INTO THE WOODS

LEADER'S GUIDE

October 2nd - October 4, 2026

Welcome to AOL
Into the Woods Weekend!

Dear Scouts & Scouters:

The AOL year is a transition period into the greater adventure of Scouting with a Troop. Thank you for being here for the Arrows of Light. Thank you for being here for their futures as Scouts, and for the future of Scouting in New Hampshire. Into the Woods is a BIG step on the trail for the AOLs and Pack and Troop Leaders --both the Adults and the Youth members-- are influential guides on their journey. The transition from the Cub Scout Pack to the Scout Troop should be as routine and seamless as the transition from elementary school to middle school. It's expected and welcomed, and eagerly anticipated. Cheerful and Friendly support and guidance this weekend will help make crossing over to a Troop that much easier for our Arrows of Light. Thank you. Because of YOU, this weekend will show the AOLs that their Scouting adventure is just beginning and about to take off.

Welcome to Into the Woods weekend. We hope that all of you have a great time and enjoy the opportunities presented by the Land Made for Scouting, Griswold Scout Reservation.

Our staff has worked diligently to make this event an enjoyable and safe endeavor. We only ask that you respect the property and those of the individuals around you.

Enjoy the offerings, and hopefully you will walk away with some requirements done, or a start on an Adventure or rank requirements…. But most of all we want you to have fun, make new friends and enjoy what scouting means to all of us.

See you soon.

Sincerely,
The Into the Woods Weekend Committee
Contact Information: nhintothewoods@gmail.com

DIRECTIONS TO GSR

DIRECTIONS: GPS Coordinates: 43.47684, -71.32334

Griswold Scout Reservation, 2 Eileen Shore Rd, Gilmanton Iron Works, NH 03837

Points East, Southeast or Northeast: Take the most convenient route to Alton NH. Turn west onto Route 140, go 5.6 miles to Gilmanton Iron Works Village. Points North, South and West: Route 93 to Exit 20 to Route 140 toward Belmont to Gilmanton.

ROUTE ONE:

· Traveling West on Rt. 140, after the Gilmanton IW Village: go .3 miles and turn right onto Crystal Lake Road.

· Traveling East on Rt. 140 After crossing Rt. 107 go 6.3 miles on Rt. 140 and turn left onto Crystal Lake Road.

· Soon after turning onto Crystal Lake Road, bear left at the fork, travel 3 miles and turn right onto Places Mill Road. Travel ½ mile and turn left into the Griswold Scout Reservation Entrance.

Follow the internal camp signs for HIDDEN VALLEY

ROUTE TWO:

· Traveling West on Rt. 140, after the Gilmanton IW Village: go .3 miles and turn right onto Crystal Lake road.

· Traveling East on Rt. 140 After crossing Rt. 107 go 6.3 miles on Rt. 140 and turn left onto Crystal Lake Road.

· Soon after turning onto Crystal Lake Road, bear right at the fork onto Mountain Road. Travel 1.2 miles and at the end of the road, turn left onto Mountain Road, which turns into Avery Hill Road. Follow road 2.4 miles and turn left onto Places Mill Road. Griswold Scout Reservation entrance is .9 miles on the right.

Follow the internal camp signs for HIDDEN VALLEY

EVENT SCHEDULE

Subject to change

FRIDAY, October 2nd

3:00 PM	Unit Arrivals begin
	Trailers must be at campsites by 5PM for youth safety
6:00 PM	Check in starts – Administrative Building
8:30 PM	*Cracker Barrel & Leader Meeting – Gilbert Hall
10:00 PM	Taps

