



January 2024 Winter Camping Trip

January 13-14, 2024, Peppercorn Trail
Upton, Massachusetts

Parents/Scouts,

The outing will be January 13th through Sunday, January 14th. We will be camping in the Peppercorn Area in Upton MA. Planned activities include sledding, hiking, animal tracking, snowshoeing, geocaching and a visit to the DARK SIDE of the pond. At this winter camping trip, we will be doing aluminum foil cooking (no pots and pans to clean) and stove cooking depending on meal plans. 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 backpack 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 into the campsite is approximately 1.5 miles.

We will meet at St. Mary's parish center at 8:30 AM on Saturday January 13th for a 9:00 departure. We may need some parents to drive to/from the site. We will return for pick up on Sunday, January 14th by 10:00am. Exact transportation arrangements will be confirmed when headcount is finalized.

We will be planning the trip during the troop meeting on January 4th for those attending. **Please call or email John Comisky by 12/21 with your RSVP so final plans can be made.** If your son is planning to attend the trip, please return the permission slip by December 21st.

Winter outings are fun and a great outdoor experience - and not that difficult. The adult leaders and troop have many years of actual winter camping experience and all of our trips have been a great time. Should be a great time in the snow and true New England weather. There is no fee for this outing.

John/Mr. Comisky