

# Grubmaster Guidelines

Troop 128 goes camping once a month – in most cases each patrol is responsible for their own meals. This usually consists of Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner and Sunday breakfast. The patrol will assign the responsibility of purchasing the food to one of the scouts and this person is called the Grubmaster - a job that is normally shared around from campout to campout.

As a parent, when your son comes home and says “I’m a Grubmaster” what do you do! The following should help you understand these duties and assist your Scout in completing the job:

1. The Scout should come home from the Troop meeting with a menu planned for the weekend. This should include a list of boys that are going, and a shopping list. This is completed on the standard troop form.
2. In preparing this menu the Grubmaster should have worked with their patrol to come up with a menu agreed to by all – the whole patrol should be OK with the menu. Making sure:
  - a. No one is a vegetarian.
  - b. No one is allergic to any of the foods.
3. The Grubmaster should get a final number or count of Scouts in his patrol going on the weekend. If in doubt ask the adult leading the camp to see who has registered
4. Review the menu and help your Scout complete the menu and prepare a shopping list. Make sure all items needed are on the list. The Troop supplies salt and pepper, cooking oil, supplies such as paper towel, soap, sponges, matches, and tin foil.
5. You might remind your Grubmaster to check with the quartermaster for food that is on hand. The troop often has dry goods left from previous outings that can be used by any patrol
6. Take your Scout shopping and let him do the shopping. Your job is to advise him, NOT shop for him. He has a budget of \$10 to \$12 per scout for a typical weekend to spend on food. Help him stay within his budget. He may need to choose a store brand over a name brand or eliminate something extra from the list. This will prevent the purchase of frivolous items such as candy bars, extra chips, snacks, etc. He will need to purchase ice for the cooler and place all items that will spoil in a cooler. Please use your judgment and help your Scout shop wisely.
7. When it comes time to leave for camp, please bring the food in a plastic tote or similar container that will be stacked in the trailer. You will also need a cooler for the perishable items. If you do not have one check with the other Scouts in your patrol – maybe you can borrow one. Also mark your patrol name on the tote and cooler.
8. Have your Scout submit your receipts to the camp master or troop treasurer for reimbursement. (make sure your name and the camp or event name is on the top of the receipt). The Scout should also show his shopping list form with the prices noted, to a senior Scout or and Assistant Scoutmaster to have one of the First Class requirements signed off in his Scout book.

## A couple of final notes:

- Troop 128 doesn’t eat out of cans or boxes – we encourage our Scouts to cook. We encourage the Scouts to look up a recipe, try something new, buy the ingredients and get creative (and to stay on budget while doing it)
- Grubmaster does not mean plan, shop, cook, and clean up after your whole patrol. You are the planner and the leader, but you do not have to do the work alone – your patrol should work along side you to make your camp eating experience a good one.

Thank you for helping your Scout. This process is a good lesson on shopping, planning and staying within a budget. A life lesson that everyone must learn at some time.