

## HPMC OMS Helps Scouts Get First Aid Training



On Saturday, November 16, HPM Corporation Occupational Medical Services (HPMC OMS) and the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Columbia Basin Chapter hosted a unique opportunity for local Scouts to earn the First Aid merit badge in West Richland. Experts in the field from the HPMC OMS along with professionals from the ASSE Columbia Basin Chapter mentored 60 Scouts participating from the Tri-Cities area. The experts engaged them in real life situations with hands-on activities as part of the training.

By earning merit badge required for Eagle rank, Scouts learned to care for injured or ill persons until they can receive professional medical care. This is an important skill for every Scout. With some knowledge of first aid, a Scout can provide immediate care and help to someone who is hurt or who becomes ill. First aid can help save a limb or a life. The event also covered burn prevention, and camping safety.



Earning merit badges gives Scouts a glimpse of occupations within the subject areas; all while receiving hands-on experience under the guidance of experts in the fields. Each merit badge has a different set of specific requirements. Scouts must earn 21 merit badges to obtain the Eagle Scout award.



This was a great volunteer event on behalf of area Scouts. The Scouts were exposed to many of the first aid challenges and opportunities present in the medical and public health fields while earning the merit badge. Scout organizers are very thankful for the support from everyone involved to make this happen for the Scouts.

All 60 Girl and Boy Scouts completed the requirements for the First Aid merit badge. The HPMC OMS and ASSE professionals were excellent resources that allowed Scouts the opportunity to learn from experts that use this experience on a daily basis at Hanford.

The First Aid merit badge is one of over 130 merit badges offered by the Boy Scouts of America.