SATURDAY, October 3rd

6:30 AM	Reveille
7:00 AM	Day Check-in – Administrative Building
	Breakfast at campsite (Troops and AOL Dens cook on their own or partner up)
	Troops Prep stations before Opening flags
8:30 AM	Opening – Parade field
9:00 AM-12:00 PM	Morning programs (All stations Open)
12:00 PM	Lunch – Provided to Packs (Troops provide their own)
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Afternoon Program (All stations Open)
3:00 PM	OA Trading Post will open, featuring root beer, gear, patches and corn hole.
5:00 PM	Dinner at campsite (Troops and AOL Dens cook on their own or partner up)
6:30 PM	Evening Program – Council ring
8:30 PM	**Cracker Barrel for all scouts (Snacks provided) – Gilbert Hall
	Den Chief Training (session 1)
10:00 PM	Taps

SUNDAY, October 4th

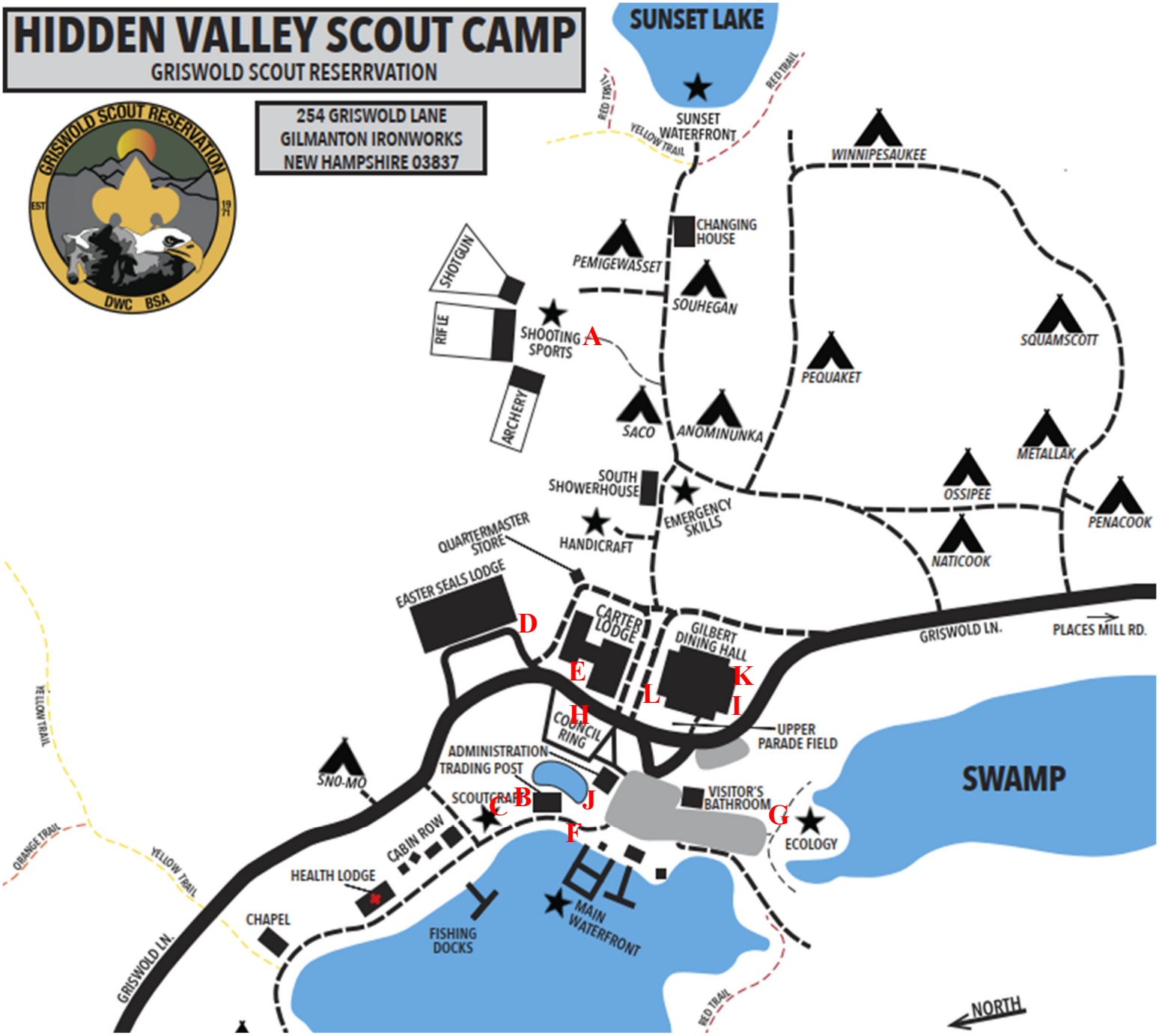
6:30 AM	Reveille
7:00 AM	Tow vehicles allowed to move to campsite
8:30 AM	Interfaith Service – Council Ring (Duty to God Requirement)
9:00 - 11:00 AM	<u>Morning Program</u>
	Conservation Project (AOL / Troops) – Council ring
	Hike: Meet at the field between Admin and Trading Post
	Den Chief Training (session 2)
	Rifle shooting (Scouts BSA / Crews) – Ranges
11:00 AM	Departure

