

**Invasive Species Control** - Working with a land-management agency or organization, help control or eliminate exotic plant or animal species that pose a threat to native species. Educate others to recognize invasive species and to conserve and protect our native plant and animal heritage.

The project your Scout unit is to be involved in should be age appropriate for the youth involved and should match the skills and talents of the Scout unit's leadership. Please make sure you don’t need a special permit to do the work. Check out these ideas:

* Trail building or repair to stop soil erosion.
* Planting large amounts of trees and shrubs for wildlife habitat.
* Rip rapping a stream edge with stones to stop soil erosion and improve water quality.
* Creating brush piles for wildlife habitat.
* Constructing bird boxes for nesting sites.
* Construct squirrel boxes for nesting habitat.
* Place fencing around critical wildlife habitat.
* Removing ladder fuels on trees to prevent ground fires from climbing trees.
* Removing invasive plants from stream fields and streams beds.
* Marking all the drainage holes in your town to prevent hazardous material dumping.
* Remove stream debris to enhance a natural waterway.
* Plant open space in native grasses and flowers to reduce invasive plant encroachment.
* Construct vehicle barriers to keep vehicles off of trails, grasslands, and sensitive areas.
* Mark all dead trees with "wildlife tree" markers.
* Place wind-break and snow fence plantings along roadsides for wildlife habitat.
* Use netting, straw, and appropriate seed to restore an eroded soil bank.
* Thin a forest or woods area to enhance tree growth.
* Place water bars or "waddles" on hillsides to prevent erosion and slow water flow.
* Construct a wetland by controlling water flow and planting water plants.
* Construct and place water tank "ramps" to prevent bird drowning.
* Restock fish in a stream or lake.
* Collect Christmas trees and place on lakes and ponds so they sink to form fish habitat.
* Construct a hard surface walkway or path to reduce dust air pollution and control run-off.
* Establish a spring fed watering site for wildlife.
* Remove cattails encroaching on a pond or waterway.
* Place fencing around trees and bushes to prevent beaver and deer damage.
* Create a large wildflower planted garden for butterflies.
* Construct and install bird feeders at senior citizens homes.
* Plant trees and shrubs to make a visual and noise barrier between a road and a park.
* Construct and place bat boxes to increase number of bats to eat more mosquitoes.

Other good ideas for projects may be found in the publications and pamphlets of groups such as the National Audubon Society, the Izaak Walton League, the National Wildlife Federation, or governmental agencies including the Environmental Protection, Keep Rockland Beautiful

**PROJECT DOCUMENTATION**

**Start a PROJECT NOTEBOOK and write down EVERYTHING: (suggest following the Eagle Scout Workbook)**

* Documentation also refers to a record of the physical project itself. Arrive before the day of the project to take **pictures** from all angles. During the project and after it has been completed, take pictures from the same or similar angles. Then compare the site before and after, using the pictures. You can even create a display board to showcase your project at your Troop. Other forms of documentation include **recognition** given to your project from outside sources. **Letters** are a common form, especially from the sponsoring organization and the local community. If your project is featured in a **newspaper,** obtain a copy and include it with your final report. Both of these items document the impact of your project and the attention it has received from individuals and groups.
* The old adage, **“The job is not done until the paperwork is complete,”** applies for the Hornaday Awards as well. For many applicants this will be the hardest part of the entire process. As a professional you are well aware of the need to produce good documentation of your process and findings. A good guide for how the Boy Scouts of America approach documenting a project is the “Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook.” (Part no. 18-927A) Scouts are required to use this workbook as they work on their Eagle Scout rank, so it should be readily available to you. This workbook helps the applicant by dividing the project write up into separate sections that are easier to address. Another good source is the official Hornaday Award web site maintained by the Boy Scouts. (http://www.scouting.org/awards/hornaday) This web site includes a section that describes the elements of the project that the National Hornaday Awards Committee is looking to be addressed in the write up (**“How Applications Are Judged”**). It is also important to note that the project descriptions are all that the committee has to review during its deliberations. It has been suggested that for medal applications you may wish to complete an extra project in case one is determined not to stand up to the high standards expected for the Hornaday awards.
* **HORNADAY REPORT HEADINGS**:
* • Project Hornaday Category
* • Project Title and Project Description. What was done?
* • Who did it (names, number of hours)?
* • When was it done? How was it done?
* • How did you come up with the idea?
* • Why did you undertake this project?
* • How was the project planned? How was the project designed?
* • How long did it take you to do the project?
* • Where was the project carried out?
* • What was the environmental issue or problem?
* • What was the resulting environmental improvement? What did you learn?
* • How did the project involve and influence others? (What did they learn?)
* • How did you give leadership to the project?
* • What help did you receive from others—individuals and organizations?
* **SUPPORTING MATERIALS - “a must”:**
* • Photographs – before, during, after
* • Sketches
* Letters of appreciation / thanks
* News articles
* Additional written supporting material relating to the applicant's conservation work (newspaper articles, letters of commendation, and photographs of completed projects) is considered by the judges. Evidence of leadership in researching, planning, leading, and carrying out the projects, and of how this influenced other people, must be clearly documented.
* **A quality report is** well-organized, correct and complete, and looks good - neatness counts - Single binder presentation. The job’s not done until the paperwork is complete. An applicant should be advised that his or her application form, with supporting evidence of work accomplished, is the only information the national award committee has for selecting winners. Applicants are expected to show evidence of planning, to give leadership to others performing projects that demonstrate creativity and initiative, and to educate others through conservation endeavors. Thus, applications should be filled out neatly, and the list of activities should be as complete and descriptive as possible. Adequate supporting materials must accompany the application. Materials such as letters, snapshots, videotapes, project descriptions, drawings, planning papers, news clippings, talks given, etc., should be well-organized, neatly mounted in a notebook or scrapbook, and labeled.

