



WILLISTOWN TROOP 78

Hiking Trip: Bear Creek Preserve – Camp Acahela

March 25 – 27, 2022

WHAT: Join us for a great early spring camping trip in the Pocono Mountains! We will be staying at BSA Camp Acahela (<https://nepabsa.org/weekendcamping/camp-acahela>) and then day-hiking at the beautiful, nearby, 3,600 acre Bear Creek Preserve (<https://natlands.org/bear-creek-preserve/>), which was formerly the mountain wilderness estate of the Haas family of Rohm and Haas fame. Patrol cooking follows our hiking, and an evening campfire with skits and songs will surely be part of the fun. A “do not miss” trip for all! Visiting Webelos: Please join us!

THE HIKES:

GRAY TRAIL TREK (for visiting Webelos and younger Scouts)

- 3.2 mile out-and-back hike along Shades Creek, through thick rhododendron. Beautiful views of the water, including several waterfalls. Varied terrain with some elevation. A great hike!

PURPLE TRAIL TREK (for senior Scouts and more experienced hikers)

7.3 mile “lollipop” hike that begins with lots of ups and downs, culminating in a hike to the high point of the preserve, with a descent into a low point that features a fascinating lake and dead tree forest. Varied terrain with fabulous scenery!

Trail map can be found at:

<https://natlands.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/BearCreekTrailGuide-2021-08-map.pdf>

IMPORTANT: All trekkers should wear synthetic or wool socks and hiking boots. See packing list.

DEPARTURE/RETURN SCHEDULE:

- Arrive at the cabin in time for a **6:00 PM departure on Friday night.**
- Arrive back at the cabin at approximately **11:30 AM on Sunday.**

Notify your Patrol Leader (by scanning and returning the attached form to him) by no later than Tuesday, March 22nd at 7:00 PM if you will be attending. Let your PL know if your father is attending as well. We recommend that you pack your gear in a backpack (not mandatory but there is a short hike in to Camp and it will be easier to carry your gear in a backpack). 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 Tuesday, March 22nd if you will need a backpack from the Troop! We will make arrangements for pick-up ahead of the scheduled Friday evening departure time.**

DADS WELCOME – AND NEEDED!

PLEASE BRING THE SIGNED PERMISSION SLIP AND CHECK FOR PAYMENT (FOR ADULTS FROM THE TROOP) WITH YOU ON FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH.

QUESTIONS? Contact your Patrol Leader.

Camp Aachela Hiking Trip Packing List

WHAT TO BRING:

BRING A MASK. Masks must be worn as directed by Troop leadership. "Mask" means a two-ply surgical mask; two-ply cloth mask; N-95 mask. A mask IS NOT a neck gaiter; a bandana or anything else. NO MASK, NO TRIP. Parents: YOU MAY NOT leave your son at the drop-off point until Troop leadership confirms that your son has a proper mask.

WEAR hiking boots

WEAR a jacket (**not just a sweatshirt**)

Backpack recommended for packing your gear – see prior page

Sleeping Bag (winter-rated. It will get cold at night!)

Warm sleep clothing, including knitted cap and clean socks

Small flashlight or headlamp, with good batteries

Two filled one QT/L water bottles or a full Camelbak/hydration system

Daypack for the hike

Plastic drinking cup

Toothbrush and toothpaste; soap (camping soap preferred)

Small bottle hand sanitizer

Pocketknife

Compass

Mole skin

Sneakers (to wear in camp, on in the event you have problems with your boots)

Wool or synthetic socks – wear a pair, bring TWO PAIRS

Change of clothes

Brimmed hat

Small container of sunscreen; Chapstick

Warm hat and gloves

Rain gear

Layers (sweatshirt or sweater that can be removed during hike)

Be Prepared: Check the weather at

<https://weather.com/weather/tenday/1/Blakeslee+PA?canonicalCityId=27e8d5cd8472ce434c39db a3d617357da8e974b0f1bb9eb6ad41e43aec8f6e35>

Troop 78 – Camp Aachela Hiking Trip Permission Form

Please complete and return this page on Friday evening of the trip per terms of handout. No signed handout – no bus ride!

Scout name and patrol (or indicate “Webelo” if applicable):

Adult attendee name: _____

E-mail address and MOBILE phone number: _____

Allergies – please indicate any food allergies, dietary restrictions (for religious, medical or social reasons) or other relevant allergies (e.g., bee stings, gluten, medications):

For Adults: Return form with a check made payable to: “Willistown Troop 78.” Registered Adults, \$25. Other Adults \$35. NO CHARGE FOR VISITING WEBELOS OR VISITING WEBELO FATHERS

For Non-Registered Adults: A copy of your YPT certificate, valid through at least December 31, 2022, must be attached to this form.

Troop 78 - Camp Aachela Hiking Trip Permission Form

If I am signing for a Scout: I am the parent/legal guardian of the Scout/guest named above, and my signature below constitutes my permission for my son to attend the March 25 – 27, 2022 Willistown Troop 78 camping trip. By signing this form, I represent that I have read the Troop 78 COVID-19 guidelines found [at this link](#), and commit that the person for whom I am signing this permission slip has also read, understands and will abide by those guidelines. Without limitation, **I am committing that my son will wear an appropriate mask** (as described in the Handout that accompanied this permission slip) **at all times required by Troop leadership**. My signature below also authorizes any registered Willistown Troop 78 leader in attendance to obtain medical treatment for my son if, in the discretion of such registered leader, such treatment is warranted. If my child cannot attend the trip for *any reason*, I promise that my son will contact both his Patrol Leader and Mr. Bennett (mobile number: 267 615 4236) no later than 2 hours before the scheduled departure time.

If I am an adult attendee: By signing this form, I represent that I have read the Troop 78 COVID-19 guidelines found [at this link](#), and commit that I understand and will abide by those guidelines. Without limitation, **I am committing that I will wear an appropriate mask** (as described in the Handout that accompanied this permission slip) **at all times required by Troop leadership**. My signature below also authorizes any registered Willistown Troop 78 leader in attendance to obtain medical treatment for me if, in the discretion of such registered leader, such treatment is warranted AND I am not able to grant consent to such treatment, in the opinion of that registered leader. If I cannot attend the trip for *any reason*, I promise that I will contact Jim Bennett (mobile number: 267 615 4236) no later than 2 hours before the scheduled departure time.

_____ Date of signature: _____

(parent signature, or signature of adult attendee if submitted by attending adult)