



Troop 285 Quartermaster

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Job Description

- My job as **Quartermaster** is to keep track of troop equipment and see that it is in good working order. I will keep records on patrol/troop equipment, makes sure equipment is in good working condition, and issue equipment and makes sure it is returned in good condition.

Troop items available to checkout

- Tents
- Tarps
- Cots
- Backpacks
- Sleeping Bags

Gear Maintenance Tips

Tent

After using a tent on a campout

- Sweep out the inside
- Wash off any dirt or mud
- Check for any damage
- Immediately open tent when you get home to ensure it is totally dry before you repack it. If it is wet and rolled up it will mildew and will have to be thrown away
- Fold the tent instead of stuffing it
- Fix any damage with duct tape, seam sealer or whatever is needed
- If your tent was leaking from rain may need to reapply waterproofing



Gear Maintenance Tips

Sleeping Bags



- Avoid compressing your bag for an extended period as it will reduce the bag's loft limiting its insulating capacity
- Air out the sleeping bag after use
- If it needs to be washed use a front loader washing machine and not an agitator type machine.

Gear Maintenance Tips

Cooking Stove



- Clean your camp stove and utensils thoroughly with warm water and soap. Make sure to get all food residue off the inside and outside of the stove, or you could have an ant party on your hands.
- Store your cooking stove fuel in a cool, dry location.

Gear Maintenance Tips

Sleeping Pad



- Self-inflating mattress pads should be stored flat - not rolled up - with the valve open. Long-term storage in a stuff sack will limit the pad's ability to inflate

Gear Maintenance Tips

Backpack



- Give your hiking pack a thorough cleaning when you have some downtime between outings.
- Use a vacuum on the inside of your pack, and then wipe down the outside with a damp cloth and mild soap or chemical-free detergent.
- Hose it off with cold water until no soap remains, and hang-dry your pack upside down in a shady or well-ventilated spot out of the sun.

Gear Maintenance Tips

Water Reservoirs



- When not in use, uncap your bladders and bottles to maintain air flow
- Use hot water and 2 tablespoons of baking soda or bleach. Mix the solution inside your reservoir and hold it up above your head while you pinch the bite valve, allowing the bleached water to run through the tube.
- Let the reservoir and cleaning solution sit for about 30 minutes.
- Wash the reservoir with hot water and mild soap. Be sure to completely rinse away any bleach or cleaning solution before using again.
- Once the reservoir is clean, be sure to air dry the reservoir so no moisture is trapped inside, which can cause mold to grow.

Gear Maintenance Tips

Boots



- At the end of the season, clean and waterproof your hiking boots.
- Remove the laces and insoles before cleaning
- Do not use bar soap or detergents
- A brush and some water are the basic tools.
- Remove insoles/inserts after a hike to permit the whole boot to dry.
- Do not expose boots to excessive heat

Gear Maintenance Tips

Dutch ovens



- Check the Dutch ovens, if they have rust or smell rancid then they will have to be re-seasoned (coated with oil).
 - Instructions on how to properly season a Dutch oven will be put on the troop's website
- The correct way to store a Dutch oven is to roll a paper towel into a pencil shape and place between the lid and oven to create air flow.
- To cook with a Dutch oven remember to use two charcoal briquettes for each 25 degrees of temperature needed
- The normal formula for **Baking at 350 degrees** is to use twice the number of briquettes as the diameter of the oven with 3/4 of them on the lid.
- For **Frying**, use the same number of coals as the diameter of the oven with all of them underneath.

Gear Maintenance Tips

Battery powered device (flashlights, fans)



- Remove batteries so they will not leak acid in device

Gear Maintenance Tips

Knife



- Keep your knife dry; that means the entire knife, not just the blade.
- Keep your knife clean, particularly moving parts and locking devices.
- Keep your knife oiled; especially pivot points and the blade.
 - Occasionally oil the joints and springs of a pocket knife with a drop or two of oil
 - Wipe the blades now and then with an oil-moistened cloth to prevent rust
- Keep your knife sharp; a sharp blade is safer than a dull one.

Patrol Gear

- Each patrol has a locker that has cooking supplies, 2 Dutch ovens and possibly some other items.

Activities

- Activity 1 - Each patrol will inventory their patrol locker
- Activity 2 - Patrol will set up and take down 2 tents
- Activity 3 - Patrol will place imitation charcoal on a Dutch oven to cook a meal at 375 degrees and fry a meal.
- Activity 4 - sew a rip in fabric with needle and thread