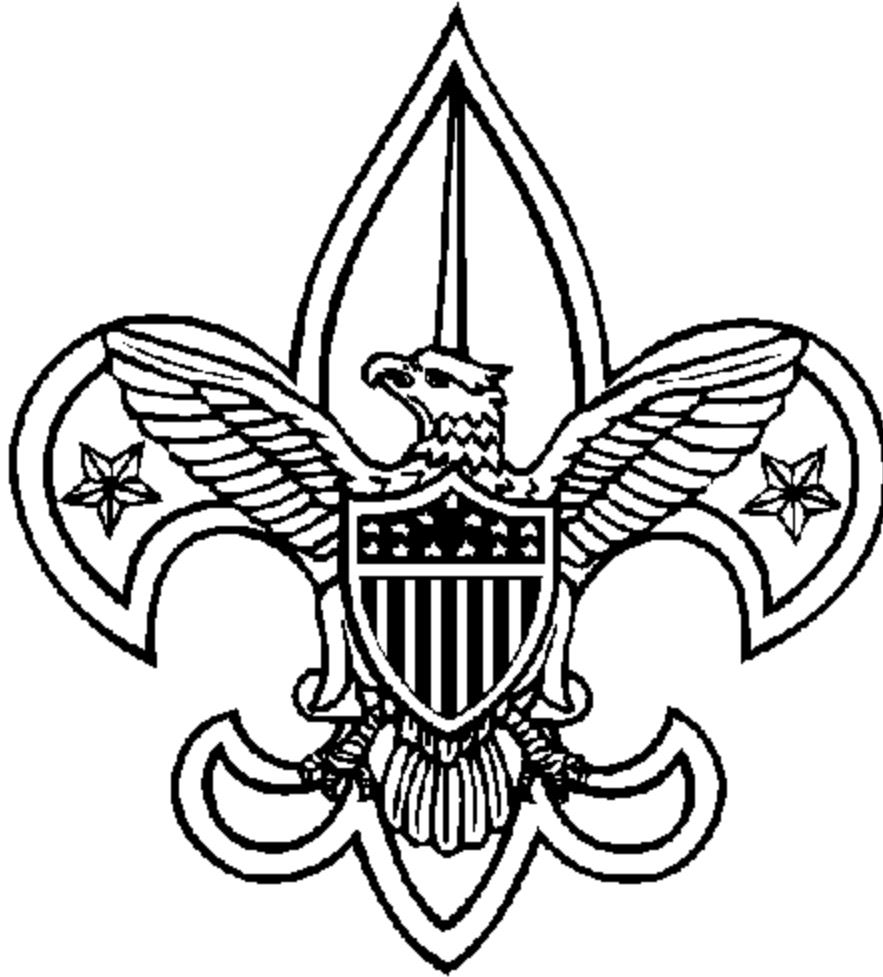


**Sebastopol
Boy Scout Troop 14
Sponsor – Sebastopol Kiwanis
Scoutmaster – Jim Lehman**



- Registration Procedures
- Introduction to Troop 14
- Troop 14 Volunteer Jobs
- Safe Haven
- Backpacking Equipment
- Calendar
- Telephone Numbers

Troop 14

Registration Procedures

In order to register your scout into Troop 14, the following are necessary:

- Read through the Introduction, Volunteer Jobs and Safe Haven pages included in this booklet
 - Complete the following forms:
 - The Scout Application
 - The Scout Class 1 medical form (on back of application)
 - *Be sure to remove the carbon before writing on the back of the form*
 - Troop 14 Parental Data form
 - Parent/Guardian Troop Resource form for each parent
- Prepare a check made out to '**BSA Troop 14**' for \$35 for each scout being registered.
 - Registration fees include Boy's Life subscription, annual dues, one Troop 14 tee-shirt. (*If your Scout is already registered and receiving the Boys Life magazine – registration is \$25*)
- Please look over the volunteer assignments on the "Troop 14 Volunteer Jobs" page. These are ways you can help Troop 14 make you boy's scouting experience something great!
- Be sure your Scout has an official Boy Scout Handbook and the full Boy Scout uniform as described in the "Introduction to Troop 14" pages
- Scout and parents read and sign the "I agree" form
- Bring all of the above to the Registration Chairman and the Scoutmaster at a regular Troop 14 meeting or a scheduled meeting.

**Welcome
To
Sebastopol Troop 14**

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INTRODUCTION TO TROOP 14

Welcome to Troop 14. As a Webelos Scout or a new or transferring Boy Scout, the following information will help you and your parents become acquainted with our program.

