

PACK 38 CAMPING RULES & GUIDELINES

These are rules and guidelines for Pack 38 Family Campouts. This by no means is a comprehensive list of all the rules (please check the Guide to Safe Scouting for the complete listing of BSA rules and regulations). To make it a safe and fun campout for everyone, parents are responsible for their child or children. Parents will ensure that all safety rules are adhered to. Please make sure that any safety issue or concern, accident or mishap is brought to your Den Leader or any Pack 38 leader's attention so that the problem can be corrected or the injured person can be treated. **If anyone refuses to follow the set rules, he or she and family will be asked to leave the campground, NO EXCEPTIONS!**

The overall Scouting guideline for camping is LEAVE NOTRACE. This means that when you leave the area should as good or better than when you arrived.

Youth Protection

- **Children may only sleep in tents with other children or their own parents/guardians (and siblings)! No child may sleep in a tent with an adult who is not their parent/guardian. All the children may sleep in a tent together, but then the adults from each family must have their own tent. Adults who are not married to each other may not sleep in the same tent. These are National BSA rules (YPT)!**

Uniforms

- All Cub Scouts and registered adults wear Class A Uniform while traveling to and from campout (this is BSA guideline and is required for insurance coverage).
- All Cub Scouts and registered adults wear Class A Uniform to Saturday night campfire.

Setting up your tent

- Pitch your tent (made of a flame-retardant fabric) far enough away from the campfire site to prevent ignition from heat or sparks. (Instead of having an open fire during windy conditions, consider building a pit fire or using a firebox to prevent errant sparks.)

Fire Safety

- Use only an established fire ring
- Clear the immediate area surrounding your campfire site of debris (8 - 10 ft. radius).
- Your campfire should be a safe distance from trees, shrubs, dry grass, tents, etc. (be sure to look up for overhanging branches).
- Keep a bucket of water or sand near the fire so that it can be put out easily and quickly.
- When you build a campfire, put twigs and leaves in the bottom of the fire, then heavier sticks on top. Never, ever cut firewood from living tree, but it's OK to pick up dead sticks from the ground if it is allowed at the campgrounds being used. Check with the park ranger and/or park rules first.
- **NO LIQUID FIRESTARTER AT ALL --- ONLY SOLID FIRESTARTER IS ALLOWED!**

Fire Safety (continued)

- **Never leave your campfire unattended. If the entire Den leaves the campsite the fire must be completely put out. Option is to leave one adult behind to watch the fire.**
- Assign an adult to supervise fire at all times; if he/she must leave fire ring, he/she must find a substitute before leaving.
- Review fire rules with parents.
- Put fire completely out before retiring for the evening or leaving the campgrounds.
- Put out fire by spreading out logs or charcoal with a rake or shovel; turn logs and charcoal over gently with shovel; sprinkle with water and continue turning gently with shovel until you can hold your hand a few inches over the fire area for one minute; do NOT dump a bucket of water or flood the fire ring.
- Do not allow anyone (including parents) to throw anything into the fire, not even a paper cup of water.
- **What goes into the fire, stays in the fire.**
- **Do not let the cub scout or any child poke at the fire.** Flying amber may be a dangerous projectile for their unprotected eyes.
- Establish a wide about 10' radius fire circle and do not allow scouts to enter it unless they are cooking under supervision.
- If using the campfire to roast marshmallows, only allow a small number of scouts to enter fire circle at one time
- Make sure your fire is totally extinguished before breaking camp.
- Teach your children to respect fire.

General Safety

- 1) Walking sticks will not be raised above the shoulders. Walking sticks are not weapons or swords of any kind and should never be used as such. Violation will result in the collection of the stick by the leaders. Confiscated sticks will be returned at departure time.
- 2) Only Cub Scouts with their Whittling Chip Card may carry and use a pocketknife. Whittling may be done in a safe, predetermined area, cleared of traffic under adult supervision.
- 3) **No sandals/flip flops, only closed-toe shoes.**
- 4) **No fishing except from designated areas at the park. No swinging poles/lures around.**
- 5) **Scouts and siblings may not run in, near, or around cooking area(s).** Parents/ leaders should rope off the cooking area(s) if possible.
- 6) **Scouts and siblings may not run in, near, or around tents.** There are many tripping hazards (i.e. stakes, guide ropes, etc.).
- 7) **SCOUT AND SIBLINGS MAY NOT WANDER OFF CAMPSITE WITHOUT PARENTAL SUPERVISION or AT LEAST TWO ADULT LEADERS. LEADERS, 2 DEEP LEADERSHIP BSA GUIDELINES MUST BE MAINTAINED.** Please keep up with your children.
- 8) **NO WATER ACTIVITIES** (other than the Water Gun / Water Balloon fight if there is one)! (e.g. Canoeing, boating, or swimming in the lake) **NO EXCEPTIONS – THIS IS BSA POLICY FOR CUB SCOUTS!**
- 9) No Dangerous Horseplay.
- 10) **Do not allow food, gum, candy, drinks other than water, or even toothpaste to be stored in tents. The raccoons and other wild animals will find their ways to the source of food! They usually do not open the zipper of the tent!!!!**

- 11) Use the Buddy System.
- 12) No Littering.
- 13) Courtesy to other Campers.

14) Do not "caravan" to or from the campsite. This is against the law in Texas and it is not safe!

15) DO NOT TAKE RISKS!