* Mandatory that an SPL and buddy and the SM attend this meeting. There will be sign-ups and last-minute adjustments based on weather, terrain and unforeseen circumstances.

** Highly recommended the same leadership attends to receive departure instructions, last minute changes and we promise to have snacks and beverages.

STATION LOCATIONS:

A.	BB Guns & Archery	Shooting Sports
B.	Personal Fitness	Sunday AM Only - Meet for Hike between Scoutcraft and Trading post
C.	Outdoor Adventurer	Scoutcraft
D.	First Aid	Handicraft Pavilion (left of Carter Lodge)
E.	High Tech Outdoors	Carter Lodge
F.	Fishing	Trading Post picnic tables
G.	Into the Woods	Ecology
H.	Duty to God	Sunday AM Only - Council Ring
I.	GAGA Ball	Field to the Right of Gilbert (front)
J.	Jello Obstacle course	Field next to Admin
K.	Ham Radio Intro	Field to the Right of Gilbert (back)
L.	Colonial Games: Graces	Field to the Left of Gilbert



Fee and Associated Costs

Fee Type	AOL Scout	Adult partner of a AOL Scout
Weekend	$30.00	$15.00

GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

REFUNDS: Due to the nature of this event, the significant planning required, and expense involved, no refunds will be issued due to the large amount of planning required for an event of this type and size. No exceptions.

GUIDE TO SAFE SCOUTING: Scouting America New Hampshire, Griswold Scout Reservation (GSR)/Hidden Valley Scout Reservation (HVSR) and the AOL Into the Woods Staff wants to insure a safe and healthy event for all participants. The AOL Into the Woods Staff will follow all guidelines and procedures as outlined in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

PROGRAMS RESTRICTIONS: Due to the nature of some activities and events, certain age limits or participation limit restrictions have been placed on some events. This is to ensure a safe activity for all participating. Specific guidelines will be posted in the upcoming Program Guide for activities or events requiring certain restrictions.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS: Scouting America New Hampshire and GSR, its agents, staff, and volunteers and those associated, will not be responsible for lost, stolen or replacement of personal belongings. Care should be taken when determining what items of value to bring to the event.

LOST & FOUND: A Lost & Found claim area will be located in the Headquarters Area. If you find an item, please turn it in to the AOL Into the Woods' Headquarters. Lost items may be claimed at the AOL Into the Woods' Headquarters located in the Admin Building.

CELL PHONE AND DEVICE CHARGING: No charging stations will be available during the event. Participants must also refrain from using any electrical outlets at GSR for charging phones or other devices. Please plan accordingly.

BUDDY SYSTEM: The buddy system **must** be used at all times for scouts.

Leadership: AOL's camping overnight may camp with 2-deep adult leadership and are not required to have a parent in attendance. There are specific guidelines related to AOL

overnight camping. Be sure to review them here:
https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss03/.

