

TROOP 297 FACT BOOK



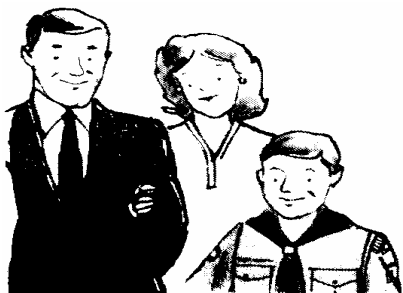
INFORMATION FOR SCOUTS & FAMILIES

(Web Site: <http://troop297.nwsc.org>)

2005 (Second Edition)

"No one ever became an Eagle Scout without some help from his parents."

This booklet has been prepared to help the parents of new and existing scouts in Troop 297 understand how the program works, and how they can help their son. We're glad to welcome your son to one of the world's greatest youth organizations. Save this booklet and use it to help us provide him with the best experience possible.



Dave Stronz
Scoutmaster, Troop 297

Allyn Webert
Adult Committee Chairman, Troop 297

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THE THREE POINTS OF SCOUTING

When some people think of scouting, they think of hiking, tents, and campfires. When we think of an

Eagle Scout, however, we think of someone who is honest, helpful, and kind. Sure we want to have fun, but the essence of scouting is expressed by our motto, "Be Prepared," our slogan, "Do a Good Turn Daily," the Scout Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code.

The best definition of scouting is found in the three points of the Boy Scout Oath that are symbolized by the three fingers of the scout sign. Each point of this oath defines one of the fundamental duties of a scout.

DUTY TO GOD

Scouting is not a religious organization. Scouts are, however, encouraged to understand and live up to their own convictions, and to respect the beliefs of others. All major religious groups offer awards for scouts. You can find out about this from your clergyman.

DUTY TO OTHER PEOPLE

The scout law elaborates the kinds of things we should do to fulfill our duty to others. Be trustworthy, loyal, and helpful, for example. As scouts grow and master the basic skills of scouting, they are expected to put this knowledge back into the troop by serving as a junior leader. The higher awards also contain service project requirements.

DUTY TO MYSELF

We promise to keep ourselves in good shape physically, mentally, and morally. Many of our activities have a physical orientation. Much of the work we do to earn badges helps us to develop mentally. Some of the badges, and a lot of other parts of our program, encourage moral development.

MEETING TIME AND PLACE

Troop 297 meets at Calvary Community Church in Schaumburg on Thursdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, during the months of Aug. through June. During the summer, weekly activities may also be held at the same location, night and time...

HOW TO JOIN TROOP 297

Nothing could be easier than joining our troop. We'll give you an application form. Fill it out, and bring it to one of our meetings along with your registration fee or we are available for crossover ceremonies for WEBELOS Scouts. The fee is \$95 for new scouts and for registered cub scouts and \$125 for existing Boy Scouts. When you register you will receive:

- Membership in the BSA
- A Subscription to *Boy's Life*

TROOP ORGANIZATION

The Boy Scout program depends heavily upon leadership provided by the boys themselves. The troop is divided into



Patrols. Each patrol elects one of its members to serve as the patrol leader. They must good attendance records. On camping trips, patrols set up their site, plan their menu, buy their food and cook their own meals. Scouts newly elected as Patrol Leaders must attend Junior Leadership Training provided by the Troop.

New scouts joining the troop are placed in a patrol within the troop. Every effort is made to keep groups of friends together. In addition to the patrol leaders, older scouts are assigned as "Troop Guides" to work with the new members. Each of our assistant scoutmasters is 100% devoted to working with the individual patrols.

