Hello campers!

 Next weekend's Beaver Brook camp-out looks to be a great adventure and chance for some winter fun.  With that in mind, here are some details and some suggestions.

 1 We will meet at the Miller School at 3:00 PM on Friday afternoon. We need to leave pretty quickly to ensure we are all set before sundown.

 2. We will return around noon on Sunday, again back at Miller School.

 3. The boys paid $30 for food already.  But we need to collect an additional $20 for the cabin and the snowshoe program.  Larry Litchfield will be sending out the permission slip soon.  Both will be collected at Thursday's meeting.

 4. We have about a little more than a one-third (1/3) of a mile hike from the cars to the cabins in the snow.  This is a little different than what we have done recently.  The boys need to be able to carry their personal gear in a pack or bag of some sort, such that everything is transported in a single trip.  Going back and forth to the cars/trailer will be difficult and discouraged.

 5. We will have the use of the Klondike sleds, but those will be mostly used for transporting troop gear, like patrol boxes, water cubes and food coolers.  Don't assume there will be room on the sleds for personal gear.

 6. Obviously, the boys have to be prepared for the weather,  There is deep snow and cold all around (although the cabins are wood-stove heated).  The boys NEED to be dressed in layers, waterproof outer layer (coat and pants) and BOOTS.  They should have layers enough for the 3 days we are there.  They would benefit from having extra hats and gloves as well, as those tend to get wet.

 7.  There is NO electricity and NO running water there.  Make sure your flashlights are working and have batteries,  We will have troop lanterns and the big water cubes available,

 8.  Boys should bring their own mess kits and cups/mugs.  We have to carry out any trash and need to minimize the amount and therefore will not be supplying paper/plastic products.

 9.  On the subject of paper products.  There IS one porta-toilet at the campsite that we can use.  However, the boys should probably bring some toilet paper just in case.

 10.  In the past, scouts have brought sleds to both help transport gear and to have some fun on during the weekend.   If you have one, you can bring one.

As usual, check the troops website links for essential camping and specific winter camping gear.

<http://westfordtroop95.com/lists-links-and-alike/essential-outdoor-gear/>

<http://westfordtroop95.com/lists-links-and-alike/extra-winter-camping-gear/>

 If I or other leaders think of anything else, I'll let you know!

Looking forward to it!

Brian Nolan