PARKING: There will be limited parking available. Each unit will be allowed to keep 1(one) trailer OR 1(one)vehicle at their campsite ONLY. If a unit chooses to bring a trailer the tow vehicle must be moved down to the parking lot. **This policy will be strictly enforced**. Please carpool where possible.

EVENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Scouting America Youth Protection Guidelines must be followed at all times. Any suspected child abuse must be immediately reported to the AOL Into the Woods Headquarters area.
- All Scouting America registered leaders are required to have a valid youth protection training certification or Safeguarding Youth Training within two (2) years. Training can be completed online at *https://my.scouting.org*
- No alcoholic beverages are permitted anywhere on the GSR premises during the event.
- No smoking is permitted in any activity, campsite or building during a Scouting event. Smoking should never be done in front of Scouts.
- No bicycles, motorbikes, skateboards, roller skates, wheeled shoes, roller blades or scooters will be allowed on the grounds for personal use at any time.
- No fireworks, firearms, liquid accelerates, animals, or foul language is allowed on the grounds at any time.
- No pets are allowed in the camping or program areas on GSR grounds. Please leave your pets at home. Only Service animals are permitted.
- Scouts must **use the Buddy System** at all times during the event.
- Remember, we are guests of GSR and all traffic signs, speed limits and other rules must be followed at all times.
- No climbing on construction vehicles around the construction taking place at Carter Lodge
- Sheath knives and fixed blade knives are prohibited.
- Shoes must be worn at all times in the camping and GSR grounds. Due to the terrain, open-toed shoes are not permitted in program areas.

HEALTH & SAFETY

YOUTH PROTECTION GUIDELINES: Scouting America Youth Protection policies will be followed at all times. All BSA registered leaders are required to complete Youth Protection Training or Safeguarding Youth Training within two (2) years. Safeguarding Youth Training may be completed online at *https://my.scouting.org*

FIRST AID: All injuries or accidents requiring first aid must be reported to the AOL Into the Woods' Medical station located near the Headquarters area. First Aid and Medical Staff will be available during the entire event. First Aid and Medical Staff will have radio access for instant communications throughout the event. In the event you cannot locate a First Aid Staff member, contact any AOL Into the Woods' Staff member who can contact the First Aid and Medical Team.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES: There will be certified EMTs and other medical professionals on site.

FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES: In the event of any life threatening medical or fire emergencies, please contact any Into the Woods' Staff person or AOL Into the Woods' Headquarters.

SECURITY: Units and individuals are responsible for their own personal gear.

LOST OR MISSING PERSONS: In the event of a lost person, the Headquarters must be notified immediately. When reporting the lost person, the individual reporting should provide a description of the person including clothing, approximate height and weight and any special feature (i.e., glasses, braces, location last seen, etc.) All AOL Into the Woods' staff will immediately be alerted with a description of the lost person. Please follow all instructions given by the AOL Into the Woods' Staff.

ANNUAL HEALTH & MEDICAL RECORD (AHMR): Unit or group leaders will be responsible for having one copy of the AHMR for each participant in their unit and providing them to Into the Woods' Headquarters when checking-in. The med forms will be returned on Sunday morning when your Troop checks out at the Into the Woods Headquarters.
https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: All containers used on site are to be labeled for content and precautions if the substance inside is hazardous. Materials will be left in the manufacturer's container, returned to the container immediately after use, and any unused portion disposed of properly. If labels become unreadable for any reason, a new label will be affixed containing all required precautionary information or the material will be disposed of properly.

WEATHER EMERGENCY

PROGRAMS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER: It is our every intent to have all programs, activities and exhibits operational. However, due to safety of participants, concerns and contracts, some activities or events may not take place as scheduled. We will make every effort to reschedule activities to an indoor location or at another time during the event.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES: Weather will be monitored during the event. If any weather watches or warnings are issued, this information will be provided to the Program Areas to communicate to all participants. Units are encouraged to bring weather radios to monitor conditions. In the event of a tornado or severe thunderstorm warnings, listen for announcements from key staff and for important weather- related information by Scouting New Hampshire Into the Woods' Staff.

