

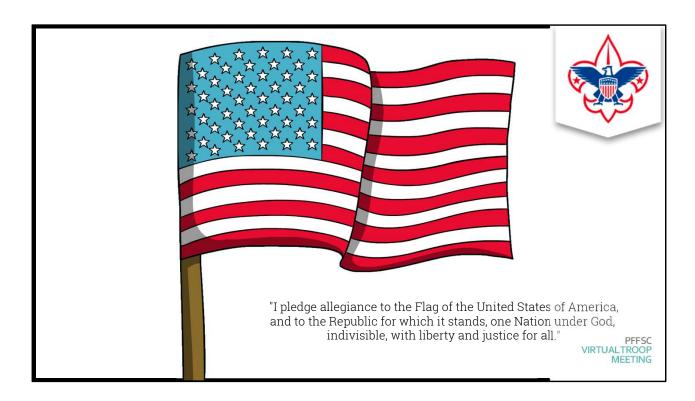
Thanks for Joining us today.

Our virtual Troop meeting is brought to you by the Michigan Crossroads Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Lets get started.

Could I get a Scout to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance?

(Scouts Name) Thanks



Scout Salute

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Two

Thanks (Scouts Name)

Could I get a Scout to lead us in the Scout Oath?

(Scouts Name) Thanks

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best,
To do my duty to God and my country,
and To obey the Scout Law,
To help other people at all times,
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.





PFFSC VIRTUALTROOP MEETING

On my honor
I will do my best,
To do my duty to god
And my country
And to obey the Scout Law,
To help other people at all times,
To keep myself physically strong,
Mentally awake,
And morally straight.

(Scout Name) Thank you

Could I get a Scout to lead us in the Scout Oath?

(Scouts Name) Thanks

Scout Law

A Scout is:

THANKYAOU

Friendly......Courteous......Kind

Obedient......Cheerful......Thrifty

Brave......Clean......Reverent





PFFSC VIRTUALTROOP MEETING

A Scout is:

Trustworthy

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

And Reverent

(Scout Name) Thank you



Today we are going to talk a little about the Ten Essentials for when we adventure in the backcountry.

Lets watch a short video from the national parks service about what they suggest....



1:31 minutes

TEN ESSENTIALS

The only way to completely prevent accidents in the backcountry is to never go outside. But that's no way to live. The next best option is to pack emergency gear that will help you tackle nearly every situation you can think of.



Backpacking Checklist

- Navigation: Map and Compass
- Sun protection: Sunglasses and sunscreen
- Illumination: Headlamp or flashlight
- First-aid: Kit or supplies
- Fire: Waterproof matches or lighter
- Nutrition: Extra food
- Hydrations: Extra water or filter
- Insulation: Extra clothing
- Tools: Multi-tool or knife
- Emergency shelter: Blanket or bivvy
- Optional: Communication device

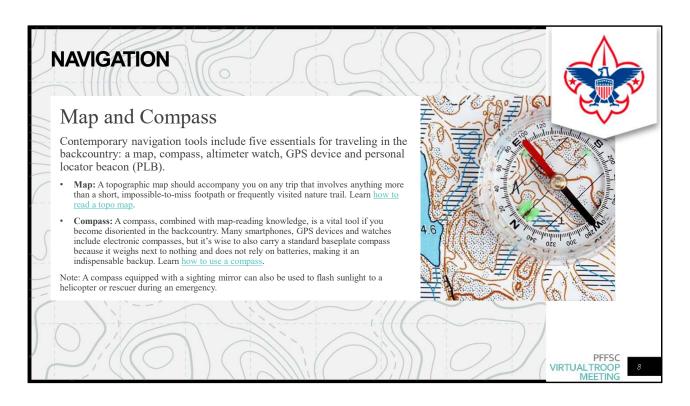


The only way to completely prevent accidents in the backcountry is to never go outside.

But that's no way to live.

As you have heard from our friendly park ranger, there are ten items to consider.

Let's dive into each of these and hope we can share some helpful tips for preparing your checklist for any adventure.



First is navigation

There are five types of navigational tools when traveling in the backcountry.

Map Compass Altimeter Watch GPS Device Or Personal Locator Beacon "PLB"

Any trip you take should revolve around the understanding and use of a topographical map.