In Troop 14, we believe that Scouting is both fun and educational. It builds character, develops citizenship and enables a boy to develop skills in a wide range of areas. In teaching Scouting, we also teach the boys a way to live.

Scouting is a partnership with both parents and leaders helping the boys to meet the challenge of Scouting and attain the goal of an Eagle Scout who lives in the spirit of the Oath and the Law

To teach Scouting, we use the following tools:

Scouting Ideals

These are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto and Slogan.

Patrol Method

Within the troop, boys work in patrols of five to eight members. Patrols choose their own name and leaders, who in turn help run the troop.

Leadership

Boys develop leadership skills because they help run the patrols and the troop. The Senior Patrol Leader, who is selected by the Scoutmaster with Committee approval, runs troop meetings. Scouts who want to assume leadership positions are expected to attend the Junior Leader Training courses.

Advancement

Scouting provides recognition for achievement. Boys learn new skills, both those they have chosen as well as some they would not have selected by themselves.

Outdoor Program

We will make every effort to go camping or have at least one outdoor activity per month. During the summer we will spend one week at a resident summer camp and will also schedule at least one week of backpacking and/or other outdoor activity.

Community Service

A significant part of Boy Scouts is service to his community. There will be several opportunities each year for Troop 14 to be a visible part of our community through service in a variety of projects. The rank of Eagle Scout requires the boy to assemble and execute a significant service project. Every Scout in Troop 14 is expected to take part in service projects, both troop service and Eagle projects, with the same enthusiasm as he does for all other outings.

Scout Uniform

The influence of the Scout uniform on boys has been a factor since the earliest days of the Scouting program. It identifies a boy as a member of a great international organization. In Troop 14, a boy needs a Boy Scout shirt, trousers or shorts, socks, red epaulets, council patch, troop number (14), neckerchief, neckerchief slide and belt.

Scout Handbook

A necessary tool for learning and recording advancement, and available at **ALL** Scout activities

Finances

Each year in November a boy registers for the following calendar year and is asked to pay a registration fee of \$35. *(If a boy registers during the year, the full fee is still payable).* This fee covers the costs of registering with BSA, subscription to Boy's Life, insurance, annual dues, awards and miscellaneous costs. In addition, there will be expenses for trips, food for trips, summer camp and personal gear. Individuals or patrols are responsible for lost or damaged troop equipment.

Meetings

Our troop meetings are held weekly on **Wednesday evenings at Apple Blossom School from 7 to 8:30 PM**, with the exception of when the school is closed due to a holiday, or a preempting school function, or if the meeting is scheduled to be at a different location. Apple Blossom School is closed for the summer and therefore locations for the summer months will be announced.

A boy will get out of Scouting only what he puts into it. Each meeting and troop activity is a learning opportunity. Missed events put a boy at a disadvantage: he does not obtain information that could be critical to his personal development and advancement. In addition, there is undue stress on the adult and boy leadership by forcing changes in the program to get the boy back on track.

Campout Fees

Fees for campouts reflect cost of transportation, the campsite, equipment surcharge, etc. Meal costs are decided by each patrol when the menus are prepared. Patrols are responsible for collecting money two weeks prior to the event and purchasing supplies before each trip. If a Scout has agreed to go on a trip and has paid his money, there cannot be a refund in the event that he cannot go. **Scouts must attend both troop meetings immediately preceding a campout:** the first meeting will generally involve planning for the trip (includes collecting money to buy the food) and the second meeting will generally involve the distribution of the food and equipment.

Permission Slips are required for each Troop outing. These are necessary to allow the outing adult leaders to get medical aid for your Scout in the event he has been injured while away.

Summer camp fee payment schedules are determined by the dates provided by the summer camp organization. Usually divided roughly in thirds, starting early in the year with the final payment due about two months prior to the camp date.

Departure and return times will be announced, the latter being a rough estimate, which will fluctuate due to trip distance and weather conditions.

Medical Release Form

The Class 1 form must be updated annually for all participants. The Class 2 form must be updated every thirty-six months for all participants under the age of 40. The Class 3 form must be updated annually for all participants over the age of 40.

The trip leader must have a complete, current form on file prior to departure for any trip.

No form, no go!

