

June 17, 2026

Troop 72's FINAL EVENT – join us for the Farewell Weekend, August 8-9, 2026!

Greetings to fellow Scouts, Scouters, families and friends of Troop 72. I am sending this to everyone who has ever been involved with Boy Scout Troop 72 in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. In case you hadn't heard yet, we are **closing down Troop 72** after a great 25-year run.

From that very first camporee in May of 2001 with 15 nervous boys and 7 even more nervous dads, to the epic trips, we've come a long way. We've enjoyed countless weekends at L.E. Phillips and Fred C. Andersen and Scout Island, several more weekends biking to Durand or Cornell or backpacking the Ice Age Trail or the Superior Hiking Trail, and 23 full weeks of summer camp. To top it off, most of our Scouts have had the chance for some great high adventures – four canoe trips in the Boundary Waters, a hundred-mile canoe trip (and several shorter ones) on the Namekagon River, four long bike trips of hundreds of miles each, and the peak of our experience, four 17-day treks backpacking at high altitudes at Philmont.

Troop 72 has always been a ministry of CVBC (Chippewa Valley Bible Church), so when the church elders gave us a three-year window to ramp down the troop in 2023, we started planning for the closure of the troop. That time is now at hand.

However, one of our Eagle Scouts advised us not to fade out with a whimper, but to go out with a BANG! So we are planning a great **Closing Ceremonies event on Sunday, August 9, including a free catered lunch at 11:45 a.m.** We chose that weekend because it is **Pure Water Days** in Chippewa Falls. That means out-of-towners returning home for the weekend could also sign up for the races or pickleball tournament Saturday morning, walk with the troop in the big parade at 1:00 pm Saturday, and sit with the troop at a big 5:30 concert in the new Riverfront Park with a band starring two Troop 72 Scouts. You can see more details on the troop web page. It should be a great weekend!

Enclosed is a postcard for you to put on your fridge as a reminder. We really hope you and your family can join us for all or part of the Farewell Weekend! Whether you can or cannot come, or you're not sure yet, **please fill out the RSVP and survey on the troop web page.** We need to get a good headcount to plan for food for the free lunch, but **even if you can't come**, we'd like to get your input on any great stories you may have or how being in Scouting impacted you. We are also going to send out an online directory for former members of the troop, which you can opt into if you want. I'm also building a temporary email list to send updates about the weekend.

One more thing – even if you have already filled out the survey form, you can always edit your responses at any time. Let us know where you're at!

Thanks,

Thomas R. Arneberg

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