

CAMPSITE PREPARATION - ON ARRIVAL

First thing! Hang up the duty rosters! Let there be no doubt in any one's mind what they have to do! Put the duty rosters where everyone can see them.

One thing that you want to avoid is having too many patrol members trying to do the same job. If you have boys standing around with nothing to do because there are too many of them trying to do the same thing, you will lose their attention. Once you have lost their attention it is very hard to get it back again. Assign jobs so that everyone has something to do as soon as you arrive at the campsite.

Do try to be aware of who needs or wants to work on second or first class requirements. Finally, your tents should be up, gear stowed and fire started before you begin any other activities.

Arrival is an important time to keep the members of your patrol from wandering off. The natural tendency will be for them to goof off first and worry later. Don't let them.

Tents

Assign two to three people to set up the tents. If you are using more than one tent for your patrol then still have the same team put up the tents. Less is more, remember?

Fire

Assign two scouts to gather tinder, kindling and firewood. Assign one scout to build the fire lay and to get the fire going.

Dining Fly

The dining fly is actually the first thing that should be set up. In the event of rain you will need the fly to store the patrol's food and equipment so it doesn't get wet while you set up camp. Two people are just right to set up the poles and fly properly.

Ax Yard

The ax yard is the wood cutting and chopping area and should be clearly marked by rope. For safety reasons only one scout should be assigned to the ax yard, and only he should be allowed into the yard. The scout assigned can vary as the need arises.

Cooking

If you are doing patrol style cooking be sure to have the various jobs worked out on paper before you arrive at camp. You should have every one's job posted for each meal for all to see. The meal jobs should be rotated from meal to meal. If the jobs are not posted, you can be sure that the only thing any one will show up to do will be to eat - and then they will disappear! Blank copies of a short term duty roster are provided here or you can make up your own.

If a scout is working on his first class cooking requirement he is to prepare the job roster for cooking on his own. You can give him advice, but let him do the job.

The jobs that are to be assigned for each meal are as follows:

COOK - prepares meals and washes utensils used for preparation.

ASSISTANT COOK - Helps cook as requested. Prepares water for dish washing and supervises meal cleanup.

FIRE - Cares for and prepares equipment used to cook on and keeps fuel or firewood ready if needed.

SITE CLEANUP - Cleans up eating area at campsite and maintains latrine.

WATER - Gets drinking water and washes dishes and pots.

CAMPSITE INSPECTION

The following is a list of things to look for in you patrol campsite. Some things are for safety and some are for convenience. All are important and will help you and your patrol members to have a better time. There are often campsite inspections as part of inter-troop or inter-patrol competitions.

TENTS

1. Are all tents set up properly?
2. Are the insides of the tent neatly arranged?
3. Does each tent have a ground cloth or adequate protection?
4. Was the ground bed properly prepared?
5. Are sleeping bags stored neatly or airing out?

FIRES

6. Are all fires at least 15 feet from any tent?
7. Is the ground cleared at least 10 feet from each fire?
8. Is there water to put out a fire in the case of an emergency?
9. Is there enough firewood?
10. Is the firewood protected?
11. Is there a well marked ax yard?
12. Are all cutting tools sharp and stored properly?

GENERAL

13. Is the meal duty roster posted?
14. Is the camp duty roster posted?
15. Is the Outdoor Code being followed?

BREAKING CAMP

16. Have all tents been stowed properly with no parts missing?
17. Has all garbage been properly disposed of?
18. Is the campsite as pristine or more than when you arrived?

REMEMBER: You are the leader. Your patrol will be looking up to you as an example, as well as for your help and direction.

DO YOUR BEST!