

Troop 2 and BSA Safe Hiking Rules

Stay together: enjoy the trip with your patrol.

Do not cross roads, junctions or water without making sure everyone is together

Know what to do when lost:

STOP, THINK, Seek SHELTER, be easy to FIND.

[Your responsibility is to get found.]

Watch your step: don't step in holes, watch for snakes, ...

Cross streams safely.

On roads (if you must) hike single file FACING traffic,

(BSA *Handbook*, 10th edition, p. 177)

wear light colors

Use a flashlight at night

Don't hitchhike.

Philmont*s 10 Essentials for Hiking

1. Map and Compass
2. Sun and insect protection
3. Water bottled filled
4. Rain gear and layered clothing
5. First Aid Kit/Survival Gear
6. Matches
7. Tell someone your itinerary
8. Extra food
9. Pocket knife
10. Watch

Hiking at Philmont

“Walking fast is usually not very important during a hike. Take time to see the sights around you, examine plants, listen to birds and study wildlife.” “Staying with your patrol is as important in cross-country hiking as for any outdoor adventure. You can share the fun, and you will be available if your patrol needs your help.” (BSA *Handbook*, 10th edition, p. 174 and 175)

Safety is the responsibility of EVERY member of the crew. There are no exceptions.

“Remember your trek is a team effort. Stronger hikers are expected to help weaker ones. Faster hikers should hike near the end of the line and encourage the slower ones in front. Your crew should always hike together, within hearing of one another. (Philmont 1996 *Guidebook to Adventure*, p. 20)

Compiled by Scoutmaster Jerry Stedinger, Spring 2004.