

Why come to the National Bottle Museum?

Collecting Merit Badge Program at the National Bottle Museum

- Includes guided tour of Bottle Museum, telling history of America's first industry, as well as explanation of collection and museum practices to fulfill merit badge requirements
- Access to Museum's library space for Scouts to present on their own collections with their Troops
- An orphan bottle for each Scout to take home

**2 hours, \$10/Scout
(No charge for counselors)**

Want to visit the Museum during regular hours?

Bring your Scouts to the National Bottle Museum for a self-guided tour!

If you're interested in setting up a Scout Program, or simply want to know more about the National Bottle Museum, email info@nationalbottlemuseum.org or call **518-885-7589**.

Open Wednesday - Saturday, 10:00-4:00
Admission: \$5/adults, \$4/seniors, children under 12 are free



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



**Get your Collecting Merit Badge
at the National Bottle Museum!**



National Bottle Museum
76 Milton Ave, Ballston Spa, NY 12020
nationalbottlemuseum.org
info@nationalbottlemuseum.org
518-885-7589

Below are the current requirements for the Collections Merit Badge.

Requirements

1. ***Prepare** a short written report or outline for your counselor, giving a detailed description of your collection, including a short history, why you enjoy your collection, and what you have learned from collecting. Be sure to include why you chose that particular type of collection/collecting method.
2. **Explain** the growth and development of your collection.
3. **Demonstrate** your knowledge of preserving and displaying your collection.
 - a. **Explain** the precautions you need to take to preserve your collection, including (1) Handling (2) Cleaning (3) Storage
 - b. **Explain** how best to display your collection, keeping in mind preserving as discussed above.
 - c. **Explain** to your counselor the events available for a hobbyist of this collection, including shows, seminars, conventions, contests, and museum programs and exhibits.
 - d. **Explain** to your counselor how you keep track of your collection. Describe your cataloging method.
4. ***Demonstrate** your knowledge of collecting and investing. Discuss with your counselor:
 - a. How investing and speculation would apply to your collection
 - b. What you would look for in purchasing other collections similar to yours
 - c. What you would expect in return value if you decided to sell all or part of the collection
5. **Do** the following:
 - a. **Discuss** with your counselor at least 10 terms commonly used to describe your collection and be prepared to discuss the definition of each.
 - b. **Show** your counselor any two groups from your collection. Explain how you organized your collection and why you chose that method. (Note: If your collection is too large to transport and your counselor is unable to view your collection directly, photographs should be available to share.)
 - c. **Explain** the monetary value of your collection and where you learned about those values.
 - d. **Explain** how your collection is graded for value, physical defects, size, and age. Show the various classifications or ratings used in your collection.
 - e. **List** the national, state, or local association(s) related to or associated with your collection.
 - f. **Explain** to your counselor the purpose of and reason for the identification number (if applicable), series, brand name (if any), and any other special identification marks.
6. ***Discuss** with your counselor the plans you have to continue with the collection in the future.
7. ***Find out** about career opportunities in collecting. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

Please note that this badge cannot be achieved for collections of coins or stamps.

Visit the National Bottle Museum to achieve the requirements for the Collections Merit Badge!

Learn about America's first industry with the staff at the National Bottle Museum!

- Take a guided tour of the museum, learn the history of glass- and bottle-making, and methods of dating bottles (Req. 5a)
- Discover how the collection at the National Bottle Museum was started, and how it continues to grow (Req. 2)
- Learn how the museum preserves, displays, and catalogs the bottles in its collection (Reqs. 3, 5)

Come prepared!

- Scouts can use the Museum's Library and Research area to present to each other and their counselors about their own collections (Reqs. 1, 4, 6, 7)

