Hawk Mountain Expeditions and Guide Service
Questions and Answers

What is Hawk Mountain Expeditions and Guide Service (HMEGS)?

A weeklong off-site high adventure program of Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation. HMEGS is introducing two backpacking trips in Summer 2016. HMEGS will also introduce a combination backpacking/kayaking trip in Summer 2016. Additional trips will be introduced in Summer 2017.

Where will the 2016 backpacking trips take place?

Along the Appalachian Trail. Backpackers come from all across the country, and all around the world to hike the AT. The Appalachian Trail is the most famous long-distance hiking trail in the world. And HMSR is the only Scout camp in the country with direct access to the AT: you can park your vehicle at the reservation; put on your backpack; hike out of camp, and right on to the Trail – it is a unique opportunity.

How do Hawk Mountain Expeditions backpacking trips along the AT differ from what we can do as a troop?

Interpretation of human and natural history along the Appalachian Trail corridor. The HMEGS program is inspired by the proximity of a world famous backpacking trail and the Philmont backpacking experience. Backpacking at Philmont is not just about grinding out the miles; it's about interpreting the natural and human history of Philmont. HMEGS is going to bring the Philmont program to backpacking the AT.

Why do you register for a Hawk Mountain Expedition as a crew, rather than as an individual?

Registering as a crew allows Hawk Mountain Expeditions and Guide Service to maximize the number of youth and adult participants that can participate over the Summer while keeping within the group size limits for the Appalachian Trail established by the National Park Service.

How much does it cost for an individual to participate in a Hawk Mountain Expedition?

Less than it costs to participate in HMSR's former Boots and Paddles program. Less on a per day basis than a Philmont trek. $415 for the week if seven participants split the cost evenly among themselves; a little bit more than it would cost to attend summer camp.

Who will be guiding Hawk Mountain Expeditions?

Guides certified at BSA National Camping School with further instruction during HMSR's staff week, including Wilderness First Aid.