

Totally Tetons Tribune

June 2008

ARROWCORPS 5
A HIGHER ADVENTURE

Volume I

Issue 5

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Be Weather Smart!

The National Health and Safety Committee has made available on the BSA's MYSCOUTING web site a new on-line training course called WEATHER SMART. This on-line training outlines ten different types of weather conditions (e.g., Thunderstorm, Hurricane, Lightening) that a unit may come across in an event, either in the planning stages or during the event itself. The BT Safety Officers encourage everyone to sign up to take the on-line course prior to your arrival. It will be worth your time!



Important Registration Information

Know Your Council Name and Number:

As with other national OA events, registration for Bridger-Teton ArrowCorp5 is done by council contingent. We do not have lodge names or numbers in our database, just the council name and number. Please make sure all members of your contingent know their council name and number to speed things up.

Contingents That Have Members from Multiple Councils:

Some council contingents include youth or adults from another council. This is usually done to ensure two-deep adult leadership. Participants from one council who are coming as part of another council's contingent for Bridger-Teton should know that council's name and number, in addition to their own.

Bring Your Medical Forms With You:

All participants and staff at Bridger-Teton AC5 will need to have the proper medical form with them on arrival to hand in as part of the check-in processing. Please make sure that everyone in your contingent has the necessary forms with them before you leave home. Do not mail your medical forms in, bring them with you. (See the March *Totally Tetons Tribune* page 1 article for more details on what Medical form is required.)

Reminder: Arrival and Departure Dates and Location:

Unless other arrangements have been made in advance, all participants are scheduled to arrive at Bridger-Teton on Saturday, July 26th, between 9:00am and 5:00pm. Participants will check in at the Jackson Hole High School, 1910 High School Road, Jackson, WY 83001. All participants will be departing on Saturday, August 2, after breakfast and before 11:00am.

Special Arrival or Departure dates:

To accommodate flight schedules, some contingents have had to make special arrangements to arrive early or depart later than the regular schedule. To avoid any surprises, please confirm any special arrival or departure arrangements via email to our registration director, Joe Glenski (glenski@cray.com), before July 10th. Please email directly to Joe for this confirmation.

Check-In location:

Contingent check-in processing for Bridger-Teton is planned to take place inside the main West doors of the Jackson Hole High School. If you are driving to the school, you will turn off the main highway to High School Road, then go West on the road past the school, then turn left on the access road, then turn left again into the West side main parking lot. From the west lot, enter the school through main West doors (see picture below). If you are using the shuttle from the airport, the vans will drop you by the North-West corner of the school, and it is a short walk to the main West doors from there.



The main parking lot and West doors at the Jackson Hole High School

Fees Should All be Paid:

All AC5 participant fees should have been received at the national OA office by now. If you know you still have any fees outstanding, please send them in immediately. The AC5 participant fee is \$300 for any person not fully paid by May 1st.

Fun at Bridger-Teton!

Tyler Elliot

BT Youth Deputy IC for Program



Looking for that special activity to keep you busy after dinner? Well, look no further!

After a hard work day, everyone deserves a little bit of relaxation and play. At each site, we will be offering multiple opportunities for fun and fellowship in the evenings. Some of activities that you will be able to choose from include: plant identification, film show, mountain man, astronomy, and much more. While we encourage everyone to take part in the evening activities, they will not be required. If you want to just gather and talk about scouting, the OA, or what a great place you're in, that will be available too. For those Arrowmen who are based in Jackson, we will have some athletic recreation options. Be sure not to miss out on the sweet stuff after dinner each night!

Water, Water, Everywhere!

Not a Drop to Drink

Admittedly, water availability during ARROWCORPS 5 is not as dire as that in the 'Rime of the Ancient Mariner,' but when one is in a backcountry environment one has to rely on water from a variety of sources. Therein lays the challenge.

This article provides a broad review of having clean usable water in the backcountry as well as in the front country (those stationed at the Jackson High School). For the most part, the backcountry areas and camps will be using what are called QB's. The QB's hold about 5 gallons of water each. Traditional purifying of water will still be done to help accommodate all the drinking, cooking, and sanitation water needed for the backcountry areas.