HIGH WINDS: High wind conditions can also increase the risk of injury and require special procedures that special precautions be taken. High wind conditions for purposes of the Scouting New Hampshire, Into the Woods are sustained winds in excess of 20 mph.

HEAVY RAIN: Heavy rain procedures. Light drizzle will generally not impact the ability to sustain program operations in program areas; however, as water begins to accumulate and/or puddle the risk of injury increases. Program area leads are to continually monitor the conditions in their venue areas under rainy conditions. They will make the call when conditions dictate a cessation of operations in their particular program area.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

FRIDAY ARRIVAL

On Friday, all Into the Woods attendees must enter through the main Griswold Scout Reservation entrance.

The following materials are required to be presented at the CHECK-IN if not previously turned in:

- Unit Roster
- Annual Health & Medical Record (A&B) for all Scouts and adults attending
- Sign-up forms that are required for any programs or events

All participants will be directed to their assigned campsite area. Due to the high volume of expected participants & to ensure a smooth and efficient check-in experience, please complete all registrations for the weekend online prior to September 18th, 2026.

All drivers must stay with their vehicle until parked for the weekend. No vehicle should be left unattended.

Please Note: Youth being dropped off after their Unit's arrival must be greeted by their unit leadership at Check-In. Parents/guardians cannot depart until youth are received by their Unit.

Check-in for Units begins at 6:00 PM. on Friday. Unit trailers will be directed to park at their Unit campsite. Trailers should not be moved again until unit departure on Sunday morning. Ideally, units should plan to arrive no later than 8:00 PM. Please contact Into the Woods staff for special arrangements if planning to arrive after 8:00 PM on Friday.

If the Unit and/or trailer needs to depart on Saturday evening, please notify DWC Into the Woods Headquarters for special arrangements by Noon Saturday.

A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS, move as far to the side as possible and do not block or place gear in the travel lane. Unload as quickly as possible and move the vehicle to the weekend parking location.

DAY VISITORS / SATURDAY ARRIVAL

On Saturday, all AOL Into the Woods arrivals must enter Griswold Scout Reservation main entrance and park in the parking lots by the admin building and waterfront.
The following materials are required to be presented at the CHECK-IN BOOTH if not previously turned in:

- Unit Roster
- Annual Health & Medical Record for all Scouts and adults attending, Forms A&B only.
- Sign-up forms that are required for any programs or events

Any unit planning to camp Saturday night are encouraged to arrive between 6:00AM - 7:30 AM

Any units arriving on Saturday (to camp the night), will go to the AOL Into the Woods' headquarters and be directed to the appropriate campsite area.

Personal Gear Packing List

Scouts and leaders should mark each of their personal items with their name and unit number. Many items are lost or misplaced and never claimed. If items are marked, the staff will try their best to return them to the rightful owner.

Extra Shirts
Extra Pants
Shorts
Extra Underwear
Extra Socks
Class A Uniform
Jacket
Gloves
Rain Gear
Sleepwear
Hiking Boots
Toiletries
Sleeping Bag (app. for expected temps)
Pillow
Personal First Aid Kit
Flashlight or headlamp (check batteries)
Notebook, pen/pencil
Scout book
Bug Spray (non-aerosol)
Sunscreen (non-aerosol)
Bug Net
Watch (optional)
Water bottle
Daypack (with scout essentials)
Pocketknife - *AOLs, only after having completed the AOL Knife Safety Adventure. Scouts BSA, if you have earned your Totin Chip. No fixed blades or blades over 3"*

Leave at Home

Pets, sheath knives, fireworks, firearms, ammunition, liquid ignitors, bows & arrows, radios/walkie talkies, televisions, electronic games, water/nerf/airsoft or paintball guns, dice, un scout like literature, alcoholic beverages, and illegal drugs, or similar items (or people under the effect of them). Valuable items should certainly be left at home.