Adult leadership comes from the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters. We also have a very active group of parents on the troop committee which is lead by the Chairman of the Adult Committee.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Troop 297 has an activity every month. Our schedule usually includes the following:



- * CAMPING IN TENTS in the Fall, Spring and Summer
- * CAMPING IN CABINS during the Winter
- * TRIPS TO PLACES OF INTEREST
- * HIGH ADVENTURE, SUCH AS THE SCOUT SEA BASE OR PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH or Boundary Waters in northern Minnesota for older Scouts.
- * SUMMER CAMP (A week in July)
- * FAMILY NIGHTS TO PRESENT AWARDS called Courts of Honor (Three nights during the year)

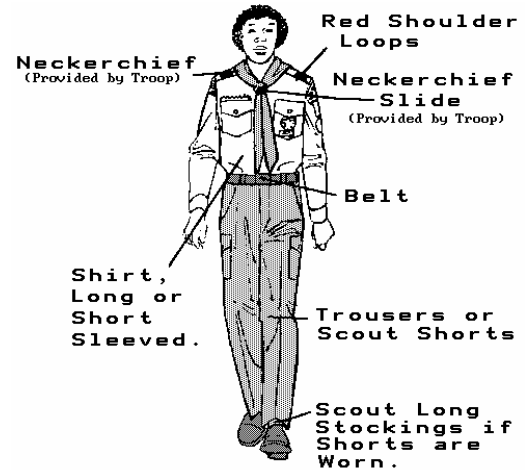
COST

The Troop registration fee for scouts is charged each year in February. Currently, the registration fee for new Scouts is \$100 and for existing Scouts is \$125. The Troop uses this money for operating expenses throughout the year. Registration fees are determined by the Adult Committee. Cost of activities is about as follows; camping trips - \$15/person (for food), Week at summer camp - \$220. One day activities - \$5.00.

We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to be in Scouting because of money. The Troop offers popcorn and wreath fund raising each Fall allowing the Scout to accumulate funds in his Scout account for any or all activities.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms are part of Scouting and the boys are required to wear them at troop meetings, summer camp, and all Troop activities. The best place to buy uniform items is at the Scout Shop at Northwest Suburban Council Headquarters.



WHAT YOU NEED:

- Scout Pants** – Official BSA pants, or dark blue jeans (full length or shorts) only.
- Scout Shirt** – Official BSA shirt. Either short or long sleeves are fine. A pair of red epaulets is worn on the shirt.
- Patches** - You need a troop numeral (297), a Council patch, and a patrol patch (Find out which patrol your son is joining before buying this patch). Earned badges are presented by the troop at courts of honor. Collectible patches are given out at special events or can be purchased at scout camps. The scout handbook shows where the patches should be placed.
- Neckerchief** - A neckerchief will be presented to your son by the troop if available at the time of his investiture ceremony or one can be purchased at the Scout Shop.
- Troop Hat:** The Scout will be presented upon investiture with a hat. If lost, a replacement must be purchased or a BSA hat can be substituted.
- Troop Tee Shirt and Sweatshirt:** may be purchased when ordering is available.
- Merit Badge Sash** - Scouts need this sash once they have six merit badges.

OUR SPONSOR

Our troop is chartered by The Concerned Parents of Hoffman Estates. The Troop has a charter representative. The Adult Committee is made up of parents and registered Troop Committee Members.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

TROOP COMMITTEE

Running the troop is a lot of work, and we have a good group of parents serving on the Troop Committee to enable our troop to function. There's always a need on the committee for more help.

ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS

Assistant Scoutmasters assist the Scoutmaster in providing a successful program. No experience needed just a desire to be the closest to Scouting and your son.

ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION

An important aspect of the scout program is to get the patrols working together to accomplish objectives. Before each camping trip the patrols plan meals, assign sharing of chores, and such activities as campfire skits. On the trips, the patrols execute those plans. A boy only really gains the benefits of the program if he plays an active roll in his patrol. This implies regular attendance at meetings and weekend activities. Help your son to be active. Encourage him to keep the dates of our activities open.

HELP WITH FUND RAISING

BSA does not provide any operating funds to the Troop. Therefore, the yearly Troop registration fee goes directly for this purpose. We spend about \$3000 per year or, roughly, \$125 per scout. Most of these expenses are paid for by the Troop registration fee. Profits from fund-raisers, like our annual wreath and popcorn sale go directly to the Scout's Scout Account to help defray their fees. Encourage your son to join in the fundraising. Commissions he earns will be deposited in his account.