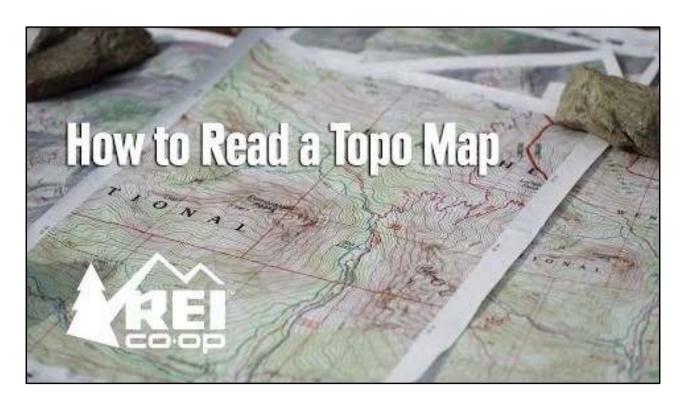
The second most important tool in navigation is the knowledge and ability to properly use a compass.

These two items together provide you with endless opportunities to travel the world.

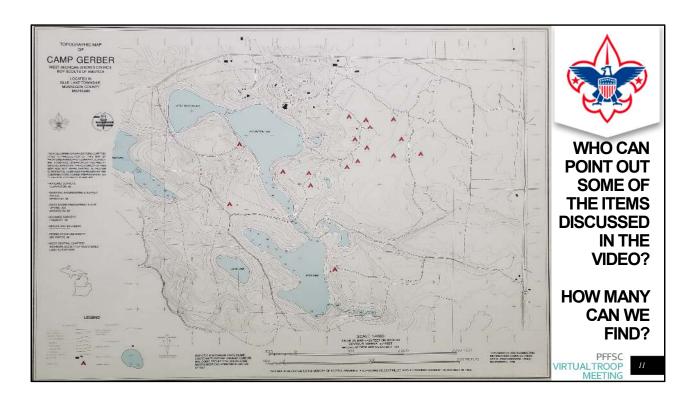
There are many types of compasses. Some come equipped with sighting mirror or magnifying glasses built in. Which can be use for additional resources during an emergency.



Lets watch a short clip from REI on How to read Topo Maps



3:47 minutes long



Contour Lines

Scale 1/4800

4800/12=400 feet on Ground

Contour Interval = 2 feet in height Index Line Legend Declination Diagram

Now lets watch a short clip on How to use a compass...

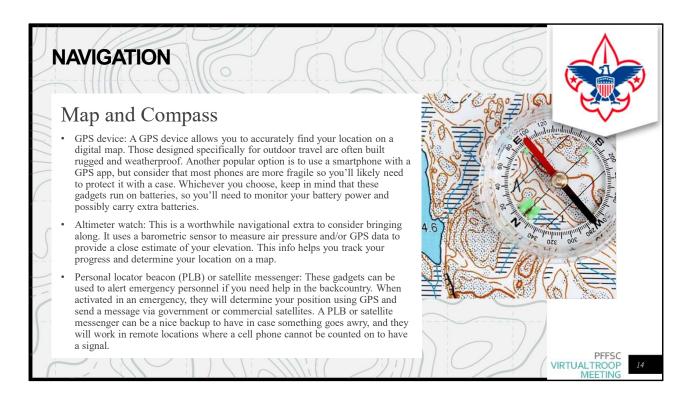


7:15 minutes long



Base Plate
Straight Edge
Rulers for Scale
Arrows for Direction
Rotating Bessel
Index Line
Magnetic Needle
Orienting Arrow
Orienting Lines
Declination Scale

Always remember "Red in the Shed"



Now that we know more about how to do it old school. Lets dive into the new age resources.

GPS devices allow you to accurately find your location in the world, but keep in mind these gadgets are heavy and require batteries.

Altimeter watches are cool.

They are great for those adventures in higher altitude and measuring air pressure or elevation.

For what we tend to do while backpacking in the wilderness these are mostly out of reach and not necessary.

They are however very cool to play with.

Personal Locator beacons "PLB" directly communicate with satellites and are capable of pin pointing your location very

PLB's however also send messages.

similar to a GPS.

These are great for Scouts who are traveling on extended high adventure trips and want the ability to send notice of safety or help needed back home.



