



Scout Unit Trip Planning Tips

Every Scout leader should consider some basic planning tips when it comes to preparing for a Scouting outing or trip. A great resource for health and safety is this page of the National BSA website

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety.aspx> which includes comprehensive information to help you “Be Prepared” for your trip. Consulting the Guide to Safe Scouting and following the Sweet 16 of BSA Safety as a start will help you plan for a safe trip or outing. Both are found at the above link.

Below are some more suggestions:

1. Itinerary - Do you have an Itinerary for the event that includes destination, routes, campsite, float plans (if applicable), etc? Who can you share a copy with prior to departure?
2. Transportation – How will you travel and what precautions have you considered including auto insurance coverage and valid licenses for drivers?
3. Activities & Training - What activities will the unit participate in? Swimming, boating, climbing, ropes course, wilderness backcountry, shooting sports, etc? Are adults and youth properly trained in the basic skills to have a successful trip? Reference Guide to Safe Scouting for training needs.
4. First Aid - Who is your designated first aid adult or responsible youth member? If you are going on a backcountry trip where you could be days away from medical care, you should have a wilderness first aid trained person along with a CPR trained person. Have you packed a first aid kit?
5. Adult Supervision – Do you have at least two adults, one of whom is 21 or older? Have both completed youth protection training? Coed Venturing crews must have both male and female leaders older than 21 for overnight activities.
6. Annual Health and Medical Record – do you have a copy for each participant that you can bring along on the outing or trip?
7. Do you have an emergency family contact for every participant on the trip?
8. Do you have a medication plan for any youth participant that needs prescription medication?
9. Activities – ensure you are not conducting any unauthorized Scouting activities by consulting the online Guide to Safe Scouting at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS.aspx>

