

Old Rag Campout **Saturday March 7 & Sunday March 8, 2009**

T-255's March Campout

Where: Get your stuff together for cold weather hiking. We'll climb Old Rag Mountain, the most spectacular mountain on the Northern Virginia Blue Ridge and **one of the best hiking spots on the whole East Coast**. It is also a favorite for the Scouts, as the trail goes over big rocks, through tunnels, between great cracks in the granite, and past cliffs. And the stream has crayfish to flavor Ramen soup.

Who: All Scouts, Senior WEBELOS, and parents are welcome on this trip.

Theme for the Campout: Cold weather hiking and camping. Also, this activity will help partially satisfy participation and campout requirements T2, S2a & F3 for scouts still seeking 1st class.

Assemble: 6:30 AM Saturday at CCUMC.

Return: 2:30 PM Sunday at CCUMC.

Cost: \$10.00 transportation charge. If paying by check, payable to "BSA T-255." Bring money for fast-food on Sunday.



What to Bring: Make sure your boots are broken in and comfortable. Bring a small pack for lunch and snacks in addition to your backpack. Bring at least 1 liter of water, preferably 2 liters. After making camp we will hike up to the Old Rag summit with just day packs. Check your sleeping gear. Pack plenty of socks. Bring many layers of clothes to wear when it's cold and shed when it's warm. Work with the other scouts to make sure everyone has tent space (single tents discouraged).

Food: Bring a bag lunch and snacks for Saturday to eat on the trail. Saturday dinner is Patrol hot-water cooking. We may not be able to build open fires, so camp stoves are a must. Sunday breakfast is Patrol decision. Sunday lunch will be at a fast-food place.

Packing and Dressing:

- Bring a warm sleeping bag and extra long underwear to sleep in. Night time temperatures may drop below freezing.
- Shoes with plenty of support and shock-absorbing soles (hiking boots are best)
- Lots of extra socks, wool and synthetic ones. It will be wet.
- Layers of clothes; wear a number of light layers -- take off outer layers as you warm up during the day.
- Don't forget your rain jacket or poncho. It will be wet.
- Bring a good flashlight with fresh batteries. It may be dark when we return to the campsite Saturday evening.
- **IMPORTANT:** Bring a full liter (or quart) of water, preferably 2. Fill your bottles before you leave home.

Permission Slips and money: to Scoutmaster Keith Pierce by March 3, 2009.

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.

Necessary local and national tour permits will be obtained by Troop 255.

This approval/permission is valid for the Old Rag Campout: Saturday March 7 & Sunday March 8, 2009.

I can drive: _____ YES _____ NO

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

I can attend: _____ YES _____ NO

Parent Signature

Parent Name (Print)

Date

DIRECTIONS TO CAMPGROUND:

By car from CCUMC: (total time is about 1-3/4 hours and 95 miles from DC)

. Connecticut Ave North to I-495.

. Take I-495 West to I-66 West (Exit 9) to Gainesville.

. Take I-66 Exit 43A (Gainesville/Warrenton) to US Route 29 South.

. At Warrenton take US Route 211 West to Sperryville.

. Take US Route 522 South from Sperryville.

. In 0.8 miles, turn onto Virginia Highway 231 South (F.T. Valley Rd).

. At 8.3 miles from the junction of 522/231, cross the Hughes River and immediately turn right, West, onto Virginia Secondary Road No. 602.

Note: If you prefer, just before the Hughes River you can turn right onto Rte 601 (Peola Mills Rd) and then right onto Rte 600.

. The road up the river changes numbers several times. It becomes 601, 707, then 600. The important thing is not to cross the Hughes River after leaving VA Highway 231.

. At 3.5 miles beyond Nethers, there is a "Temporary Overflow Parking" area on your left. This is also the Ranger check-in station.

. Continue for another 0.8 miles to the end of 600, where there is a small parking area at the beginning of the Old Rag circuit hike. This is the Weakley Hollow Gate (unmarked).