

# **SCOUTS BSA TROOP 189**

## **OKPIK WEEKEND**



## **DRAFT EVENT GUIDE**

**16 – 18 JANUARY 2026**

**MONROE RUN GROUP CAMPSITE**

**BIG RUN STATE PARK, 10368 SAVAGE RIVER ROAD, SWANTON,  
MARYLAND 21561**

**SUNRISE 0734, SUNSET 1719 FORECASTED CLOUDY, HIGH 35°F,  
LOW 14°F**

**POC: SPL LUCAS WISMAN / SM JOHN ORILLE**

**EVENT COORDINATOR: ASM DAN BAIR**

# CONCEPT

From 16 through 18 January 2026, the troop outdoor activity for this month is the troop's version of an OKPIK cold weather adventure at the Big Run State Park in Swanton, Maryland. The OKPIK Coldweather Campout is designed to enable Scouts to demonstrate the basics of winter camping and gain confidence in their personal equipment thus build resilience while camping comfortably in prolonged exposure to the cold. Skills may include building an outdoor shelter, e.g. quiznee, snow cave or other type shelter, cooking meals at low temperatures, test your fire building skills, experience snowshoes with pulksleds, take a winter hike, and enjoy a full array of other fun, winter activities.

## BIG RUN STATE PARK, MONROE RUN GROUP CAMPGROUND -

Big Run State Park is situated at the mouth of the Savage River Reservoir, Big Run State Park is the perfect base camp from which to enjoy the surrounding [Savage River State Forest](#). Campers at Big Run have easy access to fishing, boating, hiking or hunting opportunities.

Initially, we will establish a basecamp in the Monroe Run Group Campsite that site can accommodate up to 25 people, and includes a large shelter (built by the Civilian Conservation Corps) and three adjoining campsites. The shelter features a stone fireplace and electricity.



## PRIMITIVE CONDITIONS -

**Restrooms** - Big Run has two waterless toilet facilities, one at the intersection of Big Run Road and Savage River Road, and the other along Big Run Road, near the Monroe Run Pavilion.

**Drinking Water** - **Water is not available at Big Run.** Please plan ahead and bring drinking water.



**No Cell Phone Service** - There is no cell phone service at Big Run State Park. The nearest pay phone is located approximately 8 miles away, at 474 McAndrews Hill Road, Grantsville, Maryland (across the road from New Germany Lake).

# TROOP SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY- 16 JANUARY 2026

1700. In **Class A/Field Uniform**, link up at Montclair Tabernacle, take attendance, collect grub fee, any waivers or additional fees, etc. Cross-level personal gear, equipment and distribute food as necessary. Bring a bag-meal or money dinner for the road.

TBD. Depart link up point for Monroe Run Group Campground, Big Run State Park, Swanton, MD (~3 hour transit time based on local traffic.) \*\* Drivers are encouraged to download maps and make a brief fuel/bio break stops when able. Download maps if able as cell connection especially at the campground can be challenging if not unavailable.

TBD. Arrive Monroe Run Group Campground, Big Run State Park, Swanton, MD. Unload troop and personal equipment to establish a basecamp.

TBD. Campfire / Cracker barrel – Final Pre-Activity coordination meeting

TBD. Hygiene / Quiet time / Lights out

## SATURDAY- 17 JANUARY 2026

0700. Troop reveille / Hygiene / Breakfast prep

0730. Grace, breakfast & cleanup

0900. Troop meeting (review schedule, locations for activities, and supply needs), establish timeline for Activities, possible activities include: **BUILD SNOW SHELTERS, SNOWSHOEING & "PULKING", ICE RESCUE AND HYPOTHERMIA WRAP, FIRESTARTING & SNOW MELTING**

**W/OPEN FIRE, COOK MEALS AT LOW TEMPERATURES, NAVIGATION & HIKING**

1000. Begin Activities

1230. Grace, lunch, cleanup & hypothermia check

TBD. Resume Activities

TBD. Grace, dinner and kitchen clean up

TBD. Scoutmaster Conferences (as needed) & Patrol Bonding

TBD. Nighttime Navigation (Short Hike or Organized Activity, TBD)

TBD. Campfire / Cracker barrel – Post-Activity coordination meeting

TBD. Hygiene / Quiet time / Lights out

## SUNDAY- 18 JANUARY 2026

TBD. Troop reveille / Hygiene / Breakfast prep

TBD. Grace, breakfast & cleanup

TBD. Pickup basecamp, load trailer, leave no trace & depart state park in **Class A/Field Uniform..**

TBD. Lunch on the road.

