

STAY WARM & DRY AT SNOW CAPADES

Staying warm and dry at Snow Capades is simple with a little pre-planning. Camp McLoughlin is 5,000 feet in elevation and days are not normally that cold, usually in the upper 30's. Staying dry is usually more of an issue as Scouts like to roll and play in the snow.

The key to staying dry is water proofing all outer garment. Once coats or bibs have been washed, they are no longer waterproof. The garments need to be treated with a water repellent product. Scotch Guard or a similar type product sprayed on coats/bibs easily done at home. There are also wash-in water repellent products available in sporting good stores. Dry cleaners can also water proof clothing.

Proper boots and socks make a difference for warm feet. Boots should have some insulation, and be made of waterproof material. Leather gets wet after several hours. Feet also get wet if snow drops inside the boot. The higher the top of the boot, the dryer the feet will stay. If the snow is really deep, gators are helpful. Gators can be made from bread bags. Several layers of socks help keep feet warm. Polypropylene or wool blends are good choices. If you choose not to buy a more expensive sock, bring a few extra pair. Street shoes are simply not allowed at Snow Capades, as feet will freeze once they are wet.

Staying warm is not usually a problem as the scouts are so active during the day. Layers are the key to staying comfortable all day. Layers can be added or taken off as needed during the day. Long underwear, turtlenecks, and sweats (fleece) all add warmth under the waterproof layer.

Gloves and/or mittens must be waterproof to stay dry all day. Knit gloves or mittens get wet very quickly. Bringing extra gloves/mittens is a great idea

Hats and turtle fur (scarf) are great ways to stay warm and dry on windy, stormy days. The wind off the lake can be very cold. Snow dropping off trees is miserable when it hits the back of your neck.

Another idea to make your day more enjoyable is to bring back packs to carry

your extra gear. Cub Packs & Girl Scout Troops are welcome to bring a tarps and sleds to help with their gear during the day. Walkie-Talkies help leaders stay in touch with one another. Snow Capades uses channel 4, so please use a different channel for your group. Bring a snack for the way home, as the Scouts will be hungry at the end of the day.

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