

Inner Tube Float Trip Reservation Bulletin

Your most enjoyable excursion of the week will be a float trip down the Salt Fork River. Arranged transportation will be needed to take your group to the drop-off point up-river from camp and you'll drift down the lazy Salt Fork to the swinging bridge at camp. Enjoy the scenic waterway from the best seat in the house as a special adventure with your troop. Inner Tube Float Trips can be scheduled at a time that is best for the troop. Most of the excursions take place early morning before breakfast or late afternoon prior to supper. Inner tubes and life jackets are provided for all participants on the Inner Tube Float Trips.

Safety Features

The Prairielands Council follows the Safety Afloat requirements for this activity, so in addition to Safe Swim Defense procedures, the BSA boating policies are also met. Two deep leadership policies must be met for the trip. If the issue of the two-deep leadership causes a hardship with the troop, either for the Float trippers or for the Scouts remaining in camp, arrangements can be made through the Camp Drake management. Adults from multiple troops can be arranged to meet the two-deep leader qualifications on the trip or in the campsite. All Scouts and leaders must be swimmers to participate on an Inner Tube Float Trip. All Inner Tube Floaters will wear a lifejacket and protective footwear. Prior to each trip, a safety briefing will remind participants of the pertinent factors and stress the buddy system. The weather conditions and river water levels will be reviewed with trip leaders prior to each excursion. The adult leaders on the tube trip have full authority to make safety decisions for the activity.

Trip Procedures

Upon arrival at Camp Drake, troop leaders will finalize scheduling for the Inner Tube Float Trip, confirming timing of trip, adult participation, swimmer qualifications, and total number of participants. As a part of the Sunday evening Leaders' Meeting, the BSA Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training session will review aquatics policies. Transportation arrangements and river conditions for the trip will be confirmed with the Program Director one day prior to the event. Inner Tube Floaters will meet at the appointed time at the Inner Tube Corral, located at the top of the plateau just east of the Ranger's Maintenance Building (the Tin Shed). The drop-off point for the trip is on the north side of the Salt Fork River and is up-river of the bridge on North 850 East Road, just north of the intersection with Camp Drake Road. Inner Tube Floaters get out of the river underneath the Camp Drake Swinging Bridge at the take-out point on the east (right-hand) side. The final step (maybe the most difficult) will be to bring the tubes and life jackets up the hill and back to the Inner Tube Corral.



Inner Tube Float Trip Reservation Form

Please return this portion of the form to the Prairielands Council, Box 6267, Champaign, IL 61826-6267 or Fax to (217) 356-7291, or e-mail to susan.coller@scouting.org

Troop Number _____

Troop Contact Person _____

Approx. No. of Floaters _____

Contact Phone Number _____

Preference of Timing for Inner Tube Float trip
CIRCLE ONE

Morning (pre-breakfast)

Afternoon (pre-supper)

Preference of Date for Float trip
NUMBER 1 TO 5, WITH 1 AS FIRST CHOICE

Mon. ____

Tue. ____

Wed. ____

Thu. ____

Fri. ____