Cradle of Liberty Council
General Safety Tips

Selections from the Guide to Safe Scouting

"The Sweet 16 of BSA Safety. These 16 safety points, which embody good judgment and common sense, are applicable to all activities:"

1. **Qualified Supervision**
   - "….A conscientious adult …. sufficiently trained, experienced, and skilled in the activity …" and having "a commitment to implement and follow BSA policy and procedures"
2. **Physical Fitness**
   - "A complete health history from a health-care professional, parent, or guardian."
3. **Buddy System**
   - "It is always best to have at least one other person with you"
4. **Safe Area or Course**.
   - "… Know the area … Determine that it is well-suited and free of hazards"
5. **Equipment Selection and Maintenance**.
   - "Equipment should … suit the participants and the activity and … include appropriate safety .. features….Check equipment to determine whether it is in good condition…."
6. **Personal Safety Equipment**.
   - "…Assure that every participant has and uses the appropriate personal safety equipment.… All need to be dressed for warmth and utility as the circumstances require."
7. **Safety Procedures and Policies**.
   - "Common-sense procedures and standards can greatly reduce any risk"
8. **Skill Level Limits**.
   - "…Be sure that participants are not put at risk by attempting any activity beyond their abilities"
9. **Weather Check**.
   - "The risks of many outdoor activities vary substantially with weather conditions."
10. **Planning**.
    - "Good planning minimizes risks and also anticipates contingencies …"
11. **Communications**.
    - "Communicate effectively with participants …. Emergency communications also need to be considered in advance …"
12. **Permits and Notices**.
    - "BSA tour permits, council office registration, government or landowner authorization…" Appropriate notification should be directed to parents…."
13. **First-Aid Resources**.
    - "Determine what first-aid supplies to include among the activity equipment."
14. **Applicable Laws**.
    - "Assure compliance with all applicable regulations or statutes."
15. **CPR Resource**.
    - "BSA strongly recommends that a person (preferably an adult) trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) be part of the leadership for any BSA program."
16. **Discipline**.
    - "Youth must respect their leaders and follow their directions."

For additional health and safety information, consult the Guide to Safe Scouting and the other resources available at the national Scouting Safely website at www.scouting.org/ scoutsource/HealthandSafety.