

January 2017 Winter Camping Trip

The campout will be Saturday January 14, 2016 through Sunday January 15. We will be camping in the Hopedale Parklands in Hopedale MA. Planned activities include sledding, hiking, animal tracking, snowshoeing and a visit the DARK SIDE of the pond and other adventures. At this winter camping trip we will be doing some aluminum foil cooking (no pots and pans to clean) and Dutch oven cooking. The winter is a great time to do this type of cooking because you need some good warm fires to cook - and to stay warm with, too!

We will be using the regular troop tents to sleep in Saturday night. However, depending on the snow cover, some scouts may choose to build and sleep in snow caves. Several scouts made these shelters in years past and actually slept much warmer than the rest of us in our tents. **The Troop 4 Website has a list of gear needed for a one night winter campout.** Most scouts already have most of the gear and anything else is usually around in the scouts homes.

We will be patrol cooking for Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast. Scouts should bring a bag lunch for Saturday (no soda). For scouts that have a plastic sled, please bring that along, too. The hike in to the campsite is approximately 1 mile.

We will meet at St. Mary's parish center at 9:00 AM on Saturday January 14. Patrols will have an opportunity to assemble their ingredients into tin-foil cooking packets using the parish center kitchen before we depart. We may need a few parents to drive to/from the site. We will return for pick up on Sunday, January 15 by 10:00am.

We will be planning the trip at the January 5 troop meeting. If your son is planning to attend, please return the permission slip by the January 5 troop meeting. If your son can't make the January 5 troop meeting but wants to attend, please call or email Brian Weber before that date so we can include him in planning for the event.

Winter camping is fun and a great outdoor experience - and not that difficult. The adult leaders and troop have many years of winter camping experience and all of our trips have been a great time. Hope for lots of snow cover! There is no fee for this campout.