

## News Briefs

narios of potential emergencies and ask unit members how they'd respond.

- Ensure that every youth and adult carries a personal first-aid kit.

- Have at least 50 percent of adults complete IS-100a (ICS 100), Introduction to the Incident Command System (<http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>).

Applications for the 2010 National Scout Jamboree Emergency Preparedness Award will not be accepted at the jamboree site. So when your unit fulfills the requirements, submit an application (find them at [www.bsajamboree.org](http://www.bsajamboree.org)) to your local coun-

cil between Sept. 1, 2009, and July 1, 2010. The award patch can be worn on the right pocket of the uniform.

For tips on emergency preparedness, guidelines, writing plans, practice methods, discussion items, first-aid kit and travel supplies suggestions, and a list of emergency management agencies, see the "Be Prepared" tab located at [www.bsajamboree.org](http://www.bsajamboree.org).

### Get back to the land

**B**oy Scout troops from across the country will pitch in to restore the beauty and vitality of America's most-treasured spaces on the 16th annual **National Public**



Young volunteers get hands-on with the environment.

PHOTOGRAPH BY THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

### Lands Day (NPLD).

Scheduled for Sept. 26, NPLD is the largest one-day, hands-on volunteer effort on public lands held in the United States.

This year's focus, aimed at water conservation and protection, will help protect wetlands and watersheds, monitor water quality, prevent storm water run-off, and conserve water. Scouts also will take part in traditional NPLD activities: planting trees, renewing trails, cleaning up trash, repairing stream banks, and improving wildlife habitat.

Organized by the National Environmental Education

## National Bicycle Safety Month Pumps Up Fun, Advancement

**S**ummer's coming. Time to pump up your tires and grease your gears before the temperature turns hot—you and about 85 million other bike riders in the United States. But don't become a statistic.

About 540,000 riders visit emergency rooms with injuries each year, and 27,000 of them sustain injuries serious enough to require hospitalization.

So with May designated **National Bicycle Safety Month**, now's the perfect time to brush up on your knowledge of cycle-safety rules.

Scouts are fortunate. They learn the basics of bike safety from Bear and Wolf Cub Scout handbooks. The instruction teaches young boys to obey all traffic signs and signals, use proper hand signals, ride single file on streets and highways, keep to the right with the flow of traffic, don't do stunts or weave in and out of traffic, slow down and look carefully before crossing

streets, be alert for other vehicles, and more.

For Achievements, Cub Scouts also learn the fundamentals of bicycle maintenance: pedals, brakes, tires, reflectors, lights, chain, and seat. And, of course, Scouts learn they must always wear a helmet.

Kerri Taimanglo, executive director of [CycleSafe.org](http://CycleSafe.org), a nonprofit organization based in Winston-Salem, N.C., supports that requirement. "The best thing you can

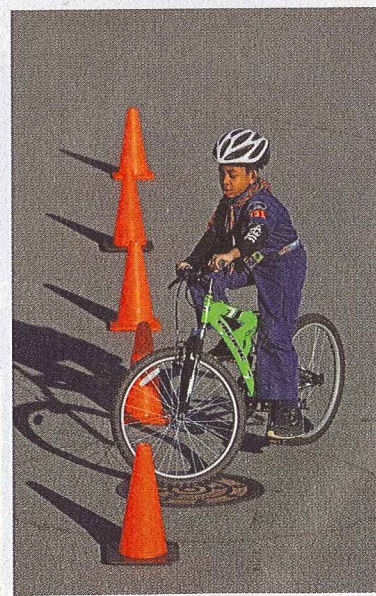
do to protect children, and adults, from biking injuries is to require them to wear a properly fitted helmet when riding.

"You can find helmets that are 'cool' and stylish that your children won't mind wearing. And be sure that the helmet fits properly and does not rock back and forth or side to side."

For more information on the BSA's guidelines involving bicycle safety, check out [www.scouting.org/healthandsafety](http://www.scouting.org/healthandsafety).



James Edwards, 12, (left) from Troop 919 in Pfafftown, N.C., and Ondre Johnson, 11, a Webelos Cub Scout from Pack 731 in Clemmons, N.C., check and add air to the tires of Ondre's bike. Later, Ondre weaves his way through a cone course as he works to test his bike-handling skills.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY PATRICK SCHNEIDER