

Permission Slip – Troop 114 Valatie

Return this slip by January 31st, 2017 Trip Date: February 4th & 5th, 2017

I give my child(ren)

Permission to participate in the Backpack trip on the Appalachian Trail in MA on February 4th & 5th, 2017

In the event of an emergency, I give permission to emergency medical personnel to take necessary steps to protect his health and safety.

Parent Signature _____

Emergency Phone _____

A Parent would like to attend.

Parent can drive or provide shuttle

Return the top of this permission slip to Billy at or before the January 31st troop meeting
Detach and retain the lower portion for your reference

Appalachian Trail Backpack

Trip information:

We'll meet at the church at 8:00 on the morning of the July 18 to pick up group gear and load up the cars. Our hike will start in Tyringham MA. From there we will head "south" on the Appalachian trail to the Mt. Wilcox North Lean-to. This day's hike will be around 5 miles, but the possibility exists to increase that to a maximum of 7 miles, should those going wish to do so.

On this section of trail, we will pass through hemlock groves, blueberry fields, and cross several streams. (Be on the lookout for Beaver Dams!) On our way through, we will pass by cobble hill where wildflowers and woodland life are plentiful. Here you will find sweeping views of Tyringham Valley and Hop Brook. From Cobble Hill we will continue on past the Shaker Campsite and on to the Lean-to where we will prepare dinner and clean up. The plan is to use the lean-to for sleeping – this lean-to is an older style (not the loft type we often see in MA) and holds 8-10 people, which should not be an issue this time of year and will make it warmer for sleeping with everyone closer together.

The next day will feature a 5 mile hike from the campsite, past the Benedict Pond area and on to Rte. 23 where our vehicles await us. First we will start with breakfast and site cleanup. We will continue hiking south, starting with a gradual descent across the Mt. Wilcox trail, Past the Mt. Wilcox South Lean-to, The Ledges and finally to Benedict pond and on to Rte. 23 where we will end our trip. You should plan on being back at the Church no later than 4:00pm Sunday afternoon (hopefully sooner, just depends on the trail conditions).

Food: Meals (aside from the lunch mentioned below) will be planned by the Scouts on the 31st and assigned for purchase. Scouts should be prepared the morning of the trip to reimburse those buying for their share of the food.

Everyone should bring their own "non-cook" lunch for Saturday. The only cost for this trip will be food. Think of light weight food. Also divide up food so each hiker carries his own portion.

Equipment: Pack light. HOWEVER, that doesn't mean skipping on needed items, light is not helpful if you are freezing in the middle of the night! Just take time to think twice about what items you need to stay warm without overloading yourself and making the hike that much harder!