Rules for Campouts

1. The 'Buddy' system **must** be observed at all times.
2. Everyone in bed between 10 PM and 7 AM.
3. Respect everyone's personal property.
4. Take proper care of troop equipment.
5. No playing with fire.
6. We will sleep, cook, work and clean up by patrols
7. Each Scout will do the work asked of him by his patrol leader or by any adult leader.
8. There will be no foul language or off color jokes.
9. No aerosol cans.
10. No smoking, drugs or alcohol (adults included).
11. No video or other electronic games, weapons of any sort, fireworks or laser lights

These rules are intended to make Scouting fun and safe for everyone. They reflect the principles found in the Scout Oath and Law. Flagrant violations of appropriate Scouting behavior could result in having the parents being called to pick up their boy.

Parent Assistance

Your son will need your support to reach his personal goals in Scouting and the troop will need your help in order to provide a superb program. You are encouraged to have your son work on material at home with you as experience has shown us that the Scouts who are most successful have strong family support and parent involvement.

Every parent is asked to fill out a Troop Resource Survey form and a Volunteer Leader form. Information on these forms will be kept confidential with the Troop 14 Committee. These forms are used to help us know you better and provide us with a possible resource for a particular skill or activity.

We always need help with rank advancement activities as well as transportation for outings. **In our troop we ask that all parents assist with at least one troop activity per year:** such as, campouts, summer camp, transportation, fund raising, service projects, Scout-O-Rama and Friends of Scouting membership drive.

Please note: if everyone does a little bit, then no one will be overburdened. Our Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Members are all volunteers.

Parents – If you are not an active part of a regular scout meeting, please conduct non-meeting business and/or visiting in such a way as to not impact the meeting. **Also, if the Scout's siblings are at the meeting place, please be especially sure that they do not impact the formal Troop meeting.**

Parent's Meetings

Parent meetings will be planned regularly. The purpose is for the committee and parents to share information. The committee will accept suggestions from the parents for consideration, and parents will be asked for assistance to carry out troop activities.

Troop Committee

The troop committee has the overall responsibility for the proper management of the troop. The committee is responsible to appropriately implement activities planned by the Scoutmaster and the Troop's boy leaders. The committee will accept all suggestions and recommendations from the parents. It is the committee's responsibility to discuss these ideas, vote on them and respond back to the troop's parents.

Scout Spirit

For many leaders, Scout Spirit is hard to define. However, try a few of the following ideas to see if it can be seen.

1. When a scout arrives, he is in full uniform.
2. Upon arrival, the scout asks if he can be of some help, and if needed, helps.
3. The scout helps put away anything out of place.
4. The scout is ready to participate in activities, even though he may not have experienced the activity
5. If the scout has done the activity before, he offers to help someone who has not had the experience.
6. On outings, the scout helps with dishes, helps someone set up a tent, participates in a pioneering project.
7. A scout may be asked once to do some activity, but not twice.
8. On hikes, the scout tries his best. If he is a fine hiker, he walks with slower boys. He is seen to care about others rather than himself.
9. The scout participates in service activities, not asking what he will get out of it.
10. If the scout is helpful at home, the same attitude will show in the troop.
11. The scout will cheer on others who are trying to accomplish a task.
12. The scout goes out of his way to help new members of the troop.
13. If the scout has had a disagreement with a fellow scout, once he has calmed down, he seeks to apologize or get on better terms with the other scout.

Attitudes that **do not** show scout spirit.

1. Lack of pride in wearing the uniform to meetings.
2. Making fun of other scouts who are trying to participate.
3. Planning "tricks" that will disturb other campers.
4. Scouts whose choice in getting a point over is to bully or show that their size is bigger, thus intimidating younger or physically less capable scouts.
5. Scouts who openly disregard leaders directions.
6. Scouts who create new ways to upset meetings and leaders.
7. Scouts whose foul language is insulting to others and unacceptable in public.
8. Scouts who openly defy adults.

If you wonder where a scout is who shows scout spirit, look to an Eagle Scout for example.

If you wonder where your boy or boys stand in scout spirit, use this as a test.

If you are a scout and wonder about scout spirit, test yourself and be honest. If you find you are weak in an area, decide to change your ways.

