



## **First Year Information: What to Bring on Campouts**

As a new "First Year" in Troop 459, you may be wondering what to bring on campouts. Below is a list of recommended items that you'll want to get together for your first few campouts. Your best reference is your Scout Handbook. Most campouts are going to be during the months of spring, autumn, and winter. **BE PREPARED!**

### **Sleeping Gear**

- Sleeping Bag, rated to about 25°
  - Sleeping Pad, closed-cell foam or self-inflating (i.e., Thermarest)
- Do not bring large or heavyweight sleeping bags or pillows. If the sleeping bag is too light, add an additional light fleece blanket for warmth.

### **Clothing and Other Equipment**

- Class A Uniform (traveling to and from camp-outs)
- Class B Uniform
- Sturdy boots
- 2 pair underwear
- 3 pair of socks
- 1 pair gym shorts
- 2 T-shirts
- 1 pair long pants
- 1 sweatshirt or fleece
- 1 long-sleeve shirt or sweater
- Belt
- Medium-weight wind/rain resistant jacket
- Hat
- Extra pair of sneakers or boots
- Rain gear (poncho or jacket/pants)
- Small flashlight and extra batteries
- Water bottle or canteen (Nalgene®)
- Toiletry kit (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, towel, etc.)
- Insect repellent - non-aerosol
- Sunscreen
- Personal First Aid Kit (see checklist)
- Pocket knife (if they have Totin' Chip)
- Compass
- Scout Handbook (in Ziploc)/pencil
- Tent – provided by troop

### **Optional Equipment**

- Swim trunks (Canoe campout, other swimming activities)
- Sunglasses
- Chap stick ®
- Folding camp stool (not a chair)
- Camera (cheap!)
- Hiking stick
- Duct tape
- Sewing kit
- Nylon cord

### **Equipment Not Allowed**

- Electronic Games
- iPods/Radio/Music players
- Cell phones
- Fireworks
- Anything expensive

### **Personal First Aid Kit**

#### **Essential 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Items**

- Adhesive Bandages
- 4 x 4 Gauze Pads
- Rolled Gauze
- Moleskin
- Adhesive Tape
- Bacitracin Ointment
- Caladryl Lotion
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Safety Pins
- Needles

#### **Optional 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Items**

- Elastic Bandage (Ace Wrap)
- Triangular Bandage
- Oral Thermometer
- Aspirin/Motrin
- Antacid tablets
- Pencil/Paper

The Outdoor Essentials: Refer to p. 264 in the NEW Boy Scout Handbook (p. 207 in the OLD Handbook) for a more detailed explanation. The only things you really don't need to worry about are the map and a first aid kit. Those items will come with a bit more experience, and are part of rank advancement.

**The Scout Outdoor Essentials:**

- Pocketknife** (folding knife)
- First-aid Kit
- Extra Clothing**
- Rain Gear**
- Water Bottle**
- Flashlight**
- Trail food**
- Matches and Fire Starters**
- Sun Protection**
- Map & Compass

**Notes:** Most parents of new Scouts outfit their sons with more than enough clothing. Do not pack more than the above, which is already more than he will likely need. Remember, he may have to carry it some distance to the campsite.

If the expected weather appears to be warmer or colder than normal, make appropriate substitutions or deletions.

**-Make sure everything has his name (or his initials) clearly marked on it.**

**-Pack nothing that you cannot afford to lose.**

-Thrift shops, Wal-Mart, Old Navy, etc., are great places to buy fleece and other outdoor clothes at bargain prices. Your son will burn it, stain it, lose it, and otherwise trash just about everything he brings on campouts. Anything that started as a pair will come back as a solo. The other one will likely return right after you throw the first one away. The more you pay for it, the quicker it will be lost.

-Synthetics and wool are better than cotton. Levis and cotton t-shirts may be what they wear to school, but don't insulate at all when wet. Be sure to send fleece for warmth. During cooler months, Smartwool sox (or the Cabela's equivalent) are worth their weight in gold.

-Wal-Mart and Target has excellent sleeping bags cheap! If you intend to buy a sleeping bag in a kids size, don't pay more than \$30-40 for it, he'll outgrow it. Fleece blankets inside a sleeping bag will take the rating down below zero. Wear a wool or micro fleece stocking hat to bed.

-Be sure to ask any "veteran" Scout what they would bring.

-Any questions on gear choice, feel free to contact the Outdoor/Camping Chairman by clicking on the Outdoor/Camping Chairman on the Camping page.