

Troop 285 Camping Guidelines

Of all the activities in scouting, nothing compares to the fun of camping. In order for it to be safe and enjoyable for everyone, you should know a few things:

1. You will need to bring equipment and clothes appropriate for the weather and activities planned.

Having a really warm coat or boots at home, when you are stuck in a snowstorm, won't help. Your Boy Scout Handbook provides a list of what you will need for a campout (we have included that list here). If you have questions about your equipment, we suggest you talk to one of the older scouts or have your parent/guardian talk to one of the adult leaders.

Knowing you have a warm sleeping bag, insulated ground pad and dry tent to sleep in will insure a weekend adventure does not turn into a miserable experience.

2. You plan, camp and work as a patrol.

Your patrol, with the help of the Troop Guide for new patrols, will plan menus; buy food, setup tents, cook and clean up as a unit. The Senior Patrol Leader will work with the individual Patrol Leaders to assign the shared troop responsibilities. Any adults on the campout will act as their own HQ patrol.

The BSA Guide to Safe Scouting has rules about camping that we must follow. They include rules for making sure we protect the safety, privacy, and modesty of everyone in camp. Adults do not share tents with scouts that are not their family.

An adult outing coordinator from the troop, a responsibility that parents share and sign up for, will make sure all permits, camp fees and transportation are accounted for.

3. Some things should be left at home.

The Boy Scout camping experience is a chance to get away and focus on outdoor living. That means things like boom boxes and electronic games should be left at home for when you return. Board games, card games or other games to play with your patrol and friends can save a campout when the weather turns bad.

Don't bring guns, toy or otherwise. If we are planning an activity that includes them, your parents will be notified, and arrangements will be made to provide them. Pocketknives (no sheath knives) are a part of scouts and camping but, remember you must have your totin chip to carry one.

Anything that your parent/guardian do not allow you to have or do at home, will not be allowed when you are camping. That would include things you are not legally allowed to have or do (examples: tobacco, fireworks, illegal drugs, age-inappropriate magazines/pictures).

Depending on the mistake a scout makes, in bringing something to a campout, the item will either be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian when they get home or in extreme causes, the parent/guardian will be asked to come pick you up at camp. If you are not sure, ask before you bring it.