



Pack 19
Kensington Elementary
Waxhaw, NC

www.ncscoutpack19.org

Pack Camping Guide

I. Purpose

This document is intended to provide a set of general guidelines to assist parents with preparing for Pack 19 camping events. This document does not override applicable BSA guidelines or policies.

II. General

For nearly a century, the Scouting program has thrived, to the ultimate benefit of its youth members, by keeping camping (and other outdoor activities) as the primary avenue for conveying and reinforcing its aims and methods. Pack 19 recognizes that the BSA's longevity and vitality is not accidental. Rather, it is a time-proven formula that challenges, excites and helps to retain the interest of the youth participants. To carry this success forward, the leadership team of Pack 19 has intentionally included a great deal of outdoor-oriented activities in the annual program plan.

As detailed in the Pack 19 Bylaws, participation in campouts is critical to the success of your son (or sons) in the program and should never be considered as optional. Some den-specific advancement opportunities (as well as secondary program requirements & awards) are offered *only* at camping events, and are difficult to duplicate elsewhere. Den meetings are structured to teach basic skills. Campouts are where the boys can focus and put these basic skills into practical application. If they are not able to apply their knowledge, then the learning- circle is incomplete.

While camping is second nature to some, it can be intimidating for others. Cub Scout camping events are for your entire family and all venues and activities are planned accordingly. All activities will be appropriate for boys in 1st through 5th grades and will comply with BSA guidelines. All venues will be family-friendly with easy parking, restroom facilities and a place to wash faces and hands at a minimum. Bear in mind, showers may not always be available. The Pack provides all necessary food and food preparation equipment. Personal camping gear, personal eating utensils (mess kits, forks, spoons & knives) and other camping accessories are the responsibility of each family.

III. Amendments

This document will be amended as necessary by the Pack 19 leadership team. Newer versions will be distributed to parents as necessary.

IV: Basic Camping Gear Checklist

a. Essential Items

Scout Uniform with all accessories (neckerchief slide is optional)

Den handbook

Tent

Ground cloth for use under tent
Hammer (for tent stakes)
Tent Broom
Sleeping bag
Light jacket & gloves (or sweatshirt)
Rain gear
Toiletries (tooth brush, soap, towels, etc.)
Spare clothes
Sturdy lace up shoes or boots (no open toe sandals).
Flashlight(s) w/spare batteries
Personal eating utensils, mess kit & cup
Canteen
Sunscreen
Bug Spray
Medicines

b. Optional Items

Sleeping air mattress or camp cot
Folding camp chair(s)
Personal First Aid Kit
Battery-powered lantern for use in tent
Folding Camping Knife (Cubs w/whittling chip card & adults only)
Extra Rope
Scout Hiking Kit (whistle, compass, poncho, walking stick, etc.)

c. Special Items

Warm jacket, sweatshirt & warm gloves for trips to mountain locations (ex: Va. Creeper)
Work gloves (for pioneering or service projects if applicable)
Fishing Gear (if applicable)
Fishing Bait (if applicable)
Mountain Bikes (if applicable. Helmets required)
Bike repair tools
Spare inner tube or patch kit
Bike pump or CO2 inflators
Compass (if orienteering events are on the schedule)
Soccer ball, football, Frisbee, etc.

V: Typical Meal Plan for Campouts

Friday Dinner: Eat on your own (either eat before you arrive, or prepare your own food at the campsite...the Pack cooking equipment is usually available for your personal use).

Saturday Breakfast: Heavy Meal (Pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, grits, etc.)

Saturday Lunch: Medium Meal (Sandwiches, hamburgers, hotdogs, etc.)

Saturday Dinner: Heavy Meal (Spaghetti, Chili, Salads, Bread, etc.)

Sunday Breakfast: Light Meal (Cereal, honey buns, etc.)

