

TRIP FIREMASTER DUTIES

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Two Weeks Prior to Trip:

- Determine if there will be a fire at the campout and whether ground fires are allowed.
- If ground fires are not allowed, make arrangements for an above-ground fire pit to be used.
- Make sure that any equipment needed for firebuilding (saw, axe, firestarters, lighter, extinguisher, etc.) are included on the Patrol Gear List.
- Develop evening campfire program plan with other trip Firemasters. (See Trip Leader's master roster to see who Firemaster is for each of the other patrols.)
- Use resources available in Scout Room Library & on-line to come up with skit, song, and game ideas.
- Coordinate with other Scouts to assign roles for campfire ceremony. Who will be MC? Who will lead a song?, etc.
- Make a list of props &/or materials needed for campfire plan.
- After the meeting, enter campfire ceremony plan into on-line Trip Plan.

One Week Prior to Trip:

- Finalize evening campfire program plan. Review it with Trip Leader & Scoutmaster.
- Gather all props &/or materials needed for the Campfire Program & put them in the "Program Materials" box.
- Check in with Scouts assigned to participate in campfire ceremony to make sure they will be ready & have everything they need.
- Assist Trip Quartermaster with gathering all needed fire making/tending equipment & materials, including firewood (if necessary) and placing them with gear being gathered for the trip.
- After the meeting, update campfire program plan in on-line Trip Plan.

Day of Departure:

- Make sure fire-making/-tending equipment & campfire program props/materials get loaded.
- Assist with loading vehicles.

During the Trip:

- Coordinate firewood collection & preparation by scouts. Oversee breaking/cutting of collected wood into appropriate sizes and protect from rain.
- Make fire lay as necessary, light fire at appropriate time, & tend to fire while lit. Make sure fire is NEVER left unattended.
- Lead the evening campfire ceremony.
- Enforce fire safety rules & make sure fire is "cold out" before going to bed or leaving the campsite.
- Make sure that fire area is left clean prior to troop departure from campsite.

After the Trip:

- Help unload vehicles & make sure all fire-related equipment & materials are returned to their proper storage locations.

CAMPFIRE SAFETY GUIDELINES:

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- Follow all rules of your campsite. Do not build fires where fires are not allowed. Use above-ground fire pits when ground fires are not allowed.
- Clear all burnable materials - such as leaves, sticks, and pinecones - within a 10-foot circle of the fire area.
- Use established ground fire areas. Do not build fires in new locations.
- Don't build a fire under overhanging branches of trees or shrubs or near the roots of trees.
- Build ground fires within a circle of rocks. But DO NOT use rocks that have been in water. They will explode when they get hot.
- Don't allow anyone to run or play around the fire.
- Once a stick is placed in the fire, it STAYS in the fire.
- NEVER leave a fire unattended. A Firemaster or designated adult must be present at all times while a fire is lit.
- Have a bucket of water or fire extinguisher nearby in case sparks fly outside the fire area.
- Once finished with the fire, make sure it is COLD OUT. Spread the coals and ashes and sprinkle them with water. Stir & sprinkle until the fire site is cold. Hold your hand above the ashes to test for remaining hot spots. Do not leave the site until the ashes & coals are completely cold.