WHY IS THE 10 O’CLOCK LINE A DIFFERENT KIND OF TRAIL?

A. It is a test of the self-reliance of your group.
   1. You do not check in or out with anyone.
   2. You will find all instructions and information in this brochure; Read it carefully.
   3. You must carry all food and water used by your group while on the trail.
   4. The group is to stay together AT ALL TIMES.
   5. Work out the answers to the questions on your hike credentials together. They are designed to teach you something about this part of Indiana.
   6. You must provide your own transportation from the end of the trail. This DOES NOT mean asking the park people, State Police and other busy persons to haul you around. Drive your own cars or ask another Scout group to assist you.

B. The trail is an unusual hiking experience.
   1. It is mostly a cross country hike into the wilderness areas of Southern Indiana.
   2. The trail includes a bee-line compass course.
   3. You will see some of the best scenery and steepest hills in Indiana.

THE 10 O’CLOCK LINE

In the days when Indiana was still a territory, it was necessary to negotiate frequently with the Indian tribes to secure new lands for pioneer settlers of the area. William Henry Harrison, territorial governor, was very skillful in these talks with the Indians because he understood how they thought and reacted.

In a month-long series of councils with the Miami, Delaware and Potawatomi tribal chiefs in September, 1809, at Fort Wayne, the governor gained three million acres of land to be bounded on the north by the 10 O’clock Line. This line was the sort of boundary that the Indians could understand and hence respect. The line extends almost due southeast from the junction of the Wabash River and Raccoon Creek near Montezuma to a point near Seymour. The line was established by the direction of the sun’s shadow at 10 o’clock on the morning of each September 30th.

This hike is a real rough one as it follows the Line across many of Southern Indiana’s ridges and valleys by use of stage coach roads, Indian trails and historic forest highways that were in use during the development of Southern Indiana just before and after the treaty at Fort Wayne.
The 16-mile trail starts in the Scout camping area of the Yellowwood State Forest on Yellowwood Lake and almost immediately heads uphill to Jumbled Ridge, down Dubois Road, through Salt Creek, up to Hickory Hill and the pioneer cemetery. After crossing Highway 46, you pass a log cabin on your right which was a way-station on the old stage coach road. The trail heads up Taylor Ridge past the stone quarry, into the State Park where you will cross Bowie Knife Knob, with its ruins of a C.C.C. camp. Here you head down the steep hill to the Pearl of the Woods, along Skinner Creek, through Greenhorn Dip to the 306° compass course which takes you over a series of ridges up Grunt and Groan Slope to the main park road near the fire tower. Turn right along the road and walk to the end of the trail at the tower on Weed Patch Hill. Once you start the compass course, you will find no more signs.

INFORMATION FOR HIKERS

This is a very rugged trail with many steep hills. You should allow 8 to 9 hours for the entire hike. During hot weather you should plan an early start.

Conditioning hikes are always a good idea. There are few places where cars can pick up tired hikers, so get your group in good physical condition. Two pick-up points are shown on the area map.

The trail is marked with bright yellow diamonds with a red 10 in the center. Turns are indicated by pointing a tip of the sign.

The countryside is especially beautiful in the early spring or in the fall when the leaves are turning. A winter hike is a rewarding experience but unfortunately this also coincides with the hunting season. We do not recommend hikes from the 10th of November until about February 1st. The trail is definitely closed during the deer season which occurs in the latter part of November.

Read this pamphlet carefully before hiking the trail and consult the bulletin board in the campground. All groups must have responsible adult leadership to meet the requirements of the Committee and the State. Scout groups should use tour permits from their local council offices to help plan a safe trip.
All hikers must meet the General Requirements. If you wish to qualify for the medal, you must satisfy the Special Requirements, too.

FOR DRIVERS
Use your state highway map to Nashville or Bloomington. The area map will help you find your way from there. Study the area map carefully to find the start and finish of the trail as well as other points of interest. This map is not to scale. Remember, you must provide your own transportation at the end of the trail. Topographic maps are available from the U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C. Ask for the Belmont and Nashville, Indiana quadrangles.

CHURCH
Nashville has Protestant, Catholic and Christian Science churches.

ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST IN THE AREA
There's plenty. Driving or hiking through the park or the forest will give you scenery that you will never forget. There is fishing on Yellowwood Lake with boat rental from the superintendent or fishing just north of the forest on Highway 45 at Lake Lemon. There are dances on Sunday at the Legion Hall, the Brown County Jamboree at Bean Blossom: Theatre Players, handicraft industry and world-renowned artists at Nashville. In the park is horseback riding, a beautiful outdoor swimming pool for a refreshing dip at the end of the hike, Abe Martin Lodge, a museum and a nature exhibit complete with deer and buffalo. Other things of interest nearby are the summer home of James Whitcomb Riley, the Hoosier poet, the T. C. Steele Memorial, Indiana University and the Tulip Tree Trace, another historic hiking trail which starts in the Yellowwood Forest.

Along the trail watch carefully for deer and other wildlife. In the evening or early morning many deer can be seen grazing in meadows near the roads in the park. There are unusual trees, fossils, flowers and animals to be seen while hiking. Spend a while in the quarry on Taylor Ridge.