Unit Gear Packing List

Dining Flies
Tents
Drop Cloths / Ground Cloths / Footprints
Stakes
Cordage
Poles
Large Cooking Items
Tools (bow saws, hand axes, shovels, etc.)
First Aid Kit
Water Containers
Patrol-size Cooking and Cleaning Items
Water
Hand Sanitizer
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels

UNIT EQUIPMENT TRAILERS & VEHICLES

UNIT EQUIPMENT TRAILERS: Unit equipment trailers arriving on Friday will have be able to access the campsite roads as early as 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM Unit equipment trailers arriving Saturday will be to access the campsite roads between 6:00AM - 7:30 AM. Towing vehicles will need to be moved to the designated parking area and trailers will not move again until departure Sunday morning.

If the Troop and trailer need to depart Saturday, please contact Into the Woods' staff at HQ for special arrangements.

VEHICLES: If a unit doesn't have a trailer, then one high-profile vehicle will be permitted in the campsites. All other vehicles must be parked in the designated parking areas around HQ.

RECREATION VEHICLES & RV CAMPING: No recreational vehicle camping is permitted.

ONLY ONE VEHICLE *OR* VEHICLE WITH TRAILER (PER UNIT) IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE UP THE HILL TO THE CAMPSITES, SO PLAN ACCORDINGLY. TOW VEHICLES ARE EXPECTED TO DROP THEIR TRAILER AT THE CAMPSITE AND PARK IN THE PARKING AREAS AROUND HQ.

CAMPING

CAMPSITE ASSIGNMENTS: The Into the Woods' staff will assign campsites. Each Troop, Ship, AOL Den or Crew is requested to use the minimum space for its campsite. Individuals not attending with a unit will be assigned a campsite site based on the number attending. Site size will be pre-assigned based on the number of registered youth and adults by the registration deadline.

QUIET HOURS: Taps will be at 10:00 PM each evening. Reveille will be at 6:30 AM. Quiet hours are between those times. Activities such as setting up camp, cooking, and Scouts playing will not be permitted during quiet hours. Units or individuals should plan to arrive with enough time to set up campsites by Taps.

CAMPSITES: There will be campsites designated by, Scouting BSA B & G Troops, Sea Scouts and Venturing/Exploring. Units may not switch or change campsite designations. You will be notified at the time of check-in of your campsite designation. Please remember your designation and advise any late arrivals of the campsite designation. All Units designated by the same Unit number will be camping together in the same area.

GSR TENTS: Hidden Valley will not have their canvas tents up, campers should be prepared for this by having tents or sleeping hammocks.

CAMPFIRES: Use of the designated fire pits in each campsite is permitted if fire conditions allow. **No firewood may be brought onto GSR property from off site, unless it is kiln dried. Please help control invasive species!** Water buckets must be placed around any campfire and filled at all times. Dry leaves and other combustible material must be raked at least 10 feet away from the fire pit. Each unit shall post safe fire rules within its designated campsite. Campfires shall never be left unattended. Leave No Trace.

GARBAGE AND TRASH RECEPTACLES: This event is **CARRY IN CARRY OUT.** No trash should be left at campsites. Dumpsters are located behind the dining hall for your use.

LEAVE NO TRACE: All units and participants are asked to follow and adhere to the principles of Leave No Trace Guidelines. Remember we are guests of Griswold Scout Reservation.

HANDICAP ACCESS AND SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: We will make every effort to accommodate those participants who require special accommodations. Units in need of physical or medical accommodations can please contact nhintothewoods@gmail.com prior to the event.

A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS: Please be considerate of your campsite neighbors and be respectful during quiet hours. Please do not travel through another unit's camping area. Use roads and walkways at all times.

ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES: There will be no illegal substances, alcohol, fireworks, or firearms or other weapons permitted on the grounds and camping areas of the GSR. Anyone found having any illegal substances at GSR will be asked to leave the property immediately.