Sun Protection is crucial.

I know it sound silly, but depending on the weather and the situation. The sun can cause serious damage and ruin a trip.

It always good to bring a hat, sun glasses, and most important sun screen!



Sunscreen is a very effective way to reduce the exposure to the sun and the risk of getting burned.

You want to make sure that on your list is sunscreen with minimum of 15 SPF.

Can anyone tell me what SPF stands for? (Sun Protection Factor)

Does anyone know how often we should reapply sunscreen? (Every two hours)

Lip balm is another item many people forget back home.

Chapped lips can really put a damper on your adventure if you forget it back home.



The most effective solution to protecting yourself from the sun is "Sun-protective clothing"

This is my favorite because it reduces the need to have to reapply sunscreen all day during my adventure.

These lightweight clothes do not replace the need to apply sunscreen,

but help increase our ability to protect ourselves and our skin.

Raise you hand if you have seen clothing in stores or own a items that has ultraviolet protection.



Illumination!

Have any of you struggled late at night in your tent,

where you have lost your flashlight

and really need to find it so you can go outside to relieve yourself?

If you cant see where you're going,

its going to be tough doing anything!

Any type of light source if invaluable to any adventure.

Headlamps are the most convenient source out there.

Some people like the hat clips, or the night stick maglite makes.

My favorite is the Petzl Actik.

Our Scout shops carry a Boy Scout branded one that has worked for me every time I went to use it.



Since headlamps are most popular these days.

We wanted to share a short clip on how to choose the right one.

There are many things to consider when deciding on which one you want and not every headlamp is same.

Lets take a look...



5:12 minutes



First Aid

This is another one of those very important items to have on your list.

Not only to have but also to know how to use it!

Scouting teaches us to be what? (Prepared)

When figuring out what you need in a first aid kit or additional supplies, consider visiting your summer camp trading post or Scout Shop.

Both have some great pre-assembled kits that help take the guess work right out of the equation.

The length of your adventure is going to determine the size of your kit. And the size of the group is also going to determine what is in that kit.

If we are planning a larger adventure we will want to probably have a group kit and each carry a smaller person kit.

This is all items that we should discuss whenever planning any adventure.

Safety is our number one focus when it comes to any adventure.



Fire

Now who doesn't like fire? Heat and light from a fire can really make a difference in certain situations while in the woods.

We should always carry some form of source to create fire.

In any emergency we have to be able to rely on our ability to start a fire.

There are many different types or ways to check this off our list.

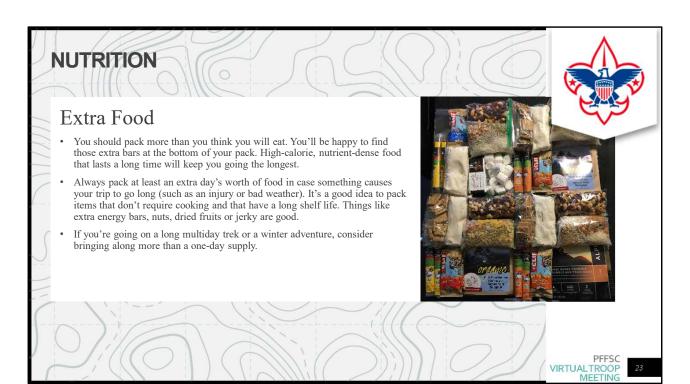
Matches, waterproof matches, flint and steel, nine volt and steel wool;

What others am I missing? (Lighter, etc..)

If we have a source to ignite a fire, what are some items we could use to help get a fire started or in a situation where everything is wet.

What other items might we want to add to our checklist?

(dry tinder tucked away in a plastic bag, candles, priming paste, heat "nuggets" (chipped-wood clusters soaked in resin) and even lint trappings from a household clothes dryer)



Nutrition!

Who likes food here?

Why would we want to carry extra food? (in case something causes your trip to go long)

What types of extra food should we carry? (High-calorie, nutrient-dense, things like energy bars, nuts, dried fruits or jerky)

Why would we want to pack a higher amount of extra food in the winter verses the summer?

(burn higher calories in the winter than the summer, plus in the winter there are other methods of carrying stuff so we can pack heavier too)

The next item is Hydration,

Lets watch a clip from our friends over at Boys' Life and see what they have to say about the importance of clean water.