BE CAREFUL OF:
FIRE—To repeat the words of the Forestry Department, we say, "The woodland route is extremely inflammable at certain times of the year and almost inaccessible by any fire-fighting apparatus except that carried by man." The extent of this hazard is clearly marked for all to see at the entrance to the Yellowwood Forest and at the Brown County State Park on the Fire Hazard Chart.

HIGH WATER—The trail crosses many small streams which may become much larger soon after heavy rains or during the spring. Watch your footing and the depth of the water. Stay with your group. Bring extra shoes and socks for a change after hiking the trail.

SLICK ROCKS AND SLOPES—Many rocks are slick. Be sure of your footing, especially when you are tired.

SNAKES—Poisonous snakes may be in this area. Stay away from all snakes and try to have a snake-bite kit with your group.

HIGHWAY CROSSING—At one point the Line crosses Highway 46. Leaders should be careful of fast-moving vehicles when leading their group through here.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Follow the Line to the nearest passable road and inquire at a house for information which will help you direct your drivers to the location.

CONDUCT ALONG THE TRAIL
All hikers must maintain a high standard of conduct along the trail so that others may enjoy the trail as you have.

Show courtesy to the people you meet.

Keep the trail clean. The park superintendent has mentioned that the area around the fire tower is cluttered with rubbish.

Stay on the trail and away from private property.

STAY TOGETHER—A number of groups have had lost boys and many man hours of effort were wasted looking for them.

We will withhold medals from groups that are reported to us by the superintendent. We will delay mailing medals about 5 days from the date of your hike to allow him to report to us.

FOOD
You may purchase groceries in Nashville. Remember, you must carry your lunch on the trail. Please destroy your refuse when you stop for lunch.

CAMPING
There is a large campground in Yellowwood Forest for Scouts. This is one mile north of the small campground which is reserved for other campers. Do not use this smaller campground. The Scout campground borders the lake and has room for
at least 300 campers. Water and toilet facilities are available. This campground is closed from November 10 to February 1. The fee for use of these facilities is 25¢ per night per person. Reservations are not necessary.

The superintendent will come to the campground to collect the fees either in the evening or in the morning. Do not disturb him, especially after 8:00 p.m. He puts in a long day.

Camping facilities are also available in Brown County State Park. An entrance fee of 20¢ per car and 20¢ per occupant is charged in the park. For camping the fee is 5¢ per Scout per day or 50¢ per campsite per day for other people. All fees are established by the Indiana Department of Conservation for upkeep and development of new facilities. In the park, advance reservations for large groups are advisable. Address the Superintendent, R.R. 1, Nashville, Indiana. Ditching tents is not permitted and fires are to be built with charcoal in your own grill or in a gasoline camp stove. Bring your own fuel.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. EACH GROUP OR UNIT MUST STAY TOGETHER ON THE TRAIL WITH AN ADULT LEADER IN CHARGE.

2. Each hiker must carry his lunch and drinking water. There is no place along the trail to purchase food. If you drink lots of water, carry two canteens. You must not refill canteens along the way. Many people in this area haul in their drinking water. Many wells are unsafe to use.

3. Do not stop at houses along the trail nor antagonize dogs at the cabins.

4. Carry a good compass clearly marked in degrees. Know how to use it.

5. No axes or sheath knives are to be carried on the trail.

6. No fires or smoking along the trail. The fire hazard is too great.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Those who hike the entire 10 O'clock Line and complete both the General and Special Requirements are eligible to wear the 10 O'clock Line medal and patch. Those who hike the Line a second time may wear a copper arrowhead on their medal ribbon; a third time, a bronze arrowhead; a fourth time, a gold arrowhead, and a fifth time, a silver arrowhead.

1. Each group must be registered with the 10 O'clock Line Committee before hiking the trail.

2. Each hiker must hike the trail in one day.

3. Each group which registered will receive one set of credentials for the group. These must be filled out as you hike the Line. There are a number of things to identify along the trail. Watch for the numbered signs in black and yellow and write the desired information on your credentials. A Boy Scout Field Book or new Scout Handbook will be of considerable help.

4. Required equipment: Pencil, writing board, compass, 6" ruler.

5. There is no fee for hiking the line, however, those who wish to qualify for the medal, arrowhead or emblem must fill out the credentials properly and mail them with the medal fees to the committee. Medals are $2.25, arrowheads and patches are 50¢ each and neckerchiefs are $1.00. Explorers and leaders may prefer the tie bar at $2.00. The metal part of the medal is attached to a tie clip and can be worn with any tie.

6. The Scout uniform should be worn by all Scout hikers. Leaders excluded. A Scout or Camp T-shirt may be worn in summer.

RESERVATION REQUEST

We have about ______________ hikers who wish to hike the 10 O'clock Line on ______________. We agree to follow the general requirements. We understand that we must also fulfill the special requirements to qualify for the medal.

______________________________
Leader's Name

______________________________
Address

______________________________
City or Town

______________________________
Group Name or Troop/Post Number

Send to:

10 O'CLOCK LINE COMMITTEE
1414 B Avenue
NEW CASTLE, INDIANA
Phone JA 9-4775