Rank Advancement

A new Scout needs to review with his parents or guardian the joining requirements listed on page 4 of the Scout Handbook. As soon as these requirements are signed off and the Scout has his first Scoutmaster Conference, he can receive his Scout badge. This is the first step on the road to the rank of Eagle Scout. There are four basic parts to Boy Scout advancement and they apply to all six ranks:

1. The Scout Learns: A new Scout starts learning as soon as he joins.
2. The Scout is Tested: Advancement is a natural outcome of a boy's regular Scouting activities. When an adult leader or senior youth leader recognizes that a Scout has mastered a given skill, he will inform the Scout that the particular requirement has been satisfied and will record this fact in the appropriate section of the Scout Handbook.
3. Scoutmaster conference: When the Scoutmaster, Advancement Chairman or adult leaders see that all requirements for rank are completed, the Scoutmaster has a conference with the scout. The purpose of the conference is to develop over a period of time an increasing level of understanding and trust between the scoutmaster and each scout. These conferences enable the scoutmaster to emphasize that Scout spirit means living the Scout Oath and Law in the scout's everyday life.
4. The Scout is Reviewed: Upon completing all the requirements for a specific rank, the Scout appears before a "Board of Review" comprised of members of the troop committee and other interested Scout parents (except his parents or guardian). The purpose of the Board of Review is not to retest the boy, but to make sure that he has met all requirements for the rank and to informally talk about his feelings regarding his Scouting experience.
5. The Scout is Recognized: Once a Scout has passed his Board of Review, he is recognized as soon as possible. Formal recognition for rank advancement and merit badges will take place at the Court of Honor.

Note: rank advancement must be recorded in the Scout Handbook and then it is the boy's responsibility to contact the Advancement Chairperson for proper recording in the troop records and at the Council level.

Courts of Honor

A Scout and his parents are expected to attend every Court of Honor, whether or not he will receive an award. They will be held two or three times a year and will be the occasion for recognizing our boys' achievements. **All requests for rank advancement and merit badges will be turned in to the Advancement Chairman at least two weeks prior to the Court of Honor** - this allows adequate time for ordering the awards as well as time to prepare the program for the evening.

Merit Badge Information

- Any scout, regardless of rank, can earn merit badges.
- The scout decides which merit badge he wants to earn.
- See if another scout might want to work on the badge. (optional)
- Talk to the Scoutmaster about earning the badge.
- Get a blue card from the Advancement Chairman. Fill in the required information on the card and get it signed by the Scoutmaster **BEFORE** the work on the merit badge is started.
- If the counselor is from outside Troop 14, get the telephone number of a counselor for the merit badge from the Advancement Chairman.
- Call the counselor and ask for suggestions that could help in fulfilling the requirements for the badge. Get a merit badge book from the troop library or purchase one at the Scout Service Center.
- Work on the badge. Do all the writing needed and ask the counselor for help if needed.
- The Scout (**Not a parent**) makes a call to the counselor to ask for an appointment.
- The Scout goes in full uniform, with a signed blue card and all finished work.
- The Scout demonstrates all work.
- The counselor signs the blue card and keeps his copy of the card.
- The Scout gives the advancement portion of the blue card to the Advancement Coordinator, for Troop records, and keeps the part of the card that is for "Applicant."
- The scout has earned the badge!
- The Scout will be presented with the merit badge patch and will be recognized at the next Court of Honor.
- Parents **keep the scout portion of the merit badge card in a safe place.** It may be needed to verify work done as the scout gets ready for Eagle Scout.

The Boy Scout Requirements handbook has all the Merit Badge requirements printed in full. This is extremely useful for the Scout to browse to see what Badges are of interest to him. This book is available and the Scout Council office in Santa Rosa. There may also be a copy in the Troop library.

Junior Leader Training

JLT (Junior Leader Training)

Training in Leadership goes on all the time. It is good for the Scouts to plan their our agenda, and then critic themselves when something does not work as expected. Most times we learn best when things do not go as planned, then we revised our plan, and hopefully we stand back and glow in our success. This is what the regular JLC (Junior Leader conference) meetings are about. The boy leaders with the Scoutmaster meet to plan their agenda and outings.

JLT is an official Boy Scout training program to equip the Scouts in or ready for a leadership position how to lead. Troop 14 conducts an overnight JLT course each year to prepare candidates for the Council JLT course. Council conducts a one-week course early each summer at the Noyo Boy Scout camp. It is primarily conducted by leader Scouts who have attended in the past under the guidance of adult leaders. The twofold purpose is to train the new leaders and reinforce and further train the current junior leaders.

Parent and Adult Leader Training

Fast Start

We would like every parent to attend this training to familiarize them with the goals of the Boy Scout program. By doing this they will better understand the purpose of the program, training and activities that their son experiences in Troop 14. This training can be offered during Boy Scout meetings or at other times at necessary intervals.

