TRASH SCOUTS

GARBOLOGISTS

HANDBOOK

Welcome to Trash Scouts!

We're a global community of people who live by the oath, *"On my honor, I will take every opportunity to turn trash into treasure."* What that means can vary from country-to-country and person-to-person, but at its core, it means we do what we can to take what is given to us and make the most of it. This can be reclaiming materials to make something new, or taking a positive approach to a difficult situation.

"ON MY HONOR I WILL TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO TURN TRASH INTO TREASURE"

THE TRASH SCOUT OATH

While we started as an online community, we now have local troops, known as Dumpsters, that meet in person and participate in Trash Scout activities together. Every Trash Scouts Dumpster is run by one (or more) leader known as the Garbologist.

So - groups are called Dumpsters, leaders are called Garbologists, got it? Cool.

Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Dumpster	A local grouping of Trash Scouts, led by Garbologists. Meet ups, trash exchanges, and crafting parties are just a few things these groups do! There is even a nomadic dumpster for those that move around a lot and a couple of virtual dumpsters for specific groups.
GarBadge	A merit badge that symbolizes the work done to complete a set of requirements or learn a set of skills, dictated and detailed in the GarBadge lists. An Embroidered version or sticker version of the badge is available for purchase through RookHaus Website, or can be hand made by the Scout that earned it.
Garbologist	The local guide and organizer of Dumpsters, the person to reach out to if you are looking to do anything in your community.
Landfill	Multiple Dumpsters in the same area that may collaborate.
Leader	This term is for Sam, as the head organizer/creator of Trash Scouts. Please avoid using it for any other purpose!
Stank Rank	A title given based off the number of Garbadges one has earned • Junk Junior - 1-3 Garbadges • Rubbish Rookie - 4-6 Garbadges • Muck Manager - 7-9 Garbadges • Litter Leader - 10+ Garbadges
Trash Scout	Participating member of the Trash society- AKA You! A Trash scout is someone that works to better the world around by turning trash into treasure.
Uniform	The chosen method of a Trash Scout for showing off their Garadges- bags, hats, jackets, or sashes, anything is a uniform if a scout makes it.

GARBOLOGISTS OATH

"On my Honor, I will strive to make my dumpster a safe haven for the Trash in my community, to help uncover and create new Treasures every day, and to bring Scouts together under the Trash Scout Oath"

"I will strive to make my dumpster a safe haven for the Trash in my community"

I intend to foster a sense that everyone is welcome here exactly as they are. I intend to foster an environment that has a space to store and use scraps and found objects communally. I intend to reach out to those forgotten, elderly, in need, and/or unhoused members of my community to see what our Dumpster can do for them. I intend to reach out to organizations in my community that abide by similar guidelines to see what our Dumpster can do for them

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"I will strive to help uncover and create new Treasures every day"

I intend to instill in my Scouts a sense that we can all be better people. I intend to use scraps and found objects to make art with my Scouts. I intend to instill in my Trash Scouts the sense that they make an impact on our community, and direct them in ways to help those that need our help

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"I will strive to bring Trash Scouts together under the Trash Scout Oath"

I will host regular meetings to discuss ways we are all individually and collectively living the Trash Scout Oath. I will keep an open mind and heart when collaborating with nearby Dumpsters. I will be creative in ways to include everyone and keep my Scouts excited to participate

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SO, YOU WANT TO BE A GARBOLOGIST...

You've joined Trash Scouts, you love the vibes, and you want to start a Dumpster in your neck of the woods. Or maybe you and your trashy friends want an outlet for your shenanigans. Whatever the reason, you're ready to jump into your own Dumpster! Yay! What now?