**Finding an Advisor for Project**

Your Hornaday advisor should be someone who has signiﬁcant expertise in the area you have chosen for your project(s).   
  
Several sources exist where you might ﬁnd a good advisor for your Hornaday project(s).      
  
Begin with any fellow Scouts who may have earned a Hornaday Award and ask them if you can contact their advisor.  If the advisor does not wish to participate, query the advisor as to whether they might know of another qualiﬁed person who would be willing to help you. (working on getting a Hudson Valley Advisor)  
  
Here's a partial list of organizations you could approach to ﬁnd an advisor:  The National Audubon Society, the Izaak Walton League, the National Wildlife Federation, or governmental agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency, USDA Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Keep Rockland Beautiful, state natural resource conservation agencies, and your state cooperative extension service.   
  
State environmental agencies are another good source for ﬁnding an advisor.    
  
In addition, there may be local clubs or organizations devoted to the environment that have members willing to help you.   
  
Finding a good Hornaday advisor will require some research and networking effort on your part.  Ask your parents and Scoutmaster to aid you in your search.  
   
**Contact information for possible projects:**

Sonia Cairo Rockland Conservation & Service Corp  
Executive Director [Link to website](http://rocklandgov.com/departments/youth-bureau/rockland-conservation-and-service-corps/)  
Keep Rockland Beautiful  
120-126 N. Main St., 2nd Fl. Annex  
New City, NY 10956  
[845.708.9164](tel:845.708.9164)/ [sonia@keeprocklandbeautiful.org](mailto:sonia@keeprocklandbeautiful.org)  
[www.KeepRocklandBeautiful.org](http://www.keeprocklandbeautiful.org/)

Jeff Hutchinson Sterling Forest

116 Old Forge Road

Tuxedo NY 10987

845.351.5907

**NY-NJ Trail Conference**   
600 Ramapo Valley Road (Route 202)  
Mahwah, NJ 07430-1199

**201.512.9348**

**Checklist for Applications**

**William T. Hornaday Unit Award**

To apply or to nominate a unit, complete the [application](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Forms.aspx) for the unit award and submit it to your local council service center for review (Hudson Valley Council Camping Committee) and approval by the council conservation committee and Scout executive. The local council forwards the approved application to the national office of the Boy Scouts of America.

Note these **important points**:

* Indicate the category of the project—energy conservation, soil and water conservation, fish and wildlife management, forestry and range management, air and water pollution control, resource recovery, hazardous material disposal and management, or invasive species control.
* Give the specific title of the project and a detailed description of what was done, who did it, when it was done, and how it was done.
* Include any other pertinent information.
* Applicants must be currently registered in the program in which they are applying for the award (i.e., Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer) when the application is signed.

**William T. Hornaday Badge**



Complete the [application](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Forms.aspx) for the badge. The unit leader approves and forwards the application to the local council service center for review and approval by the council conservation committee and Scout executive. The council forwards the approved application to the director of Conservation, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079.

