

**WORLD SCOUT ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
FACT SHEET**



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**SCENES - Scout Centres of Excellence  
for Nature and Environment**

**SCENES**

As part of the World Scout Environment Programme, there is a renewed emphasis on SCENES (Scout Centres of Excellence for Nature and Environment) and the SCENES Network to provide a valuable resource to engage Scouts in learning about and caring for our environment. It is anticipated that more National Scout Organizations will look to their own Scout Centres to identify current good examples of campsites that provide natural settings, offer environmental education programmes and demonstrate good environmental management practices. Existing SCENES Centres are available to support the development of environmental education programmes and environmental management practices at Scout Centres, with the overall goal of establishing new SCENES Centres.

**Current SCENES Centres**

As at the 38th World Scout Conference, there are nine SCENES Centres across seven countries:

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Australia:    | Erapah, The Charles S. Snow Scout Environmental Education Centre        |
| Austria:      | Techuana Youthcamp  |
| Canada:       | Blue Springs Scout Reserve  |
| Denmark:      | Houens Odde Spejdercenter<br>Naesbycentret<br>Stevninghus Spejdercenter |
| South Africa: | Mafikeng SCENE Centre   |
| Switzerland:  | Kandersteg International Scout Centre                                   |
| USA:          | Florida Sea Base  |

## Key requirements to SCENES

SCENES consists of three key requirements:

1. A natural area which:
  - has sufficient natural habitat to support native species
  - provides opportunities for Scouts to experience and connect with the natural world
  - provides a place for unstructured play and exploration in nature
2. Environment education is available which:
  - provides opportunities to learn about the natural features of the centre
    - as a minimum - provide passive environmental learning experiences
    - optimally - provide active environmental learning experiences
  - regularly reviews and develops the environmental learning experiences
  - shares environmental practices with guests
  - engages in the SCENES Network
    - provides opportunities to learn about other SCENES Centres
  - provides learning opportunities that can support the World Scout Environment Badge and Scouts of the World Award
3. Environmental management is practiced which:
  - is based on a well managed centre approved by NSO
  - has an environmental policy that includes
    - protecting environmentally sensitive areas on property
    - reviewing and taking action to reduce the environmental footprint of the centre
  - embraces ongoing improvement through self and peer assessment
  - establishes appropriate links with local environmental organisations and projects

## The SCENES Charter

Scouting has an important role to play in developing citizens of the world who have a connection to nature, an understanding of the environment and their role in the environment, and are empowered to act responsibly to ensure the future of our planet.

The principles and aims for environment education in Scouting form the foundation that underpins the approach to environment education in Scouting and is encompassed within SCENES.

## SCENES Centres are committed to illustrating

- Adoption of the Principles and Aims for Environment Education in Scouting;
- Action to protect the natural assets of our Scout centre and surrounds;
- Provision of opportunities to experience and connect with the natural world;
- Active engagement in educational programmes to make informed choices about the environment, people and society - choices that reflect Scouting's Promise and Law.
- The commitment to these choices through excellence in environmental management practices; and
- Support for the worldwide co-operation of the SCENES Network.

## The SCENES Network

The SCENES Network is an open network for anyone interested in the development of SCENES. As a minimum, it will include SCENES Centres and volunteers from within WOSM working in environment education, and it will be supported by the World Scout Bureau.

The SCENES Network consists of both a virtual community and encourages physical meetings of representatives of SCENES Centres and other people within the SCENES Network. The SCENES Network functions with the intention of supporting the development of environment education resources for use in SCENES Centres, sharing information on the environment in many places around the world so as to support the worldwide understanding of environmental issues, and to provide support for Scout Centres wishing to improve their environmental education programmes or environmental management practices.

The virtual SCENES Network provides a shared space for discussions, sharing of experiences, files, chat etc. and can be accessed by registering through: [www.communityzero.com/scenes](http://www.communityzero.com/scenes)

For more information on SCENES please see the SCENES Guidelines available from the World Scout Bureau and the World Scouting website: [www.scout.org](http://www.scout.org)

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