

SUGGESTIONS FOR CAMP SITE --

Today many of our state-owned parks provide camp sites for groups, built-up floors, fireplaces, wood to burn, and drinking water available.

However, if you try to pick your own site, remember not to choose a site for what it looks like on a nice, sunny day, but realize what takes place in a rain storm. Does the ground have good drainage? Is it close to a bog or swamps for gnats or mosquitoes? If the ground gets wet, does it turn to mud? How about Poison Ivy? Are there trees in the area with broken branches or dead trees which stand waiting for a wind to drop it over on a tent or a group? How much food can you carry to store safely without ice? Are stores located nearby so daily purchases can be made to keep your stock fresh?

Can you secure fresh milk from a local dairy or store, making sure it's pasteurized. If there is a lake or a river, is it safe to be used -- are there any cliffs or old excavations not protected?

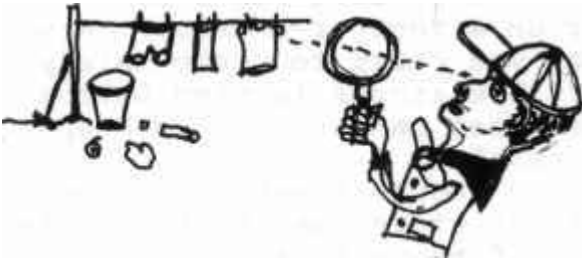
Where are the churches if the stay is over Sunday? What method of transportation will you have? Can you secure a doctor or help if need be?

Maybe this might seem confusing, but with experience you make these findings and check conditions automatically. In other words, it's survival with safety that is essential.

Toilet facilities, if they be supplied or ones that are made temporarily for the overnight hike or camp, if it be longer, is very important.

INSPECTION -- Campground -- Toilet and Kitchen Inspection, should be held and very strict. Rules should be set up prior to the camping trip. Garbage must not be left opened while you are there or after you leave. Never permit campers to throw glass or broken bottles into brooks or streams. Bury all of your refuse deep so that animals or rain can't uncover it, making unpleasant odors and food for rodents.

What facilities do the boys have for washing? Will there be lines for wet towels or bathing suits?



WHAT PROGRAM PLANNING!

Even an overnight hike or overnight camping trip should have some type of a program prepared.

In most cases, Sunday is involved (Church) -- then before the day program and before breakfast you should (raise American Flag -- Flag Salute). The entire camping staff should be present and take part in all of this ceremony. Assign one or two campers to help clean

up the grounds around the eating area-- if water is available for swimming and a competent life saver is along, FIRST teach non-swimmers about water safety-- the "Buddy System".

Have two or three on a committee. Include at least one of your main troop officers, if possible, to prepare Camp Fire Fun. (Flag Lowering -- Retreat)

As the time for the camp fire comes along, there should be singing, a small skit -- two or three actors for about 5 or 10 minutes -- soda, cake or marshmallow roasts, a good short Indian story read from a book or if known by heart, told by someone who might relate the story a little more mysterious, and then Taps. Assign camp guards (Sergeants if possible) allowing them one-half hour liberty to help in cleaning up the areas -- helping the campers get settled and then finally, all making sure the camp fire is fully extinguished before leaving it for the night.

