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Adventure Obstacle Trail

The Hurricane. The object is for patrols to get a report through to a headquarters point after encountering the kinds of obstacles that Scouts might meet in a hurricane. Sealed envelopes are given to each patrol leader, to be opened at a specific spot and time (a different place for each patrol). Each patrol should be advised beforehand to bring the equipment they think they will need in the event of emergency situations.

The sealed envelope has a message reading, "All means of communication have been severed between this point and the central relief headquarters. Personnel is limited and it is extremely urgent that they know the extent of the damage in this area. They need your help in rendering service to the homeless and injured.

This is not a race against time. Follow the marked trail on the map. Watch for special hazards and other conditions that should be noted and reported to headquarters. Watch especially for injured persons; give such aid as you can and be prepared to report on this. Certain situations will require answers that you will deliver to headquarters. Be alert, be prepared, and good luck!"

Also in the envelope is a map with the central relief headquarters indicated on it, the patrol's starting point, and the route they are to follow.

Problems are set up by troop leaders, parents, and troop committee members. Troop leaders and others who set up problems should serve as judges and scorers at the various stations. Have people at each problem site acting the part of victims.

· A downed tree is blocking the main road (dead limb laid

across trail, cardboard sign on trail, "U.S. 1"). Project: Cut and clear, using safe axmanship.

- Main power line down at Dow Crossing, marked with card, "100,000 volts." Project: Note location, rope off or barricade the immediate area.
- Bridge washed out at Moose Ford. Several projects possible: Lash together a raft; build a monkey bridge or other type of bridge.
- Jones family homeless, cold, hungry. Project: Build fire and serve canned soup.
- A desperate situation at the Brown's place requires immediate medical help. Project: Send a message by Morse code, wigwag, or blinker asking for immediate help. A police observation post has been spotted in the distance.
- You have broken or lost your compass. Determine due north from this point.
- Measure the height of the dangerous, tall "chimney" (tree) that has been left standing at the destroyed factory. If it should fall in this direction, will the top hit the Henderson house (carton)?

Near the end of this obstacle trail, give the Scouts a test of memory and powers of observation. List a number of questions such as:

Did Mr. Jones wear glasses? How many volts of electricity did the downed wire carry? What color was the Henderson boy's coat? How far do you think you have traveled since leaving point X? What was the number of the highway blocked by the big tree? What's the name of the lashings you used in making the bridge at Moose Ford?