**Backpacking Campout Details**

Ouachita Trail, Near Talihina, OK - Start at Winding Stair campground, Camp near Red Spring, Take out at Hwy 259/Big Cedar

Meet at **6:30am** Saturday, 11/13 at 17 Acres.  Please be on time so we can hit the road by 7:00.  No Class A or Class B. (You may certainly wear your Class B as a synthetic base layer).  Arrive in the clothes you will hike in. We're going to be packed tightly into several cars, and park and go when we get to the trail head.

* Eat breakfast before you arrive.
* Trail lunch for Saturday – We’ll eat about 30 minutes into the hike. Bring your own.
* Bring trail snacks
* Saturday dinner – Bring a Dehydrated meal (Mountain House, Backpacker’s Pantry, etc.)
* Sunday breakfast – no-cook, quick and easy.  Bring your own. Clif bars etc.
* Bring money for snacks on Saturday drive and snacks/lunch on the way home Sunday. $20

**Weather**: Right now the forecast calls for high’s in the mid-50’s during the day and mid 30’s overnight.  Awesome hiking weather during the day, and a little cold at night. Will update as we get closer to departure day.

We will bring troop tents for the boys to split up and carry.  The smaller guys will 3-man and the larger guys will double in regular troop tents.

Hammocks will be allowed, but they must have a purpose-built rain fly, no tarps. Only Second Class and above can Hammock. This could change it the weather turns colder – 35 and below is a no go on Hammocks.

Don’t over-pack.  Only camping for one night so double or triple redundant clothes aren’t necessary.  Try to pick items that can be used for multiple things. Lightweight and fast is our motto for backpacking.

What should be in your backpack?

* Water – TFC’s, 3 liters, 4 liters older scouts, 5 liters for adults – **1L SmartWater bottles – No Nalgene’s!**
* Your food in a 1 gallon ziploc bag, with your name on it – Very Important!
* 1 quart or 1 gallon Ziploc bag for trash – with your name on it.
* Spoon - a long one. No sporks, they will tear your dehydrated meal bag.
* Rain Gear – Should be easily accessible, if in pack, place on top. Frogg Toggs from Academy are ideal
* Sleeping Bag - in a stuff sack
* Sleeping Pad - insulated, inflatable or foam
* Sleeping Bag Liner - optional, to provide extra warmth if needed. Also helps keep bag clean
* 2 Extra pair of socks - wool or synthetic, cotton socks cause blisters, we see it every year.
* If you don’t have synthetic underwear then bring 1 extra pair of underwear. (Athletic type boxer briefs work very well to prevent chafing and dry quickly when wet.)
* Fleece, puffy, or otherwise light and warm Jacket (you may want to wear it Sat AM vs. packing it)
* Beanie or other (lightweight) warm hat
* Sleep clothes if you think you need them for warmth: flannel pants, etc.  Try to avoid fluffy/space-hogging stuff
* Long/insulated underwear - Can use to hike and sleep in for extra warmth layer. Synthetic recommended
* Toilet paper – tear off 15 squares or so, fold and place in small Ziploc.
* Chapstick
* Lightweight gloves – optional, but are nice to have at night.
* Lightweight headlamp.
* Toiletries – shouldn’t need much, but place in a Ziploc, name clearly marked– goes in bear bag at night.
* Dry clothes, Sleeping Bag, inflatable sleeping pad – put in or compactor bag to stay dry. We will hand out compactor bags at Monday’s meeting.
* Extra water, food and tent parts don't need to be in the garbage bag.

What should I hike in?

* **No Cotton! Think Synthetics!**
* A wicking/polyester/nylon shirt, short or long-sleeved (synthetic class B or summer camp shirt is great)
* Lightweight pants, zip-offs - **no jeans or cotton**, you can wear under-armor or thermals underneath if you want, but you may get hot during the day.
* Wool or synthetic socks - (cotton athletic socks frequently result in blisters on your scout’s feet.) We recommend Wrightock CoolMesh or something similar.
* Tennis shoes or other lightweight hikers with tread - Don’t go out and buy hiking boots that your son will outgrow in 6 months. Also, the shoes need to breathe, so no waterproof shoes. Two shoes that have done well at Eagle Rock Loop and Philmont – 1.) Saucony Perigrine and 2.) Astral Mesh TR1. These are a worthy investment for older boys preparing for Philmont.
* Fleece, will probably end up taking it on and off to regulate your temp
* Beanie hat, same as fleece