

FOR LEADERS: GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE

2020 FOOTHILLS DISTRICT WEBELOS WOODS

March 6-8, 2020 Woodruff Scout Camp

This is an overview for those leading a Pack at Webelos Woods.

The goal of Webelos Woods is **a) to prepare Bears & Webelos 1s for the transition to Boy Scouts by introducing the Patrol Method, b) giving the Scouts responsibility and c) allowing the Scouts to work on camp activities and games on their own. All of this to make Scouting more interesting and challenging with an eye toward retention.**

Talk to your Scouts about Webelos Woods at your next Den Meeting. Have them plan the weekend, make the lists, get the supplies (all with adult supervision, of course) and let them make Webelos Woods "THEIR" event.

Patrols at WW should be from 6 to 11 boys. If you have 12, make two patrols. If you have less than 6, see if they can form a patrol with the other Bear or Web den. If you just have too few, we'll group you with another patrol that weekend (called a provisional patrol) and work with them in games that weekend.

SUGGESTED DEN/PATROL MEETING DISCUSSIONS

- A good first meeting will form a Patrol. Have them decide on a patrol name, patrol leader (PL), patrol cheer (for roll call and at the end of each game), and patrol flag. Guide their discussion but don't choose for them. (*Note: Webelos 1s may already have a patrol which you can use if they wish. However, the group attending WW may be different than the regular patrol so you could make a "provisional patrol" just for WW with different name, leader, etc.*)
- A suggested 2nd meeting is to have scouts discuss what meals they want. Let them brainstorm. Have a patrol "scribe" right down suggestions for Friday dinner (if you're eating there), Saturday meals and Sunday breakfast. What do they want to eat? What has to be purchased? What equipment is needed to cook it? They should do as much of the cooking as possible (with your guidance of course). Create a checklist and delegate responsibilities. Review what they decided for nutrition, etc. Delegate 2 scouts (and their parents) to be Grub Masters, i.e. those who buy the food.
- Tending camp should be the responsibility of the Scouts. Really. We're serious. Except for lighting stoves and some of the other adult work, let them cook, clean, set up tents, etc. Create a duty roster (see website for suggested roster) listing everything that needs to be done, who will do it and when. Some responsibilities are cooking, campfire starting and tending, getting water, assistance, etc. (*Note: we encourage going "green" by using mess kits and water bottles that can be cleaned and reused instead of disposables.*) Delegate adult responsibilities, too, since you'll need to help them prepare

the food, watch over a campfire, etc. Everyone rotates to a new position after doing it once. Share the load.

- Discuss what they'll need to bring on the trip. Personal items like clothes, tents, sleeping bag, sun and rain protection, etc. What are the essentials? What will be for comfort? Consider first aid, cold temperatures and hydration.

There are also Den / Pack items: firewood, coolers, drinking stations, etc. Make a check list and delegate responsibilities.

- There will be a Saturday evening campfire. We want all packs to have a song or skit prepared. As the weekend will be busy, i.e. little free time, we suggest you come up with something early and practice, practice, practice. Don't forget props or costumes. Both songs and skits will need approval ahead of time.
- Many Boy Scouts get together the night before for a camping "shake down" where they load up the trailer or cars to make sure everything is packed.

For further reading,
see the Camping section of the Boy Scout Handbook.

CHANCE TO WORK ON BEAR AND WEBELOS (ARROW OF LIGHT)

(SOME OF THE REQUIREMENTS MAY HAVE CHANGED. PLEASE VERIFY FOR YOUR PACK)

Bear Adventure: Bear Necessities

1. While working on your Bear badge, camp overnight with your pack.
2. Attend a campfire show, and participate by performing a song or skit with your den.
3. Make a list of items you should take along on your campout.
4. Make a list of equipment that the group should bring along in addition to each Scout's personal gear.
5. With your den, plan a cooked lunch or dinner that is nutritious and balanced. Make a shopping list, and help shop for the food. On a campout or at another outdoor event, help cook the meal, and help clean up afterward.
6. Help your leader or another adult cook a different meal from the one you helped prepare for requirement Cook this meal outdoors.
7. Help set up a tent. Pick a good spot for the tent, and explain to your den leader why you picked it.

Arrow of Light Adventure:

1. With the help of your den leader or family, plan and conduct a campout. If your chartered organization does not permit Cub Scout camping, you may substitute a family campout or a daylong outdoor activity with your den or pack.
2. On arrival at the campout, with your den and den leader or family, determine where to set up your tent. Demonstrate knowledge of what makes a good tent site and what makes a bad one. Set up your tent without help from an adult.
3. Once your tents are set up, discuss with your den what actions you should take in the case of the following extreme weather events which could require you to evacuate: a. Severe rainstorm causing flooding b. Severe thunderstorm with lightning or tornado esc. Fire, earthquake, or other disaster that will require evacuation. Discuss what you have done to minimize as much danger as possible.
4. On a pack campout, work with your den leader or another adult to plan a campfire program with the other dens. Your campfire program should include an impressive opening, songs, skits, a Cubmaster's minute, and an inspirational closing ceremony.

5. Show how to tie a bowline. Explain when this knot should be used and why. Teach it to another Scout who is not a Webelos Scout.
6. Go on a geocaching adventure with your den or family. Show how you used a GPS unit or a smartphone with a GPS application to locate a geocache.
7. Recite the Outdoor Code and the Leave No Trace Principles for Kids from memory. Talk about how you can demonstrate them while you are working on your Arrow of Light. After one outing, list the things you did to follow the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace.

WEBELOS WOODS CAMPFIRE RULES

Failure to follow these rules will result in your privileges being revoked.

1. Fires should ONLY be made in existing fire pits.
2. A responsible adult shall be present at all times.
3. There shall be no debris near the fire pit, i.e. leaves, sticks, fuel, etc. for a radius of 10'.
4. Never leave a fire unattended.
5. Put your fire DEAD OUT before you leave it or go to bed.
6. A bucket of water shall be nearby at all times.
7. Only wood and local debris for the fire.
8. Do not put trash, plastics, etc. into the fire except if performing a flag retiring ceremony.
9. Once something goes into the fire, it stays in the fire. No poking at it with sticks, brining hot sticks out, etc. Of course roasting marshmallows, s'mores, etc. and other cooking meals in the coals/fire is acceptable.
10. On Sunday morning after you have put your fire DEAD OUT, you must remove all ashes, unburned sticks and logs back to ground level in your pit. Partially or unburned logs may be returned or added to the log pile if one exists. Ashes and burned sticks should be spread out in the forest or placed in the trash. You'll find a shovel useful.

Each scout should bring a
compass for the weekend!!!