



Boy Scout Troop 73 Small Pack Inventory

Chartered by St Luke's Knights of Columbus – Ankeny

www.ankenytroop73.org



Troop 73 Scouts will “Be Prepared” at every meeting, and at every outing, with their “Be Prepared Pack”. Your Pack can be in the form of a fanny pack, school bag, day pack, etc. It should be big enough to carry your Scout Handbook and several items listed below. Some items may need to be stored in moisture proof containers / zip-lock baggies to keep dry or avoid leakage in your pack.

BRING YOUR SMALL PACK TO EVERY TROOP MEETING, ACTIVITY, CAMPOUT, etc., (except for Courts of Honor or otherwise instructed).

This Pack is also a great place to store your Troop neckerchief & slide between meetings, and while on campouts, when you aren't wearing it. The neckerchief may come in handy for use in administering First Aid!

The BSA 10 Essentials:

1. A **POCKET KNIFE** (presumably more than just a knife, a Swiss Army knife or Multi-tool for example) can come in handy in a wide variety of situations. It is useful for tasks as large as building an emergency shelter or lighting a campfire with poor fuel, or as small as repairing a damaged backpack.
2. A **FIRST AID KIT** can be a lifesaver. A basic kit for first aid might include adhesive bandages, medical tape, sterile gauze, moleskin, soap, antiseptic, a mouth-barrier device for CPR, and scissors.
3. **EXTRA CLOTHING** to match the weather. Multiple layers are superior to a single massive jacket, because layered clothing is adaptable to a wide range of temperatures.
4. **RAIN GEAR** is very important. Being wet from rain may result in hypothermia, a potentially fatal condition and it should be carried year round.
5. A **FLASHLIGHT** is, of course, important for finding one's way at night. Consider an LED headlamp for longer battery life and hands free operation. Doing tasks at night allows for hands free operation of a head lamp.
6. **TRAIL FOOD** is good for maintaining your energy. However, the human body can reportedly survive for weeks without food, so starving to death should be the least of your worries if you become lost in the wilderness.
7. **WATER** is probably the most important of the 10 Essentials. Dehydration may develop into heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Portable water purifiers and water stills may be used to obtain potable water from virtually any source. Troop 73 recommends bringing Qty 2 – 1 Qt water bottles on all outdoor activities.
8. **MATCHES AND/OR FIRE STARTER KIT** may be used to light fires for heat, or for signaling purposes.
9. **SUN PROTECTION** may include sunblock, sunglasses, lip balm and a wide-brimmed hat. Used properly, it will prevent sunburn and possibly heat exhaustion.
10. **TRAIL MAP & COMPASS** are probably the most important tools one can carry in case of getting lost, *but they won't be of any use to someone who does not know how to use them.* In knowledgeable hands, they can be used to determine one's location and the best route to reach another location.

Troop 73 Additions

1. **SCOUT HANDBOOK** must be in your pack at all times. You will need this book at troop meetings and on campouts.
2. **ROPE**, a 6 ft. piece of braided 1/4" nylon preferred. Rope ends are to be fused (this can be done as a troop or patrol activity). This rope is referred to as “MR. ROPE”. Also consider a second rope, 50' of paracord.
3. **TOTIN' CHIP CARD** will be earned by completing the requirements in your Scout Handbook. This card **MUST BE WITH YOU** at any time that you are using a pocket knife, ax, and saw. Refer to your Scout Handbook for details. Once earned, you may want to laminate your Totin' Chip card to protect it. If you abuse the safety rules, you will lose your card, and you will have to re-earn it!!
4. **KNIFE SHARPENER** to be used to sharpen your pocket knife as necessary. Whet stone or twin “stick” style are preferred.
5. **PAPER & PENCIL** are critical for you to Be Prepared. You will need these items at troop meetings and campouts for taking meeting notes, field notes, merit badge work, or even during an emergency.
6. **LEATHER WORK GLOVES** for use on service projects and other activities to protect your hands.
7. **HAND SANITIZER** for when you cannot immediately wash your hands. This can be in the form of a small travel size container, or “wipes”. Store in moisture proof container to avoid leakage in your pack.
8. **INSECT REPELLENT** is a **MUST** item to carry during insect season. Store in moisture proof container to avoid leakage in your pack.
9. **CARABINEER CLIPS** – Carabineers can be used to clip many items to your belt / belt loops, or pack; such as your flashlight, water bottle, etc.