

“What to Pack / What not to Pack”

A recommended packing list is included below. Scouts will be staying in large canvas tents on wooden platforms, and sleeping on army cots (~1' high, 3' wide, 6' long). For this type of residential camping, an ideal method is to pack all the Scout's clothing and gear into two plastic bins (1' high, 2' long) that slide under the cot. This makes it much easier for the scout to stow his gear, and keep it consolidated. Scouts who would like to join the backpack overnight crew (outpost) should bring a backpack regardless. The Troop has three backpacks available for loan - please contact Mr. Duffy to reserve one.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not send anything to camp that would cause distress if it does not come home. Items are frequently lost during an active and mobile week at camp. Please write the Scout's name and "Troop 75" on absolutely everything that is sent to camp. Your Scout may recognize his stuff, but it's best if EVERYONE can recognize his stuff.

Always pack the outdoor essentials:

- Compass
- Water bottle or canteen (1 quart)
- Sun protection
- Personal First Aid items and insect repellent
- Flashlight

Clothing

- Full "Class A" uniform for dinner every night
- Several T-shirts
- Several shorts
- One long pants or sweat pants
- Swimming suit and towel
- Lots of socks, lots of underwear
- Warm jacket
- Rain gear (**essential**)
- Sneakers
- Swimming and lifesaving merit badge, and ropes course:* Long sleeve shirt and long pants
- Camping, hiking, and wilderness survival merit badge and outpost campers:* hiking boots and hiking socks
- Boating activities:* extra shoes or sandals that can get wet (no flip-flops)

Sleeping Gear

- Sleeping bag, summer weight (3-season)
- Foam pad or air mattress
- Pillow
- Rectangular sleeping mosquito net to fit over a single cot, and four 5' poles with tennis ball covers to support the netting over the cot
- Camping and wilderness survival merit badge and outpost campers:* plastic ground cloth. This may also be used in the tent for maximum bug protection

Personal wash kit (warm showers are available and strongly encouraged)

- Soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, comb, wash towel

Additional items (mostly optional)

- An inexpensive wristwatch (can be very helpful)
- Scout handbook (essential for younger Scouts)
- About \$25 for activity kits and snacks at the Trading Post
- Fishing Rod and tackle
- Sunglasses
- Note pad and pens
- Pocket knife (folding blade only)
- Extra batteries and bulb for flashlight and cheap camera
- Favorite board games, harmonica, guitar, puzzle book, nighttime reading, playing cards, etc.
- Any props for the camp-wide competition. The theme will be: "Pirates"

Do not pack:

- x Electronic games, radios, or music devices
- x Any knife with a blade longer than the width of the scout's palm
- x Fireworks of any kind
- x Snacks – no food in the tents (we're in bear country - ask our 2010 campers)
- x Cell phones
 - The battery will be dead by Wednesday (only leaders may charge phones)
 - Scouts frequently lose cell phones, which creates a crisis
 - Phone calls home and to friends generally decreases participation and greatly exacerbates any homesickness

Note: Any Scout may use any leader's cell phone at any time on request. Any parent may call any leader's cell phone at any time to contact their Scout (phone numbers provided on a separate handout).

What to expect? Watch the Patriot's Path online promotional video with your Scout using the link below (requires a high speed internet connection and Windows media player)

http://www.camps.ppbsa.org/camps/videos/Somers_Promo.wmv