Sources of Water

On the topological maps for the Bridger-Teton service areas, water sources are indicated. You cannot always depend upon topo maps. Springs can run dry and many springs or small streams are intermittent. As a general rule of thumb, the higher in elevation one is traversing, the harder it will be to find water. Conversely, the lower in elevation one is the more water there is, and the more likely it is that water will require treatment. Water sources vary from stagnant pools dribbling from their source to clear, ice-cold springs bubbling up from the ground. Regardless, always err on the side of safety, treat or boil all untreated water!

Backcountry Tip: Treat or boil all untreated water!

BEST TO WORST SOURCES OF WATER	LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE	
	<i>L O W</i>	<i>O K A Y</i>
		<i>HIGH</i>
Faucet or hose or water buffalo		X
Piped spring		X
Unprotected spring <i>(Look for animal tracks in the vicinity of spring!)</i>		X
Mountain water run-off – along rock face <i>(Look for upper level pond or lake source!)</i>		X
Streams <i>(Consider source of stream: Does it run near elk or livestock pasture? Or, does it stay in unprotected wilderness areas? How cold is the water? How fast is the water running? Running over rocks or over greenery? What color and smell is the water?)</i>	X	
Ponds or lakes <i>(Always assume the worst.)</i>	X	

Source: *Appalachian Trail Backpacker*

Water Treatment: The Why

The major source of concern about water in the backcountry is purity, specifically contamination by *Giardia*. According to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, *giardiasis* is recognized as one of the most frequently occurring waterborne diseases in the United States. *Giardia*, short for the protozoan, *Giardia lamblia*, is the most common cause of diarrhea in the backcountry. It is found in water sources in mountains throughout the world. It originates from the feces of native animals, farm animals or humans.

The onset of *Giardia* is characterized by diarrhea occurring six to 20-days following infection. Diarrhea distress may be accompanied by one or more of the following: abdominal cramping; bloating; fatigue; and, vomiting. Indirect effects may include both dehydration and weight loss. If any Arrowman suffers from diarrhea at anytime during ARROWCORPS5, then he or she is advised to seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Backcountry Tip: Anywhere there are animals (including humans), there's a chance of Giardia.

Water Treatment: The How

There are three water treatment methods in the backcountry. The first is to boil the water; the next method is to chemically purify the water; and, the last is to filter the water. Without addressing the merits or drawbacks of one water treatment method over another, suffice it to say that the safest water treatment protocol in the backcountry is to filter the water then boil and chemically treat the water before use or consumption. In other words, do all three – but filter first.

Filtering

There are a number of mechanical devices on the market that filter out microorganisms. The principle of a water filter is that water is pushed through a microscopic filter that is rated for certain-size organism. The standard rating is based upon the micron. Depending on the micron rating of the filter, smaller organisms (like viruses or bacteria) can pass through. Be cautious about selecting a filter for personal use.

Backcountry Tip: The safest water treatment is to filter the water, then chemically treat and boil the water before use or consumption.

ORGANISM	EXAMPLES	GENERAL SIZE	FLTER TYPE	PARTICLE SIZE RATING
Protozoa	Giardia, Cryptosporidium	5 microns or larger	Water Filter	1.0 – 4.0 microns
Bacteria	E. coli, Salmonella	0.2 – 0.5 microns	Microfilter	0.2 – 1.0 microns
Viruses	Rotavirus	0.004 microns	Water Purifier	To 0.004 microns

Boiling

Boiling is the most certain method of killing all microorganisms. According to the Wilderness Medical Society, water temperatures above 160 degrees F. kill all pathogens within 30-minutes and above 185 degrees F. within a few minutes. So, in the time water takes to reach the boiling point (212 degrees F.) from 160 degrees F., all pathogens will be killed, even at higher altitude. At Bridger-Teton, let the water boil rapidly for no less than three minutes, especially since water will boil at a lower temperature (198 degrees F. at above 7,500 ft and below 10,000 ft).

Chemical Purification

Among the various products that are marketed for water purification, there are principally two types: those using iodine and those using chlorine. The common element among most of the products, regardless of type, is that purification tablets have an expiration date and become ineffective after that point. The effectiveness of all chemical purification of water is related to the temperature, pH level, and clarity of the water. Cloudy water usually requires higher concentrations of chemical to disinfect.