VI: Health & Safety Rules & Guidelines

a. Personal Conduct

- Cubs must be accompanied by a parent or 2 non-parent adults when participating in activities per BSA youth protection guidelines. Ex: If a group of Cubs goes on a bike ride, 2 adults must go along.
- Cubs should remember to travel with a buddy at all times.
- Adults & youth must use shower facilities at separate times, unless they are from the same family.
- No running on the bridges or docks.
- No throwing of rocks or sticks.
- No running after dark, except in specially designated areas.

b. Footwear Restrictions

- No open toe shoes on Cub Scout events – BSA Policy (Cubs, parents, leaders or siblings).

c. Camp Kitchen Safety

- No children allowed in the food prep area (except when participating in an achievement, under the supervision of the cook team leader, or when performing post-meal cleanup duties). There are a lot of hazards in this area.

d. Cutting Devices

- No sheath knives, machetes, or hatchets – BSA Policy.
- Folding knives are only to be used by adults and Cubs who have earned the “whittling chip” card. Only those Cubs who have earned this card may possess or use a folding knife.
- Only adults are allowed to use axes. If used, a designated “axe yard” must be established with a roped off perimeter.
- Children may use a hand bow saw to cut firewood if directly supervised by an adult leader or parent. This may only be done in the “axe yard”.

e. Bicycling

- Helmets are required any time a bike is being ridden – BSA Policy (Cubs, parents, leaders & siblings).

f. Water Safety

- Boating activities require use of USCG approved life jackets (all participants) and parental supervision.
- Parents must directly accompany children when they are fishing or near bodies of water.

g. Fire Safety

- Children are not allowed to pull burning sticks out of the fire!
- Parents must accompany children when they are near the fire.
- No flammable items in tents (Fuel lanterns, matches, etc).
- Children are not allowed to operate or use fuel-powered camping items: lanterns, stoves, etc.

h. Injuries / Potential Health Concerns

- The Pack first aid kit will be kept at the camp kitchen. The Cubmaster must be notified if an injury takes place that requires first aid.
- Pack leadership must be made aware of potentially serious health conditions of participants at the beginning of an event (serious allergies, heart conditions, etc).

i. Hygiene

- Everyone is expected to arrive for dinner with clean hands and face. The Pack will provide a washing station with soap, if no latrine with running water is available.

VII: Other Procedures & Guidelines

- Uniforms are always required for Saturday evening activities, to include: retreat ceremony, dinner & campfire program. Those not in uniform will not be allowed to participate in the Pack retreat ceremony & will be last through the food line.
- Every campout participant is expected to assist with the specific items required to support the event. To facilitate this, the Assistant Cubmaster for Logistics will post a duty roster by Den at the beginning of the event. This roster can be viewed at the camp kitchen area. 100% of Den members and their parents are expected to fulfill the assigned duties. Potential duties include, but are not limited to: Cooking, meal cleanup, trash police calls, latrine cleanup, firewood gathering, camp kitchen breakdown, etc.
- Porta-Jons will be provided if latrines are unavailable.
- We will always leave facilities in better condition than when we arrived.
- Leave No Trace camping policies will be followed.
- Please plan on arriving at campsites before dark, whenever possible. It is much easier and safer to set up during daylight hours.
- Once your personal gear is set up, please be available to assist with Pack gear.
- Electronic Entertainment Equipment (EEE) will not be allowed (this includes Walkmen, radios, Gameboys, laser pointers).
- Electronics that serves a specific utility purpose are permitted (this includes weather radios, GPS units, cell phones, 2-way radios & medical equipment).
- Pack leaders will strictly enforce BSA Youth Protection Guidelines & the Guide to Safe Scouting policies & procedures.
- Any adult that witnesses an unsafe or potentially dangerous event is expected to intervene. Serious situations should be communicated to the Den Leader or the Cubmaster.
- Adults who smoke or use tobacco products, should do so out of sight. Please remember to police up your own cigarette butts. (Tobacco products are prohibited on BSA camps or property).
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at any Scouting event.

- Specific detail on each camping event will be distributed at Pack meetings, or can be obtained from your Den Leader, or by visiting the Pack 19 website: www.ncscoutpack19.org

8/4/04, Version 1, B.Denson
5/1/07, Revision, S. Rumble