COME ON OUTINGS

Dads and Moms are always welcome on camping trips and activities. On most weekend outings we can use a little extra help, and we always need as much help as we can get during our week at summer camp. We have not yet had to cancel an activity for lack of parental or leader assistance.

PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION

When we go camping, we need to bring the boys, their gear, and lots of troop equipment. Some of us have vans or trucks, but most cars can only carry two or three boys.

BECOME A MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR

If you have a special skill that would allow you to be a merit badge counselor call our Advancement Chairman or the Chairman of the Adult Committee. The Troop will pay for your BSA registration.

CALL US WITH QUESTIONS

If you have questions about our program you can call the Scoutmaster, Chairman of the Adult Committee or Advancement

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE

We have a web site at through the Northwest Suburban Council at <http://troop297.nwsc.org>



PROGRESS AWARDS

The scout advancement program centers on badges called progress awards or "Badges of Rank." These progress awards are the familiar: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second

Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The Eagle Award is the top progress award and the highest award scouting has to offer.

The requirements for all progress awards follow the same basic pattern.

1. Participation - You are required to be active in the troop and patrol. This means regular attendance at troop meetings and troop activities. It also means helping your patrol in patrol corners, on camping trips, and in district competitions. For the lower ranks, younger scouts must participate in a specific number of activities. For higher ranks, the older boys must be "active" for a specified time period. (See participation requirement on next page.)
2. Spirit - You must live up to the ideals of scouting as expressed in the Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, Motto, and the Outdoor Code.
3. Skills - All progress awards require you to learn skills. For the lower ranks, the things you need to learn are spelled out in the requirements for that rank. For the higher ranks you learn by earning merit badges. Don't make the mistake of thinking that simply learning these skills qualifies you for a progress award. Spirit, participation, leadership, and service are equally important.
4. Leadership - For the ranks of First Class and above, you are required to serve actively in a leadership position within the troop.
5. Service - For Star and Life you must give a certain number of hours in service to others. For Eagle, you organize a service project.
6. Scoutmaster's Conference - As one of the requirements for rank advancement, you must have a

one-on-one conference with the Scoutmaster before the Board of Review..

7. Board of Review for Advancement: After the Scoutmaster Conference, the scout would request a Board of Review (see next page) for advancement to the next rank.

MERIT BADGES

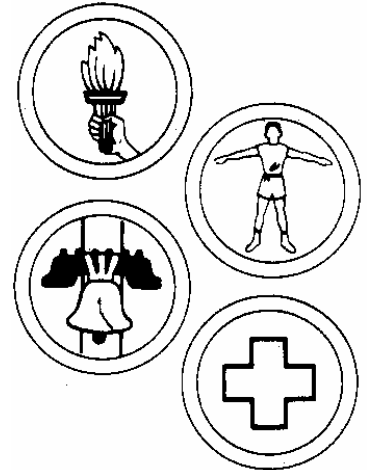
Merit badges give scouts a chance to learn about a very broad range of skills. The Star, Life, and Eagle progress awards require the scout to earn merit badges.

About 130 merit badges are offered.

Some cover scout skills like "Camping" and "Cooking." Others cover skills that are oriented toward producing better citizens, like "Safety" and "Citizenship in the Community." Some are for self development, like "Public Speaking" or "Personal Management," some are for fun, like "Skiing" or "Model Building," and many are designed to help scouts learn about careers, like "Dentistry", "Electronics," and "Journalism."

Scouts must go to specific merit badge counselors (experts in the field who donate their time and live in the area) for these badges. Often, when we teach a class on a merit badge at our meetings, the counselor will come to review the boys on that night. Merit badges may also be earned at summer camp, where the counselors are on the camp staff. There are usually 2 District Merit Badge Clinics a year. The Scout brings their completed badge work to the clinic for review by a counselor.

Although scouts do not need merit badges until they have reached the rank of First Class, many like to get started sooner. Most boys can find a few that coincide with their own interests well enough that they have already done all the requirements. In this case, why not go get the badge? Mom and Dad can help with this. Requirements for merit badges are found in an inexpensive booklet entitled "*Boy Scout Requirements*" that is available at the Scout Shop. There are also resources on the web. An excellent site with requirements for all the merit badges is:



www.meritbadge.com. Along with the requirements for each badge is a list of links relevant to that badge.