16) Have Fun!

Boy Scouts of America Rules (see Guide to Safe Scouting for the complete listing of rules):

Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Products:

The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America, or at any activity involving participation of youth members.

- Adult leaders should support the attitude that young adults are better off without tobacco and **may not allow the use of tobacco products at any BSA activity involving youth participants.**
- All Scouting functions, meetings, and activities should be conducted on a smoke-free basis, with smoking areas located away from all participants.

Chemical Fuel:

- Knowledgeable adult supervision must be provided when Scouts are involved in the storage of chemical fuels, the handling of chemical fuels in the filling of stoves or lanterns, or the lighting of chemical fuels.

The use of liquid fuels for starting any type of fire is prohibited.

Guidelines for Safely Using Chemical Stoves and Lanterns:

- Use compressed or liquid gas stoves or lanterns only with knowledgeable adult supervision and in Scout facilities only where and when permitted.
- Operate and maintain according to manufacturer's instructions included with the stove or lantern. Both gasoline and kerosene shall be kept in well-marked, approved containers (never in a glass container) and stored in a ventilated, locked box at a safe distance (a minimum of 20 feet) from buildings and tents. Keep all chemical fuel containers away from hot stoves and campfires, and store below 100 degrees F.
- Let hot stoves and lanterns cool before changing cylinders of compressed gases or refilling from bottles of liquid gas.
- Refill liquid-gas stoves and lanterns a safe distance from any flames, including other stoves, campfires, and personal smoking substances. A commercial camp stove fuel should be used for safety and performance. Pour through a filter funnel. Recap both the device and the fuel container before igniting.
- Never fuel a stove, heater, or lantern inside a [tent]; always do this outdoors. Do not operate a stove, or lantern, or charcoal grill in an unventilated structure. Provide at least two

ventilation openings, one high and one low, to provide oxygen and exhaust for lethal gases. Never fuel (example: all liquid fuels, charcoal, etc.), ignite, or operate a stove, heater, or lantern in a tent.

- Place the stove on a level, secure surface before operating.
- Periodically check fittings on compressed-gas stoves and on pressurized liquid-gas stoves for leakage, using soap solution before lighting.
- To avoid possible fires, locate gas tanks, stoves, etc., below any tents since heavy leaking gas will flow downhill the same as water.
- When lighting a stove, keep fuel bottles and extra canisters well away. Do not hover over the stove when lighting it. Keep your head and body to one side. Open the stove valve quickly for two full turns and light carefully, with head, fingers, and hands to the side of the burner. Then adjust down.
- **Do not leave a lighted stove or lantern unattended.**
- Do not overload the stovetop with heavy pots or large frying pans. If pots over 2 quarts are necessary, set up a separate grill with legs to hold the pot, and place the stove under the grill.
- Bring empty fuel containers home for disposal. Do not place in or near fires. Empty fuel containers will explode if heated and should never be put in fireplaces or with burnable trash.

Flammability Warning

No tent material is completely fireproof. It can burn when exposed to continued, intense heat or fire. The most important safeguard is to keep flames away from canvas materials. For this reason, the following safety precautions are emphasized:

- Only flashlights and electric lanterns are permitted in tents. No flames in tents is a rule that must be enforced.
- Never use liquid-fuel stoves, heaters, lanterns, lighted candles, matches, and other flame sources in or near tents.
- Do not pitch tents near an open fire.
- **Do not use flammable chemicals near tents—charcoal lighter or spray cans of hairspray, bug killer, or insect repellent.**
- Be careful when using electricity and lighting in tents.
- Always extinguish cooking campfires promptly.
- Obey all fire laws, ordinances, and regulations.

Extinguishers

If fire breaks out, it must be quickly and properly suppressed. To do this, you must know the three classes of fires and how to combat them:

Class A-Fires that involve normally combustible materials such as paper, wood, fabrics, rubber, and many plastics. These fires can be quenched with water or insulated with tri-class (ABC) chemical or foam extinguishers.

Class B-Fires that involve gasoline, oil, grease, tars, paints, lacquers, or flammable gases. The oxygen that supports this type of fire must be cut off by tri-class (ABC), regular dry

chemical, foam, or carbon dioxide (CO₂) extinguishers. Water is dangerous, as it spreads the fire.

Class C-Electrical fires involving heated wire and arcing. These fires must be suppressed with tri-class (ABC) dry chemicals or CO₂-never water, which is a conductor.

Fires in any one class may involve materials of other classes, so more than one type of extinguisher should be available. Because of the danger of lethal fumes, carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄) extinguishers must not be used. Dispose of these extinguishers as recommended by fire officials. Extinguishers should normally be mounted near a doorway and approximately at shoulder level. In a camp setting, the unit leader is responsible for training Scouts in fire prevention, fire detection and reporting, and fire fighting. All youth members and adult leaders should have unit fireguard plan training.

Fireworks

The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the securing, use, and display of fireworks in conjunction with programs and activities....

Firearms

The Boy Scouts of America adheres to its longstanding policy of teaching its youth and adult members the safe, responsible, intelligent handling, care, and use of firearms, airguns, and BB guns in planned, carefully managed, and supervised programs.

Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on camping....

For Cub Scouts: Canoeing and rafting for Cub Scouts (including Webelos Scouts) is **to be limited to council/district events on flat water ponds or controlled lake** areas free of powerboats and sailboats.