

## A Few Survival Tips

### By Bill Qualls

#### Fire

- One match fire - emphasizes the fundamentals. Must burn 5 minutes.
- Flint and steel wool - to learn the motion. Carbon steel, not stainless!
- Flint and char cloth - the real deal.
- How to char cloth - Cotton in a tin, tin has a 1/8" or smaller hole in it, place on coals, smoke will pour out of hole, done when the smoke stops.
- Sparking rod and vaseline coated cotton balls - I always carry this!
- Spine of swiss army knife saw works great with sparking rod.
- Sparking rod and fatwood dust.
- Also jute cord soaked in wax.
- Pencil sharpener for tinder!

#### Shelter

- Why not a tarp or trash bag only campout?
- Jute twine is a lot cheaper than 550 cord!
- Tie rope to corner of trash bag, space blanket, or tarp without grommet using a sheet bend.
- Tie rope to a grommet using a bowline (semi-permanent) or girth hitch (temporary)
- Tie rope to tent stake with a taut line.
- Baker tent from a tarp. 8x10 for one person. 9x12 for two?
- YouTube, search "bushcraftonfire tarp".
- Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LmA1Sjmstc>

#### Hygiene

- Pop bottle cap shower head - Drill 15-20 very small holes.
- Water purification - Iodine crystals, a pile about the size of a dime, in a one ounce glass bottle. Keep bottle full of water. Add saturated solution to one quart of water, then refill bottle so it's ready. Good as long as you can see iodine crystals in bottom of bottle. Do not use iodine if you have thyroid problems.