

NEW MAINE TRIP LEADER PERMIT (TLP) REGULATIONS

Where are we?

How did we get here?

What do we do now?

MAINE

**09 137 DEPARTMENT OF INLAND
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

**CHAPTER 23 YOUTH CAMP TRIP
LEADER PERMITS and JUNIOR
MAINE GUIDE PROGRAM**

ONLY LICENSED YOUTH CAMPS*

Can use a Trip Leader to lead trips

**Everyone else must hire a Licensed
Maine Guide**

*** Maine and other States**

**In this POWERPOINT discussion
about the Regulations:**

What's new is in YELLOW

What's the same is in WHITE



What is a youth camp?

“A youth camp licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services under Title 12, section 2495 or located in another state and licensed in a similar manner, if the laws of the other state so require.”

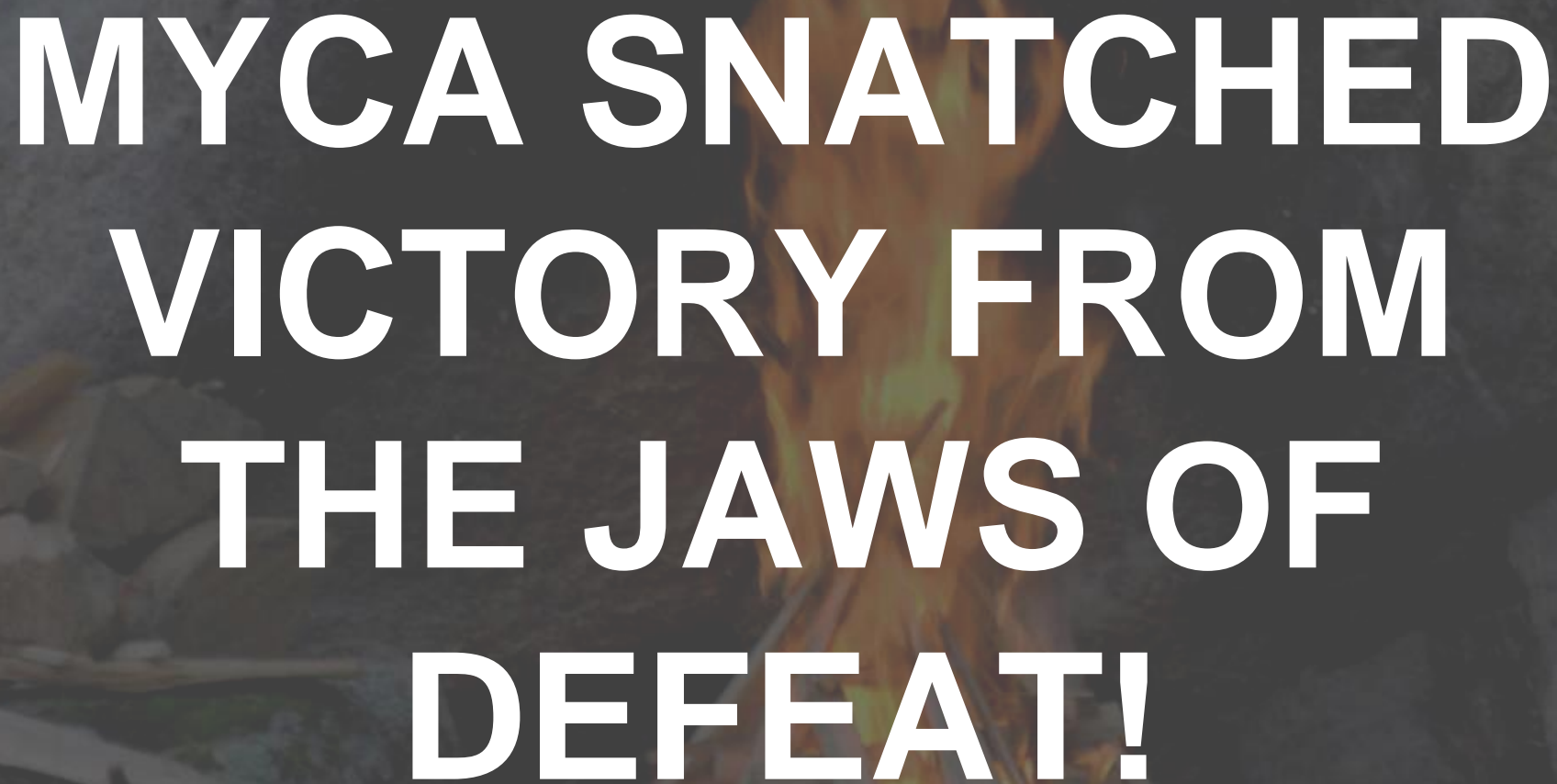
What is trip camping?

“A youth camp program with a duration of 2 or more consecutive nights* in which groups or individuals who are mobile, moving under their own power or by transportation which permits individual guidance of the vehicle or animal (e.g. bicycle, canoe, horse, sailboat), travel from one site to another.”