WATER: Water will be available on site; most likely at the camp sites. If not, we will have water station set up near headquarters. In addition, units are encouraged to bring filled water jugs for use and refilling during the event. It is recommended that units bring some water for cooking, etc.

LATRINES AND WASH STATIONS: Latrines and hand washing stations are conveniently located throughout the camping and general areas at GSR. Please help us to keep the latrines operational and clean. Food and other items must not be disposed of in the latrines. In the event that the latrine needs attention or supplies, please notify the AOL Into the Woods' Headquarters Area. Hand washing stations are for hand washing only. Washing dishes at the hand washing stations is not permitted.

ELECTRICITY AND POWER: The camping areas do not have electricity or power availability. Those needing electric or power for CPAP machines or other necessary medical devices should plan to use battery-operated equipment. There will **not** be charging stations for phones or other devices, so plan accordingly.

FIRST AID STATIONS DURING QUIET HOURS: In the event of a life-threatening emergency, other emergencies or medical conditions requiring assistance during quiet hours, please contact the Into the Woods Headquarters.

COOKING

WEEKEND MEALS: With the busy weekend schedule, units should ensure that a substantial and nutritious menu is set that can be prepared and cleaned-up within the timeframe available. Saturday lunch for each Cub Scout Pack (Scouts and Leaders) ONLY and Cracker Barrel are the only meals provided by Into the Woods (Troops and their leaders & parents are responsible for preparing their own lunch on Saturday). For other meals we

would like to see Troops & Packs partner up. Campsite assignments will be made accordingly in order to pair AOL Dens and Troops together.

FOOD & SAFETY: Units are responsible for their own food menus and preparation. Care should be taken to properly store and handle food and preparation methods. Units will be responsible for accommodating any food allergies or dietary needs.

UNIT & INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT: Units and individuals are responsible for all camping equipment. No equipment will be provided by the Into the Woods Committee.

GRAY WATER AND FOOD WASTE: Please do not empty gray water or food waste in the restrooms. This will cause the restrooms to be unsanitary and not operational. Please dispose of gray water using the broadcast method. Food waste should be in garbage bags and brought to dumpsters located behind Gilbert Hall.

COOKING: Units should plan to use propane or charcoal grills or stoves for cooking. Units using propane or other flammable fuels should follow the Scouting America Policy on the use of chemical fuels. Units and individuals are responsible for providing their own cooking equipment and supplies.

COOK STOVES: Use of above ground backyard type fire pits will be permitted. Water buckets must be in place around any cooking stove and filled at all times. Each unit shall post safe fire rules within its designated campsite. Lit cook stoves must never be left unattended.

STORAGE, HANDLING, AND USE OF CHEMICAL FUELS: Adult supervision is mandated and required at all times when flammable fuels are used for lighting (lantern) and cooking equipment. Stoves and lanterns using flammable liquids must be operated in strict and full compliance with the manufacturer's instructions. All flammable fuels must be stored in approved containers and maintained under adult supervision and control. Stoves and lanterns using flammable liquids should be allowed to cool down before refilling and only refilled at a safe distance from any other flames. Never leave a lighted stove or lantern unattended. For more information see the *Scouting America Policy on the Storage, Handling, and Use of Chemical Fuels and Equipment.*

SUNDAY DEPARTURE - ALL ATTENDEES

Please check-out with the Into the Woods' Headquarters prior to departure. No vehicles will be allowed to move on camp site access roads until 11 AM or until deemed safe by the Into the Woods Staff.

- Ensure the campsite is litter and garbage free
- Restore the campsite areas to original or better condition
- Pack all gear & equipment for departure
- Request site inspection by the Into the Woods staff
- Pick-up your Annual Health & Medical Records and camporee patches from the Into the Woods Headquarters

Once vehicles leave the weekend parking area, they will then be directed to a location to facilitate easy departure after closing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional program information will come out through a Program Guide and watch our regular Facebook posts for upcoming events, requirements, and prerequisites.