# CAMPOUT ROSTER

Senior Patrol Leader: Lucas Wisman

Provisional Assistant Senior Patrol Leader: TBD

Blackhawk Patrol	Sons Of Liberty Patrol
Everett Anderson	Nicholas Wisman
Jude Bair	Jack Orille
Lucas Wisman	Jackson Thorpe
<b>** SILAS DYER **</b>	<b>** EMERSON DYER **</b>

Denotes: **\*\* PROVISIONAL ASSIGNMENTS \*\***

## DUTY ROSTER

BLACK HAWK PATROL Duty Assignment		Sat Breakfast	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Dinner	Sunday Breakfast
Grub Master		JUDE BAIR			
Cooks	Lead				
	Assist				
Clean/Wash	Lead				
	Assist				
Wood Gatherer	Lead				
	Assist				
Campfire	Lead				
	Assist				

SONS OF LIBERTY PATROL Duty Assignment		Sat Breakfast	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Dinner	Sunday Breakfast
Grub Master		JACKSON THORPE			
Cooks	Lead				
	Assist				
Clean/Wash	Lead				
	Assist				
Wood Gatherer	Lead				
	Assist				
Campfire	Lead				
	Assist				



# SAFETY & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

## BUDDY TEAM & YOUTH PROTECTION

- All Scouts must use the BUDDY SYSTEM at all times, reporting to the Senior Patrol Leader if they are departing the troop's immediate area for any reason.
- All adults providing direct supervision of Scouts (aside from their own child(ren)) require current BSA Youth Protection Training/Safeguarding Youth Training.

## INJURIES

- Scouts treat minor injuries using their individual first aid kit. For serious injuries & hurry cases, Scouts will check the scene, perform immediate aid, and call for assistance. The first Scouters or adults to arrive on the scene provide additional immediate aid as required, and determine whether medical evacuation is required by ambulance (911), troop vehicle or Ski Patrol.
- *Wilderness First Aid Trained - Scouters: 1) John Orille (trained/CPR-AED current)*
- For immediate, life-threatening emergencies near Big Run State Park (Maryland), **call 911**; for urgent but less severe issues, your nearest significant emergency care would likely be a hospital ER in nearby towns like Cumberland, MD, or Frostburg, MD, with **MedStar Health facilities** (like those in nearby DC/VA areas) or **Inova Healthplexes** serving broader regions, but check distances and services as Big Run is rural.
- Closest ERs (Likely in Cumberland/Frostburg): hospitals in **Cumberland, MD**, or **Frostburg, MD**, as these are the nearest populated areas with full emergency departments (e.g., UPMC Western Maryland in Cumberland).

## GEAR & SUPPORT

### ALL SCOUTS BRING THE FOLLOWING:

- See TroopTrack calendar item for recommended gear list.
- Grub fee if participating
- No junk food nor electronics

