

## OUTLINE ON WINTER CAMPING

1. Why go winter camping
  - a. Views are great without all the leaves
  - b. You can eat more, you'll burn it off
  - c. Snow covers rocks under the tent
  - d. Fellow campers don't smell as bad
  - e. Drinking water stays cold
  - f. You can walk across the lake, but it's not advisable
  - g. NO crowds
  - h. NO dirt
  - i. and..... NO bugs
2. Points to remember when winter camping
  - a. Safety
    - i. Dress properly
    - ii. Sleep properly
    - iii. After that it is all details
  - b. Always check the scouts personal equipment - they will not bring what you have on the check list - see the check list we posted on the District website this month.
    - i. Gloves
    - ii. Books

iii. Sleeping gear

iv. Tents

3. Clothes

a. Layer

i. This sounds good for the REI crowd but may not be too realistic for the typical scout

b. Cotton - cotton kills

i. How do you do this for your scouts

ii. Snow pants

iii. Other clothes if possible

iv. Remember generations of scouts have winter camped in levis

c. A good knit hat

d. Boots - not athletic shoes

4. Sleeping

a. Four season tent

b. Closed cell pad

c. Tarp

d. A good knit hat

e. Layer sleeping bags and blankets

f. Chemical heaters

- g. Heat boiling water in a TSR bottle, put it in one sock and then put that sock in the other sock, put the socks in the bottom of the sleeping bag

## 5. Food

- a. Cooking is the same as summer camp with a propane stove
- b. Dutch ovens respond differently
  - i. If you are a Dutch oven pro it will work
- c. Your food will freeze
  - i. Eggs
  - ii. Fruit
  - iii. The valve on your water jug will freeze & the lid may do so as well
- d. You will have a hard time starting a fire if you plan to cook on the fire

## 6. Activities

- a. Do winter specific activities
  - i. Fox and geese
  - ii. Snow shoe hikes
  - iii. Sledding or tubing
    - (1) Be aware of the dangers
  - iv. Klondike derby practice
  - v. <http://www.inquiry.net/outdoor/winter/index.htm>

- b. Ice fishing
  - c. Stay away from snow mobile areas
  - d. Stay away from avalanche areas
7. Miscellaneous
- a. Do you really need a fire
    - i. If they are dressed properly a fire will not make any difference
    - ii. Do you want to haul the extra wood in?
    - iii. Do you want to haul the fire barrel in?
    - iv. Are you willing to clean up the mess which the fire creates in an area which was not already a fire circle?
8. Conclusion
- a. Year round camping means winter camping
  - b. It is a good time
  - c. Enjoy it
9. Resources: check these web sites

<http://www.backpacking.net/wintertips.html>

<http://www.princeton.edu/~oa/winter/wintcamp.shtml>

<http://www.theozarks.com/WinterCamping.htm>

<http://macscouter.com/KeepWarm/>

<http://www.inquiry.net/outdoor/winter/index.htm>

<http://www.scoutscan.com/resources/winter.html>

<http://www.utah.com/camping/winter.htm>

<http://www.isu.edu/outdoor/skicamp.htm>

<http://beprepared.com/article.asp?ai=90>

<http://www.wintercampers.com/tips.html>

<http://univmail.mcmaster.ca/~outdoor/docs/winter-2.pdf>

<http://www.dwmorrison.com/chklst.htm>

<http://evanstonoutdoors.com/>