

Troop 255

Whitewater Trip

Saturday and Sunday, May 19th and 20th, 2018

Overview: On Saturday, Troop 255 will raft down the Lower Youghiogheny (the most versatile stretch of whitewater on the east coast). The Lower Youghiogheny River trip will be a 7.5 mile rafting adventure into the scenic 30,000 acre Ohiopyle State Park, which will start at the Ohiopyle Trading Post (171 Dinnerbell Road, Ohiopyle PA 15470) and end at Bruner Run. We will stop for a deli-style lunch around 1:00PM.



We will be using brand new self-bailing inflatable 4-6 man boats with foot stirrups allowing you to dig into the waves. An experienced guide from OTP will lead each boat. Scouts who have already earned either the Canoeing or Kayaking merit badge will be able to earn the Whitewater merit badge!

This is a water trip. You will get wet! The water on the Yough is notoriously cold. Do NOT wear cotton (cotton will get wet, stay wet and detract from your body heat very quickly). Synthetics are recommended. Poly-pro, wool, fleece or Underarmor-type wicking workout material. If it is a colder day, one thing that helps to keep people warm as well as shed the spray is to wear windbreaker or rain slicker type material over your base layers. A pair of wool socks are also recommended, along with tennis shoes or watershoes for footwear (nothing without a heel strap - they will get lost and become litter in the river).

OTP staff consists of white water athletes that are certified in First Aid, CPR and have gone through extensive river training.

Camping. As soon as we have all completed the whitewater trip, we will drive over to Ohiopyle State Park. We have a number of individual tent sites on the Fir Road loop.

Weather: The weather in mid-May is hard to predict. Sometimes it's 70's and sunny, other times it's 50's and rainy.

Assemble: 6:30am on Saturday at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Return: 1:00pm on Sunday at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Cost: \$120 per person for whitewater trip, camping + transportation. (Does not include wet suit. Even if it is not a cold day, you will likely want protection from the cold river. OTP charges \$10 for the bib overall and \$5 for a paddling jacket)

Food: Scouts will plan and prepare dinner and breakfast by patrol. Bring healthy snacks and fluids for the drive up. OTP will provide a deli-style lunch at a break during the water trip. Bring money for lunch for fast food on Sunday.