

PACK 38 CAMPING TIPS & TRICKS

- 1) PRAY FOR 0% CHANCE OF RAIN AND FOR SUNSHINE!
- 2) Bring insect repellants, long sleeve shirt (windbreaker would work), and long jeans just in case there is a mosquito problem. Please test the insect repellant on your child(ren) for allergic reaction PRIOR to applying it at camp! Use the repellant correctly according to suggested manufacturer's recommendation.
- 3) Don't forget bug bite medicine for the possible bites.
- 4) **Each family is responsible for their own food arrangements, check with your Den leader if a Den level arrangement is to be established.**
 - Assign a Food Coordinator in your family or Den and at least one assistant.
 - Consider what equipment is available.
 - **Keep it simple!**
 - Make sure you have food preparation and cleanup duty assigned for each meal
 - Distribute menu before trip; consider special food requirements and allergies
 - Consider making your first meal bring-your-own brown-bag
 - Usually not worth cooking lunch; sandwiches/hot dogs/chips/fruit/cookies works great
 - Have plenty of hot chocolate and coffee (for the adults!).
 - Plan for breakfast, lunch, snack, dinner, and cracker barrel
 - For the hike, making trail mix would be bad!
 - For charcoal cooking, use a charcoal chimney starter with newspaper; it's quicker and liquid starters are not allowed.
 - Test your cooking equipment ahead of time.
 - Match your menu to your cooking equipment available.
 - Hobo meals are always a hit.
 - Can use pre-marinated chicken or beef and fresh vegetables for a fancier meal
 - Hot dogs and ground beef work well with canned or fresh potatoes and carrots
 - Add rolls and a bag of salad and a couple of dressings and you have a complete meal that pleases everyone
 - Virtually no cleanup!
 - Dutch oven is popular, but requires experience getting it right
 - Experiment with neat tricks like box ovens and tin can cooking.
 - Do as much of the cooking at home as is practical (e.g., fry bacon at home or use Oscar Meyer's precooked; use precooked sausage; marinate and cut meats at home and transport in ziplocs)
 - Get help with transporting food, but only use reliable participants (you want the meal to show up!)
 - Consider the size of the group when planning meals.
 - When considering quantity of food to buy, use the servings per package listed on the food you are purchasing as a guideline.
 - Always keep peanut butter and jelly available for those who don't like the meal.
 - Make sure each family is assigned to a cleanup duty during the campout

- At night, the best idea is to pack all food into cars; if that's not practical, make sure everything is in a sealed Rubbermaid-type container, then cover it all with a tarp secured with rocks or other inedible heavy material; raccoons can and will eat their way through plastic peanut butter lids and chip bags and grocery bags.
- MAKE SURE FOOD IS KEPT COLD WHILE TRANSPORTING AND AT CAMPSITE – DON'T LET IT SPOIL.

5) Potable water is questionable. Bring at least 1 gallon of water for each person for each day.

- 6) PRACTICE SETTING UP YOUR TENT BEFORE YOU GO – Ask for help if you need it, other parents and all Scout Leaders will help.
- 7) Bring extra tarp to cover the tent with ropes and stakes to tie it down in case of rain. Rain fly that comes with the tent are good for misty to light rain. Any considerable size droplets will penetrate after several pounding in a downpour.
- 8) If it rains, you can pack up and leave or tuff it out; however, bring boots for it will get muddy. Don't forget towels to wipe off your feet prior to entering your tent.
- 9) A tarp (groundcover) should be placed under your tent to prevent water from entering from the bottom recessed about 3-4" from the edge of the tent . Another tarp inside would help keeping your sleeping bag dry.
- 10) **Each Den should bring firewood for itself and for the pack campfire.**
- 11) Bring a cart to haul the tent equipment.
- 12) Bring cooler with locking tab or bring rope to secure the food cooler from pesky raccoons!
- 13) Hang your trash bags high off the ground or place 'em in the garbage disposal bin prior to turn-in.
- 14) Bring entertainment for your siblings.
- 15) Bring hat, sunblock, insect repellent, and sunglasses.
- 16) Bring hiking sticks, hiking shoes, and hiking spirits (not alcohol).
- 17) Bring gloves, book, Frisbees, balls, etc. for free time play.
- 18) Bring great campout spirits.
- 19) Bring plenty of sunshine and clear skies.

Do not bring:

- 1) Gameboy or electronic games (only if this is the only means of keeping a siblings happy and busy)!
- 2) CD players or boomboxes
- 3) Work.
- 4) Bad mood and poor attitude.
- 5) Rain and sour weather