



NYS Forest Ranger Joan Staples

(607) 565-3548

jistaple@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Survival Gear

- ❖ Compass & Map
- ❖ Matches (in water proof container)
- ❖ Lighter
- ❖ Fire Starters (tar paper, power bars, candles, dry birch bark)
- ❖ Water Bottle
- ❖ Water purifying tablets
- ❖ Energy / Granola Bars
- ❖ Emergency Blanket (or plastic sheet for shelter)
- ❖ Cord (about 50 feet nylon parachute cord)
- ❖ Knife Or multi-tool
- ❖ Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- ❖ Whistle
- ❖ Rain gear
- ❖ Warm shirt & pants (not cotton)
- ❖ Any daily medication you may need
- ❖ Basic first aid kit
- ❖ Toilet paper

If You Get Lost

- ❖ Do Not Panic
- ❖ If you are on a trail, stay on the trail
- ❖ Follow a compass bearing (North South East or West) until you come to a road, then stay where you are
- ❖ Follow a drainage or stream until you come to a road, then stay where you are
- ❖ If you can not follow a trail, drainage or compass bearing stay where you are (do not wander)
- ❖ Keep all of your gear with you
- ❖ Do not hide from rescuers

Type 1 Search

- ❖ A planned, rapid search of immediate area, travel routes, drainages, etc., by small, fast moving clue conscious crews with communications.

Areas Checked during a Type 1 Search

- ❖ Attractive Nuisances - (ex. Cabins, abandoned autos, open wells, etc.)
- ❖ Travel Routes/ Natural Features (ex. Trails, Streams, Ponds, Registration boxes, etc.)

What can a Boy Scout Troop Do If a Member Gets Lost?

- ❖ Call the Forest Rangers for Help organizing a search (call 911 and request the Forest Rangers assistance)
- ❖ Establish who was the last one to see the missing person and where they were last seen
- ❖ Make a list of what the missing person was wearing and any gear they had with them
- ❖ Search
 - Trails
 - Drainages
 - Stream, creek, and river banks (where PFD's around fast moving or deep water)
 - Attractive Nuisances

Type III (Grid) Search