1:20 minutes



What is your favorite flavor? (response)

Bad situations get much worse when we do not drink treated water.

An easy way to calculate how much water we should drink while out on an adventure is by figuring half your body weight in ounces per day.

It is always important to at every outing or adventure to bring a water bottle or some source to carry water.

I always error on the side of caution while in the backcountry and bring an extra water bottle just incase I loose or drop my water bottle.



Insultation

Extra clothes are very important, but sometimes can get a little out of hand if you don't be careful.

Work on understanding how your body works and what clothes system works for you in many different climates.

I always clip safety pins on to my clothes when I pack them.

Because when I use them during my trips I can track what I use and don't use by removing the safety pins as the trip travels on.

Usually I just pin the safety pins back onto the outside of my pack before I use the clothes and when I get home, and un pack, I can easily tell

what I didn't need to bring vs what I feel I fell short on.

Climates play the most important role when deciding what to bring.

Layering your clothing is the most important lesson to learn while active in the backcountry or on an outing.



Lets learn about layering and what to wear while camping.

Take a look...



1:36 minutes



Multi-tools and Knives

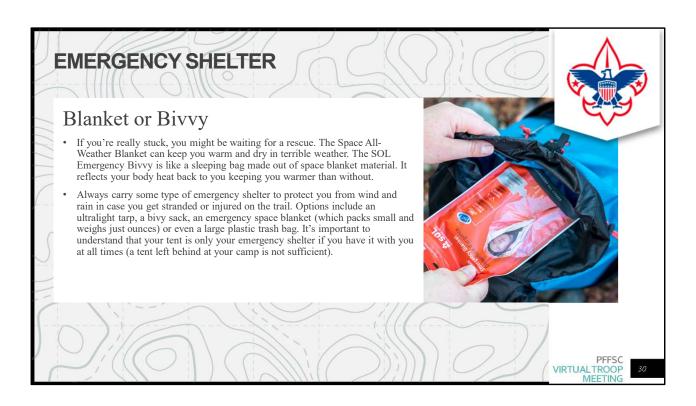
It is always handy to have a multi-tool, but they tend to weigh more than a single blade knife.

Lets poll the group.

Using the chat option send a message identifying which you prefer.

(discuss the results of the survey and ask around why they prefer multi-tool vs single blade and so on)

Additional repair kits, like tools for your stove or tent, are always additional items that are good to consider adding to the list.



Emergency Shelter is always better to have in your pack than otherwise.

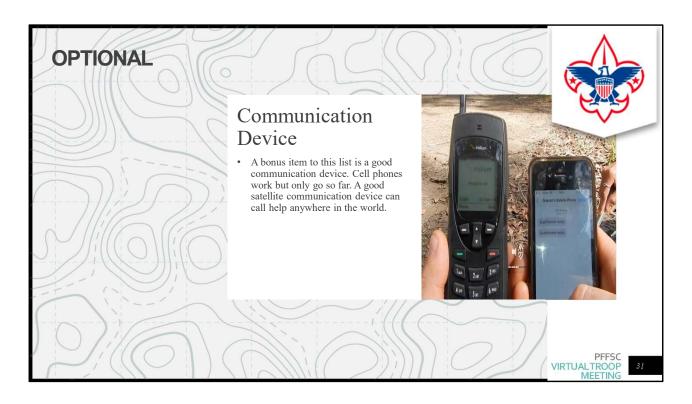
When you end up in a situation where you need to use one of these. You will be glad you packed it. They are light-weight and compact enough to stuff somewhere in your pack.

A large plastic bag is always a substitute rather than purchasing the SOL brand.

Many items like this can be found at a local Scout Shop or even online.

Why would it be important to stay dry and warm in inclement weather?

(discuss their responses)



That concludes the TEN ESSENTIALS.

