

Troop 457 Fall/Spring Camping Gear List

The gear on this list is to help you prepare for moderately cold weather camping with the troop in the late Fall or early Spring. It is meant to be as inclusive as possible, but a few things may have been missed. You should feel comfortable substituting things listed as long as you are sure that they work for you. Remember what you want to have, are things that don't hold water and will wick moisture away from

Clothes:

- 2 pair regular underwear
- 1 pair long-underwear (polyester works well)
- 2 tee-shirts (your underwear tops can substitute for these)
- 1 heavy long-sleeve shirt/turtleneck
- 2 pair pants with belt (the one you are wearing and one additional)
- 2 pairs of heavy wool or polyester socks
- 1 medium to heavy wool sweater or polyester fleece
- 1 Handkerchief or bandana

Outer-Wear:

- Sturdy hiking boots that resist moisture
- Jacket with warmth (one with a hood is great)
- Two piece rain gear (your rain gear could be used as a jacket if your fleece is of sufficient quality and warmth)
- Hat for warmth and wind break (baseball hats are fine in summer but lose their effectiveness in winter)
- Gloves that resist moisture (waterproof are great but are expensive and not essential)

Sleeping Gear:

- Good warm sleeping bag (a bag rated at 20° F is a good compromise between warmth and bulk)
- Sleeping pad that provides insulation from the ground and water resistance
- Very small pillow (definitely a luxury item but I like)
- Pack cover of some type (either bought or handmade, a large sturdy trash bag can work)

Personal Gear:

- Headlamp or small flashlight with good batteries
- 1 liter water bottle
- Mess kit with utensils and insulated mug for water, drinks and soups
- Toilet kit with soap, hand towel, toothpaste and toothbrush
- Assortment of zip-lock bags for clothing/gear
- Sunglasses (highly recommended to protect your eyes)
- Camera and extra film/batteries
- Small pocket knife
- Scout book, deck of cards, reading material
- Prescription medications (labeled and in original container)
- 2-3 plastic kitchen bags for wet or dirty clothes and/or boots
- 2-3 large plastic bags (yard size) for wet, dirty tents and/or gear

The key to having fun outdoors in colder weather is staying dry! Change out of wet clothes immediately. Dry the wet clothes; you will likely need them later. Wool or polyester clothing is the best because it does not absorb moisture like cotton and will keep you warm when wet. Remember, only a few individuals learn how to tackle the outdoors when it is cold. You can be one of the few with proper planning.