

## TROOP 65 WILDERNESS SURVIVAL CAMPOUT WEEKEND: NOVEMBER 2019

At our last Troop meeting there was great interest in the Cochegan Rock wilderness survival campout planned for November 7-9. We have good turnout from all three patrols and a list of scouts who have signed up to go can be found below. We will continue signing up scouts and leaders at the next meeting. The theme is survival and several scouts and a few leaders will be running stations based on the information found in the Wilderness Survival merit badge book. A schedule of stations can also be found below. Scouts can work on merit badge requirements including building and sleeping in a shelter. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year Webelos from Pack 65 will be invited to join us as our guests to share in the fun and meet the scouts and leaders of Troop 65. Here are a few trip details:

- Each scout needs a permission slip. There is one attached to this email
- - We will meet at the Knights and head for Cochegan Friday night 11/7. Mr. Cormier will announce our departure time.
- - We will tent camp Friday night by patrol.
- - We have about a 10 minute walk from the parking lot to our campsite.
- - This camp is accessed from the parking lot of a highway rest area on Route 395. There is a gas station and restaurants at the rest area. There may be a temptation to walk over to the rest area to grab a snack while you are trying to sleep in your shelter. Scouts need to understand that they cannot leave camp property without the permission of an adult leader.
- - Any guests from Pack 65 will join us Saturday morning.
- - All camping and cooking will be by patrol. This will be a good trip to work on cooking requirements for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> class and any other camping requirements for rank advancement. Bring your book and know what requirement you need to complete.
- - Cochegan is a primitive camp and there are no bathroom facilities. This means you must be prepared and bring what you need. Each patrol should have a small shovel/trowel. Some TP might also be a good idea.
- - There is no cost for this trip except the cost of your patrol menu.
- - The theme is survival, so dinner Saturday night will be utensil less. This means cooking your dinner over the fire without using the items in your patrol box. There are lots of ways to do this, so be creative and do a little research and let's see which patrol can make the coolest (and most delicious) survival meal.
- - There will be ample time on Saturday to build a shelter which you are encouraged to sleep in Saturday night. You can build individual shelters or one big enough for your whole patrol. Cochegan is a great place for shelter building due to the natural rock faces and boulders in the area of our campsite. I'm told that there many downed tree limbs since the camp has been closed for the past two years, but this will be great for making shelters. As always we will practice "leave no trace" and will not use live material for shelters.
- - Saturday night will be a Troop campfire. Hopefully we can have our fire in the natural shelter under Cochegan Rock where Native Americans have had fires and shared stories for thousands of years. Bring a favorite Native American story to share with the Troop.
- - After breakfast and clean-up Sunday morning we will break camp and shoot to be packed up by 10AM. Your shelters will have to be broken up and scattered, remember "leave no trace".
- - If you have volunteered to teach one of the stations, please study your topic and know your stuff. You can teach some of our newer scouts and maybe some cubs the skills they might need some day in a survival situation. We can go over the topics at the next meeting to help you prepare.
- - Starting fires without matches is part of wilderness survival. There is a rumor that Mr. Burke may show everyone how to make fire by rubbing sticks together!

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## **SATURDAY SCHEDULE**

7:00 REVEILLE  
8:00 BREAKFAST  
9:00 SURVIVAL BASICS  
    -Positive Attitude  
    -Stay Put  
    -Signaling  
10:00 BUILD SHELTERS & GROUND BEDS  
12:00 LUNCH & CLEANUP  
1:00 FIRST AID  
    2:00 WATER PURIFICATION  
    3:00 FOOD & SANITATION  
    3:30 CAMPFIRE RING PREP & GATHER FIREWOOD  
    4:30 FIREBUILDING WITHOUT MATCHES  
    5:00 COOKING WITHOUT UTENSILS OR POTS  
6:00 DINNER  
7:00 CLEANUP & BED PREP  
8:00 CAMPFIRE & STORIES  
10:00 TAPS

## **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

7:00 REVEILLE  
8:00 BREAKFAST  
9:00 SCOUT SERVICE  
10:00 LEAVE CAMP