

# Old Rag Outing Activity Guide

## Goals

- Gain experience with winter backpacking and enjoy the views from Old Rag mountain.

## Achievements Satisfied

This activity satisfies the following achievements.

- First Class: 10 mile hike.
- Polar Bear patch (depending on weather)

## Materials

- One extra sleeping bag and tarp in case of wet weather issues.
- Water filter recommended.

## Tips

- Berry Hollow has parking for 4-5 cars.
- Good camping areas are available at the intersection of the dirt roads connecting Berry Hollow and Old Rag cabin, off to the left when headed to the cabin. There are a couple good trees for a bear bag off to the right.
- Conduct a pack check at a troop meeting before the outing (all scouts), plus a pack check in the parking lot the morning of the outing (for less experienced scouts). Be sure to check sleeping bag temp rating and boot size. Note: experience has shown that younger scouts don't always know what is in their pack.
- With a lot of younger scouts you can enter from the south parking lot on Berry Hollow road for a short backpack hike (1 mile), drop packs, and continue up to Byrds Nest shelter/overlook and (if time) to the top of Old Rag. For a mixed group, enter from the larger parking lot.
- Water is available in a small stream about 100 yards from camp down the road toward Berry Hollow.
- The trails around Old Rag can be very icy, and may be impassable. It is almost pointless to bring Yak Trax unless every scout has them.