

Troop 505

Adult Driving Safety Policy

1. For all trips of all durations we would recommend that when possible there be 2 adult drivers in each car. An example was for Boundary Waters in Ely, MN. We recognize that it may not be possible to have 2 adult drivers in each car on every trip.
2. When possible in situations where a second adult driver is not available to ride in a car, then Scouts will be rotated to sit in the front passenger side seat to engage the driver in discussion in an effort to minimize the potential impact of driver fatigue.
3. Stops should be made frequently by drivers to proactively minimize the potential impact of driver fatigue.
4. As per the Guide to Safe Scouting 10 hours / day total (for both driving and breaks combined) is the maximum allowable travel time duration / day. The trip tour plan needs to incorporate this 10 hour maximum into the plan. This is a maximum travel time. The stopping point for trips with a travel time longer than 10 hours will be selected by the trip planner to make the stages of the trip as equal as possible.
5. For trips with longer driving times and which are physically demanding for the drivers (such as Boundary Waters) the recommendation is that the adults and Scouts return to their base camp (from which they will drive home the next day) earlier in the day on the last day of the trip.
6. For longer duration and physically exhausting trips (like Boundary Waters) the adults should consider separate more quiet sleeping arrangements like inside a tent outside of the outfitters cabin with it's bunk bed arrangements. This would help provide more rest for the drivers the night before the long drive home.
7. For shorter mileage trips the level of fatigue for those participating in the event needs to be factored into whether or not to stay over night on the night of the outing rather than driving back home at the end of the day of the event. For example, staying overnight at Camp Freeland Leslie on Saturday night after a full day of skiing.
8. The trip coordinator is responsible for incorporating the safety requirements of the drivers into the tour plan. Any deviation from this tour plan would require the approval of the trip coordinator, Chartered Organization Rep, and Troop Committee Chair.
9. Consistent with BSA and Troop 505 policies the consumption of alcohol and the use of illegal drugs by those participating in Troop events is strictly prohibited. Those violating this policy will be subject to dismissal from the event and the incident will be reviewed by the Troop Committee who will make a determination on steps that will be taken to address the behavior.

10. Driver safety is to be incorporated into the planning and participant meetings held prior to the longer duration driving trips (such as Boundary Waters).
11. Drivers are responsible for ensuring that their vehicles are in optimum safe operating condition.
12. Safety reflectors will be stored in a visible storage location inside the Troop's trailer. In the event of a breakdown of either the trailer or the vehicle pulling the trailer these reflectors will be placed on the side of the road behind the trailer to enhance the visibility of the trailer to other drivers.
13. Adult driver's for the Troop should sign the one page "Risk Zone Driver's Pledge" located at the back of the "The Risk Zone Vehicle Transporting Scouts Safely" packet.
14. The "Risk Zone Driver's Pledge" document will be included in the parent's annual Troop registration packet.
15. All adult drivers in the Troop will complete the BSA Risk Zone training class once / year. In addition this BSA Risk Zone training is to be incorporated into the new training required for new adult leaders who join the Troop throughout the year.