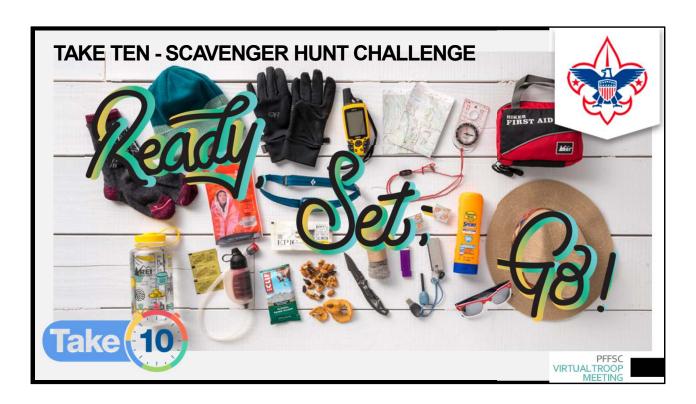
There is always one more essential item that could be considered as an eleventh item.

This would be some form of communication device. Either cell phone or sat-phone.

Most cell phones are now waterproof and have cases that are nearly indestructible.

The other advantage is that most all cell phone have cameras imbedded into it.

With Sat-phones, many groups, families, or Scouting units are not able to afford the advantages of this device, but can come in very handy during situations in remote wilderness areas.



Now for a little fun!

We will take ten minutes soon and Scouts, when we say go, (Click)

You will have ten minutes to scavenge your house for as many of the ten essentials as you can find.

Scouts if you can ask your parents to join us on screen We have a quick message for your parents while you do this short activity.

So Scouts take a second and ask you parents to come to the screen.

(Wait for parents to arrive)

Parents thanks for joining us!

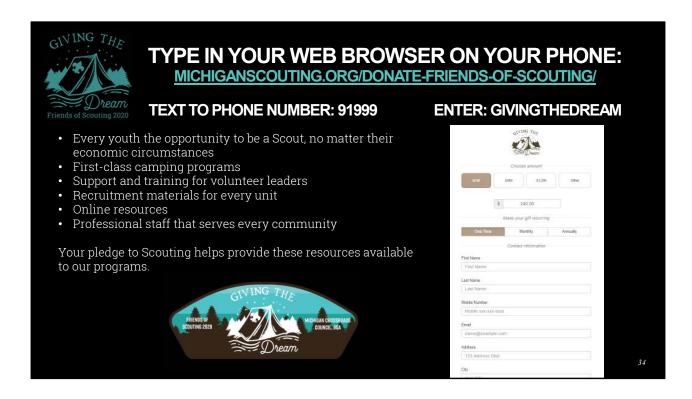
Scouts...(Click)...Ready...(Click)...Set...(Click)...Go!....(Click)



Parents thanks for joining us!

We wanted to take a quick minute and talk through these times.

We have a quick message about the council and their efforts to support us.



(Ask the Scoutmaster to help present the Friends of Scouting to the parents and ask for their support and pledge to Friends of Scouting)

Please take a moment,
Grab your phone
and either text or visit the link shown on the screen

Council is here to help us in many ways

- They help every youth who cannot otherwise afford camp or scouting activities find a way to go
- They provide many recruitment resources for bring new Scouts into Scouting
- They provide first-class summer camp programs and continue to improve each of these opporations
- They provide online resources and continue to support us even in these time to continue to provide scouting programs with our Scouts
- They lastly have a professional staff to continue to motivate and engage the community, volunteers, and organizations with growing Scouting here locally and strategically identifying solutions to increase participation of Scouting activities

We would like each family to consider pledging to Friends of Scouting

Help continue Scouting here locally. 100% of these gifts are used here in (town) and (region) to provide resources and make Scouting available to our community.

Text to 91999 and enter in the message line "GIVINGTHEDREAM" OR Visit on a web browser michiganscouting.org/donate-friends-of-scouting

Please take a moment and go online or text through your phone to make your pledge and pave the road for stronger Scouting.

When finished please let us know through the chat that your joining me in supporting a Scout.



Time is up.

Parent's please ask your Scouts to come back to the conversation.

So, Scouts (Click)

using the chat room

Please tell us how many items you were able to find.

(Discuss the items they found a little)

Lets watch a short clip on how to take these items and fitting them all in our packs for when we go on our next adventure.

Check it out...



1:52 minutes



Filling My Jar Minute

This Minute is meant for Boy Scouts.

Required:

a glass jar some rocks pebbles sand water

or for more fun, use doughnut holes, M&Ms, sugar, and milk

Preparation:

Before doing this, make sure you have enough rocks, pebbles, sand, and water that will fit in the jar.