Youth Protection

It is our intent to provide youth protection training to all our parents. Our goal is to have every parent trained to satisfy the BSA requirement for tour permits. This is because we hope that every parent will be involved sometime during the year in working with the boys in some capacity. This training is offered regularly at the Boy Scout Council office each month, or can be scheduled for an individual Troop on request if several parents plan to attend.

Adult Leader Training

The successful operation of a Boy Scout troop requires a number of committed, trained adults. These people must be thoroughly trained in the principles and commitments of the Boy Scouts in order to provide your boy(s) with a safe, enjoyable, learning environment. For this reason, Troop 14 requires that every Adult Volunteer Leader agree to attend the Boy Scout Adult Leader Training.

An Adult Volunteer Leader is the Scoutmaster, his assistants and the Troop Committee that support him. Redwood Council provides this training in spring and fall. It is in three parts that take place on one Saturday (all day), one evening and one weekend at Navarro.

Advanced Adult Leader Training (Woodbadge)

Participation in this training is strongly encouraged by as many adults as possible. Woodbadge is an intensive course that involves role playing and development of leadership skills in a Boy Scout patrol environment. This Redwood Council training involves a full week at Noyo or several weekends (alternating each year). Our Scoutmaster is Woodbadge trained. Several of the Troop 14 adult leaders are also either Woodbadge trained or have signed up to attend.

Troop 14 Volunteer Jobs

Our goal is that at least one parent/guardian of every registered scout will volunteer to assist in at least one activity during the year. Below are some of the activities we will be involved in with your help. As you can see, without your help, many of these activities will not happen!

- ✓ Assist in a Fund Raising Activity
- ✓ Assist on a Car Camping Weekend Outing
- ✓ Assist on arranging Transportation for outings
- ✓ Drive for an outing
- ✓ Assist at a Service Project
- ✓ Assist on arrangements necessary for Summer Camp
- ✓ Assist in preparing advancement awards for Court of Honor
- ✓ Assist in arranging Tour Permits and Permission Slips for Outings
- ✓ Be a Patrol Advisor
- ✓ Setup and/or Maintain a Troop WEB site
- ✓ Assist on a Back Backing Weekend Outing
- ✓ Assist on a Day Destination Outing
- ✓ Assist on a Winter Skiing trip
- ✓ Assist on a Day Hike
- ✓ Assist in the Troop's participation in Kiwanis (*our sponsor*) Easter Egg Hunt
- ✓ Serve refreshments for a Court of honor
- ✓ Help scouts plan and script a Court of Honor
- ✓ Assist on July 3rd service project with the Kiwanis (*our sponsor*) Fireworks Show
- ✓ Assist on the Yosemite Service Project
- ✓ Assist on a Summer 25 mile backpacking trip
- ✓ Maintain a Troop Newsletter
- ✓ Volunteer to be telephone caller
- ✓ Volunteer to be the trip telephone contact person
- ✓ Assist on a Winter Snow Camping Trip

SAFE HAVEN

Scouting is a Special Place. The rules are ones we know well - the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.

We create a safe haven in Scouting, a place where everyone should feel physically and emotionally secure. We do this in several ways:

- We set the example for ourselves and others by always behaving as Scouts should. We live the Scout Oath and Law each moment of each day, to the best of our abilities.
- We refuse to tolerate any kind of inappropriate put-down, name-calling, or physical aggression.
- We communicate our acceptance of each participant and each other through expressions of concern and by showing our appreciation whenever possible.
- We create an environment based on learning and fun. We seek the best from each participant, and we do our best to help each person achieve it.

As an adult, you help to create a safe haven by your personal example. Your attitudes, your behavior, and your expectations set the tone.

Safe Haven also applies to the volunteer adults who are supervising your boys. They should not be subjected to physical or emotional abuse from scouts or their parents. Differences should be negotiated in as calm an atmosphere as can be established to benefit all parties involved.

Backpacking Equipment, (*) required and optional

BASIC EQUIPMENT

- *Pack (**waist strap is mandatory**)
- *Lashing straps
- Rain cover for pack (required for wet weather)
- *Large garbage bag = optional rain cover
- *Canteen(s)
- *Nylon cord (rain shelter/food bags; two in bear country) - 50 ft of 1/8 inch, red is preferred color
- Hiking staff (optional)
- Leatherman (optional)
- *Pocket knife (small)
- *Map in zip lock bag
- Camera (optional) - put in new batteries
- Binoculars (optional)

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT (Waterproof bag)

