

## Tent Pitching Essentials:

- ✓ Before staking the base of the tent, make sure that the base of the tent is stretched tight!
- ✓ Pitch the tent taut...use all the guylines on the side and stake them securely. Make sure the rain fly isn't sagging onto the interior tent fabric
- ✓ Watch for drainage patterns. Set up on high ground! Don't camp in a depression where water can collect, in a streambed (even if it's dry) or too close to the water's edge. Water levels can sometimes change suddenly.
- ✓ "Shelter your shelter". Use trees, bushes, or large boulders as wind breaks. Tents should face away from prevailing winds.
- ✓ Do not pitch your tent under trees with dead branches that could fall onto the tent.

## Tent Drying and Care

If you are responsible for care of a tent that has gotten wet during a troop outing there are some specific things you need to know.

- Pull the tent out of the bag within 1 day of returning home (delay can result in the growth of mildew or mold which can damage the tent and cause odors)
- **Clean** off any spills, shake or sweep out any loose dirt or sand.
- **Dry** the tent out by any of these methods. ***DO NOT EVER put the tent in a clothes dryer or washer.*** This will damage the tent and destroy the water proofing:
  - Set up the tent and fly. Don't worry about staking it. It just needs to get air
  - OR**
  - Spread the tent out on the ground or floor of your garage or basement
  - OR**
  - Hang the tent from the garage or basement ceiling so that the tent can air out and dry. You can also hang it from between trees or over a clothes line.
- **Inventory** the tent parts and record missing or broken parts needing repair or replacement using the below list. Attach a note by tape or string to the tent and make sure that you report it to the Troop Quartermaster so the tent can be fixed before the next outing.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tent Name & # \_\_\_\_\_

| # | Item                  | X if all present | Condition (OK, dirty, bent, etc) | Comment |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Tent                  |                  |                                  |         |
| 1 | Rain Fly              |                  |                                  |         |
| 1 | Tent Bag              |                  |                                  |         |
| 4 | 4-piece A-frame poles |                  |                                  |         |
| 1 | 3-piece ridge poles   |                  |                                  |         |
| 2 | 1-piece end poles     |                  |                                  |         |
| 1 | Pole Bag              |                  |                                  |         |
| 8 | Stakes                |                  |                                  |         |
| 1 | Stake Bag             |                  |                                  |         |
| 1 | Plastic Tarp          |                  |                                  |         |