

Campout Routines

Before a Campout

- Please always check the Troop's Google Calendar through the Troop's website at www.Troop23wheaton.org for the most current information about upcoming campouts.
- Parents should join Troop 23's RainedOut text message group to receive information about the arrival time and other important information that needs to be shared during a campout To register, text troop23 to 84483.
- During a regular meeting two weeks prior to a campout, each Patrol will work together to get a headcount for the campout; plan a menu and shopping list and assign a Grubmaster to purchase all the food; and submit a requisition form to borrow equipment such as tents, lanterns, cooking equipment etc. from our Quartermaster. These items will be available for each Patrol to load onto the Troop's trailer on the day of departure.
- The campout Grubmaster will get money from each Scout in his Patrol who is attending the campout. The usual cost is \$10 which covers Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast. The Grubmaster must go to the grocery store with his parent to purchase the food for the campout, usually Thursday night. Sale items, generics and coupons stretch the money and help the Scout to better learn meal budgeting. Pack one cooler with dry goods and the other with items needing to be refrigerated. No ice will be provided so it is important to purchase enough ice for the weekend.
- Scouts who are attending the campout are expected to pay their Grubmaster before the campout, preferably at the Troop Meeting two weeks before the campout. This allows the Grubmaster to know his budget and to shop for all the Scouts in his Patrol. If Scouts do not pay the Grubmaster ahead of time, the Grubmaster will not be able to purchase his food for the campout.
- On the day of the campout, we meet in the church parking lot 30-45 minutes before our intended departure time. For a Friday night departure we usually meet around 6PM. A few campouts depart Saturday morning; be sure to check the Troop website for times. The Scouts work together to load the Troop gear first (Patrol boxes, tents, etc.) and then Scouts load their personal gear. Patrols do not cook dinner on Friday, so Scouts should eat before the campout or bring a sack dinner.
- This is when Scouts should turn in their medicine to our Chief Medical Officer. All medicine should be in original packaging in a Ziploc baggie with Scout's name and dosage information clearly indicated.
- Once gear is loaded, the senior Patrol Leader will call a "fall in" to go through last-minute notes for the Scouts, take attendance, and verify that all Scouts have transportation. If you are not able to make transportation arrangements for your Scout prior to the campout, the Troop 23 Leaders will do their best to make sure he has a ride to and from camp. Once all Scouts have a ride, we are off!
- Arrival at camp is usually after sunset, so camp set-up is done in the dark. Scout should have their headlamp with them on the ride to camp as they will not have access to personal gear until after camp has been set up.

After a Campout

- We generally meet back at the church around 1-2 PM. All Scouts are expected to help unload gear and put Troop items away. Once Troop gear is taken care of, Scouts grab their personal gear, check out with their Patrol Leader, and can head home with parents. Scouts are not to leave until they have checked out with their Patrol Leader.
- Scouts can borrow a leader's cell phone to call parents on the way home after a campout, but parents should be signed up to receive text message alerts from Troop 23's RainedOut group text to receive specific information about arrival time.
- Troop equipment is sent home with Scouts for cleaning. If tents are wet when a campout ends, those tents must be sent home with Scouts for drying, cleaning, and repacking. The Troop has tent care instructions so that all tents remain in good condition for use by the Scouts. See the proper tent cleaning/drying instructions on the Troop's website under the Camping tab. Coolers are sent home to be cleaned and dried after every campout. Occasionally other gear may need to be sent home. Each Patrol uses the same items for each campout, so Patrols must be sure to take good care of their camping gear. All Troop gear should be cleaned and dried immediately and should be returned to the Quartermaster at the next meeting after the campout.