Note these **important points**:

* Give a detailed description of the project, as outlined for the unit award above.
* Be sure the applicant, conservation adviser, and unit leader sign the application before it is sent to the council office.
* Check and date all merit badges completed.
* Boy Scout and Varsity Scout applicants must complete these requirements before their 18th birthday. Venturer applicants must complete requirements before their 21st birthday.

**William T. Hornaday Bronze or Silver Medal**

Complete the [application](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Forms.aspx) for the bronze or silver medal. Upon approval by the unit leader, the complete application and supporting materials are forwarded to the local council service center for review and endorsement by the council conservation committee and Scout executive. Following council approval, the local council forwards the application to the director of Conservation, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. If appropriate, it is submitted to the Hornaday Awards Committee for action.

Note these **important points**:

* Be sure the applicant, conservation adviser, and unit leader sign the application.
* Check and date all merit badges completed.
* Prepare a separate "Project Description" for each project (each from a different project category). Describe each project in detail, including illustrations and/or photographs of the work done. **Indicate how you provided leadership for the project and how you used the project to involve and influence others.** (See ["How Applications Are Judged"](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Judging.aspx) for details of expected documentation.)
* Include any newspaper articles, letters of thanks or commendation, and other supporting materials in a well-organized binder.
* Ensure that the application and supporting materials are neat in appearance and reflect the high quality of the applicant's work.
* **The conservation adviser and Scout executive should ensure that all parts of the application are filled out thoroughly, accurately, and in detail.** Determination by the Hornaday Awards Committee of the applicant's qualification is made solely from the information included in the application and supporting materials.
* Applicants must be currently registered in the program in which they are applying for the award (i.e., Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer) when the application is signed.
* Venturer applicants must fulfill additional requirements as specified. (See ["How Applications Are Judged"](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Judging.aspx))

**William T. Hornaday Gold Badge**

Complete the [nomination form](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Forms.aspx) and submit it, together with supporting materials including letter(s) of endorsement, to the local council for review and approval by the council conservation committee and the Scout executive. If approved, the council forwards the application to: Director of Conservation, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving,TX 75015-2079.

**William T. Hornaday Gold Medal or William T. Hornaday Gold Certificate**

Complete the appropriate [nomination form](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/HornadayAwards/Forms.aspx) and forward it, together with supporting materials including letters of endorsement, to the Director of Conservation, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079.

The national Hornaday Awards committee will consider the nomination at its next meeting. The committee meets three or four times a year.

# APPLICANT’S CHECKLIST

1. Has the candidate planned, lead, and carried out one significant project from one of the project categories:

􀂃Energy Conservation

􀂃Soil and Water Conservation

􀂃Fish and Wildlife Management

􀂃Forestry and Range Management

􀂃Air and Water Pollution Control

􀂃Resource Recovery (Recycling)

􀂃Hazardous Material Disposal and Management

􀂃Invasive Species Control

2. Has the candidate performed research for the project:

􀂃The candidate has provided documentation that research related to the project was performed. Use the Eagle Scout Workbook for tracking your project

􀂃The candidate has provided documentation that alternatives were investigated.

􀂃The project includes documentation related to other similar cases.

􀂃The candidate should have a sound explanation for the best practice that has been chosen for the project.

3. Were the project requirements clearly stated in the documentation?

4. Were the project success criteria clearly stated in the documentation?

5. How much has the candidate contributed to the improvement or better management of natural resources and the environment?

6. Has the candidate shown leadership during the project?

7. To what extent has the candidate encouraged other people to plan, understand, appreciate, and practice sound conservation and environmental protection methods.

8. Have there been any public relations as part of the project (this can include newspaper articles, television or radio spots, etc.)?

9. Are thank-you letters (notes of appreciation) documented as part of the project?

10. Is there a list of lessons learned (both good and bad) documented as part of the project?

11. Is there a project plan listing the planned and actual tasks, times, and resources used on the project?

This manual should be used as a reference guide to starting a Hornaday Award, all information was collected from various websites and guidebooks that can be found on the internet.

<http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/William_T._Hornaday_awards_(Boy_Scouts_and_Varsity_Scouts)>

<http://usscouts.org/advance/hornaday.asp>

<http://www.boyscouttrail.com/content/award/william_t_hornaday-1922.asp>