

Camping Merit Badge Assignment - 2008

You must plan an outing for your patrol to go on. This outing is to be a backpacking trip somewhere in Arizona. The plan must be returned to me no later than Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Make sure to read this over completely, at least once, before starting!

- Print or type your "itinerary"
- Make it easy enough for other Scouts to understand
- It should include enough information so any Scout using it for preparation of the outing will be able to do a good job without asking too many questions.
- You may work on this with a buddy or two. Make sure to list names of everyone that worked on it. I only need one copy turned in. Remember, if it is a joint project, I expect it to be a cut above the ones completed by a single Scout!

Assume the following items as guidelines to stay within:

- I prefer a "real" trip. This is a trip that your PATROL and / our TROOP could actually do.
- Use all available methods of collecting information, but I want as much of your assignment to be in your own words as practical. Example: A printout of a map or picture is fine, but to just copy someone else's itinerary, or copy and paste from the internet is not acceptable.
- Outing starts & ends at Rover School, Saturday morning to Monday afternoon 2 days later.
- The PATROL is going to share main meals, so pick foods most everyone will enjoy.
- Wherever you backpack to, there will be water at the campsite, but it must be purified.
- Drive time to the trailhead should be no longer than six hours.
- The length in miles of the backpacking trip should be between 3 & 10 miles, each way.

Make sure to answer the following questions:

- Why are we going to this spot? (Swimming?, cave exploring?, indian ruins?, etc.)
- What dates are we going?
- What time will we meet at Rover?
- What time will we be back at the end?
- Where is the trailhead located?
- Who are the drivers and riders?
- What is the route to drive there?
- Supply driving directions to the trailhead.
- How long will it take to get to the trailhead by driving?
- Will it be necessary to stop along the way to eat, get supplies, gas?
- How many miles in is the hike?
- How much water should we carry on the hike in and then out?
- Will the hike out be the same route?
- Supply a map with compass coordinates for the hike. (you may draw your own)
- What type of hiking conditions will be encountered?
- When we get to the campsite, what "improvements" if any are there?
- Do we need permission to hike & camp in this area?
- What kind of weather conditions can we expect? (temperature range, rain, etc)
- What clothing should we pack? (swimsuits?, snow gloves?, etc.)
- Can we have a campfire?
- What will our food menu be for each meal?
- Who will carry what "shared" equipment? (stove, water filter, tents, pots, etc.)
- What other personal snacks should we take?
- Prepare a duty roster for your PATROL while in camp.
- Do a "time line" so everyone knows what & when things can be expected to occur. (When will we get there?, when will we eat?, when will "lights out" be?, etc.)

I will answer questions if you need help, but first try to come up with choices of answers before you ask me! Example: "Do you think foil-packs or de-hydrated stew would make a better first dinner?" is a much better question than .. "What should we have for dinner?"

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