



Girl Scouts – Diamonds of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas

Emergency Procedures for All Camps

www.girlscoutsdiamonds.org

In all emergency situations remember to STAY CALM. Children will reflect your example. Account for ALL members of your troop/unit/group. DO NOT DISCUSS EMERGENCY SITUATIONS WITH OR AROUND GIRLS.

Before retiring at night, each camper/leader is to have on the floor at the head of her/his bed the following emergency gear: raincoat, flashlight, long pants, shoes and pillow (the one she/he is using.)

Severe Weather/Tornados/Lightning:

- ❖ The Lower Lodge at Camp Noark, the ark at Camp High Point, the troop house basement at Camp Crossed Arrows, the main shower at Camp Cahinnio, the shower houses at Camp Taloha, the lodge bathroom at Radford House, the clubhouse at Camp Kemp and at Burnham Woods, the Cookie Cabins move to the Nature Center restroom, Ellyn's House move to the hallway, Kelley Cabin move to the west wall; these are the primary severe weather shelters. If adequate warning is received proceed immediately to the closest shelter in the event of a tornado or severe weather.
- ❖ Do not seek shelter under trees or stand near any tall or metallic objects.
- ❖ Do not hold a cell phone or radio, especially one with an antenna.
- ❖ Stay away from areas in camp where power lines are running. Watch for fallen lines.
- ❖ If you are in a unit, seek shelter inside the pavilion storage area and cover head with pillow or arms.
- ❖ If you are near the Dining Hall, seek cover away from windows. If a tornado is approaching, seek shelter under tables. Have campers cover their head with a pillow or arms during a tornado.
- ❖ If you are out in the open, seek shelter in a ravine or depression away from tall trees. If a tornado is approaching, lie flat and cover head with pillow or arms. If lightning, drop to knees and bend forward putting elbows on knees and hands over ears.

DO NOT MOVE CAMPERS IN SEVERE WEATHER. In some cases, the weather service will issue a warning well in advance, allowing you to plan your shelter.

For Lightning Situations: Use the 30-30 rule where visibility is good and there is nothing obstructing your view of the thunderstorm. When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles of you and is dangerous. Seek shelter immediately. The threat of lightning continues for much longer period than most people realize. **Wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder before leaving shelter.** Don't be fooled by sunshine or blue sky!

If it is cloudy or objects are obscuring your vision, get inside immediately. It is always safer to take precautions than to wait.

Fire:

- ❖ Should a group notice indication of a fire in camp or its perimeter, or should a fire get out of control; signal others in camp with a continuous sounding of a car horn.
- ❖ Contact the Site Manager and call 9-1-1.
- ❖ If the fire signal is heard, move campers along to the nearest road.
- ❖ If the fire is large and moving in camp, move campers sideways from the fire's path using roads (not trails) toward the entrance. If this line of escape is blocked, move campers to the meadow.

Earthquake:

- ❖ Take cover under a heavy piece of furniture or against an inside wall. Or lie down and curl up in a fetal position next to a large piece of furniture. STAY INSIDE.
- ❖ If outside, move into an open area away from buildings, light poles and utility wires. Stay until tremors stop. Do not approach downed lines or damaged propane tanks.

Power Outage:

- ❖ If you see or hear sparks from a power line, remove campers from the area immediately.
- ❖ Contact the Site Manager and call 9-1-1.

