

Cold Weather Camping

C-O-L-D This is the scouting acronym for keeping warm.

C Keep clothing and bedding CLEAN

O Avoid OVERHEATING. Ventilate and avoid perspiration.

L Clothing and bedding should be in LAYERS.

D Stay DRY. This is most important. Avoid perspiration. Wear waterproof clothing.

REQUIRED CLOTHING. SCOUTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND ANY COLD WEATHER CAMP OUT UNLESS THEY BRING AND USE ALL THIS GEAR. THIS RULE IS FOR THEIR SAFETY AND COMFORT.

Please remember that wool and polypropylene (abbreviated below as poly) are the best fabrics for warmth because they wick moisture away from the body to keep you DRY.

Please AVOID COTTON. Cotton lacks warmth and holds moisture against skin.

Please remember this gear supplements the essential gear listed on the regular campout information sheet.

- Two pairs of wool socks preferably with poly liners
- Long underwear, preferably wool or poly
- Flannel shirt or sweater, preferably wool or poly
- Winter jacket
- Rain poncho or rain jacket
- Warm pants, preferably wool or poly
- Wind pants, nylon type
- Insulated boots, preferably waterproof
- Stocking cap, preferably wool or poly
- Face protection (facemask, scarf, or gaiter)
- Two pairs of gloves
- Closed cell sleeping pad or air mattress (if your pad is open cell foam rubber, bring cardboard or newspaper to put underneath. Most body heat is lost through conduction into the ground.)
- Your winter weather sleeping bag should be good to 5 degrees. Alternatively, bring an extra bag and double bag them. If your sleeping bag does not have a built in hood, bring a hooded sweatshirt and scarf.
- Make sure you also have a waterproof ground cloth for inside your tent.