



## CERTIFIED ANGLING INSTRUCTOR COURSE

The course was developed and is directed by the  
BSA National Fishing Committee

### Southeast Louisiana Council

CAI (Certified Angling Instructor) Course  
October 25-27, 2024

#### When:

**October 25-27, 2024**

Starts Friday 7:00 pm  
Leave Sunday 11:00 am

#### Where:

Camp V-Bar  
727585 V-bar Road  
Perkinston, MS 39573

#### Total Course Fees:

**\$ 65.00**

Includes 2 nights lodging in  
cabins, meals, and  
course materials

#### Registration Link:

[bsa-selacouncil.org](http://bsa-selacouncil.org)



#### For Course Questions:

**Robert Bourgeois**

Course Director

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225-610-3706

#### Help Your Council or Unit Deliver a Quality Fishing Program

This course is designed to give Scouters tools and ideas to get Scouts fishing. We will ignite your desire for introducing Scouts to the wonderful world of fishing. A recent Scout's Life survey found that Scouts chose fishing as the fourth most preferred outdoor activity, yet only 35% go fishing within Scouting. You can become a Fishing Advocate for your unit, district and council and utilize fishing as a good tool for Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation. Share your passion for fishing.

#### Course Highlights

1. Become recognized as a BSA Certified Angling Instructor.
2. Receive a CAI patch and Certificate.
3. Learn basic fly-fishing skills - fly casting, fly tying, knots, and how to teach them. Receive electronic copies of the PowerPoint slides and much more.
4. As a CAI you will have an opportunity to get fishing and fly-fishing equipment at greatly reduced rates for teaching Scouts.

#### Fishing is a Favorite Outdoor Activity for Scouts

Fishing with Scouts is an outdoor activity providing Scouts with fun, skills development, family participation, and strongly supports sound conservation awareness. Fishing receives very little support by most councils yet has great opportunity with minimal investment. Most camps offer marginal fishing programs and poor instruction. As a CAI you can make fishing a priority within your scouting world.

#### Who should attend?

The CAI course is for Scouters (volunteer & professional) who wish to learn how fishing enhances Council, District and Unit programs, and supports current and potential Merit Badge Counselors. Perfect also for Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, and Venturing leaders, Council property committee members, and is a Fishing Camp School. If you want to learn how we teach fishing to Scouts, this is for you. Seating is open for the first 20 anglers.





## What Is a Certified Angling Instructor (CAI)?

- Official BSA certification for fishing and fly-fishing programs and merit badge instructor
- One who leads and executes fishing programs at the council level
- Fishing program advocate and resource for Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing units
- Develop and support council fishing programs
- Qualified for national fishing staff positions at jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, and help train fishing staffs at all four BSA high-adventure bases
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## Course Highlights

- Gain hands-on learning of fly-casting, fly-tying, fishing knots, finding fish, and etiquette—and how to teach these same skills.
- Catch a fish or two and demonstrate catch-and-release. Clean and cook a fish.
- Participate in discussions about other councils' fishing programs.
- Learn about the new Complete Angler Award for Scouts in your council.
- Commit to making fishing a priority within your council.
- HAVE FUN

## Why We Offer CAI Training

### Strengthen Your Council's Fishing Lineup With the CAI Program

To help councils understand the great opportunity that fishing offers for recruitment and retention, it takes a local champion. That is what the Certified Angler Instructor (CAI) program is all about! Trained champions can promote the need for a good fishery and recruit more CAIs within the council as well as qualified merit badge counselors for the Fishing, Fly-fishing, and Fish and Wildlife merit badges.

We all know that fishing with Scouts is very popular, even with minimal program help. We also know most BSA camps are not offering a focused fishing emphasis, nor do they have an adequate fishery or well-managed lakes/ponds to attract Scouts.

Our objective for a quality fishery is for a Scout to have a reasonable chance to catch a fish within 30 minutes. Ideally, a smaller pond—two to five acres—and well-stocked with panfish like bluegill, trout, or perch is better than a large lake with a few large bass or muskies and multiple species that would appeal to adult Scouters. A quantity of fish with easy accessibility is best to get Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts interested, provide great enjoyment in fishing, and help deliver more merit badges.

Councils that have endorsed the CAI program are delivering great success with their fishing programs.