BOARDS OF REVIEW

A board of review is a meeting between a scout and some of the troop's adult leaders to be certain that all the requirements for a progress award were met.

WHEN SHOULD I SCHEDULE

IT?

When you realize that you will complete the requirements for a progress award you should schedule the review. The reviews are conducted by the adults on the troop committee. Boards of review are conducted at several troop meetings before our tri-annual Courts of Honor.

HOW SHOULD I ARRIVE?

- * ON TIME
- * IN FULL DRESS UNIFORM (MERIT BADGE & O.A. SASH, IF APPLICABLE)
- * BRING YOUR SCOUT HANDBOOK
- * Ensure that you have had all the rank requirements signed off in your Scout Handbook, especially the Scoutmaster conference.

WHAT QUESTIONS May BE ASKED?

- * SCOUT SPIRIT - How well do you know and follow the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan etc?
- * PARTICIPATION - How is your attendance at meetings and on outings?
- * SKILLS - What skills have you learned that have been the most interesting..)
- * SERVICE PROJECT (Star and higher): how did your service project benefit you and others? --.
- * LEADERSHIP (Star and higher) -- Be prepared to explain what you do in your leadership position, and how it helps the troop.
- *

TROOP 297 PARTICIPATION EXPECTATION

Each Boy Scout's progress award, from Second Class to Eagle, has a participation requirement. For Second Class, you must participate in 5 activities other than meetings. For First Class, you must participate in an additional 5.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Sometimes a scout must miss activities or meetings for a period of time because of other commitments. In these cases he can take a leave of absence from scouting, and that period of time will not be counted toward the participation requirement for his next badge. You must discuss this leave with the Scoutmaster before and not after you absence.



STEPS TO THE EAGLE BADGE

The Eagle Award is Scouting's highest honor. If you are a Life Scout ready to become Eagle, here are the steps you must follow:

1. Secure an Eagle application from our advancement chairman.
2. Earn a minimum of 21 merit badges (12 required, 9 elective).
3. Serve successfully in a leadership position for at least six months.
4. Plan and carry out a service project: (see the section on "Planning an Eagle Scout Service Project" below).
5. Complete the application form.
6. Have letters of reference from a teacher, parent, neighbor, and clergyman sent to the Troop Advancement Chairman.
7. Appear before the troop committee and pass a progress review. Your application will then be sent to the district.
8. Early in the following month, the district will review your application and, if it is in order, invite you to appear at the district review board later that month. You must pass this review.
9. Your application will be sent to national headquarters. It takes about six weeks for them to process it.

10. The Eagle award will then be presented at a special court of honor.

Because of the three review phases, plan on at least three months from the time you submit the application until the award can be presented.

