



TROOP FIVE
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
(www.troop5.net)

MOUNTAIN MAN in the CATSKILLS

LOCATION: A stretch of the Devil's Path at Devil's Tombstone State Campground (www.catskillhiker.com/peaks/hunter.shtml) at Hunter Mountain in the Catskills, New York.

DATE: Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18 and 19.

TIME: We will meet at the Reformed Church parking lot at 6:45AM in order to depart Bronxville at 7:00AM sharp to be at the trailhead by 9:15 a.m.

AGENDA: For Mountain Man 2008 we will scale Hunter Mountain, which at 4,040' is the second tallest peak in the Catskills, just behind Slide Mountain at 4,180'. Our trail head will start at about 1800' so our elevation gain will be about 2060'. The hike on Saturday will be 10 miles. The hike out on Sunday will be 3 miles.

The main focus for this trip is to give you a feel for true backpacking. That is, leaving one point in the morning, hiking for most of the day with a full pack, and reaching a destination in late afternoon or early evening. You will construct your own shelter, or sleep out under the stars. *No tents!* You will buy and prepare all of your own meals individually. Be sure to have the astronaut emergency blanket as well as all of your own cooking and water purification gear. The Troop will not be supplying any equipment for this trip. Do not forget rain gear! Make no mistake - on this trip, anything you leave in the car will stay there until Sunday morning when the trip is over.

TRANSPORTATION: You must call the Troop's transportation chairman, Elizabeth Engros (Hm# 961-3922, Fax 771-7793 or Email EENGROS@AOL.COM), **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15** if you need a ride or if your parents are going on the trip or are willing to drive. Be sure to be at the Church parking lot well *before* it is time to leave. Don't get left behind!

COST: \$25 - to be received by the Oct. 6 Troop meeting. You will purchase & cook your own food.

WATER: There are no water faucets of any kind where we will be. A good idea is to *start* with at least two quarts in your pack. Any water that you do not bring yourself will have to be drawn from a stream or pond and treated with either a purifier or iodine. No problem! Sharing one of these will not only save some weight, it will save the time of one person pumping water for everyone every time we cross a stream. If you plan on doing any backpacking in the future, you should get to know either one of these well. Both purifiers and iodine are available at EMS.

FOOD: You will purchase your own food and prepare it yourself. You can bring your own stove or share one with another scout. Don't plan on cooking over a fire. Depending on where we camp, a **fire may not be an option**. You must have your own mess kit and utensils. Use your imagination! Consider freeze dried meals that you can buy at EMS; they are light and tasty. There are canned, dried, or packaged versions of just about all perishable foods.

GEAR AND ACCOMMODATIONS: All gear and food must fit into your backpack or be securely fastened to the outside! Do not carry anything that you feel that you can do without. Even the lightest objects start to get heavy after a distance. For a list of the essential equipment see your Scout Handbook and or Fieldguide. A ground pad and survival blanket is essential! **No tents!** Bring a warm hat to sleep in and a full change of clothes. The Troop will be **NOT** be supplying tents, dining flies or cook kits. Stoves and utensils will **not** be supplied by the Troop.

DIRECTIONS:

Devil's Tombstone State Campground
Route 214, Hunter, NY 12442

NYS Thruway (I-87) north to Saugerties, Exit 20.

West (left) on Route 212/32 a quarter mile to the Junction with Rte. 32.

North (right) on Rte. 32 to Saxon and the Junction with Rte. 32A.

West (left) on Rte. 32A to Palenville and the Junction with Rte. 23A.

West (left) on Rte. 23A to the Junction with Rte. 214 (about 2 miles past Tannersville).

South (left) on Rte. 214 about 2 ½ miles to the campground.

Patrol Leaders - This trip is different than our usual format. Be sure that your patrol members are prepared!

Camp Setup Jobs: Construct your shelters near each other. No tents allowed!

Cooking Jobs: You are on your own. Each Scout will prepare all of his own meals.

Food shopping: Each Scout is on his own and will purchase his own food. See the above section on water.

Transportation: Transportation will be coordinated by our own Elizabeth Engros (Hm# 961-3922). Do not wait until the last minute!

Have Questions or Need Ideas? Call your patrol leader or Paul Sturr @ 779-6044

Be Prepared or Be Square!