

Take the Emergency Preparedness Challenge



BY ROB GALLAHER

Be prepared. For over a century we have been known worldwide as the “Be Prepared” organization; we help youth be ready for anything that comes their way. But are you prepared for the next natural disaster? If there is a flood, an ice storm, a tornado, will you know what to do?

Get ready to take Scouts Canada’s Emergency Preparedness Challenge. Through sponsorship provided by Scouts Canada’s Foundation, there will be 5 draws for Scout Bucks that can be redeemed through the Scout Shop. The grand prize will be for \$1,500 Scout Bucks, with \$3,000 more divided among the next 4 draws. Just think of what your section can buy with that money!! Winning groups will also be featured in *Scouting Life* later in the fall.

How to Enter

1. Simply sample the Emergency Preparedness (EP) program by either completing some of the material in the JUMPSTART package, or work on the Cub or Scout EP Badge. Although Beavers don’t earn badges, they can still participate by doing the JUMPSTART program.
2. Send an e-mail to ep@scouts.ca providing the name of your section, your city and province, how many youth are in your section, and a brief summary explaining what your section did to qualify for the EP Challenge.
3. Draws will take place on April 22, 2009, before Emergency Preparedness Week, May 3 – 9, 2009. Winners will be posted on the EP page and contacted.

Why is Emergency Preparedness Important?

Two years ago, Scouts Canada started developing

Emergency Preparedness badges for Cubs and Scouts. Launched in May 2008 (see article in the October issue of *Scouting Life*), we committed to provide more resources to help leaders with this important initiative. An initiative that will help individuals and families prepare for emergencies is a natural fit with our programs and all that Scouting represents.

We invite you to jump on board with the new Emergency Preparedness badges and JUMPSTARTS. Let’s show how vibrant Scouting is during EP Week by showcasing

the good work all of us do. We want to proudly say, “We did it. We’re making our communities better. We are prepared.” Let’s send a message out to Canada that we have thousands of youth and adults (and their families), who have learned about emergency preparedness through Scouting.

Have fun and good luck. ✕
 – Rob Gallaher is the national director for Membership Development. He’s proud to support this and all of Scouting’s initiatives, as great programs will attract more members.

With Thanks

The JUMPSTARTS for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts were developed in partnership with Emergency Management Ontario. We’d like to thank them for their hard work in developing these activities.

All provincial Emergency Management agencies vetted the

Emergency Preparedness JUMPSTARTS and were generous enough to fund the printing of the JUMPSTART supplement included in this issue of *Scouting Life Magazine*.

Visit Scouts Canada’s web site at www.scouts.ca/ep for more information and additional *Emergency Preparedness JUMPSTARTS*. English and French PDF versions of this article can be found on the EP site as well.

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