### THE TROOP PROVIDES:

- Troop First Aid Kit
- Firestarter

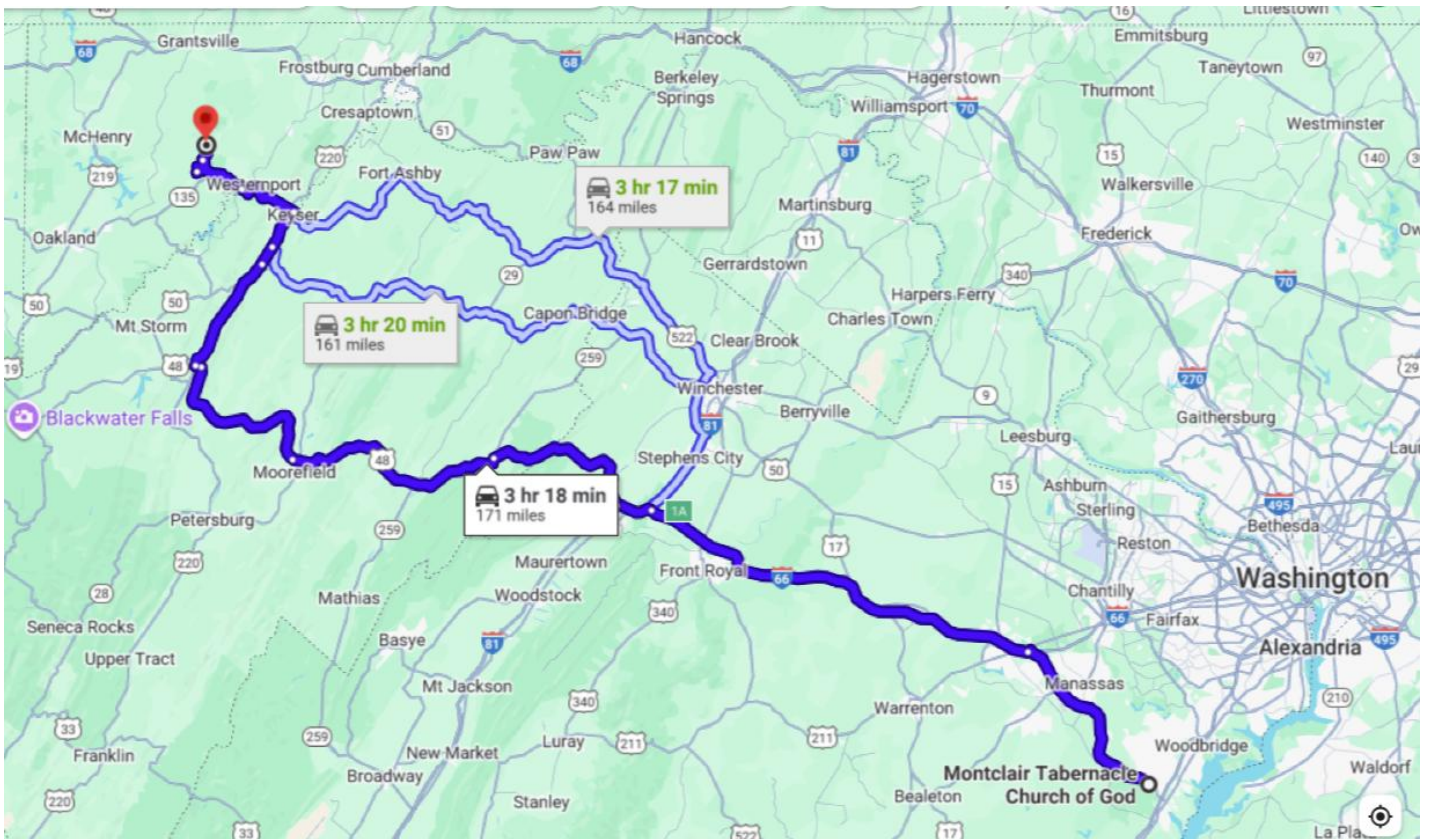
### CADRE SUPPORT. Cadre with following certifications:

- Basic Training:
  - 2 x SM/ASM with training - IOLS/YPT
- Supplementary Training:
  - 2 x BSA Trek Safely/Hazardous Weather
  - 1 x Wilderness First Aid Scouters
  - 1 x CPR/AED

### GRUB PLAN:

- 2 x breakfast (Saturday & Sunday) while at Big Run State Park, MD
- Personally procured Lunch & Dinner while on the road to/from Big Run State Park, MD
- Extra cash for Lunch, incidentals, snacks, etc.

# DRIVING DIRECTIONS



Directions to Big Run State Park, 10368 Savage River Road, Swanton, MD from Brittany Neighborhood Park (~3 1/2 hours drive):

**There is no Cell network near the Scout lodging therefore it is highly recommended to print these driving directions, use the native navigation system in your car provided that maps are up-to-date and downloaded or download maps to your cell phone for your cell phone navigation application.**

1. Continue on VA-234 N/Dumfries Road
2. Merge onto I-66W
3. Use left lane to take exit 1A to merge onto I-81 (SOUTH) toward Roanoke.
4. Take exit 296 for US-48/VA-55 toward Strasburg
5. Follow US-48W
6. Follow WV-93E to US-50E
7. Take US-220N to Chesapeake Ave in McCoolle
8. Follow MD-135 to Savage River Road in Garrett County

# Big Run State Park



Creekside Group Campsite

LEGEND	
	Shelters
	Camping
	Boat Launch
	Restroom
	Registration Area
	State Park
	Camp Site
	Parking
	Road
	Trail

