Cold Weather Camping

Use this list along with you regular campout checklist when planning for cold weather camping or outdoor activity.

Clothes

- wool cap or synthetic ski cap that covers the ears. One for day, One for night.
- warm long underwear, tops and bottoms (thermal or duo fold suggested)
- warm long sleeve shirt
- warm sweater or jacket
- windproof jacket (ski jacket, parka)
- raincoat or poncho (be sure it fits over the jacket)
- warm pants (synthetic material that sheds water is the best)
- snow pants or ski pants to wear over regular pants
- wool or synthetic material socks (wear two or three pair at once) and several spare pairs
- boots, loose fitting and waterproof
- mittens, several pairs ,preferably waterproof or water resistant. Keep one dry for sleeping.
- spare long underwear and socks to change into at bedtime (and wear the next day)

Sleeping Gear

- sleeping bag and extra blanket(s)
- insulated pad to put under the sleeping bag (foam rubber, air mattress, etc.)

Personal Equipment

- flashlight that works and has new batteries
- knife
- personal first aid kit
- compass
- plastic bag to hold wet boots in tent or sleeping bag at night
- mess kit: cup, fork, spoon, plate
- clean up kit: soap, tooth brush/paste, wash cloth
- backpack to hold personal gear
- canteen or water bottle one to two quart size
- throw-away hand warmers (can be purchased at Wal-Mart or K Mart for a few dollars)

Summary

Winter clothing in the outdoors is best worn in layers. The clothing works best if several light layers are worn to start the day and then scouts can remove one or two layers as the day progresses. Dry layers can be put back on at night as the temperature lowers and activity decreases. Completely changing ALL clothes before getting in your sleeping bag is extremely important.