GRUBMASTER GUIDE

***Buying Food for Your Patrol***

**Attention Grubmasters**:  Managing the food-buying task for your patrol is a very important job!

Your patrol members are going to be hungry and unhappy if you don’t buy enough food and.  Leftover food is often wasted if you buy too much.  A *Scout is Thrifty* is an important Scout Law to remember. Knowing your budget, planning your meals, and managing your funds are a big part of being successful in this leadership task.

**Plan the menu with your patrol**

This is usually done the meeting prior to the campout.Get a firm count of how many patrol members are going at the campout prep meeting. If you have 10 patrol members and 7 have said they are going, your budget is $150.  Buying too much food will cost your patrol extra money and is often wasteful.  Stay within your budget.

**Save all your receipts**

Buying food for the patrol is supposed to be a break-even proposition. As Grubmaster, it is your responsibility to stay within your food budget.  Spending beyond your budget must be approved by your patrol members. Submit your receipts along with a completed Grubmaster Reimbursement Form to the Treasurer to be reimbursed.

**Packing the food**

Do you like squished bread for sandwiches?  Pack the food in ways to protect it in the coolers and while it is transported to the campsite.  Remove excess wrappings to reduce weight and trash at the campsite. Zip-lock type plastic bags are an excellent choice.  At-home preparation will also make cooking at camp easier and quicker.

**After the campout**

The Scout who bought the food is responsible for removing all food from the patrol boxes and coolers and disposing of it.  Spoiled or ruined food is thrown out.  Food that is okay should be offered to be split among patrol members.

**The Goal**

The goal for every outing is that each patrol is responsible for its food and meals, and that each scout is provided with tasty balanced meals at each appropriate dining time.

***The Parent’s role***

*Parental advice, input, and transportation are important to the Grubmaster’s success.  The Grubmaster is the Scout.  He is expected to plan and purchase for the outing.  This means that the Grubmaster goes to the store, not just the parent(s).  Parental advice about nutrition and price comparison at the store is important.*

***Adult Leaders and Parents***

*Adult leaders and parents camp and eat together.  They do not camp or eat with the Scout Patrols.  They intervene only when the safety or health of a Scout is at stake. The Scout Patrol Leader is responsible for seeing that all arrangements for patrol cooking are completed.  An adult leader or parent may mentor (demonstrate once) or offer advice (talk to) the Patrol Leader, Grubmaster, or Scouts, but they do not do the cooking or cleanup for the Patrol.*