



Troop 93 Virgin Falls Backpacking Trip

December 9th-10th, 2017

Contacts - Campbell Smith, Asst. Senior Patrol Leader: cmaneagle22@comcast.net / Mobile 615-981-6792

Adult Leader – James T. Smith: james.smith@becafloor.com / Mobile 615-390-8884

Campground Location: <https://tn.gov/environment/article/na-na-virgin-falls>

Trail Head: 2080 Scotts Gulf Road, Sparta, TN 38583

Description of hike: We will depart the trail head and hike toward our destination, Virgin Falls. We will pass Big Branch Falls, Overlook Junction, and Big Laurel Falls. Depending on timing, we will either eat lunch at Big Laurel Falls or at our campsite.

We are camping in campsite # 11 (one of the larger campsites to accommodate a larger group). There is water supply from the Caney Fork River beside our campsite, all water will need to be treated.

Saturday, December 9th

- Please be at the Forest Hills United Methodist Church 7:00 am.
- Leave from the church at 7:30 am. Drive to trail head, about a two hour drive.

Meals:

- Grub Masters: Patrol leaders will assign.
- Lunch on Saturday – Scouts to bring their own trail lunch.
- Grub Masters will serve dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.
- Adults will be on their own for meals.

Activities:

- Hike to campsite
- View Virgin Falls and Sheep Cave.
- Knot Tying competition with prizes.

Gear:

- Scouts need to wear their Class B red shirts for hike to campsite.
- Good hiking boots/shoes, there is some rocky areas.
- Pack light!!! This is backpacking, not car camping, so plan your gear accordingly. The campsite has trees for those wanting to bring hammocks, but also bring a tent as a backup.
- Water supply at campsite, but bring water treatment filter, tablets, etc...
- Patrol needs to bring toilet paper and trash bags (Leave No Trace).

Weather:

- Average high/low for December 9th: 54 degrees high / 34 degrees low (will update closer we get).
- Always bring rain gear no matter what the forecast.

Cost:

- Bring money for lunch Sunday afternoon, as we will stop somewhere along the way home.

Return:

- We will depart the campsite at approximately 9:30 am and hike back to the trail head. This is about 2.5 hours. We will stop somewhere for lunch and arrive back at the church around 2:30 pm. We will have scouts call parents once on the road with an updated church arrival time.