Trail Skills Trail Badge Requirements

1: Trail ethics:
Complete all of the following:
   a: Explain how being a good steward and observing the low impact camping method applies to Trail Skills.
   b: Explain the Hiker’s Code and how a hiker should be responsible and learn the buddy system.

2: Trail safety:
Complete all of the following:
   a: Describe how to identify poisonous plants in your area such as poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac, stinging nettle, and Flowering Poodle Dog Brush (Sticky Nama).
   b: Describe how to identify venomous snakes in your area such as rattlesnakes, coral snakes, or water moccasins.
   c: Describe natural hazards you might encounter on a hike including river crossings and what to do if faced with them.

3: Equipment:
Complete all of the following:
   a: Describe the clothing necessary for hiking, including proper footwear and socks.
   b: Explain the limits on how much weight you should carry and how much water you should take.
   c: Demonstrate proper packing and necessary items for a day pack for a day hike.

4: Navigation:
Complete all of the following:
   a: Explain how an orienteering compass works.
   b: Explain what a topographic map is and what the contour lines and map symbols mean.
   c: Show how to hold an orienteering compass and take a reading.
   d: With an orienteering compass, orient a map to North
e: With an orienteering compass and a topographical map, show one method of adjusting for magnetic declination.

f: With an orienteering compass and a topographical map, demonstrate finding your location using bearings to landmarks.

5: Measurements:
Complete all of the following:
   a: Measure the average length of your pace.

   b: Using pacing and the felling method, measure the height of a building, tree, flagpole, or other tall feature.

   c: Demonstrate course direction finding in daylight or moonlight without a compass or GPS receiver.

6: Do one of the following options
Complete 1 of the following:
   a: Complete an orienteering course of at least 1 mile and 5 stations

   b: Complete a compass course of at least one mile and 8 bearings

7: Using a map and compass together, take a five-mile hike with your patrol or troop.