*Different than Chapter 208 Youth Camp Rules

New Regulations result from:

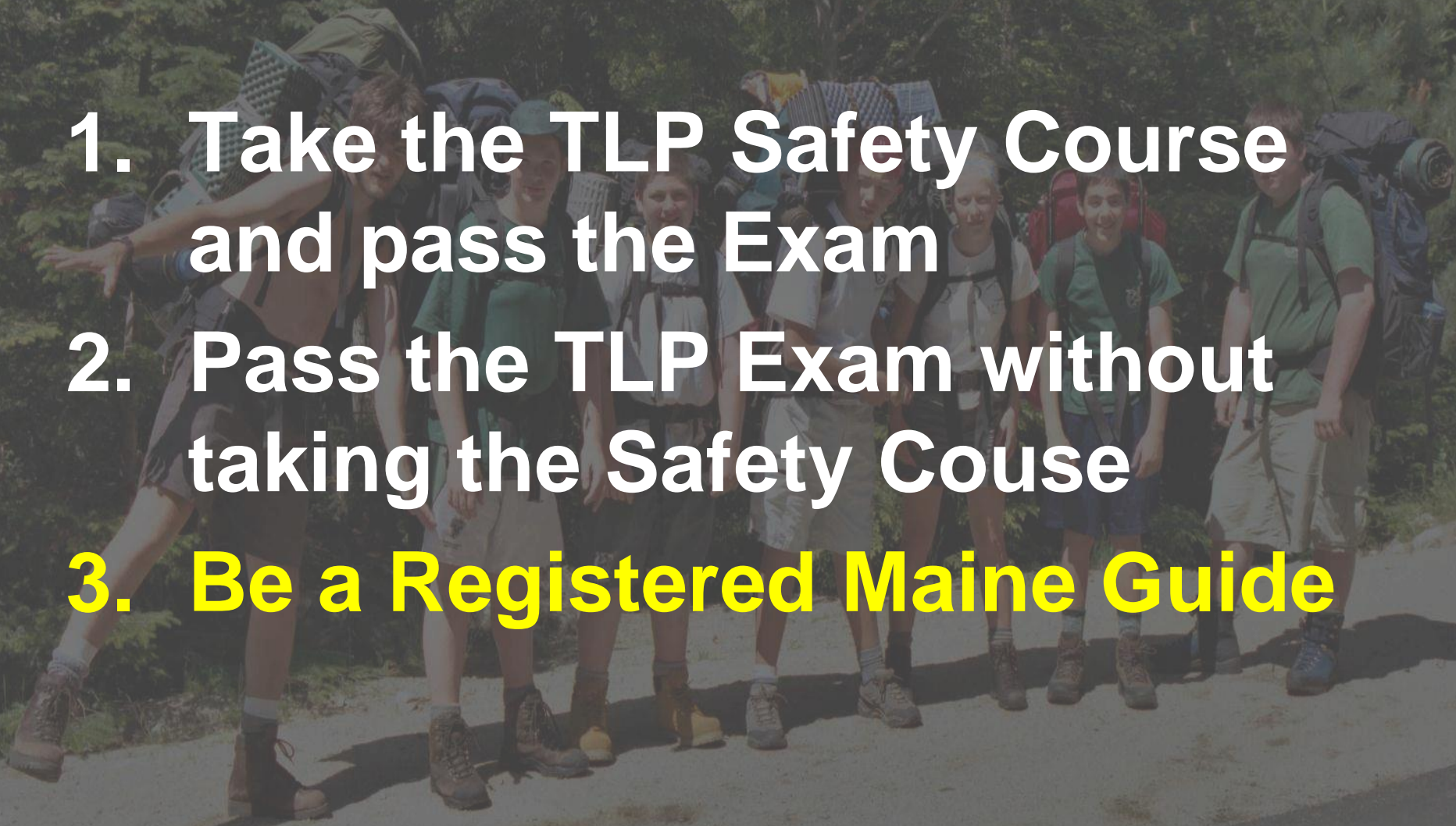
- **Dissolution of the TLP Committee**
- **Nobody up-dating TLP regs**
- **A couple of unfortunate incidents**
- **Lack of understanding about groups in the wilderness**

A campfire is burning brightly in a stone fire pit. The fire is the central focus, with orange and yellow flames rising from a bed of logs. The surrounding area is dark and shadowed, with the grey stones of the fire pit visible. The overall atmosphere is warm and cozy.

