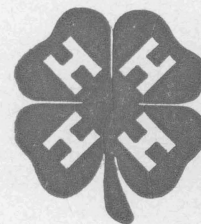


Safety in Outdoor Recreation



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THE PURPOSE OF RECREATION is to have fun and relaxation. Outdoor activities such as hunting, boating and camping are excellent forms of recreation.

Safety is just as important in outdoor recreation as it is around the farm or home. Learning and heeding safety precautions will prevent accidents from marring your recreation.

Hunting Safety

The rules to be followed when handling firearms at all times are important.



THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF SAFETY



1 Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun. This is the cardinal rule of gun safety.

2 Guns carried into camp or home must always be unloaded, and taken down or have actions open; guns always should be encased until reaching shooting area.

3 Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.

4 Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle, even if you stumble. Keep the safety on until you are ready to shoot.

5 Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.

6 Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.

7 Unattended guns should be unloaded; guns and ammunition should be stored safely beyond reach of children and careless adults.

8 Never climb a tree or a fence with a loaded gun.

9 Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.

10 Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.

COURTESY OF THE SPORTING ARMS AND AMMUNITION MANUFACTURERS' INSTITUTE IN THE INTEREST OF
KEEPING SHOOTING A SAFE SPORT

Boating Safety

Follow precautions listed below when boating.

1. Never overload a boat with passengers. Always find out how many passengers the boat can carry safely.
2. Always have an extra paddle in the boat in case one is broken or lost.
3. Before leaving shore, ask an informed person about hazards in the lake or stream, such as location of swift water, whirlpools or hidden obstructions.
4. Wear shoes and clothing that can be removed easily in case the boat sinks or capsizes.
5. Have a life preserver for each passenger in the boat.
6. If a motor is to be used, make certain that it is the proper size or horsepower for your particular boat.
7. Be as cautious when steering a boat as you would steering a car. Learn and observe the rules of the water such as speed limits, yielding right of way and forbidden zones.
8. Do not stand in a small boat.
9. Wear clothing that will protect you from sunburn. Sunlight is intensified by reflection off the water.
10. Never go boating when there are high winds or severe weather warnings.

Camping Safety

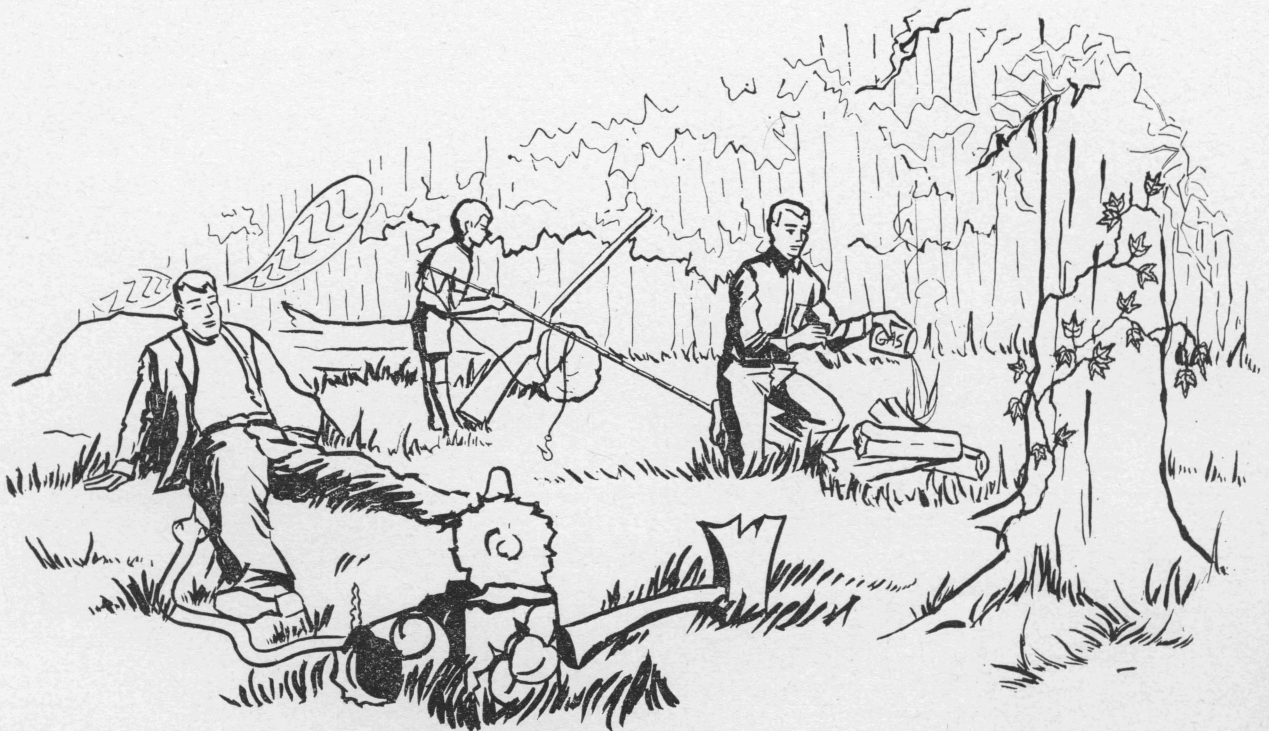
Follow precautions listed below while camping.

1. Have a first-aid kit handy which includes necessary items for treating cuts, burns and snake bite. Mosquito repellent should be taken along.
2. Start fires with paper and small sticks rather than gasoline or some other highly flammable material.
3. Take along a pair of heavy cloth or asbestos gloves to handle hot skillets and other equipment used while cooking on open fires.
4. Clear leaves, dry sticks and other such materials at least 10 feet away from your camp fire.
5. Keep opened tin cans and other trash in a garbage container or dirt pit. Knives, hatchets, fish hooks and other sharp instruments should be kept off the ground in a safe place.
6. Be on the lookout for snakes when around logs, thick brush, rocky hillsides and shaded areas. Have a snake-bite kit and know how to use it.
7. If possible, take an adequate supply of pure drinking water. Use water purification tablets, household bleach, 2% tincture of iodine, or boil to purify any unknown source of water.
8. If possible, sleep on cots rather than on the ground. This will help keep insects and snakes away from you while sleeping.
9. Take foods which do not spoil quickly without refrigeration. Those foods which might spoil should be eaten first.
10. When packing for the trip, take clothes that will be comfortable in all types of weather.

These campers are violating seven safety rules.

Can you list their mistakes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.



Recreation Safety Activities

1. Search old and current newspapers for stories about accidents on hunting, boating or camping trips.

Cut out and paste each of these stories on a sheet of paper. Beneath each story, in your own handwriting, tell which of the safety rules mentioned in the section on *Safety in Outdoor Recreation* was violated.

If you think of other safety rules which were violated, list them also.

*2. Using the 10 Commandments of Safety listed on the front page develop a short method demonstration which will bring out the safety precautions listed. You can get other 4-H members to help you with this demonstration, if necessary.

Present this demonstration at one of your 4-H Club meetings. This demonstration can also be given on television, at other 4-H Clubs or to civic organizations. Your county agent or home demonstration agent can help you plan and give this demonstration.

Write a short story on how the demonstration was used and include it in your *Report Book on Safety*.

*Optional