- *Small flashlight - with new batteries
- *Whistle - plastic - make accessible while hiking (tie to pack)
- *Compass- make accessible while hiking (tie to pack)
- *Extra batteries
- *Extra bulbs
- *Quarter
- Butane lighter
- *Matches in waterproof case
- Sewing kit
- Roll of wire
- Pen
- Note paper
- Repair kit for glasses
- Emergency survival handbook
- Boot laces
- Duct tape
- Signal mirror
- Therma Rest repair kit
- *First Aid Kit (with moleskin)
- *Toilet paper in zip lock bag
- Tent repair kit & tape (optional)

Backpacking Equipment, (*) required and optional

SHELTER

Tent

Sierra Designs Clip Flashlight - 3 lbs 14 oz

Sierra Designs Half Moon Plus - 4 lbs 12 oz

Ground tarp (can serve as rain shelter; optional)

*Therma Rest w/ bag or foam / Ensolite pad (not an air mattress; avoid open-cell foam)

*Sleeping bag (light weight for backpacking, rated for 20 degrees or lower)

COOKING EQUIPMENT - PATROL

Stove

Fuel bottle(s)

Windscreen

Matches in waterproof containers

Small can opener

Spatula (optional)

Salt & pepper shaker (optional)

Spices as needed

Tuffy/scrubbing sponge

Camp suds - biodegradable (1 oz for 2 people for 7 days)

Cook pot -small (optional)

Cook pot - large, w/ frying pan lid

Parquay (optional, in squeeze bottle)

PUR water filter

Polar Pure disinfectant

Collapsible water bag (1 bag for 2 people)

Paper towels - generally one per person per meal; omit for lunch & meals like granola breakfast; add 1 per person per day for general cleanup

Waterproof food bag (two needed in bear country for counter balance)

Bear bell for food bag in tree

COOKING EQUIPMENT - INDIVIDUAL

Mess kit consisting of

*Thermal mug (or stainless steel Sierra Club cup for warm weather only; not suitable for snow camping)

*Small eating bowl

*Lexan knife, fork & spoon

Backpacking Equipment, (*) required and optional

TOILETRIES & MEDICAL

- *Toilet paper in zip lock bag (two half rolls per person for five-seven day trip)
- *Trowel (share with a buddy)
- *Insect repellent (1 oz in 5 days 7/93, per person)
- *Sunscreen (1/3 oz per day per person = 2 oz app. for 5 days - Yosemite 6/94)
- *Tooth brush & tooth paste (small container)
- *Floss - waxed
- Comb
- *PackTowl (very small towel)
- *Sun glasses w/ hard case

CLOTHING (pack in separate waterproof stuff sacks; can be used for pillow)

- *Boots suitable for backpacking
- *Liner socks (3 pair - one to wear, two in pack; poly pro or Thermax, but no cotton)
- *Wool/Thorlo hiking socks (3 pair - one to wear, two in pack; no cotton)
- *Texas/Aqua socks for camp
- *Hiking shorts - day
- *Synchilla pants (evening/sleeping)
- *Poly pro top (generally for evening/sleeping; extra one for cold weather)
- Poly pro bottom (cold weather only)
- *Undershorts - (2) spare
- *T-shirt - (1) spare [carry 2nd spare in vehicle for trip home]
- *Handkerchief
- *Bandanna
- *Watch cap (wool or synthetic)
- *Small white garbage bag for dirty clothes (1 per person)
- *Hat - wide brim
- *Windbreaker (not a heavy jacket)
- Rain jacket (optional)
- Rain pants (optional)
- *Poncho (makes good cover for packs & boots to keep off heavy dew; makes good ground cloth)

Additional cold weather items:

- *Chamois or wool shirt
- Thinsulate vest
- Sweater, polar fleece or wool jacket
- Thinsulate or down jacket (hooded)
- Pants (polar fleece or wool)
- Inner gloves or mittens (wool or synthetic) (2) pairs
- Outer mittens (waterproof) (2) pairs
- Gaiters
- Sorel boots with felt liners (waterproofed)

NOTE: try using different color stuff sacks or zip lock bags to pack small items (toiletries, first aid, small kitchen items, etc). The chemical residue in plastic film containers cannot be washed away and may leach into the contents of the container.

FOOD

Pack food in zip lock bags - one bag for each meal. Put small label (1/2 address label) on each bag. All food in water proof bag suitable for hanging in a tree.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES: For more detailed information, please refer to the BSA Hand Book, Field Book and the Backpacking, Camping and Hiking merit badge pamphlets.

Items marked with “ * ” are the bare essentials required for a trip.