**MYCA SNATCHED
VICTORY FROM
THE JAWS OF
DEFEAT!**

How do you get a Trip Leader Permit

1. Take the TLP Safety Course and pass the Exam
2. Pass the TLP Exam without taking the Safety Course
3. Be a Registered Maine Guide



1. Candidate qualifications to take the TLP Safety Course:

- At least 18 years old
- **Documentation** of having participated in a leadership role, in at least 2 experiences each of at least two consecutive nights duration **in a wilderness context.**
- **Familiarity with the DHHS Trip Camping Rules in Chapter 208 (7)(F)**

1. Candidate qualifications to take the TLP Safety Course (continued):

- Have a current **Wilderness First Aid Certificate**
- Water safety training:
 - **Fresh Water; completion of a Smallcraft Safety Course or equivalent training specific to the watercraft to be used**
 - **Salt Water; coastal water safety training or equivalent experience specific to the watercraft to be used**

2. Candidate qualifications to take the TLP Exam without taking the Safety Course:

- At least 21 years old
- **Documentation** of experience the same as under the first category except 4 experiences (not 2)
- Meet all the other qualifications listed in the first category

3. Be a Registered Maine Guide

- At least 21 years old
- **A Registered Maine Guide**
- Meet all the other **qualifications except experience**, listed in the first category

Application Process

- Candidate must fill out and sign an application form which documents the candidates qualifications
- The director of the camp sponsoring the candidate must sign the application certifying that the candidate meets the qualifications

What if the candidate fails the exam?

- A candidate that takes the Safety Course and fails the exam must retake a Safety Course.
- A candidate that was qualified to take the exam without taking the Safety Course, fails the exam, must take a Safety Course and pass the exam.

TLP FEES

- **Application for TLP: \$20**
- **Renewal Application for TLP: \$15**

TLP Expiration & Renewal

- TLP expires **on December 31** in the year it is issued.
- TLP must be renewed each calendar year.
- A Trip Leader must retake the exam if the Leader has not renewed the license in two consecutive years.
- The IF&W Commissioner may refuse to reissue a TLP for violations of Maine laws or regulations.

Safety Course Instructor Qualifications:

- At least 21 years of age
- Be a current holder of a TLP
- Have **documented** teaching experience
- Have a sponsoring camp director sign the Instructor's application form certifying that the Instructor meets the qualifications.

Safety Course Curriculum & Exam

**All Safety Courses must
use the IF&W approved
Curriculum and Exam.**

A group of people are kayaking on a river. The kayakers are wearing life jackets and are positioned in a line. The background shows a dense forest of green trees on a hillside. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding environment.

Course Curriculum

- Under the previous regulations, Instructors had the option to use the Dept of IF&W's basic curriculum or develop and use their own.
- Under the ***new*** 2014 regulations, Instructors must use the curriculum developed and provided by the Dept.

Course Requisites

- Course should be a minimum of eight (8) hours
- Participant should read the Maine State Regulations regarding camp trip leaders. Title 12 M.R.S.A 7302-7303, dealing with Trip Leader Permits and Department of Health and Human Services Rules and Regulations for Trip Camping.
- Course is passed by successful completion of a Maine State Trip Leader test with a 70% or higher score, and full course attendance.

Curriculum

1. State of Maine Law and Regulations
2. Wilderness Tripping Skills
3. Wilderness Risk Management
4. Wilderness Leadership
5. Emergency and Evacuation Procedures
6. Trip Planning
7. Leave No Trace and Wilderness Ethics

Curriculum Cont.

8. Health and Hygiene
9. Nutrition and Food Safety
10. Fire and Stove Safety
11. Hiking and Backpacking
12. Inland
13. Waterways
14. Other Trips and Activities

Updated Test Criteria

- Previous test was 50 question, multiple-choice that required a 70% to pass
- New Test is still 50 questions, separated into two parts:
 - 10 questions on map & compass which require a passing score of 70%
 - 40 questions general information which requires a passing score of 70%
 - Candidate must get passing score on both sections to pass the course.

Swimming on Trips

- “Swimming” from the stand point of safety means when one is in the water; whether or not in a PFD, whether or not up to their knees.
- Maine DHHS Chapter 208 regulations about swimming focus on swimming in camp.

Swimming Cont.

- 7.F.1 TRIP CAMPING requires “Primitive Facilities” be operated to meet basic safety requirements. The regulations recognize that things will be done on a more primitive level while on trips, but that in any case require “basic safety”.
- All trips where swimming was permitted to occur have at least **one lifeguard** (as defined in Chapter 208) per twenty persons in the water as required by 7.B.4.c

Water Safety Training

- Inland versus Coastal
- Inland – Small Craft Safety or equivalent
- Coastal – find or establish your own training; no industry standard

TLP COMMITTEE

- A new TLP 8 member Committee has now been formed.
- It includes 5 members from youth camps and 3 members from IF&W.
- Camp members currently are: Greg Shute, Spencer Ordway, Chris Wentworth, Ron Fournier and Alex Jackson.
- It has been meeting to get the revised TLP Program going and will meet regularly going forward to keep the Program on track.

A large elephant stands on a dirt road, its trunk resting on the roof of a blue Volkswagen car. The scene is set in a lush, green savanna environment with dense foliage and trees in the background. The text is overlaid on the image.

Remember Trip Camping
always has
SURPRISES!

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