

Scout Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

# WILDERNESS SURVIVAL

## Merit Badge Requirements



- 1) Show that you know first aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses likely to occur in backcountry settings, including hypothermia, heat reactions, frostbite, dehydration, blisters, insect stings, tick bites, and snakebites.
- 2) From memory, list the seven priorities for survival in a backcountry or wilderness location. Explain the importance of each one with your counselor.
- 3) Describe ways to avoid panic and maintain a high level of morale when lost, and explain why this is important.
- 4) Describe the steps you would take to survive in the following conditions:
  - A) Cold and Snowy
  - B) Wet (forest)
  - C) Hot and Dry (desert)
  - D) Windy (mountains or plains)
  - E) Water (ocean, lake or river)
- 5) Put together a personal survival kit and explain how each item in it could be useful.
- 6) Using three different methods (other than matches), build and light three fires.
- 7) Do the following:
  - A) Show five different ways to attract attention when lost.
  - B) Demonstrate how to use a signal mirror.
  - C) Describe from memory five ground-to-air signals and tell what they mean.
- 8) Improvise a natural shelter. For the purpose of this demonstration, use techniques that have little negative impact on the environment. Spend a night in your shelter.
- 9) Explain how to protect yourself from insects, reptiles, and bears.
- 10) Demonstrate three ways to treat water found in the outdoors to prepare it for drinking.
- 11) Show that you know the proper clothing to wear in your area on an overnight in extremely hot weather and in extremely cold weather.
- 12) Explain why it usually is not wise to eat edible wild plants or wildlife in a wilderness survival situation.

## Requirement 1

Show that you know first aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses likely to occur in backcountry settings. Include the following:

Hypothermia: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Heat reactions: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Frostbite: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dehydration: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Blisters: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insect stings: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tick bites: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Snakebites: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 2

From memory, list the seven priorities for survival in the backcountry or wilderness location. Explain the importance of each one with your counselor.

Priorities for backcountry/wilderness:

Explain the importance:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Priorities for backcountry/wilderness:

Explain the importance:

3) \_\_\_\_\_

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4) \_\_\_\_\_

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5) \_\_\_\_\_

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6) \_\_\_\_\_

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7) \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_ Demonstrate to your counselor that you have memorized these priorities.

### Requirement 3

What are some ways to avoid *panic* when lost? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are some ways to maintain a high level of morale when you are lost? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why is this important: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Requirement 4

Describe the steps you would take to survive in the following conditions:

Cold & Snowy: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Wet (Forest): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hot & Dry (Desert): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Windy (Mountains or Plains): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Water (Ocean ,Lake or River): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 5

Put together a personal survival kit. Be able to explain how *each* item in it is useful. List some of the items below with a description of its usefulness.

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 6

Show that you can start fires using three methods other than matches. Describe these methods below:

Method 1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Method 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Method 3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 7

Do the following:

A) Tell five different ways of attracting attention when lost:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B) Show your merit badge counselor how to use a signal mirror. Give a brief summary of the process: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

From memory, you need to describe 5 international ground-to-air signals and tell what they mean. To help you learn, use this area to draw them and list the meaning.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Requirement 8**

Improvise a natural shelter. For the purpose of this demonstration, use techniques that have little negative impact on the environment.

Give a brief summary of how you did this: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Show this shelter to your leader or your merit badge counselor and explain how and why you built it the way you did. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you spend a night in your shelter?

**Requirement 9**

How would you protect yourself from:

Insects: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Reptiles: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bears: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