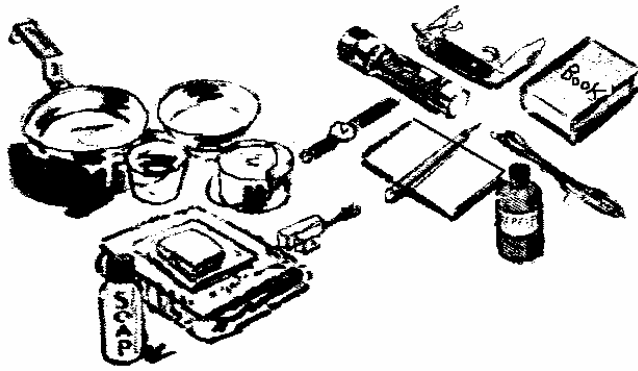
PLANNING AN EAGLE SCOUT SERVICE PROJECT

1. *GET A PROJECT BOOKLET:* - Obtain an Eagle project booklet from our advancement chairman. Discuss the process with the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster who helps with Eagle Projects.
2. *THINK OF AN IDEA:* - Come up with an idea for your project. Discuss your idea with someone in authority from the organization that the project will benefit. Work out the idea in more detail with that person. Check with the Scoutmaster to be sure that the idea will meet the service project requirements.
3. *DEVELOP A PLAN:* - When you have agreed on the idea for the project, write a description of your plan in the booklet. Describe the project and whom it will benefit. Provide an estimate of how long the project will take, how much help you will need, and when you will be doing it. NOTE: Try to come up with a project that will call for at least 100 man-hours of work. With a troop our size it's hard to give everyone a chance to help unless the project is this big. Include a detailed list of what material and equipment you will need, where you will get it, and who will pay for it. This write up will be the start of your final project report. If you have a word processor, use it to create the plan and save the text for later use. You can staple the printed plan into the project booklet.
4. *GET THE PLAN APPROVED:* - The project plan must be approved by the organization, the troop, and the district. When the write-up is complete, have it signed by the organization's representative. Be sure that the person who approves the plan actually has the authority to give you permission to carry it out. Then, make an appointment with our Scoutmaster and Troop Committee Chairman to have them review and approve the plan. Finally, after you have organization and troop approvals, take your booklet to the district advancement chairman and get his approval.
5. *GET READY TO START:* - A typical project requires tools, material, and plenty of manpower. It is your job to arrange

for all of these. Using your list of tools and supplies, get your material together. Your manpower and leadership skills are the key to the project. Get a list of everyone in the troop who is First Class or Star. These Scouts need service project hours for their own advancement. NOTE: We expect that that you will contact all of these Scouts before you begin work. Make a list of Scouts from this group who say they want to help you.

6. *CARRY OUT THE PROJECT:* - Schedule work days well in advance. Invite the scouts who said they want to help. Then, one or two days before each work day, call them again and remind them to come. NOTE: We expect you to call each of these scouts for every work day. Of course you can get as much additional help as you care to from whatever sources are available to you. Remember, you must lead the project. Do not allow your parent or some other adult to take over. Make sure you finish everything you promised to do in your plan. It's OK to do more than you planned to, but please don't do less. Keep records of who helped you, and what you got done each day. You'll need this information for your report. Take pictures of the project as it progresses.
7. *PROJECT COMPLETION:* - When the project is finished, get the person from the organization to sign your booklet again.
8. *FINAL REPORT:* - A typical project report is about 15 pages long. The text portions should be typewritten and double spaced. The report should include:
 - a. How you got the idea and why you picked it.
 - b. Your plan.
 - c. A description of how you got materials, tools, and helpers ready.
 - d. A day by day account of how the project was carried out.
 - e. A list of tools and materials.
 - f. Drawings if applicable.
 - g. A list of who helped, and how many hours each spent. Show yourself and your hours too. Add up the total hours.
 - h. Photos of the project.

This report becomes part of the application package that goes from the troop, to the Council, and then to National Scout Headquarters. The troop committee will review and suggest improvements to the report before sending it on. Remember, the only information the reviewers at the council and national levels will have about you and your project is the report you have written. Make the report portray the project in the best possible light.



PERSONAL CAMPING EQUIPMENT

A few items of personal equipment, like sleeping bags and backpacks, are needed to participate in our activities. Most of us do not use official Boy Scout equipment. It's usually over-priced, and often isn't even what you really need. The following information may be useful if you need to buy equipment before we have such a meeting.

SLEEPING BAG

This is the most important piece of equipment a scout has. It should be lightweight because we often carry our gear. It is also important for it to be warm. Features to look for are:

1. Nylon liner with Hollofil II or Quallofill filling. These are light and warm. Down is even better, but very expensive and unnecessary.
2. "Mummy" style. -- These weigh less than comparable rectangular bags.
3. A hood that closes around your head.
4. A design that widens a little at the bottom for your feet.
5. A zipper that can open at both ends to let in a little air.
6. A small tube of insulation parallel to the zipper. This keeps the zipper from becoming a cold spot.
7. Filling alternately stitched to the outside and inside. This keeps the seams from becoming cold spots.

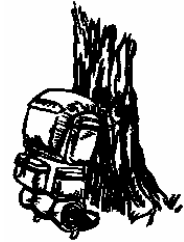
PONCHO

Every scout should bring one of these on every trip. This should be a cheap, light-weight poncho that becomes your work surface for cooking, your raincoat, and your tarp.