Put pebbles, sand, and water into separate cans so the contents can not be seen. **Notes:**

This was WAY fun to do with doughnut holes. I don't know if the scouts got the point, but they loved watching.

Script:

There is only so much a person can do. I have a real job (put rock in jar). I teach a Sunday School class (add a rock). I volunteer at school (add a rock) I run to stay in shape (add a rock) ... continue listing other main things you do.

So, there, I'm full. I can't do anything else, even if someone asked. I expect most of you are the same way. You are so busy, you can't possibly take on anything else. Your jar is full like mine.

But, maybe if its not too big, I can do it. Like drive for a weekend campout, or arrange a fundraiser, or help at church one week, or plan a service project, or organize a parent's picnic. (add pebbles to the jar as you list the activities. Shake the jar to settle them until it is full.)

Wow, I guess I could do a little more than I thought. But, now, that's it, really. I couldn't possibly do more. Just like you, I'm doing too much now. Well, maybe if its just a small thing, I could. Like shoveling my neighbor's walk, or leading a game at a meeting, or helping someone with schoolwork, or cleaning the church for an hour. (pour the sand in as you list the items. Shake to settle).

Huh! Well, what do you know. Looks like I could do a bit more than I thought. I guess I just needed to make the time. As you can see, my jar is definitely full. I did more than I thought I could and I'm really able to accomplish a lot. No way could I fit anything else in.

But, now I don't have time for just relaxing. How can I just have fun? There's no room left. (Pour water in as you list things). I want to watch TV, play video games, see a movie, play football, ...

So, what does this mean? It seems I can do much more than I thought and I still have a little time to play. The point is that you need to get the big rocks - the important things - scheduled into your life first. Decide what is most important to you and make time for it. Then, fill in your time with other worthwhile, meaningful activities. That time left over is your relaxing time.

Be careful not to fill your life with the little things first or there won't be room for the big, important things.

How to Read a Topo Map

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/topo-maps-how-to-use.html

Video: How to Read a Topo Map: https://youtu.be/CoVcRxza8nI

How to Use a Compass

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/navigation-basics.html

Video: How to Use a Compass: https://youtu.be/0cF0ovA3FtY

How to Choose a Headlamp

Website: https://www.rei.com/blog/hike/how-to-choose-headlamps Video: How to Choose Headlamps: https://youtu.be/Ooii3BzjuzE

How to Choose and Use Sunscreen

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/sunscreen.html

How to Choose a First Aid Kit

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/firstaid-kits.html

How to Choose a Knife

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/knives-and-tools--how-to-choose.html

Hydration Basics

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/hydrate.html

What to Wear Hiking

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/how-to-choose-hiking-clothes.html

Layering Basics

Website: https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/layering-basics.html

Video: What to wear camping - layering basics: https://youtu.be/W8AjrLz_I4o



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Scouts,

here is a list of where some of the information we use today had come from.

These resource pages are out there.



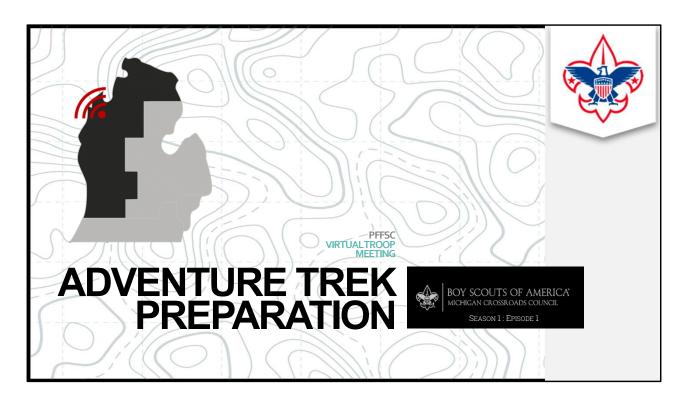
Please checkout Boys' Life magazine YouTube channel.

There are many great videos and other topics of great things to watch while you find yourself with nothing else to do.

(Click)

Thank you for joining us

and thanks for being a Scout!



This concludes season one, episode one of our virtual troop meeting covering Adventure Trek Preparation and cool things to learn before we plan our next adventure.

Scoutmaster, anything you would like to share before we leave?