

## Cleaning/ Care Procedures

The Troop has spent a great deal of money on equipment and we need help from each scout to properly maintain the equipment. At the end of each campout, Scouts will be assigned certain equipment that must be taken home, cleaned and brought back to the next troop meeting (with the exception of tents / tarps that may need extra time to dry).

### Tarps

#### Guidelines When Taking Home

- Lay tarp out to dry. After it dries take a stiff broom and sweep all dirt and debris from the tarp.
- If dirt or mud remains on the tarp, you should spray it with water and use a stiff brush to clean off the dirt.
- After the tarp is completely dry and fold (or roll). Tie with one of the guy ropes.



Folded 😊



Rolled 😊



Dirty, unfolded 😡

### Tents

If you have been assigned tents to take home, you must set them up when you get home or hang them up in the garage or basement. Cleaning and drying tents is extremely important to prevent mildew and to increase the usable life of the tents. **Mildew can set into a tent in as little as 24 hours**, so it is important to get even a slight damp tent (like one you would find on a dewy morning) aired out quickly.

One of the easiest ways to damage your tent is by not drying it as quickly as possible after it gets wet.

**Storing a wet tent for as little as 24 hours in warm weather is likely to start the process of mildew formation.** Mildew can permanently damage the waterproof coatings by causing them to separate from the fabric, but mild to severe staining is more common. Mildew stains are permanent. They cannot be removed without potential harm to the fabric coatings. Even when your tent appears to be dry after use, it is always best to assure it is completely dry before storing. Hang it outside or pile it loosely in your house for a few days, turning it inside and out to assure it has dried everywhere. Never machine dry your tent as the heat can melt the fabric.

Typical Tent Parts

Item	QTY
Tent Body	1
Rain Fly	1
Tent Poles	
Tent Stakes	
Rope Guy Lines	



## Guidelines When Taking Tents Home

- Dry the tent, fly, bags and ground sheet by hanging outside (or setting tent up in your yard).
- Clean the tent
  - Shake out any debris from the inside of the tent.
  - Sweep out the inside of the tent, if necessary.
  - If there is mud/dirt in/on the tent, clean with a damp cloth.
- Make sure all the pieces are included.
  - Rain Fly
  - Tent Body
  - Tent Bag
  - Guy Lines (check for number of loops on tent)
  - Stakes (check for number of loops on tent)
  - Stake Bag
- Make sure the poles are in good shape.
  - Any poles missing or broken?
  - Are poles' shock cords intact? Are they frayed, and need replacement.
- Check for holes or rips in the tent and fly. Note location and size of any findings.
- Pack tent
  - Place the guy lines and stakes in the stake bag.
  - Fold the tent in half or thirds, so the width is somewhat less than the length of the tent bag.
  - Fold the fly so it is the same size or smaller than the folded tent.
  - Lay out the tent on the floor. Place the fly on top of the tent.
  - Roll the poles and stake bags inside of the tent and fly and place in the tent bag.
- Report issues
  - Note any problems on a piece of paper or blue painter's tape with your Patrol name and your name. Place the paper/tape in the top of the tent bag, where it is easily visible.
  - Report any missing items or problems to the quartermaster when you return the tents or tarps.
- Turn-in the tent to Quartermaster (be sure that records are updated that you turned it in)



Dry by Hanging



Dry by setting up



Clean the tent



Inspect for damage



Broken Poles?



Missing Pieces?



Pack Tent



Report Issues