Getting Ready for WCB

Temperatures can vary between 40 degrees and 90 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer and most of your time will be spent outdoors, so it is important follow this list carefully. Layering clothing is important, so consider clothing that is warm but not bulky. Specific types of clothing such as those made out of nylon and wool work better than cotton because if clothing gets wet, these types of materials retain heat and dry more quickly. Please note that these are recommendations, but we do not expect campers to have to purchase brand new gear in order to be comfortable.

What to Bring

When you arrive at camp, you will carry your luggage to your cabin and then re-pack in Duluth Packs (if you are going on trail) or settle in your cabin for the week. Wheeled suitcases are not ideal as our trails are not wheel ready. Rather, backpacks, duffel bags or anything easy to carry will work much better to haul your clothes to and from the cabins.

1 pair "dry" shoes (tennis shoes or hiking boots) - no open-toe or open-heel shoes allowed

1 pair “wet” shoes (tennis shoes or hiking boots) - no "aqua socks" or open-toe/open-heel shoes allowed; good soles and ankle support is recommended *Note: Keen style shoes are acceptable only if they have a covered heel and not just a strap.

1 set of rain gear, including rain pants and a jacket

1 – 2 pair long pants made of nylon, wool or other synthetic fibers. Cotton (including denim) is not recommended

Swimsuit & Towel

Wide-brimmed hat or other sun protection

2 – 3 shirts for layering - include warm (fleece or wool) top layer, and 1-2 mid and light layers

2 – 4 pair socks, underwear, and other underclothes

1 – 2 pair wool socks

Sleeping bag - the smaller it packs, the better!

Flashlight or Headlamp

Toiletries (please no makeup or perfume)

Sunscreen (SPF 30+)

Water bottle

Bible, notebook and pen (in plastic bag for water protection)

Small bag, dry bag or stuff sack for holding items together in Duluth Packs

Clean outfit for the ride home

Optional: bug repellant (no more than 30% deet), sunglasses, camera (in plastic bag for water protection), lip balm, fishing gear/license, carabiner/clasp (to carry water bottle with)

Money for camp store

Note: pillows/pillowcases are provided at camp. Duluth Packs are also provided for those going on canoe trips.

Additional Notes for Island Camp, Work-Service & Hybrid Groups:

Packing for a week on base different than a canoe trip. Please look at the canoe trip clothing items as a baseline, but you may want to bring additional shirts, socks, underwear, etc. for your days on base. Remember that for work-service groups, you may be be staining, painting, or doing other jobs that could stain clothing. Also note that for work-service trips, work gloves will be provided.

Please DO NOT bring:

Computers, MP3/i-pods, video games, cell phones, jewelry, watches, good clothing, aqua socks, sandals, shampoo/soap (biodegradable or otherwise), make-up, perfume, pets, knives, firearms or weapons of any sort, fireworks, alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs, personal sports equipment, animals, vehicles
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Notes on clothing

When on a canoe trip, you’ll need just two sets of each type of clothing to wear throughout your trip: wet clothes and dry clothes.

Wet clothes

Wet clothes are worn during the day while paddling and portaging. Avoid cotton and attempt to pack clothing made of synthetic fibers, such as nylon, fleece, and/or some polyester. No more than 1-2 sets are needed. A wet set of clothing also includes a pair of wool or synthetic socks, wet shoes (old pairs of tennis shoes work great!), and rain gear. Rain pants are recommended to keep warm and dry as much as possible.

Dry clothes

Dry clothes are worn at the campsite. Long sleeves and long pants are recommended for warmth and mosquito protection. Only 1-2 sets are needed. Again, cotton should be kept to a minimum in case of rain. The dry set of clothing also includes a pair of dry shoes and socks.

Clean clothes

Clean clothes are worn at the end of the week after the sauna. These are everyday clothes that will be left at camp during the week and changed into for the drive home.

Layers

Layers of clothing allow your body to remain at a comfortable temperature throughout the day.

- Inner layer = pulls moisture away from body
- Middle layer = warmth
- Outer layer = protection from elements (mostly wind and water)

Watch our 'What to Pack' video!

Want some handy tips and packing recommendations from two of our Wilderness Canoe Base Guides, watch our 'What to Pack' video that talks through this information sheet, and gives examples of the types of clothing that will ensure that you have a great week at Wilderness Canoe Base! Click on the links or the picture below, or go to: https://vimeo.com/231815420 to watch the video now!