

## **Aquatic Merit Badge Instructor Qualifications GREATER WESTERN RESERVE COUNCIL, BSA**

Effective immediately the following qualifications are required for aquatic merit badge instructors as listed:

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| <b>Lifesaving Merit Badge</b>     | Current BSA Aquatics Instructor, BSA Lifeguard Counselor, Water Safety Instructor, or an equivalent certification by a nationally-recognized certifying agency. In addition, the instructor must have training/expertise in basic first aid and CPR.   |
| <b>Swimming Merit Badge</b>       | Current BSA Lifeguard certification or an equivalent certification by a nationally-recognized certifying agency. In addition, the instructor must have training/expertise in basic first aid and CPR.  |
| <b>Whitewater Merit Badge</b>     | Current Advanced Canoeing Instructor certification by the American Red Cross, the American Canoe Association, the American Whitewater Affiliation, the United States Canoe Association, or by other certifying agencies recognized by the BSA National Health & Safety Service. In addition, the instructor must have training/expertise in basic first aid and CPR. |
| <b>Other Boating Merit Badges</b> | Canoeing, Motorboating, Rowing, Small Boat Sailing.  |

Demonstrate expertise, including recent activity/training/teaching, in the field covered by the merit badge [which includes more than simply having "done" it] In addition, the instructor must have training/expertise in basic first aid and CPR.

Training in current teaching skills and techniques by a currently certified BSA Aquatics Instructor.

All participants are required to wear Coast Guard approved PFD's while on the water at all times.