First, submit your official application to Trash Scouts to be assigned your Dumpster number. We'll also add you to our online directory so other Trash Scouts can join you. Some things to keep in mind:

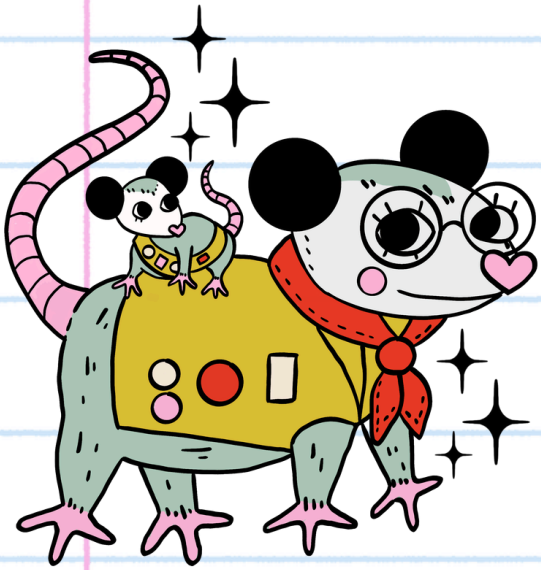
- The email and nickname you provide us will be listed publicly on the Trash Scouts website. You may want to make an email specifically for your dumpster, if you expect to be an active group.
- DO NOT meet in a private residence for formal meetings. Safety is a priority, so please be sure to follow any and all safety precautions when meeting strangers from the internet!
- Members under 18 must attend with the express permission or accompaniment of a parent/guardian. It will be up to each Dumpster to decide if parent/guardian attendance is required or to collect written permission.

TRASH SCOUTS
DISCORD SERVER

Once you have your Dumpster number assigned, you may head over to the Discord Server and go to the "Dumpster" category. In this category, is the #discord-roles channel. Here you'll find the list of Dumpsters and corresponding emojis. React with your dumpster's emoji and you'll gain access to your private chat! This is a great space for connecting with your Trash Scouts and coordinating plans.

In addition to your private Dumpster chat, you'll be given access to the Garbologist Chat, where all Garbologists can share ideas, woes, ask for help, and simply inspire one another. We'll also be keeping a running list of resources and updates available here!

While these chats are private, please keep in mind this is still the internet, and maintain general internet safety precautions!



As a Trash Scout Garbologist, you have some responsibilities..

Upholding the Trash Scout Oath

Whether it be facing interpersonal issues or coming up with ideas for activities, it's important to keep in mind the Trash Scout Oath. It's the Garbologist's responsibility to keep this front and center!

Organizing Trash Scout Activities

Garbologists are the organizers for their group. You're responsible for selecting meeting locations and dates, getting information out to your Dumpster and coordinating with venues as needed.

As the Dumpster Garbologist, it'll be your responsibility to plan activities as needed for your Dumpster. It may be a good idea to poll your group to see what they're interested in or if they have any ideas.

Collecting Trash Scouts Information

Garbologists will keep a roster of all their members, including contact information. This does not need to be reported to Trash Scouts, this is simply good organization!

Once your registration is accepted and you receive your dumpster number, you and your dumpster will be listed in our searchable online database. This is how Trash Scouts in your area will be able to find you! You may want to consider a public facing email specific to Trash Scouts and a nickname, if you'd like to protect your privacy.

Be sure to keep up to date with your emails and respond to prospective members!

MINORS IN TRASH SCOUTS

Members under 18 must attend with the express permission or accompaniment of a parent/guardian. It will be up to each Dumpster to decide if parent/guardian attendance is required or to collect written permission. You have three options:

- 18+ only
- Minors welcome with a parent/guardian in attendance as well
- Minors welcome with a signed permission slip. If you are accepting members, it is up to you to find out what your local laws and guidelines are! Background checks for all adults in attendance may be required.

Managing Dumpster Funds

Each Dumpster is responsible for their own funds. Ideally, have your Trash Scouts keep their own funds and pay for their own way, but in the case that you need to collect funds, it's your responsibility to offer financial transparency to your group. Any Trash Scout is allowed to ask for financial reporting as needed.

