

The William T. Hornaday Award Program recognizes Scouts and Scouters for ecology efforts and service to conservation in their communities. To earn the Hornaday Award as an individual, youth members must earn a series of merit badges followed by a concentrated series of conservation and/or environmental education projects to be conducted in the member's community or nearby, under the advice of a trained conservation, naturalist, or environmental engineering expert.

Hornaday Unit Certificate is awarded to a pack, troop, team, or crew when that unit plans and carries out at least one local environmental/conservation project. At least 60 percent of the 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 is awarded, upon approval of our council, to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for outstanding service to conservation and environmental improvement. Applicants meeting all requirements receive a certificate and the William T. Hornaday badge.

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

William T. Hornaday 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 area 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 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.

William T. Hornaday Gold Certificate is by nomination only and is granted to an individual or organization. The nominee should have made an outstanding contribution to youth conservation education and demonstrated commitment to the education of youth on a national or international level, reflecting the natural resource conservation and environmental awareness mission of the Boy Scouts of America. Candidates may be nominated by any recognized conservation/environmental organization. Up to six awards may be granted annually. Each nomination must be approved by the Hornaday Awards Committee and by the Conservation Committee of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, in consultation with the Chief Scout Executive.