



## The Essential Camp Packing Guide

### *Camp Packing Tips*

- **Label EVERYTHING!** Include your camper's first and last name on as many belongings as possible. You'd be amazed at the lost and found pile each week!
- **Bring Layers.** Even though temperatures can hit the 90s, Michigan is notorious for our frequently changing weather.
- Send items to camp that you don't mind getting dirty! Your camper will be playing outdoors and hiking through the woods. Please send play clothes that they don't have to worry about.
- If you don't have items on this list and are unable to acquire them, please contact us. We have a supply of extra items available for kids who need to borrow them.
- ALL medications must be turned in to the Health Officer at check in, so we recommend you pack these in a plastic Ziploc bag that is easily accessible when you arrive at camp.

### **Clothing to Bring**

- At least 2 pairs of **CLOSED TOED** shoes
- 7+ t-shirts
- 5-7 pairs of shorts
- 7+ pairs of underwear
- 7+ pairs of socks (extra socks are always good!)
- At least one sweatshirt or jacket
- At least one pair of long pants
- Pajamas or sleepwear
- 1-2 swimming suits
- Raincoat or poncho
- Flipflops (for showering or walking to the waterfront only)
- Water shoes (recommended for waterfront activities)

### **Bedding / Linens**

- Fitted sheet (twin)
- Pillow(s)
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket

### **Toiletries**

- At least 2 towels

- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Soap or Shower Gel
- Deodorant
- Hairbrush / comb
- Insect Repellent
- Sunscreen
- A basket or bucket to carry toiletries to the shower house

### **Other**

- Reusable plastic water bottle
- 1 bag or suitcase (must fit under the beds –no taller than 16 inches)
- Laundry Bag
- Stuffed animal or other comfort item
- Post cards or stationery
- Envelopes and stamps (we recommend you pre-address envelopes for younger campers)
- Pencil or pen
- Medications (must be turned in to Health Officer at check in)



### What NOT to bring to Camp

- Knives or any kind of weapon
- Lighters or matches
- Alcohol, cigarettes, or any kind of drugs
- Items containing inappropriate language or symbols
- Food, Candy, or Gum
- Sharpies or any other permanent markers
- Glass containers or bottles
- Anything that needs a plug or connects to the internet. This includes:
  - Cell phones, Smart Watches
  - iPods, radios, personal music players
  - Video games
  - Straighteners, Blow Dryers, or Curling Irons
  - Electric powered fans (battery operated are ok)
  - Any other electronic devices

### Day Camper Recommendations

- At least 1 clean mask or face covering each day
- A backpack or small bag
- CLOSED TOED shoes
- A change of clothes
- A sweatshirt or jacket
- Swimming suit
- Towel
- Insect Repellent
- Sunscreen
- Hairbrush or comb
- Reusable plastic water bottle
- Water shoes or flipflops for waterfront activities
- Medications that need to be given during the day (must be turned in to Health Officer at check in).

### Other Packing FAQ

**Why two towels?** It's always good to have a backup towel, in case one is still wet, or gets dirty, or if campers want to have one towel for the showers and one for the waterfront.

**We don't have raincoats or ponchos. What about an umbrella?** We frequently continue outdoor activities if it's raining, unless there is thunder or lightning. It's much easier to do activities in the rain if campers have a poncho or raincoat. Umbrellas are difficult to manage and not conducive to active play.

**What size sheets / bedding?** Our beds have "bunk" size mattresses - they are 30 inches wide and 75 inches long. Regular twin sheets fit on them - there is no need to get special extra long sheets. Most campers bring a bottom sheet and a blanket or sleeping bag for their bed.

**Why do I need closed toed shoes?** For safety reasons, we require that everyone wear closed-toed shoes at camp. The only time flip flops or open toed sandals are allowed is when campers are going to the waterfront or the shower house. Please make sure your camper has a comfortable pair (or two!) of shoes. Tennis shoes, sneakers, closed-toed sandals, crocs, etc. are fine!

**Why do you recommend water shoes?** Some campers don't like walking on the lake bottom with bare feet. Water shoes can make that more comfortable, especially for kids who aren't frequent lake-swimmers.

**Letter writing materials.** If you want your camper to write to you while they're at camp, we highly recommend that you pre-address and stamp the envelopes. It will make it much easier for your camper to put their letter inside and send it home (or to other relatives).