Iodine is light sensitive and must always be stored in a dark bottle. It works best if the water is over 68 degrees F. and the chemical is allowed to interact with the water for at least 30-minutes. Iodine has been shown to be more effective than chlorine-based treatments against *Giardia*. The drawbacks for using iodine are the following:

- *People who are allergic to iodine and shellfish (e.g. lobster and shrimp) should not use iodine tablets for water treatment!*
- Persons with thyroid problems or on lithium, women over 50-yrs of age and pregnant women should consult their physician prior to using iodine for purification.
- Iodine leaves a not-so-pleasant taste in the water. There are numerous techniques on how one can dissipate the after-taste of iodine treatment.

Chlorine chemical treatments, such as Halazone, are more susceptible to variables such as concentration of chlorine to water, contact time, amount of pH, and water clarity. So, follow the instructions for the selected chlorine treatment and boil the treated water, when it's practical to do so, for optimum results.

How Much Water Does One Need?

Due to the higher elevation that the B-T crews will be working, the time of the summer season and the strenuous nature of the service projects that the Teams will be accomplishing, water management is a paramount concern. Water is the most essential 'nutrient' for the human body and staying safely hydrated is a priority. Each morning, the B-T Arrowmen should depart for their project site with no less than two, 2-liter NALGENE® bottles of treated water.

Backcountry Tip: Each morning, take two, 2-litre NALGENE bottles of treated water with you to your B-T project site.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This month, we bring you another set of the most frequently asked questions about the Bridger-Teton ArrowCorp⁵ project. If you have a question that has not been answered, please e-mail us at oa.bridgertetons@gmail.com and we'll get you an answer. If you have a question, we're sure someone else has the same question. Who knows, your question might find its way here to the FAQ page!

Q: Will it be hot or cold at the Bridger-Teton project?

A: There was snowfall in at Bridger-Teton in early June. You need to think "layers" when packing for AC5. It might be 85 degrees in the afternoon and 15 degrees that night.

Q: Will the Arrowmen based in Jackson use the high school showers and bathrooms?

A: No. There will be too many participants for the high school facilities to handle. There will be outdoor showers and porta-potties on site at Jackson High School.

Q: Will I be able to wash clothes during the week?

A: No. There will not be a opportunity to wash clothes during the week. Think of a Philmont Trek when planning how much clothing to pack—except remember to think "layers" for the potentially large temperature range.

Q: Will my cell phone work at B-T?

A: Most likely not. Cell phone reception is spotty. There may be some weak reception near the high school, but there will definitely not be cell phone signal in the backcountry. There will be radios on the trail that will be in constant contact with the Jackson base for safety and emergencies.

Q: Will I have access to my vehicle during the week?

A: No. There is limited parking space at Jackson High School. Due to the large number of vehicles, we have secured off-site parking. Your vehicle will most likely not be located at Jackson High School. You must plan to take everything you need for the week out of your vehicle.

Watch your inbox each month for a new issue of the *TOTALLY TETONS TRIBUNE*. In future issues, we will continue to make sure you get the information you need. If you have burning questions and you need an answer sooner, you can check the official ArrowCorp⁵ Bridger-Teton web site link on the National Order of the Arrow web site at www.oa-bsa.org.

If you need to contact one of the ArrowCorp⁵ Bridger-Teton Key Staff, please use the e-mail addresses below. You can also submit questions to the official e-mail address for our project at oa.bridgertetons@gmail.com.



General Questions - Alex Kahler, Admin/Finance Deputy Chief oa.bridgertetons@gmail.com

Squad and Assistant Squad Leader Questions - Brian Seeton, Operations Section Chief bseeton@aol.com

Logistics staff questions - Ken Davis, Logistics Section Chief daviskenjared@aol.com

Planning staff questions - Andy Martin, Plans Section Chief apmrunner@hotmail.com

Finance and Admin staff questions - Bill Lenker, Finance/Admin Section Chief billandstace@sio.midco.net

Youth Leadership - Sam Fife, Deputy Youth Incident Commander sam.e.fife@gmail.com