



WILLISTOWN TROOP 78

UPDATED | 2024 Backpacking Trip

Shenandoah National Park + Appalachian Trail

NEW DATES - November 22 - 24, 2024 (Front Royal, VA)



Hike the Appalachian Trail in the beautiful Shenandoah National Park. Enjoy a Troop 78 tradition of backpacking and comradery! Pick from one of two treks:

Option A - CHALLENGE TREK (for all scout and scouters)



Approximately 5 miles, this hike has some elevation gain with one ascent to Compton Peak and will be challenging but manageable. Hikers on this trek will take turns setting the pace, leading the hike, and orienting the trail map. Hikers will enjoy great overlooks across the Shenandoah valley. A packed lunch will be eaten enroute to camping destination (Tom Floyd AT shelter).

Scan the QR code for more details on the hike route.

Option B - LONGER TREK (for experienced backpackers, requires scoutmaster approval)



Approximately 12 miles in length, with significant elevation gain at two ascents of Marshall and Compton Peak. Beautiful views of the Shenandoah valley along the hike. Longer Trek crew will move at a faster pace and cover a greater distance enroute to the Tom Floyd shelter. Packed lunch to be eaten on the trail. **This route requires scoutmaster approval**

Scan the QR code for more details on the hike route.

PACKOUT SUNDAY TREK



After breaking camp at the Tom Floyd shelter, all hikers will hike together 1.5 miles along the AT descending to the point that the AT crosses the road and Mr. Duff's driveway. Troop bus will be waiting to collect the hikers and begin to journey home. **Scan the QR code for more details on the hike route.**

SCHEDULE DETAILS:

- **Departure:** Participants arrive at the Cabin on Friday evening at **5:30 PM**. Friday, we will drive & spend the night at Mr. Duff's property in Front Royal, VA. **BE EARLY!**
- **Return:** Arrive back at the Cabin at approximately **3:00 PM** on **Sunday**. Scouts will call when we are 20 minutes from the Cabin on our return.
- **Mandatory Packing Meeting:** Thursday November 21st @ 7:00pm is the mandatory packing meeting for **ALL PARTICIPANTS**. Bring your unpacked backpack and your personal gear (stuff you'll be packing) to the cabin packed in a SEPARATE duffel bag. You will then repack your personal gear, food and patrol equipment in your backpack. If you will be using your own backpack, please bring it to the packing meeting – but have your gear in your duffel bag for the meeting! **PACKED BACKPACKS WILL BE LEFT AT THE CABIN ON THURSDAY NIGHT.**

Notify your Patrol Leader by no later than the Troop meeting on **Friday, November 15th at 9:00 PM** if you will be attending. Let your PL know if your father is attending as well. If you do not own or cannot borrow a backpack, the Troop has a few to loan, but **you must let your Patrol Leader know by Friday, November 15th if you will need a backpack from the Troop!**

- **Dads**, we encourage you to join us and see what Troop 78 is all about.
- **Scouts**, this is a perfect opportunity to invite a friend in your neighborhood to visit and learn about Scouting and Troop 78! Please dress warm!

QUESTIONS? Call your Patrol Leader or talk to Mr. Campbell (610.999.1776 | cac360@gmail.com)

WHAT TO BRING:

REMEMBER - LESS IS BEST, KEEP IT LIGHT. The total weight of your pack (including patrol gear) should not be more than be 25-30% of your total body weight. **No Cotton – bring synthetic, wicking gear!**

- Hiking boots (**IMPORTANT no sneakers or Crocs on the trail**)
- Sneakers (to wear in camp)
- Wool or synthetic socks – wear a pair, bring TWO PAIRS
- Backpack (Troop has a **limited number available** for loan. **Let your PL know if you or your Dad need to borrow** one from the Troop)
- Winter Sleeping bag **AND** ground pad
- Small flashlight or headlamp, with good batteries
- AT LEAST **two (2) filled one QT/L water bottles** or a full Camelbak/hydration system
- Durable Drinking cup
- Durable Plastic bowl or large cup & utensil
- Toilet paper (about a quarter-roll. Pack in a plastic sealed bag)
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Small bottle hand sanitizer
- Pocketknife and/or fixed blade
- Compass
- Mole skin
- Warm & comfortable hiking cloth
- Layers (sweatshirt, jacket or sweater that can be removed during hike)
- Brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Warm hat and gloves (nights will have a chill)
- Rain gear
- Bungee cords (2) for securing items to your pack
- Pack cover or 2 large trash bags for rain cover
- **Optional:** Stuff sacks for easy cloth & gear storage in backpack
- **Optional:** Small hiking pillow or cloth in stuff sack works great too!

