
TROOP 255 - APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKE/CAMPOUT

WHEN: Mar 13-14, 2004 (Sat-Sun)

ASSEMBLE: 7:30am on Saturday (3/13) at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church (CCUMC) parking lot.

LEAVE: 8:00am sharp from CCUMC parking lot.

RETURN: 1:00pm Sunday (3/14) at CCUMC parking lot.

Transportation parents should arrive at the US 40 pickup point by 11:00am on Sunday so the Troop can leave around 11:30am.

For emergencies call Mr. Rose's cell phone at 301-807-6441.

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OVERVIEW: The Troop will hike part of Section 3 of the Maryland Appalachian Trail.

The Appalachian Trail (AT) is a continuous, marked footpath extending from Mount Katahdin, in central Maine, some 2,000 miles south, traversing 14 states to Springer Mountain in Georgia. It is a skyline route along the crest of the ranges generally referred to as Appalachian; hence the name of the trail.

The AT is marked by white paint blazes and standardized plaques. The paint blazes (2"x6") have been placed at frequent intervals along the trail. A double blaze (2 blazes, one placed above the other) is placed as a warning sign. It may indicate a turn or change in direction that might otherwise not be noticed.

Maintained side trails are marked by blue blazes. Important intersections are marked with wooden signs.

There will be a single privy provided near the camp area and the troop will provide toilet paper.

We must bring our own drinking water and remove all of our trash. The troop will also provide water purification chemicals.

There is some downed wood for camp fires. As always we can't cut down any trees.

OVERVIEW (cont'd):

We will start at the spot where I-70 and US-40 converge.

0.0 miles: The trail ascends from 1250 ft to 1750 ft (500 ft) in 1 mile to Pine Knob.

1.0 miles: The trail descends 200 feet in 0.25 mile.

1.25 miles: Then there is a gradual rise (200 feet) for 1 mile to a side trail for Annapolis Rock (view).

2.25 miles: Side trail descends sharply 0.2 mile to Annapolis Rock, an overhanging cliff with an excellent westward view that includes Greenbrier Lake. (Several primitive campsites in immediate area. Trail leads 0.2 miles and 40 ft downhill to spring in small draw.)

2.25 miles: Trail continues slightly uphill (100 ft) for 1.0 mile to Black Rock Cliffs (view).

3.2 miles: Several unmarked trails lead 40 yd left to Black Rock Cliffs. This 180-degree westward view is the best in this section.

3.2 miles: Trail descends for 0.7 miles to Pogo Memorial Campsite.

3.9 miles: Pogo Memorial Campsite (privy available) in area of former Black Rock Hotel. Camping on both sides of Trail. (At north end of campsite unused, gravel Bagtown Rd descends over 0.9 miles to trailhead parking at end of Oak Rd, a residential public road off Crystal Falls Rd. Blue-blazed trail leads 70 yd down gravel road to spring on right. In camping area to left of AT is smaller spring to left.) AT continues straight ahead.

ROAD-TO-FIRST-CLASS:

This activity will help partially satisfy participation and campout requirements T2, S2a & F3 for scouts still seeking 1st class.

COST:

There is no cost for this activity.

However, scouts should bring money for a fast food lunch on the way home.

PERMISSION SLIP:

Due to Joe Tillman by 3/13/2004.

EQUIPMENT:

Scouts should bring the usual camping items (tent, sleeping bag, food, etc.) packed in a backpack. A canteen of water is a must since no potable water is available, however, the Troop does plan to purify water from the stream but it will take some time to do this.

Scouts should pay extra attention to their foot gear and be sure they are properly equipped (eg. thick soles and ankle support). Extra socks should be packed.

Numerous backpacking lists have been provided to the scouts on numerous occasions and will be reissued.

You should be aware that the Appalachian Trail in Maryland will be farther north and at a higher elevation than Washington DC and so will usually be somewhat cooler and windier than home. You are reminded to dress in layers.

Be prepared for rain and plan for a low of 20 deg at night & 40-60 deg high in the day.

UNIFORMS:

Optional.

MEALS:

A ready-made lunch should be taken.

Patrols should plan meals for Saturday dinner and cracker barrel and Sunday breakfast.

We will stop for fast food on the way home.

DIRECTIONS TO TRAIL HEAD FROM CCUMC:

By car from CCUMC:

(total time is about 60 minutes; mileage around 52)

- . Start at CCUMC parking lot.
- . MD 185 (Connecticut Ave) North to I-495 West.
- . Take I-495 West to I-270 North.
- . Take I-270 North to I-70 West
(after exit 31B - @ mile post 32).
- . I-70 West to exit 42, MD 17 North toward Myersville.

Note: In Myersville you need to take a right to stay on MD 17 North.

- . Left on US 40 West.
- . Parking lot is on the left.

NOTE: The bulletin board with roof @ parking lot.

NOTE: If you go over I-70 at the Washington County line then you have gone too far !

APPROVAL / PERMISSION SLIP

Approval/permission is granted by the parents/guardians of Boy Scout
 _____ for their son/scout to participate
 in the activities of Troop 255, Chevy Chase, Maryland, National Capital
 Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Approval/permission is granted to the adult members of Troop 255 to
 authorize treatment of the Boy Scout named above in the event of an
 accident or emergency. Adult members of Troop 255 that authorize
 treatment of the Boy Scout in the event of an accident or emergency
 shall be released from any or all liabilities.

Local and national tour permits will be obtained by Troop 255 when
 necessary.

This approval/permission is valid for the March 13 - 14, 2004,
 Appalachian Trail Hike and Campout.

I can drive: _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, I can carry _____ scouts including my own.

Parent Signature	Parent Name (Print)	Date
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