Big Run Road

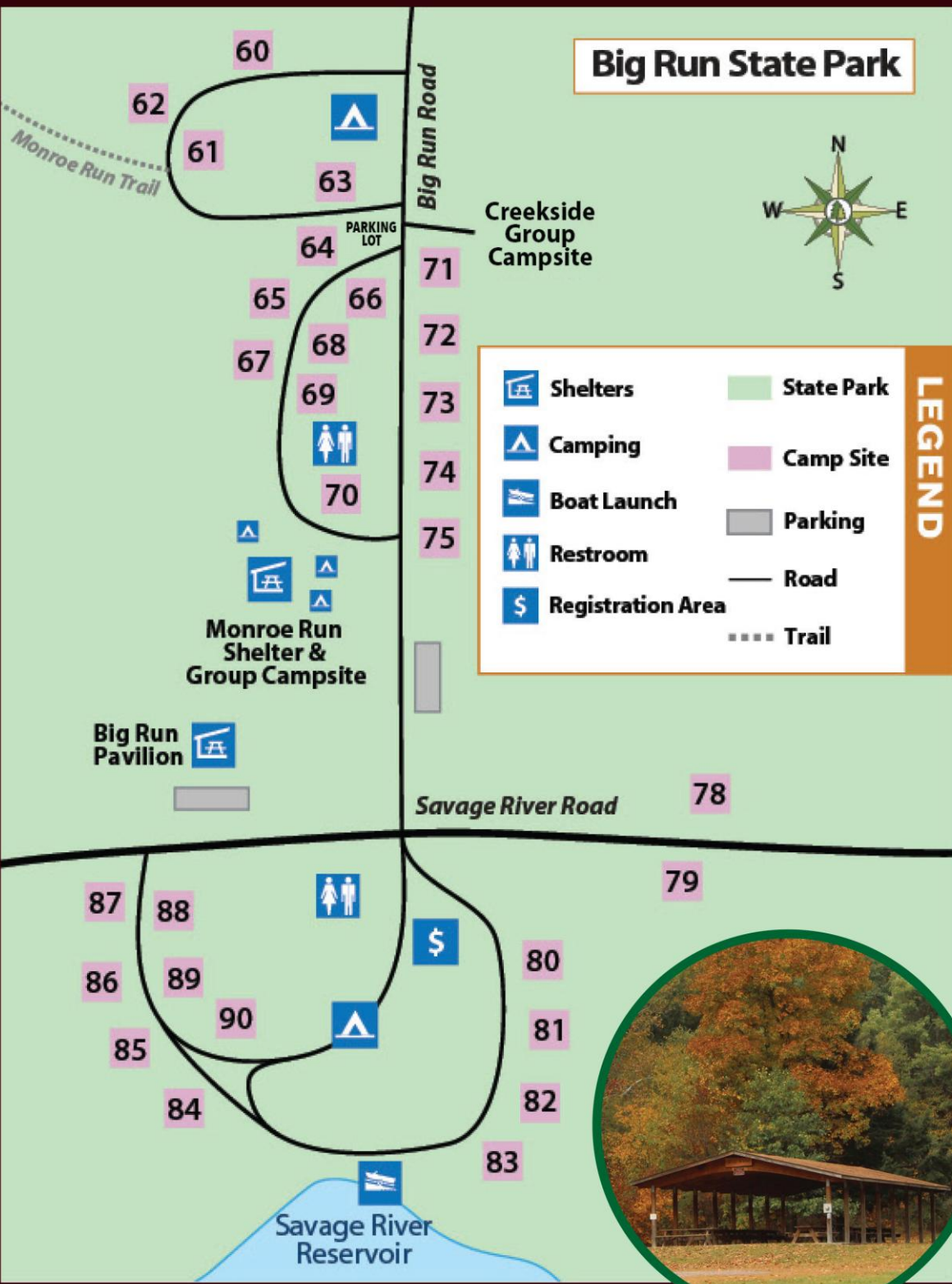
PARKING LOT

Monroe Run Shelter & Group Campsite

Big Run Pavilion

Savage River Road

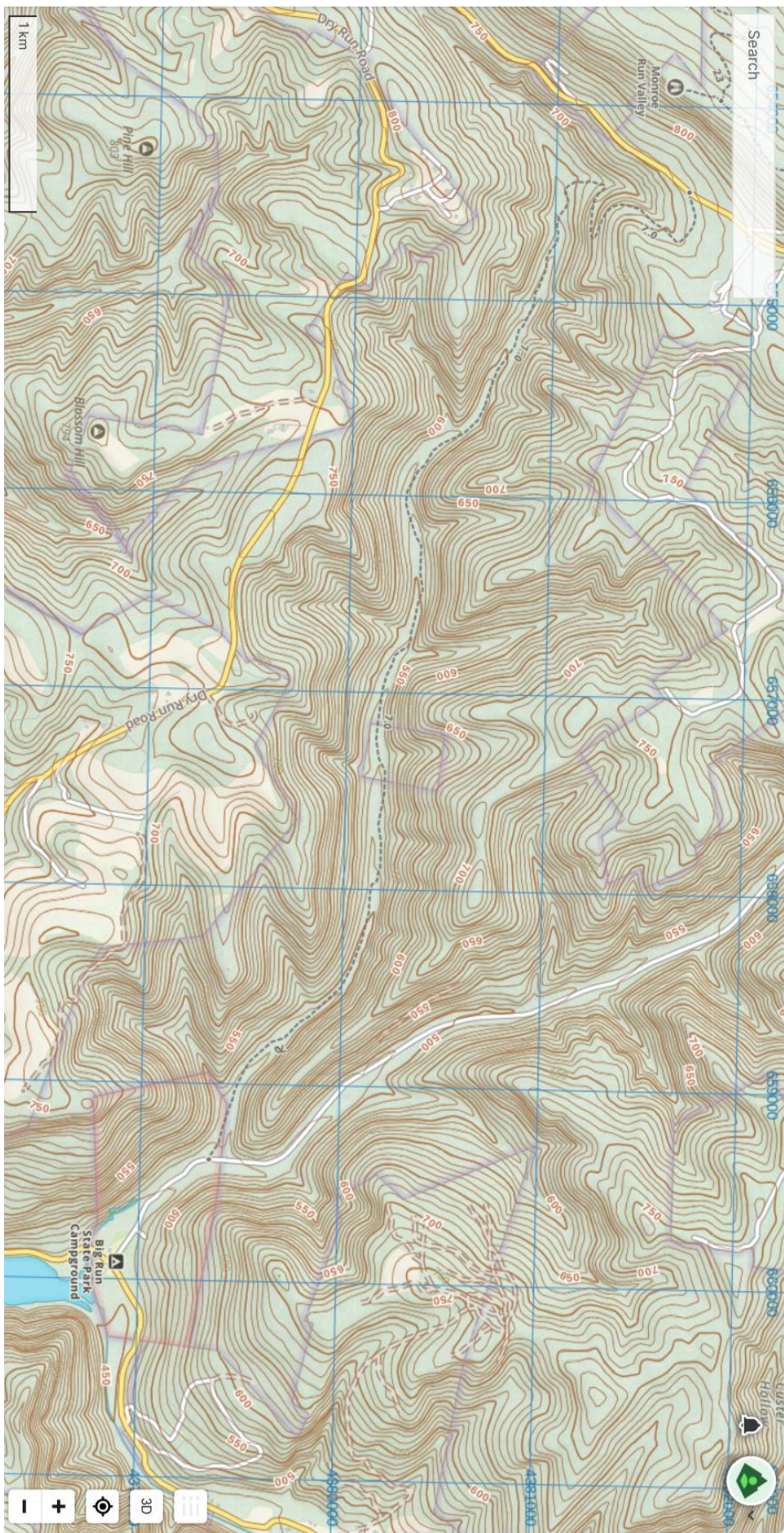
Savage River Reservoir











Okpik, Friday 16 Jan to Sunday 18 Jan  
ESSENTIAL COLD WEATHER GEAR

BIG RUN STATE PARK, Maryland

Ask the troop if you don't have any of the below

Item	Quantity	Description
Base Layer	2 sets	Long underwear (top and bottom) made of synthetic material like polypropylene or wool. This layer wicks moisture away from your skin.
Mid Layer	1-2	Fleece jacket or vest, or a wool sweater. This is your insulating layer.
Outer Layer	1	Waterproof and windproof jacket and pants. Ski pants work well. This layer protects you from the elements.
Socks	3-4 pairs	Wool or synthetic socks. Bring a fresh pair for sleeping to ensure your feet stay warm.
Underwear	2-3 pairs	Non-cotton underwear.
Footwear	2 pairs	Insulated, waterproof winter boots. Bring an extra pair of sneakers or boots in case one gets wet.
Headwear	2	A warm, insulated hat that covers your ears, and a balaclava or face mask for extra protection against wind and cold.
Gloves/Mittens	2 pairs	Insulated and waterproof. Mittens are generally warmer than gloves.

## SLEEP SYSTEM

Sleeping Bag	1	Rated for 0°F or lower. If you don't have a winter bag, you can use two 3-season bags, one inside the other, or add a fleece liner.
Sleeping Pad	2	A closed-cell foam pad and a self-inflating pad provide the best insulation from the cold ground.
Pillow	1 (optional)	A small camp pillow, or you can use a stuff sack filled with extra clothes.
Backpack	1	We will be hauling our gear through the snow, recommend water resistant
Water Bottle	2	At least 1-liter each. Insulated bottles can help prevent water from freezing.
Toiletries	1 kit	Toothbrush, toothpaste, and any personal medications.
Towel	1	A small, quick-drying towel.
Large Mouth Bottle	1	For use in the middle of the night if you don't want to get out of your tent
Trash Bags	2-3	To pack out all your trash and keep gear dry.