On this note, Dumpsters are welcome to raise funds for activities, however, *no Dumpster is permitted to profit off of official Trash Scouts branding or logos.* In the case that you'd like official Trash Scouts merchandise specific to your Dumpster, reach out to Troop Leader Sam directly.

NEW MEMBERS

As new members join your Dumpster, it's your responsibility to reach out, introduce yourself and introduce members to the group. Please make sure every Trash Scout is aware of the Trash Scout rules and any additional rules or guidelines you may have for your Dumpster. Once a Trash Scout joins your dumpster, they're your trash! Take good care of them!

DUMPSTER MEETINGS

Meetings can be arranged as frequently or infrequently as the Dumpster would like, but the schedule should be consistent and reported to Trash Scouts for the online database, so Trash Scouts can pick Dumpsters that work in their schedules.

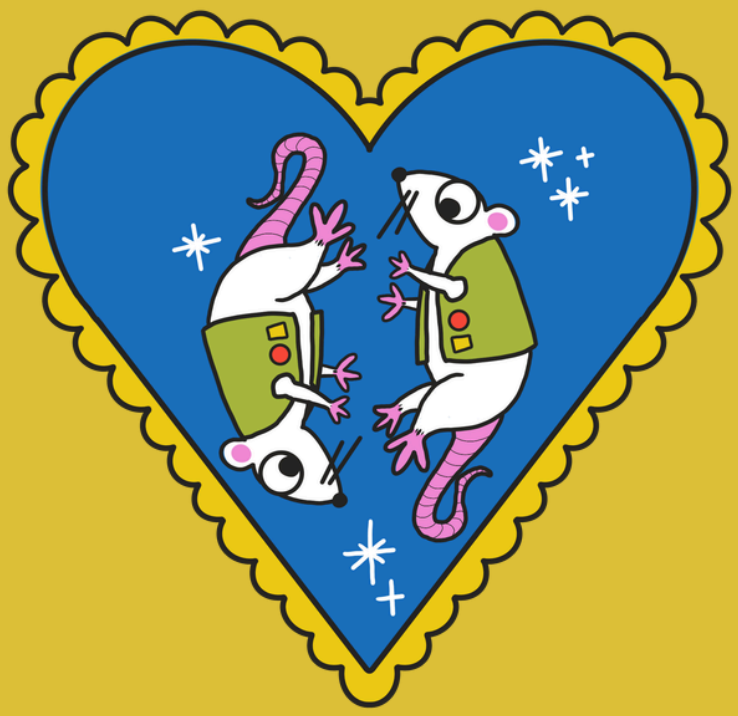
The structure of meetings can be flexible, dependent on the Trash Scouts' needs, but should always include two things:

- The Trash Scouts Oath
- An opportunity to turn TRASH INTO TREASURE.

That's it! What you do outside of that is entirely up to you and your Dumpster!

However, if you're looking for inspiration, here are some meeting ideas:

- BYOC (Bring your own craft) Social Event
- Litter Cleanup
- Select a GarBadge to earn together
- Support Your Local Creative ReUse Center
- Take A Class Together
- Hike a Trail
- Camping



BRANDING GUIDELINES

You are welcome to create your own pamphlets and flyers to promote your local Dumpster! We've created an online Resource Library of all Trash Scouts approved branding for you to use.

Some guidelines to keep in mind:

- We are inclusive. Your flyers should not be exclusionary, aside from listing 18+ as needed.
- No private addresses listed
- Keep to the Trash Scouts oath - focus on Trash 2 Treasure!
- Do not use the term "Scouts" or "Scouting" - always "Trash Scouts"! (So we don't get sued, ideally..)
- Keep it Clean (no hate language)
- Keep it Classy (speak plainly and to the point, do not inspire hate/discourse against others)
- Do not sell art made by Sam Rook (this includes any official Trash Scouts logos and artwork)
- Do not use Trash Scouts to advertise or promote any for-profit corporations or AI affiliated artists and platforms
- Do not use Trash Scouts to promote any hateful, discriminatory, or oppressive persons, organizations, or ideologies.

