



NOVEMBER BACKPACKING TRIP

Friday, November 2 through Sunday November 4, 2018

Mt. Minsi

Keep this information sheet and the gear list at home.
Return the **permission slip** with signatures and payment.

OVERVIEW:

This trip is suitable for all Scouts. If you've never been backpacking, we encourage you to try it. We will be backpacking along the northernmost section of the Appalachian Trail in PA. The first day will be a gentle 6-mile ascent with some great views. The second day is only a 2-mile descent, but much steeper.

Departure: Friday November 2nd, meet for carpool at PIT at 6:15PM. Depart from PIT at 6:30 PM

Return: Sunday November 4th, at PIT at approximately 3:00 PM

Cost: \$30 per person; Make checks payable to "Rose Valley Troop 272"

Permission slips due by: Wednesday, October 24 (*No exceptions*).

Planning meeting: Sunday, October 28 from 3:00 – 4:30 PM at the Old Mill. Attendance by one parent and scout is **MANDATORY** for packing and safety instructions.

Pack Check: either Sunday at the Planning Meeting or the troop meeting Wednesday October 31.

Get gear from Quartermaster: Wednesday, October 31.

Return Gear to Quartermaster (Clean and Dry): Wednesday, November 7th or 14th.

ITINERARY

Friday Night:

- Drive about 2 hours to Worthington State Forest Campground, Hardwick, NJ.
- Set up camp at Group Site B.
- Cracker Barrel. Quiet hour 10 PM. Lights out 11 PM.

Saturday:

- Wake Up about 6:30: Breakfast about 7:00: and break camp by 8:00.
- Car Shuttle: We will drop all scouts and two adults at Fox Gap (Rte 191) then drive as many cars as possible to the endpoint of the trip at Delaware Water Gap Mt. Minsi trail head parking area.
- ***Anyone coming up on Saturday morning must meet us at Fox Gap by 9:00 AM***
- Backpacking 6 miles over easy terrain, passing Lunch Rocks overlook and other scenic overlooks.
- Bring a bag lunch for Saturday (NO METAL CANS or GLASS BOTTLES).
- Camping on the Summit of Mt. Minsi. This will be dispersed wilderness camping (no platforms, no outhouse).
- Diner; Free Time; watch sunset from an amazing overlook; Cracker-barrel, All quiet.
- ***It will NOT be possible to leave the trip on Saturday night, as we will be wilderness camping along the Appalachian Trail with no car access.***

Sunday:

- Wake up about 7:30: Breakfast about 8:00: and break camp by 9:00.
- Backpack 2 miles down to the village of Water Gap, PA. This is a steeper trail, but we will be going down with lighter packs.
- Arrive at Delaware Water Gap Mt. Minsi trailhead parking area at approximately 11:00 (for any parents driving but not backpacking).
- Car Shuttle: We will return to the Fox Gap parking area to retrieve any vehicles left there.
- Bring \$15 or \$20 for a lunch stop on the way home (at driver's discretion).
- Return to PIT approximately 3:00 PM.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:

ASM on the trip: Russ Johnson cell 914-417-5476

Home Base Contact (not on the trip): Scoutmaster Traverso cell 610-574-7652

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. This trip was designed specifically to be easy enough for our youngest scouts and first time backpackers. Camping on a mountain top and the awesome overlooks will make it interesting for experienced backpackers.
2. If you do not own a full backpack (NOT a day pack or book bag), you can sign one out from the Quartermaster.
3. A "three season" sleeping bag rated to 32-degrees or lower is REQUIRED, not a summer (55-degree) bag. Sign one out from the Quartermaster if you do not have one. Average nighttime temperatures of 32-degrees for this location for early November are only an average and could go down lower.
4. See the attached "November Backpacking Trip Gear List" for required and optional items.
5. There will be a demonstration of loading a pack and appropriate gear at the Planning Meeting.
6. There will be a "PACK CHECK" at the planning meeting or at the troop meeting Wednesday before the trip (choose one). Scouts must present their pack fully loaded, (excepting food) and show the boots they will wear. We may tell you to leave some things behind and will point out items that you still need to get. We will help scouts with size and strap adjustments.
7. **Parents willing to drive but NOT wishing to backpacking with the troop can be very helpful with the car shuttle. Please use the check box on the permission slip if you can drive but do not want to hike and camp Saturday.**
8. The Scoutmaster and/or Assistant Scoutmaster in charge of the trip reserves the right to cancel the trip or alter the itinerary depending on weather and trail conditions. You will be informed via a Troop Update e-blast.

QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION:

ASM Russ Johnson at russjohnson12@gmail.com. 914-417-5476



Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA

Troop 272 - Minquas District

Parental Permission Form

Backpacking Trip November 2 – 4, 2018

Return this page with payment. Please keep the information sheet at home for reference.