BACKPACK

Backpacks are necessary for backpacking trips, and many scouts use them to carry their gear on all our camping trips. Younger scouts have no need to invest in a backpack immediately. A backpack consists of a metal frame with a cloth pack fastened to it. Features to look for are:

1. The pack must fit the scout! Hiking long distances with all your gear on your back is not easy. If the pack doesn't fit, you will be miserable.
2. The pack must have a hip strap. This must fit the boy! The hip strap is intended to carry the load. Shoulder straps serve only to hold the pack upright. Padded hip straps are nice, but often provide a limited amount of adjustment that prevents them from being tightened around the waist of small boys.
3. The pack should have tight webbing to support the pack against the scout's back, and keep the metal frame from rubbing painfully against him. This webbing should be adjustable, and should be adjusted to fit before the boy goes on a hike. The webbing must be very tight. This can only happen if the pack has a well-designed means for tightening it. A turnbuckle seems to be the best.
4. The pack should be the right size. It should be big enough to hold the required equipment, without being too big to fit the scout. It is nice to have a number of separate compartments so that you can keep your gear organized.
5. There should be a place to fasten a sleeping bag to the frame. A portion of the frame should extend, either at the top or on the bottom, where the sleeping bag can be fastened with elastic cords or tie straps.
6. The cloth pack should be fastened to the frame by pins and rings that go through metal grommets on the cloth. Avoid cloth pouches that slide over the frame.



PERSONAL COOKING GEAR

These items are only really used for backpacking weekend camping.

1. Water bottle or Canteen - A two-quart size is best; otherwise you need two one-quart canteens. When backpacking, you will be required to carry at least 2 quarts of water. Remember to have either a waist pack or day pack to carry your water.
2. Mess Kit - This is a small nested set of aluminum cookware. It should have a fry pan, plate, pot, and cup. For Troop camping, each Patrol has its own Patrol Box with stove and cooking gear.
3. Vittles Kit - This is a small set of flatware in a plastic pouch. It includes a knife, fork, and spoon.

GETTING READY FOR BACK-PACKING

WHAT TO WEAR:

Long pants
Short-sleeved shirt
Two pairs of socks
Shoes that fit (hiking boots are best)

THINGS YOU MUST BRING:

Layers of clothes (sweatshirt, light jacket)
Extra socks
Two quarts of water
Mess kit
Vittles kit
Light weight plastic poncho
Sleeping bag or blanket

THINGS YOU MAY NOT BRING:

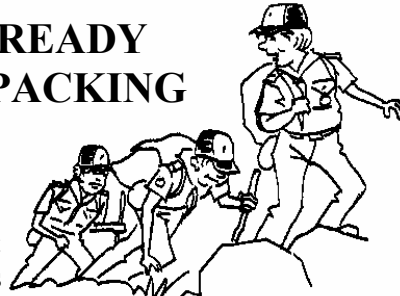
Radios, tape players, etc. (these are inappropriate for backpacking or camping)
Sheath knives, sling shots, etc.
Extra food (2 candy bars are allowed)
Anything non-essential

THINGS THAT THE TROOP PROVIDES:

Tent, propane Stove and cooking gear

HOW TO PACK:

1. Use a light-weight backpack with hip strap that fits you.
2. Stuff the sleeping bag tightly in its stuff bag and secure it to the pack frame with elastic cord or tie straps (not rope).



3. Pack all other items inside the pack. Put things you need, like the water, where you can get to them easily. Nothing should hang loose.
4. You will hike with a partner with whom you will share a two-man tent, butane stove, and 4 plastic bags with freeze-dried meals in them. Save room for your share, this will weigh about 5 pounds.
5. Your entire pack including sleeping bag, water, and the 5 pounds of shared equipment, must not exceed 1/4 of your own weight. If you weigh 80 lb., you can not carry more than a 20 lb. load.

