

Northwest District, Montana Council, Scouting America



2026 Klondike Winter Camporee

THE WESTWARD TRAIL

WHEN: January 16th to 18th, 2026

WHERE: Coram (Martin City) Montana

WHO: Scouts & Adult Leaders in Northwest District

COST: \$25 per attendee (Scout & adult)

\$15 for an Arrow of Light Cub (Saturday ONLY)

REGISTRATION DUE: December 20, 2025

REGISTRATION MUST BE SUBMITTED A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EVENT.
REGISTRATION ONLINE ONLY. NO LATE REGISTRATION PERMITTED.

Warm-up Saturday night with the return of
The Beast Feast

Questions please contact:

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WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Klondike is a 2-night winter campout.

Troops are expected to camp both Friday & Saturday nights.

FRIDAY – January 16th

- 2:00p to 7:00p – Arrival & Setup
- 5:30p to 7:30 – Troop Registration Check-in (includes med form check)
- 7:30p – SPL & Leaders Meeting
- 8:00p – Flag Retirement (for those who have completed campsite set-up)

SATURDAY – January 17th

- 8:00a to 8:30a – AOL Cub Check-in
- 8:30a to 9:10a – Klondike Check-in Activities
 - Sled Inspections
 - Skit Submissions for Campfire
 - Troop Photos
- 9:15a – Opening Flags & Announcements
- 9:45a – *travel time*
- 10:00 – First Station
- 10:30a – *travel time*
- 10:45a – Second Station
- 11:15a – *travel time*
- 11:30a – Third Station
- Noon – Trail Cooking Lunch
- 12:45p – *travel time*
- 1:00p – Fourth Station
- 1:30p – *travel time*
- 1:45p – Fifth Station
- 2:15p – *travel time*
- 2:30p – Final Station
- 3:00p – End of Stations
- 3:15p – Sled Race & Tug-o-War
- 4:15p – Troop Time
- 5:15p – Closing Flags
- 5:30p – **The Beast Feast**
- 6:30p – Campfire, skits, smores, and awards

SUNDAY – January 18th

- 7:00a to 8:15a – Break Camp
- 10:00a – Have a Safe Trip Home!



Kansas River Crossing: Ravine Crossing: Using ropes, the patrol must get their sled and all members across a simulated ravine or creek bed without touching the ground.

Injuries & Ailments: First Aid: A patrol leader or member is "injured" or "sick" with a period-appropriate ailment. The patrol must build a stretcher out of available materials and properly treat and transport the patient.

Water Sourcing: Kettle Boil: Patrols must find and "purify" a source of water using water purification methods from their handbook. Patrols must build a fire with materials that a person could be reasonably expected to carry on The Oregon Trail and boil a can of water.

Winter Camping: Shelter Building: Patrols use their winter camping gear, tarps, and ropes to build an emergency shelter, protecting a scout from the elements.

Fur Trapping: FWP: Instructions on handling furs and traps, featuring guidelines for setting up and utilizing snare traps for small game species.

Finding a Landmark: Blindfold Obstacle Course: The patrol must navigate their sled through an obstacle course. Only the patrol leader can see, and they must give verbal instructions to their blindfolded teammates.

The A to Z's of Klondike

Arrival

Troops are invited to arrive any time after 2:00p on Friday to begin setting up their campsite. It gets dark about 5:00p. If arriving after, please plan to set-up in the dark.

Bathrooms

There will be port-a-potties available around the loop. Please stress to the scouts to keep them cleaned up and not write on them. Please respect the donated privy's. *A Scout is Clean!*

Campfire (Saturday evening)

All Troops are encouraged to participate in Saturday night's campfire. There will be smores available for all Klondike participants. SPL's should be prepared to submit their Troops skits Saturday morning for approval and inclusion in the campfire program.

Camping Suggestions

There will be straw available that can be used under tents. About ½ bale of straw is sufficient for a 3–4-man tent. It is recommended that you use an additional tarp under the tent to reduce moisture from the snow. Troops must sign-up for the number of bales they will need. Please only request the minimum amount to meet your needs.

An easy-up or other large tent for cooking is a must have. It is hard enough to snow camp without snow falling on your food while cooking. A second easy-up or large tent makes a nice shelter for a Troop area.

Snow camping is a bit of a specialized skill. Here are a few notes:

- Always sleep with a knit cap on.
- Always sleep with fresh socks. The socks you wore all day are damp.
- Always sleep in fresh clothes that are completely dry. What you wore during the day has absorbed moisture.
- Consider sleeping with lightweight cotton gloves on.
- Cotton is fine for sleeping, NOT for daywear. Avoid it during the day as much as possible.

Check-in's

There are two different "check-in's". The first is Friday night, beginning at 5:30p. This is a Troop registration check-in. *ALL participants must be present.* At this time current medical forms will be verified for all participants and any outstanding fees settled.