Parents Consent and Agreement

I hereby grant permission for my son, _____ to participate in the above indicated trip. I agree that if, in the proper judgment of the adult leaders, my son is not acting in accordance with the promise below, that I will be responsible for removing him from the trip.

I hereby grant permission to the adult leaders to provide any medical care to the above mentioned Scout from **11/2/2018 through 11/4/2018** that they deem necessary and proper in the case of an emergency. Also, I understand that I will be contacted at the earliest possible time.

This document shall also serve as authority for any hospital and/or health care provider to render medical treatment to the above named Scout should treatment is deemed necessary by the medical staff of the facility or the adult leaders on the trip. I/We further agree to be completely responsible for any bills or payments that occur in providing medical care.

List any prescription medications: _____

List any known allergies: _____

List any special dietary needs: _____

Parent's Name (print): _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Scout's Promise

While on the above-mentioned trip, I promise to behave in a safe and responsible manner and to adhere to the Scout Law and Outdoor Code. I acknowledge that my parent(s) will be called to remove me from the trip if I do not keep this promise.

Scout's Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/ Guardian Attendance and Drivers

- I/We _____ plan on attending the trip and can transport _____ Scouts with their gear.
- I will not attend the trip but I can drive to transport _____ Scouts and their gear.
- My vehicle is a van or truck that can carry extra troop gear.
- We plan to arrive on Saturday morning by 9:00 AM at Fox Gap AT Trail Head (PA Rte 191).
- I have read the Troop's Chaperone Policy and will abide by it during the entire trip.

*If Scout's Insurance Information has changed,
please fill out and submit the "Scout Updated Insurance Information Form" (next page).*

[This page left intentionally blank]



Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA

Troop 272 - Minquas District

Scout Updated Insurance Information Form

******Only required if Scout insurance information has changed***
Submit with Parental Permission Form if necessary***

Scout Name _____

Medical Insurance Company _____

Policy # _____ Group # _____

Emergency Contacts:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

In the event that I, _____, cannot be reached in an emergency or if the above named scout must leave the trip early, the above named emergency contacts have my permission to take custody of the scout and to transport him.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

November Backpacking Trip Gear List

Mt. Minsi Nov. 2 to Nov. 4, 2018

Average temperatures for November at Delaware Water Gap are 55 degrees in the day and 32 (freezing) at night. It could be colder or warmer. You will be out and exposed for long periods of time, not just running from the bus to the school or from the car to the store. We will be on a (potentially) windy mountain top. Gear up for comfort and safety.

CLOTHING

- Body: Dress in layers 1) Wicking shirt such as Under Armor near the skin, 2) sweat shirt or hoodie, 3) fleece or insulated jacket for cold weather and standing around in the morning, 4) outer rainproof coat (REQUIRED!!!).
- Pants: scout pants or convertible pants (zip-off legs) of nylon, polyester or microfiber. Cotton pants are NOT ALLOWED as they are cold and heavy when wet.
- Boots: The trail down is very rocky. Over-the-ankle boots are REQUIRED.
- Hats: Baseball cap for day, knitted watch cap or hood for night; light weight mittens or gloves.
- For night: Change into dry clothing such as long johns or a sweat suit to sleep.

PERSONAL GEAR

- Headlamp (LED) and smaller LED flashlight. Sunset is at 6:00 PM; First light 7:00 AM
- Personal first aid kit, fire starting kit and spare batteries.
- Water bottles (**two** that hold 1-liter or 1-quart each) or hydration bladder (such as Camelback).
- Mess kit and pocket knife: an insulated commuter cup with lid is useful for cold weather.
- Personal medicines, toiletries
- A **roll of toilet paper** (partly used one to save space & weight). No outhouse on this trip!
- Ziploc baggies & trash bags to keep everything sorted and dry.

CAMPING GEAR

*** Items with asterisk can be signed out from the troop Quartermaster if you do not own them.*

- Backpack (not a book bag or day pack) **
- 32-degree to 20-degree rated sleeping bag **
- Foam pad (ABSOLUTELY needed for cold weather camping) **
- Your part of a tent **, your part of a light weight stove/cooking kit **
- Pack cover. If no pack cover, make one from a large trash bag.

OPTIONAL

- Trekking poles, compass, small binoculars.
- Sneakers for the drive, but don't forget your BOOTS.
- Deck of cards or small portable games.
-

DO NOT BRING

- Electronic devices other than cellphone or camera
- Axe, hatchet, saw, machete, sheath knives.
- Camp chairs, hammocks, or anything else that adds unnecessary weight.
- Pillow: Use your stuff sack and extra clothes as a pillow. TRAVEL LIGHT.