

Mount Rogers
Troop 9 Backpacking and Campout
November 14 – 15, 2009

Description

The hike takes us along approximately 5 miles of the Appalachian Trail from Elk Garden Gap, north through Deep Gap, down the south spur of Mount Rogers, to Thomas Knob.

Overnight will be in a campsite on the ridge between Thomas Knob and Rhododendron Gap.

As a reference point, Mount Rogers is ten to fifteen miles north-east of the Tennessee - Virginia - North Carolina corner. The nearest town showing on Virginia maps is Troutdale. Grayson Highlands State Park is ~15 miles southeast of the trail head.

Schedule

7:00 AM	Meet at Timberlyne
7:30	Depart
11:30 AM	Arrive at Elk Garden Trailhead
NOON	Begin Hike to Thomas Knob
4:00 PM, est.	Set up camp near Thomas Knob
	Dinner
	Viewing Leonid meteor shower on Thomas Knob
10:00 PM	Lights out
6:30 AM	Reveille
	Breakfast / Break Camp
	Scouts Own
9:00 AM	Begin Descent / Side trip to the summit of Mount Rogers
1:00 PM	Arrive at Elk Garden Trailhead
5:00 PM, est.	Arrive at Chapel Hill

Personal Equipment

Pack for potentially cold, wet weather. Expect highs in the 40s F and lows in the 20s F. Please pay particular attention to the recommendations for layering in cold weather posted at <http://t9ch.org/Docs/Equipment/NOCOTTON.html>

See Troop 9 website guidelines for backpacking: <http://t9ch.org/Docs/Equipment/Backpacking.html>, but 'Light is right' here, so do not bring extraneous items.

Two items of critical importance in your 'Ten Essentials' are water bottles and trail mix. Discuss this with your patrol leaders if you need direction.

Food and Group Equipment

Scouts completed Duty Rosters at the Tuesday night meetings. Scouts who are unsure of their responsibilities should contact their patrol leader.

Group equipment will be checked out to the patrols at Tuesday's meeting. Scouts who check out group equipment need to remember to bring it on Saturday morning.

Messages and Emergency Contact

May try telephone contact, much of the area has poor cell phone coverage.

Gregg Gerdau (919) 593-0037

Greg Cordell (919) 259-1165

Derek Rodriguez (919) 265-9183

Jose Gulisano (786) 252-0308

William Robertson (919) 428-6344

Wayne Vanderburg (919) 260-2792

Water

Bring 2 liters of water for the hike in and to use in camp. There is a spring at Deep Gap and there are other water sources near Thomas Knob. This water will need to be filtered.

Driving Route Estimated travel time is 3.5 to 4 hours from Chapel Hill (~185 miles)

<http://www.mapquest.com/mq/8-m2yn>