



**TRAIL
LIFE
USA**

Survivalist

Name _____

Survivalist builds on the Survival Skills Trail Badge. It focuses on the skills needed for longer term survival in the wilderness. To work on Survivalist, one must be an Adventurer who has completed the Survival Skills Trail Badge. Care must be taken to ensure that the activities of this Trail Badge are permitted in the location(s) used to complete the requirements.

Note: Before ingesting any wild plant, fish, or land animal, get permission from your Mentor, Advisor, or wild foods expert as to what plants, fish, and land animals are safe to identify and eat in your area. Some edible and poisonous plants are difficult to distinguish and people die every year thinking they can identify the proper edible plants.

Planning and preparation requirements (1-3)

- ____1. Planning. Determine the wilderness area types available locally or in which you plan to travel. Possible wilderness area types include mountains, snow and ice, open ocean, woods, lakes and rivers, swamps, and desert. Then do the following:
 - ____a. List the survival skills applicable to your selected wilderness area types.
 - ____b. List the survival supplies small and light enough to be carried along for each selected wilderness area type.
- ____2. Survival Kit. Replenish supplies and upgrade the survival kit you made for Survival Skills (see resource section). Explain when and how to use the contents of the survival kit.
- ____3. Mental and Spiritual Preparedness. Show and explain your survival kit to a younger unit or patrol and do the following:
 - ____a. Explain to them what your thought processes and spiritual understanding should be in emergency survival situation.
 - ____b. Read the 23rd Psalm to them and explain how it relates to His care during a survival scenario.
 - ____c. Teach them one of the following:
 - ____i. Requirement 1 for Survival Skills Trail Badge: Survival principles and practices
 - ____ii. Requirement 3 for Survival Skills Trail Badge: Water
 - ____iii. Buddy system, basic trail safety, and what to do when they are lost.

Skill demonstration requirements (4 – 8):

Note: Any of requirements 4 – 7 may be done on the survival weekender to help meet the parts of requirement 8.

- ____4. Water. Construct and demonstrate one of the following water collecting devices and understand which environments these will work and not work:
 - ____a. Ankle dew collectors
 - ____b. Snow machine
 - ____c. Solar still
 - ____d. Vegetation bag
 - ____e. Transpiration bag

- ____5. Signaling. Demonstrate three signaling techniques and one method of looking bigger to a searcher in the air. (See the Resources section below).

- ____6. Wild Plant Food. Learn what plant parts are safe to eat and do the following:
 - ____a. Describe where to find them
 - ____b. Describe how to identify them
 - ____c. Describe how to prepare them
 - ____d. Make a list of these foods and during what season(s) you might find them.
 - ____e. Find several of these foods in the wilderness.
 - ____f. Explain the dangers of misidentifying these plants and/or eating a potentially hazardous plant.

- ____7. Wild animal trapping. Review the wildlife trapping laws in your state and local area and participate in a trapping learning activity and do the following:
 - ____a. Describe how to properly construct, set, and monitor animal traps.
 - ____b. List the characteristics of good locations for setting traps.
 - ____c. Explain how to safely remove animals that are caught.
 - ____d. Construct, set, and safety trigger two traps. (See the resource section for example types)
 - ____e. With the proper state and local area permissions and licenses, catch or trap a fish or land animal. Then properly clean it, cook it, and eat it.

- ____8. Survival Weekender. With your survival kit and essentials, camp two nights in a survival shelter you helped build and do the following:
 - ____a. Make a fire without matches for warmth, to heat a meal, or boil water.
 - ____b. Purify your drinking water from a local source.

- _____c. Eat at least two hot meals you help prepare from wild foods (plants, fish, or land animals).

Resources

See the resources section for Survival Skills Trail Badge for manuals, shelters, kit suggestions, signaling, and fire starting.

Animal Traps

Bait Stick Snare	Bow Trap	Drag Noose
Drowning Snare	Figure Four Deadfall	Greasy String Deadfall
Fish Snare	Fixed-Loop wire or Steel Cable Snare	Improved Springle Snare
Leg Snare	McPherson Spring Deadfall	Motion Triggered Snare
Ojibwa Bird Pole	Paiute Deadfall	Peg snare
Squirrel Pole	Toggle Deadfall	Treadle Snare

Trail Badge Mentor Signature

Date

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