

Scouts prepare for winter survival, search & rescue at "Freez-O-Ree"™

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Area Boy Scouts plan to willingly go someplace most would rather avoid ... into a frozen wilderness ... at their annual "Freez-O-Ree." It's a chance for them to practice skills that everyone can benefit from.

Starting Friday, January 26, the region's Scouts will hike, snowshoe, build snow caves and igloos, and practice winter survival skills. The region-wide event runs through the weekend at Lower Three Creeks Snow Park south of Sisters.

Scheduled events start at 12:30 pm on Saturday the 27th. Event winners receive accolades from fellow Scouts and commemorative patches, while losers run the risk of being awarded the dubious "frozen sock" award. A Dutch oven cook off is also slated.

Search and rescue is the theme for the event, with Scouts learning and practicing skills in areas such as first aid, fire building, sled use, shelter building, obstacle course and rescue knot tying, where Scouts will practice a simulated river rescue.

Who are Central Oregon's Boy Scouts?

The largest civic leadership training, conservation and community service group in the region, Fremont District of the Crater Lake Council, Boy Scouts of America serves over 1,600 boys and young men age six to 18 in Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos, Boy Scouts, Venture, Varsity and Explorer. Boy Scouts and almost 500 volunteer leaders provide over 380,000 hours annually of community service, leadership training, emergency medical response training, environmental restoration, and disaster preparedness and assistance to citizens of the three-county region. The Fremont District serves Crook, Jefferson and Deschutes counties.

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