PACKING LIST FOR WEEKEND CAMPING TRIP

CLOTHING:

2 Pr jeans	Thermal underwear (winter)
2 Shirts	2 Changes underwear
4 Pr socks	Gloves (winter)
Sweat shirt	Hat (winter)
Jacket	Sun glasses (optional)
Extra shoes	Swim suit (summer)
Poncho	

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT:

Sleeping bag	Matches
Small pillow	Canteen (optional)
Flashlight	Camera (optional)
Scout handbook	Unbreakable Mug
Pocket knife (optional, blade must be less than 6", no sheath knives)	
Bug spray (optional, no aerosols)	

TOILET ITEMS:

Soap	Comb
Towel	Plastic laundry bag
Toothbrush	Toothpaste

RECREATIONAL SUGGESTIONS:

Board game	Sports equipment
Fishing rod	Craft project
Ball & glove	Book
Musical instrument (no pianos)	

GETTING READY FOR Summer Camp at Napowan:

***Each year there is a Troop**

Coordinator who will provide all necessary information on medical forms, dates, etc.

PACK YOUR DUFFLE BAG WITH:

CLOTHES:

Jeans	Shorts
Shirts	Poncho
Socks	Underwear
Sweat shirt	Swim suit
Old sneakers	O.A. sash (for members)
Extra uniform parts	

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT:

Flashlight Handbook
Small pillow Camera (optional)
Spending money Compass (optional)
Insect repellent (no aerosols)
Pocket knife (optional)
Anything required for merit badges

TOILET ITEMS:

Soap	2 Towels	Toothpaste
Comb	Toothbrush	Medication (bring a note)

RECREATIONAL SUGGESTIONS:

Board game	Magic Cards	Book
Fishing rod	Sports equipment	
Ball & glove	Musical instrument	

YOUR PATROL WILL HAVE:

Tents
Dining Flies

BUYING FOOD FOR YOUR PATROL

Meals on camping trips are prepared by each patrol. A few weeks before every camping trip, the patrols are given instructions and time at our meetings for planning. They plan their menu, figure out what they need, check their patrol boxes to see what they have, and create a detailed shopping list. The menu must be approved by the Sr. Patrol Leader prior to purchase of the food.

If you are selected to buy the food, you should have the list that your patrol prepared. You should need to buy only what's on the list. The Scouts will be

required to reimburse the cook for all purchases. You, and anyone helping you, should be aware of the following rules:

1. Plan for four meals, three Saturday, one Sunday.
2. The menu should be well balanced. Saturday's menu should include the four food groups:

Group 1: Meat, Poultry, Fish Eggs -- at least 2 servings

Group 2: Milk and milk products -- one serving at each meal

Group 3: Vegetables and fruits -- at least 4 servings

Group 4: Bread and grain products -- 4 servings

5. Sunday's breakfast should be hearty COLD CEREAL IS NOT OK. Since we won't eat lunch in camp, the scouts may have a long gap between meals.

6. "A Scout Is Thrifty." Watch your budget. Get food for the meals first. Buy snacks only if you have money left over. Use things up. For example, one box of Bisquick can make pancakes at breakfast and biscuits at dinner. Left over potatoes from dinner can be hashed browns in the morning.

7. Check your patrol equipment box before as it should have all the cooking gear you need. Don't forget a bottle of propane and a bag of charcoal. Buy these only if needed.



Scout Spirit, Oath, Laws and Scout Counseling

Troop 297 follows the policies of the Boy Scouts of America. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters will be currently trained in these policies. Troop leadership flows from the Scoutmaster to the Assistant Scoutmasters. Scoutmasters to the Senior Patrol leader and his assistant to the individual Patrol Leaders and their assistant to the Scout. At all Troop activities, Committee Members and parents are guests of the Troop and also will abide by the policies.

Troop 297 follows the policy of “2 deep” leadership. All counseling, with the exception of the Scoutmaster’s Conference prior to advancement, and for immediate Scout safety, will have 2 trained Adult Leaders as active participants.

All participants in Troop activities will follow the Scout Law.

Scouts are encouraged to follow the Scout Law at both Troop activities and every day life. Counseling by the Adult Troop Leaders focuses on assisting the Scout in making the best decisions in both safety and personal conduct. Safety is our primary concern.