

THE LOST SEA ADVENTURE!

**2014 PACK AWAY TRIP
MARCH 15-16, 2014
SWEETWATER, TN**

www.**THELOSTSEA**.com

The Lost Sea is America's largest underground lake, and its caverns are part of the extensive and historic Craighead Caverns. The oldest known visitor was a Pleistocene jaguar, whose tracks – left 20,000 years ago – were found deep inside the cave. The first people to use the cave regularly were the Cherokee Indians. In 1915, the caves were developed to attract tourists, and a dance floor was installed in one of the large upper cave rooms – a room that now can accommodate 300 overnight guests... **including Pack 459!**

GET READY TO TAKE AN UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE!

Saturday, March 15th

- Drive to Lost Sea (140 Lost Sea Road; Sweetwater, TN 37874; (423) 337-6616)
- 4:30-5:00PM: Check-in for Tour with Pack 459 Trip Leaders
- 5:00-6:00PM: Dinner (BBQ Pork or Hamburger; French Fries; Drink)
 - *If you are not having the dinner provided, you may bring your own.*
- 6:30-11:00PM: Cave Tour Begins
 - Transport your gear to sleeping area (100 steps down – pack light!)
 - Walking tour of cavern
 - Glass-bottom boat tour of Lost Sea
 - “Wild Cave Tour” – a special tour into the undeveloped cave rooms where you can crawl through crevices and explore nooks – and get VERY dirty!
- 11:00PM: Lights out

Sunday, March 16th

- 7:00-8:00AM Wake-up; Clean up; Exit cave
Breakfast (Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit & Jelly, Drink) or BYO
- Return home

Questions? Contact Mike Siegel – michaeljsiegel@icloud.com / 770.402.3100

PREPARE FOR YOUR ADVENTURE



Who can attend?

- All Scouts from Pack 459 (including Webelos II Scouts) and their family members
- There are no age restrictions, but this event is not designed for small children (<5)
- Participants should be in generally good health, able to walk about 1 mile up and down sloping pathways
- The lake is 140 feet below the cave entrance – and the exit is 140 feet above the lake (which is the harder part!)

What is the cost?

- \$30 per person, regardless of age. Price includes dinner, breakfast and overnight cave adventure
- *This reduced price was subsidized by the Pack using proceeds from our 2013 popcorn sales!*
- **Payment is due by February 28th** at 6:00PM to Mike Siegel or Jaime Holbert. (Checks to “PACK 459”)
- Current BSA medical forms must be on file – in advance – for every participant.

What are the accommodations?

- You will be sleeping in the cave, on the ground or your mat (in your sleeping bag)
- There is a “toilet” (port-o-let) in the cave, but no showers or sinks. Bring Wet Wipe!
 - There is a real bathroom at the restaurant (closed during the night, however)
- There are no changing areas – most people sleep in their clothes.
 - You could hold up a sleeping bag for privacy if needed.
- The temperature inside the cave is a constant 58 degrees
- Hearing protection (ear plugs) is suggested for sleeping
- We will all be together in one large open cave room, possibly joined by other groups in the same general space
- There is access to electricity for a CPAP or other medical device (not for charging phones). Bring an extension cord.



What should I wear?

- EXPECT TO GET DIRTY (and for some of you, VERY, VERY DIRTY!)
- Jeans, a warm, long-sleeved shirt and old shoes are ideal
- **PACK 459 CLASS B T-SHIRTS** should be worn (It’s OK if they’re from a prior year!)
- At the campsite, a light jacket or hoodie is advisable
- Bring a clean change of clothes (socks & shoes, too), overnight clothing, and a trash bag to put your dirty clothes into

What equipment do I need?

- A good flashlight with extra batteries is required for each participant
- A canteen of drinking water is necessary – **THERE IS NO DRINKING WATER AVAILABLE IN THE CAVE**
- A sleeping bag, ground cloth or mattress for sleeping
- A camera

What NOT to bring

- The kitchen sink – We are “roughing it”, so avoid bringing excess baggage
- Remember, you will be carrying your gear through the entrance and down 100 steps to the campsite
- Personal electronics. This is an audio/video/game system-free event. (And there is no Wi-Fi in the cave anyway!)

What if I get a “boo boo”?

- This is a cave – Therefore, scrapes, stumbles and bumps on the head are to be expected
- A first-aid kit will be on hand for any serious incidents

What else is there to do in the area?

- Lost Sea is not far from Fort Loudon State Park, and a modest drive to Sevierville (Wilderness at the Smokies), Pigeon Forge (Dollywood), Gatlinburg and more
- In Athens, TN, there is a Mayfield Dairy plant that offers tours.

Where the heck is Sweetwater, TN?

- About 2 hours and 45 min driving time from Alpharetta
- Located between Chattanooga and Knoxville (7 miles off I-75)

