

Troop 2970

New Scout Camping Instructional Checklist



Purpose of this document:

1. Explain why the Scout Basic Essential items are needed for every camping adventure.
2. Explain how to choose good camping gear.
3. Understand the importance of knowing how & when to use camping gear properly.

Being prepared with the right gear is one thing, knowing how and when to use it is critical!

THE SCOUT BASIC ESSENTIALS can be found in your handbook, pg. 264

- **Pocket Knife** - After you have your **Totin' Chip!!!** The official BSA FOLDING pocketknife has a 2 ½" blade.
- **First-Aid Kit** – **Second Class requirement 7b.** Handbook pg. 127.
- **Extra Clothes** - Lightweight fleece jacket, even in summer – plan for the worst. Scouts dress in layers for insulation.
- **Rain Gear** – Troop 2970 recommends a Rain Jacket with a hood and rain pants.
- **Full Water Bottle or Bladder** – Always carry plenty of fresh water. Does your site have clean water? Are you sure?
- **Headlamp or flashlight** - LED, waterproof, fresh or extra batteries – **BE PREPARED.**
- **Extra Food** - At minimum, some snacks you like. Where will you store food at camp? Food, trash **CANNOT** go in your tent.
- **Waterproof Matches or Firestarter** – After you have earned your **Firem'n Chit!!!** **BE PREPARED** for emergencies.
- **Sunglasses & Sunscreen** – Glasses protect your eyes, sunscreen protects your skin. It only works if you **USE** it.
- **Map** - Waterproof or in waterproof cover (Ziploc bag) – **DON'T GET LOST.**
- **Compass** – Know how to use it! **Second Class requirement 1a.** Handbook pg. 361.

THE REST OF YOUR GEAR

- **Duffel Bag** – To put everything into. This works for all campouts new scouts attend including summer camp.
- **Sleep System** - Sleeping Pad, Sleeping Bag, Pillow (3-season, 20-30 degree bag), Waterproof stuff sack.
- **Day Pack** – Last year's school backpack will work great for this.
- **Clothing Appropriate for the Season** – 2970 recommends synthetic material clothing. Cotton takes **FOREVER** to dry!
- **Dry Bag for Clothes** – You cannot get warm if your clothes are wet. Write your name on it.
- **Mess Kit** – Lexan, plastic or metal bowl(s) and utensils (or Spork).
- **Toiletry Ziploc** – Toothbrush & paste, hiking toilet paper (**BE PREPARED**), hand sanitizer, camping soap, small towel.
- **Personal Medications** – Give to Adult with Medical Forms.
- **Whistle** - For emergencies if you're lost or someone else is lost. Keep it available where you can reach if needed.
- **Insect Repellent or Clothing** – You have three choices here: let them eat you, use DEET, or wear enough clothing.
- **Hiking Boots** – Waterproof boots are better than cold, wet feet.
- **Scout Handbook** – You cannot get a sign off if you don't have it. Forgot a knot? Need first aid? Check the handbook.

OPTIONAL GEAR (Remember, you pack it, you carry it):

Chair or stool - lightweight recommended
550/ Parachute Cord -50 feet, many uses
Watch – Early is on time, on time is **LATE**

Swim Trunks and Towel – if swimming/boating
Bandana, Hat and Gloves – It gets cold in the morning
Hiking Staff/ Trekking Poles

Questions??? Ask your Patrol Leader, that is why he is there!

Remember...everything you pack, you must carry to your campsite
Troop 2970 follows the principles of Leave No Trace – you pack it in, you pack it out
No food in tents or hammocks
Your most important essential is common sense – **BE PREPARED**