The second check-in is Saturday morning. At that time there will be sled inspections and troop photos. This is also the time SPL's should submit skits for campfire.

Fire Rules

- Fire pans are required for all fires!
- Acceptable fire-starting materials while "on the trail" should be those that a person could be reasonably expected to carry routinely on The Oregon Trail.

Flags

There will be an opening flag ceremony Saturday morning and a closing flag ceremony before dinner on Saturday. Troops are encouraged to bring their Troop flags.

Flag Retirement

There will be a flag retirement ceremony on Friday evening. All Scouts and Scouters are invited to participate. Class A uniforms are required. *A Scout is Reverent!*

Location

The location is a large open field that is about ½ mile across and has trees and a mountain on the far side. The field will have a large loop plowed to create a path for vehicles.

Each troop will be assigned a plowed out square area, usually 50ft square or more. It will be plowed, but not down to the dirt, probably snow and grass.

Usually, we park in the squares, but if the road is wide enough, we can park along the road. There is a parking lot as you come in the gate for guests and the Webelos parents when they come up on Saturday morning.

Meals

Troops are required to bring food for ALL meals that take place during Klondike except the **Beast Feast** Saturday night. Donations towards the meal (wild game) should be given to Scoutmaster Marc DeLong from Troop 1933. Phone (406) 261-9903

Medical Forms

All participants must have current BSA med forms parts A & B. No exceptions. Medical forms will be verified during Troop check-in Friday night. Anyone without current med forms will be asked to leave and return after they have them.

Registration

Registration is due on or before December 20, 2025. No late registration will be permitted. All registration is being done online.

Score Card

There will be NO scorecards this year. Patrols will earn gold nuggets at each station. The better the patrol does, the more gold nuggets they will collect. The three patrols that collect the most gold will be our winners.

GUIDANCE FOR STATION LEADERS

1. Did every member of the Troop/Patrol participate in the challenge?
2. Did the Troop/Patrol successfully complete the challenge?
3. Did the Troop/Patrol complete the challenge in a timely manner?
4. Did all Scouts show positive Scout Spirit and follow the Scout Oath & Law?

Sled Inspection

Sleds will be inspected to ensure that there are no critical repairs needed.

Sled Inventory

All sleds must carry the following items:

- ☐ Water for everyone + extra. Consider a cooler to help keep water from freezing.
- ☐ Lunch for your entire Troop/Patrol + the station leader. This is a cooking challenge.
- ☐ A way to cook your lunch; wood & fire starter, a quick boil style stove, etc..
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ A clipboard for your score card plus a pen.
- ☐ The personal gear for each member of your Troop/Patrol. Each Scout must carry the 10-Scout Essentials listed in your handbook.
- ☐ Sturdy rope so each Scout can pull
- ☐ Wood and other supplies for fire building including a fire pan.

Sled Race

A sled will have a minimum of 4 scouts and maximum of 8, in a traditional “dogsledding” configuration.

- One scout riding in the sled – the Rider.
- One scout behind the sled, pushing, giving directions, “steering” – the Driver.
- The rest up front pulling the sled – the Dog Team.
- If you don’t have enough scouts (at least 4), you can borrow from other patrols if they are willing.

Strategy comes into play with the selection and placement of the above patrol members. Not only in the running of the race, but in the completion of the challenge below.

- All scouts must maintain contact with the sled at all times.
 - Riding and pushing are easy to maintain contact with the sled.
 - The rest should have some ropes to pull on that they can hold on to.
 - If a scout should lose contact (drop a rope, fall out of sled, etc.), the sled must stop to allow them to regain their contact to the sled before continuing.

Straw / Hay

We will have straw (special weed free certified straw) that can be used under tents. About ½ bale of straw is good for a 3-4 man tent. It is recommended that you used an additional tarp under the tent to reduce moisture from the snow coming up. Troops need to sign up for the number of bales of straw they want, please use only what you need.– Must have bale count turned in by Jan. 5th .

Trail Cooking Challenge

1. Troops/Patrols must cook a hot lunch during Saturdays Klondike challenge at the station they are at during the Noon hour.
2. The meal must include a vegetable.
3. Instant food is NOT allowed. (instant hot cocoa is an exception)
4. NO boxed mac & cheese, hot dogs, or top ramen style noodles.
5. Troops/Patrols can gather prior to Klondike to prep food for their lunch. (chop vegetables, cook meat) This will help save time.
6. There will be a small fire at each station, but Scouts must start their own fire if they intend to cook with it.
7. Troops must plan to feed the station leaders. Your meal will be judged on how well your Troop/Patrol works together and follows the rules.
8. This is a Pass or Fail challenge.

Troop Photos

Troop photos will be available to download on the district BAND app the same day.

What to Wear

ALL participants must wear snowpants and waterproof boots. ALL must be equipped with a warm winter coat (waterproof preferred), winter gloves, and a knit cap. No Scout will be allowed to participate without proper clothing.

How to Get There

