

# Hollyburn Challenge

- Using one coniferous tree branch and a shoelace, design an emergency snowshoe that you could attach to your boot in an unexpected winter situation. Later, look at the Hollyburn Lodge wall at some old fashioned kinds of snowshoes and skis.
- Where can you find water at Hollyburn Chalet? What are three (3) things that you could do to stream or snow water in order to make it safe for drinking?
- If your group was stuck unexpectedly in winter conditions and had to survive for 48 hours until rescue, choose 5 items from the following list that you think are the most essential. How would you use each of the items you chose?

10 plastic garbage bags	Matches	2 emergency blankets	2 pairs of socks
Whistle	Protein bars	Rope	Pet dog
Pocket knife	Cell phone		

- One traditional Canadian dessert much loved in Central Canada is “tire d’erable” (from the French word for pull) or maple syrup taffy. Get your leaders to boil down real maple syrup until it is thick and a dollop stays on the surface of snow and gathers into toffee when stirred with a spoon. Gather several cookie trays with a 5 cm layer of snow, put them on the table and carefully pour the thick toffee onto the trays. Everyone can then use a spoon or a popsicle stick to gather taffy into a lollipop shape and eat.
- Where did Hollyburn get its name? Why does it mean? Check out the info booklet pinned to the wall.
- Before the Girl Guides owned Hollyburn Chalet, what was it used for? What was one use for its slanted roof under its previous owners?
- Explain the things needed to build a fire. What is the ideal way to construct a fire in one of Hollyburn’s stoves? Why do we warm up the flu with a piece of kindling before building a fire? How will opening the vents affect the fire? Why are small pieces of wood and newspaper used? Why do we wait one full year before using the wood we cut? Why do we not use commercial fire starters or artificial logs with large amounts of paraffin wax?
- Hantavirus is a virus that is spread from the feces of rodents like mice (who sometimes visit our cabin.) What are some ways to prevent hantavirus transmission at the chalet?
- How many stairs can you see leading up to the front door of the chalet when you visit? How about the outhouse stairs? How many stairs might there be in the summer? What other examples of winter building construction can you find at Hollyburn?
- Take the Hollyburn Meadows snowshoe trail and read about the different birds that live on the mountain from the mounted descriptions that line the trail. Look in the trees for evidence of these birds. Keep a pocket of seeds in case grey jays (whiskey jacks) or chickadees show up. Identify the bird perched on a holly branch on the Challenge crest.
- Outside, in front of the chalet, build a snow castle in the shape of a pyramid, a birthday cake, or an igloo. Place tea lights all over the castle. At night, use battery-operated tea lights and do a Guider’s Own ceremony sharing the best things about the weekend, things you are thankful for, things you learned... Sing a campfire song before you leave to go to bed.

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## Answer Key

1. Make emergency snowshoes: tie an evergreen branch to your foot with the greenery turned toward your heel, and the twig / branch end toward your toes.
2. Water can be gathered from the stream or First Lake, the “non potable” water tap next to the Ranger Station, and by melting snow. To sterilize water, treat with bleach drops or purification tablets, boil for 1 minute at a full rolling boil and cool, or filter using special UV radiation treatment. See Hollyburn How To sheet for making potable water.
3. Answers will vary; the discussion is the most important part.
4. Leaders may want to preboil the syrup in order to reduce gas usage on the mountain. Boil syrup on a stove for 10 minutes at least; reheat at the cabin. Costco has a good, inexpensive, large bottle of syrup at a good price.
5. Holly— from the plant, and burn— meaning small stream. You can get a copy of the “legend of Hollyburn Mountain” from Booking Agent.
6. The Vancouver Ski Club used the chalet as their lodge; the roof was a ski jump. See story on cover of this brochure.
7. Look at stove-lighting instructions for info. We warm the stove up to encourage heat in the stove. Open vents will increase oxygen and cause the fires to burn faster. Small pieces of wood catch fire more quickly and stay on fire longer than pieces of newspaper. We wait a year before we use wood so it becomes very dry, is easier to light, and burns with less smoke. Paraffin build up in the flue of the chimney might cause a chimney fire.
8. Wipe off the counters with bleach while wearing gloves. Put food away in thick plastic bins. Never keep food / candy in your backpacks in loft. Block up holes where mice can get in to cabin.
9. Answers will vary. There are far more stairs visible in the summer—they all are visible! In fact, there are 5 steps “up” into the cabin in summer; in winter we often have several snow steps “down” to the cabin. There are 12 steps “up” into the outhouse. Other examples of winter building construction are slanted roofs allowing snow to slide off, tall outhouses so the potty doesn’t get snowed in, small windows to keep heat inside, upstairs sleeping loft heated by rising heat. Also check out some of the other cabins on the ridge.
10. Girls might see holes in trees, hear and see birds, or best of all, feed birds from their hands. The Challenge crest features a Red Crossbill on a holly branch.
11. Please be sure to use battery operated tea lights; no candles / open flames are permitted at Hollyburn due to our location in park land.

Hollyburn Challenge designed by Guider Andrea Phillpotts, 10th Richmond Guides