See the next page for a flyer template. Just add your own dumpster and contact information and you're ready to share!

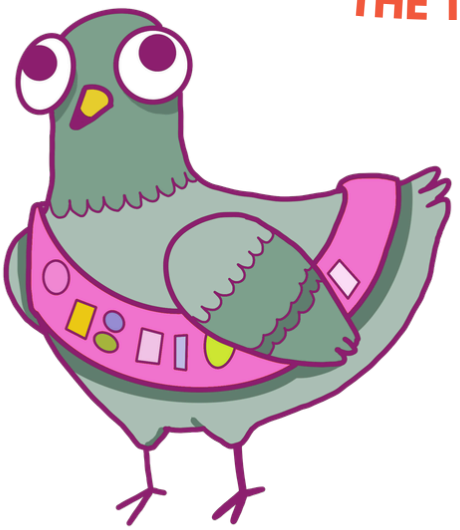
JOIN TRASH SCOUTS

DUMPSTER #:

"ON MY HONOR I WILL TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO TURN TRASH INTO TREASURE"

THE TRASH SCOUT OATH

JOIN US ON DISCORD



GARBADGES

EARN MERIT BADGES FOR TURNING TRASH 2 TREASURE

- ARTS + CRAFTS
- SUSTAINABILITY
- COMMUNITY
- OUTDOORS + SURVIVAL

MEETING LOCATION:

MEETING TIMES:

GARBOLOGIST EMAIL:

BRANDING TOOLKIT

FOR ACCESS TO HIGH RES BRANDING FILES, PLEASE GO TO THE **RESOURCE LIBRARY**.

WWW.ROOKHAUS.COM/RESOURCE-LIBRARY

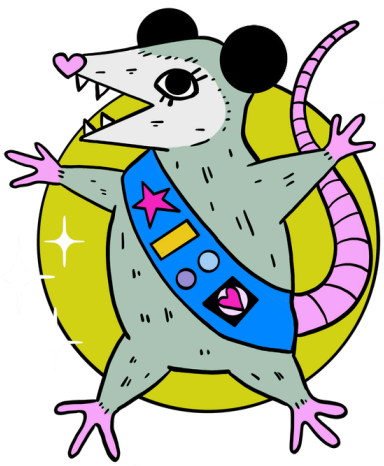
RECOMMENDED FONTS:

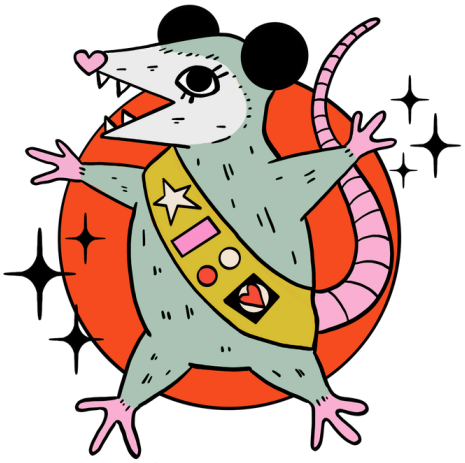
POPPINS EXTRALIGHT

POPPINS REGULAR

POPPINS BLACK

TROPIKA ISLAND





RECOMMENDED COLORS:

#ACC7B8	#3E3E3C
#8F3579	#F325BF
#FABED8	#2E4ED3
#F1583C	#DCBF37

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A PERSONAL NOTE FROM SAM

Hi, Friend! Thank you for being a Trash Scout and choosing to be a local leader in your community. A couple of months ago I was just a girl with an ipad full of doodles and a silly idea. Today, I'm watching people from all over the globe connect and create incredible art and help one another accomplish goals. To say it's surreal would be a massive understatement. I can't emphasize enough how much I appreciate YOU. None of this would exist without all the members that actively engage, spread and make Trash Scouts what it is! Thank you for all you're doing and if you run into any issues, get stuck, or feel discouraged, please reach out to me.