



National Youth Leadership Training

2025 Conference

FIRESTARTERS

Better Fires equal Success

Over the years at NYLT we have noticed that many Scouts are challenged to build and maintain a sustainable cooking fire. Our staff has come to understand that many troops seldom cook over a wood fire anymore and use a variety of different fueled stoves. The troops may use wood as a cooking component on some trips but that is less all the time, especially when the 'Leave No Trace' program is considered. NYLT is a Leadership Skills course and while we teach many scout skills for immediate use, fire building is not one of them. We show Scouts a variety of fire styles and their uses. Good fire building skills may be essential to them when an unforeseen event happens which require warmth and safety.

IN ORDER TO HAVE THE SCOUTS BE READY FOR ALL OF THE DAYS EVENTS, WE REQUIRE all Scouts to bring homemade fire-starters to the course. Please research these, check your old Scout books, your own troop library or search the web for it. As a patrol you will be building 14 fires to cook over during the week and sometimes the wood is wet or in short supply and the Scout in charge of fires changes every day... so you will need to do the following:

Samoset Council NYLT required EACH SCOUT to bring 4 fire starters.

The Guidelines

- A. No lighter fluid, gasoline or other flammable material
- B. No gunpowder, black powder or explosives of any kind [You will be sent home !]
- C. You may use: paper cups, egg cartons, cotton balls, petroleum jelly, shredded paper, match light charcoal, paraffin wax, candle wax, steel wool, cardboard, wood shavings, cotton wicks, etc.
- D. Any items used must be burnable

All completed pieces should be brought in a sealable bag or can or carton.

Please do a brief write-up on the fire starter style you made as to construction, Troop #, etc so we can do a demo and camp wide info packet regarding these items.