

Northwaters and Langskib Wilderness Canoe Programs Gear List

NWL provides all of the group camping and canoeing equipment. Individuals are responsible for bringing their personal gear. There is no need to buy expensive gear; you may have many of these items already or find them at a second-hand store.

Comfortable, durable clothes appropriate for backcountry travel in the changeable Temagami weather will make all the difference in your experience on trail. Conditions range from cold and wet, to hot and sunny, sometimes in the same day. Packable layers are key, as are synthetic materials that will keep you warm even when wet. Clothing will see hard use and will be carried by you inside your dry bag, inside your Duluth, inside your canoe and on portages. Size, quantity and versatility of items should be considered.

Generally speaking, participants pack one set of clothes/shoes to wear during the day for portaging, paddling and hiking and a different set of clothes/shoes for the evenings for setting up camp, cooking and sleeping. Check out our [How to Pack for a Canoe Trip](#) video here.

Please label each item with your first and last name. NWL cannot be responsible for items damaged, lost, or left behind.

- Duffle Bag** Everything you bring to program should fit in this bag. Due to the rugged nature of our basecamps, the duffle is the best way to transport your gear from home to camp. We will provide a special canoe pack (Duluth) for you to take on trail. Your duffle and any valuable or extra items will stay securely behind at basecamp.

Personal Camping Gear

- River Bag/Dry Bag** 55-liter waterproof bag holds your trail clothing and personal gear within the Duluth.
- Day Pack and/or Dry Bag** Holds personal items you need to access throughout the day (sunscreen, water bottle, rain gear, warm layer, bug spray etc.). A small 15-20 liter dry bag can work on its own, or act as a day pack liner (to keep items within waterproof). Day pack should be durable, compact, and no larger than a 20-30 liter capacity.
- Sleeping Bag** Compact mummy-type bag rated for 5°C or 40°F with maximum packed size of 50x25cm. Here's a nice [article on the types of sleeping bags](#) suitable for backcountry camping.
- Sleeping Pad** Compact closed-cell foam or self-inflating Therma-Rest type, NOT inflatable air mattress or cushion. Here's a good [article on the types of sleeping pads](#) suitable for backcountry camping.
- 1-liter Water Bottle** Durable aluminum, stainless steel or heavy duty plastic. Wide mouth Nalgene ideal.
- Sunglasses** UV rated. Attachment cord recommended.
- Headlamp or Flashlight** With extra batteries.
- Mess Kit** Fork, spoon and cup. Insulated cup is nice, but not necessary.
- Knife** For camp chores/crafts and cooking. Folding or sheath, simple or multi-tool, 2-3" blade ideal.

Clothing

- Underwear** Enough for the duration of your stay, at your discretion.
- Two long underwear tops** Long sleeve wool, synthetic fiber or polyester blend. Quick dry, not cotton.
- One pair of long underwear bottoms** Wool, synthetic or polyester blend. Quick dry, not cotton.
- One pair of fleece pants** Or other warm, loose fitting, light weight, durable, quick-drying material.
- One pair of long quick-dry pants** Nylon "hiking pants" or synthetic "track pants" are perfect.

- Four pair of warm wool socks** Or material designed to insulate like wool.
- Two pair of shorts** Lightweight and durable.
- Two t-shirts** Synthetic fiber or poly-blend, limit cotton.
- One swimsuit** 2-piece preferable.

Outerwear

- One sun hat** Any lightweight hat with brim.
- One warm hat/toque** Wool or fleece preferred.
- Two fleece jackets or pullovers** One for daytime “wet fleece” and one for nighttime “dry fleece”.
- One rain jacket** Coated/rubberized nylon is fine. Expensive/breathable jackets are nice, not necessary.
- One set of rain pants** Super helpful in the rain and as an insulating layer.
- One pair of daytime ‘Wet Shoes’** Durable, supportive, FULLY ENCLOSED sneakers or light hikers are best. NO BOOTIES OR SANDALS. Worn all day paddling, portaging and hiking.
- One pair of nighttime ‘Dry Shoes’** To change into in the evening after washing and drying your feet. Should also be lightweight, durable and fully enclosed. Sneakers are perfect. No leather please.

Toiletries

- Sunblock** Waterproof 30-SPF lotion recommended.
- Bug repellent** Non-aerosol. The most effective insect repellents contain some percentage of DEET.
- Toothbrush/toothpaste** Environmentally friendly, travel size.
- Biodegradable liquid soap** Dr Bronners or CampSuds type brand.

Miscellaneous*

- 1-2 comfortable travel/basecamp outfits** Cotton, jeans, hoodies, sweatshirt/pants are fine. These are clothes you can wear in the front country and will stay behind, clean and dry, at basecamp.
- Towel** Primarily for swimming at basecamp. If taking on trail, bring small chamois-type fabric.
- Giveaway** Northwaters/Northern Lights or **Trade Item** Excalibur/Langskib (see Confirmation Packet)
- Camera** Optional. Disposable and/or waterproof recommended- NOT your phone.
- Journal** Optional. Book or other small packable hobby/craft item.
- Personal Identification or travel documents as needed** Will be stored securely at basecamp.
- Fishing rod/tackle** Optional for personal use during down time, rod should be stored in a tube.
- Money** Optional \$25-50 for camp store if your parents aren’t coming to the BBQ.

*If there are other small personal items that would help make your trail experience better, you may bring them and discuss with your trip leaders while packing (nail clippers, bug net, foot powder, work gloves...)

Leave at home- any of the follow items brought to basecamp will be collected

- NUT PRODUCTS** For the safety of all, NWL is a nut safe program and facility.
- SNACKS/CANDY** Personal food is not safe, we provide ample calories (see Confirmation for details)
- PHONE or other electronics** Will be safely stored with other valuables at basecamp.