

## PRESS RELEASE

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## LOCAL TROOP TAKES A NIGHT HIKE

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WORCESTER - Boy Scout Troop 54, chartered at Epworth United Methodist Church in Worcester, travelled west to Mount Greylock for its September camping trip. The hike in to the campground was short, but what really set it apart from other troop trips was making that hike at night. The group had left Worcester in the evening.

The six youth and four adult participants enjoyed their first night time backpacking trip. Rain during that first night tested tents that had been set up in the dark. Among their neighbors in the campground was Troop 44 from Walpole, Massachusetts.

During the day, the troop hiked up to the summit along the Hopper Trail, which partly coincided with the Appalachian Trail. The view from the summit was great, as cloud cover during the early part of the day disappeared at just the right time. Most of the troop went on to climb up the War Memorial on the summit. Gavin MacNeal, the troop's Senior Patrol Leader, commented "The view was amazing. It was a two and a half hour drive the other direction from Worcester, and you could see all the way to Boston." The troop returned to the camp via the Overlook Trail.

For Troop 54, this was the 45th consecutive month with at least one overnight camping trip.

Caption for IMG\_2263.JPG: Troop members pause during the night hike to the campsite.

Caption for IMG\_2280.JPG: Troop members return from the War Memorial at the top of Mount Greylock.