

Appalachian Trail Backpacking Trip

December 5th and 6th 2009

Hike will begin on West Cornwall Road where it intersects the AT. We will go north on the AT and ascend about 500 feet to a great view of the Housatonic valley. We will continue north to Mt Easter. As we walk along the ridge there are views of Bear Mountain and Mt. Everett. One of the viewpoints was cut by hang glider enthusiasts and allows us to see Lime Rock race track. We should be able to see the Catskill Mountains to the west as well. We will stay the night at Belter's campsite. There is no lean-to there so we will be sleeping in our tents. There is a spring at the campsite as well as a privy. This first part of the hike is about 6 miles long. Sunday morning we will break camp and head down to the Housatonic River for 3 miles to the Iron Bridge at Falls Village. This part of the hike is relatively flat so we should be able to move at a pretty good clip. Rumor has it we should be able to find a good place to eat brunch at the end of the hike. If we break camp early, we should be back home by 1:00 pm.

Our CT Yankee Council has a special patch for hikes that take place along the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut. The AT runs 52 miles through CT and this hike has been divided into 7 hikes. There is a patch that can be earned by hiking even one section of the AT but, as you hike more sections, you get additional pieces to put around the main patch. When all 8 pieces are placed end to end, they encircle the original patch. By going on the different hikes or backpacking trips with the troop on the AT, you will be able to earn the patch.

Those going on the trip will meet at 7:00 am at the Lake Quonnipaug parking lot.



It is important that appropriate gear be brought with us but you will not want to carry items that you do not need. We will not be able to have a fire so we will need stoves and pots as well as a water filter. Specific gear needs and meal plans will be discussed at the next meeting. If any questions or you would like more information, call [Alex Jagielski at 457-1963](tel:457-1963)

Gear: Weather is changeable at this time of year so pack accordingly. The three season over night back packing list is most appropriate. This part of CT can get very cold with

no warning. Do not forget gloves and hats. Depending on the weather, those of you that are always cold you may want elements of the Cold Weather Overnight list.

Food: Trail lunch, snacks, patrol dinner, patrol breakfast, water

Please call or email me if you are interested on coming on the trip.