2021 Family Camp Packing List

Families are responsible for all items brought to camp. LABEL EVERYTHING! Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items. Please be advised that the list below represents supplies for 2-3 days of camp/family member. Each family member should have his or her own checklist while packing.

**Sleep Essentials**
- Sleeping bag or heavy blankets
- Pillow(s) & extra pillow case
- Fitted sheets (twin size)
- Comfort item (example: stuffed animal)

**Personal Hygiene**
- 1-2 washcloths
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Body wash/soap
- Deodorant
- 2 towels (swimming & showering)
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Hair brush/comb
- Shower caddy or bag

**Clothing**
- Shorts/Athletic short for each day
- A pair of long pants
- Shirts
- Heavy sweater, sweatshirt, or jacket
- Undergarments (required daily, pack extras)
- Socks (required daily, pack extras)
- 2 bathing suits
- Pajamas (nights are cold/hot, bring options)
- Raincoat or poncho (no umbrellas please)
- 2 pairs of sturdy shoes (closed toes)
- 1 pair of waterproof boots (rain boots)
- Flip flops or water shoes for showering only (or lake activities at Archbald family camp)

**Miscellaneous**
- Face Masks (cloth and/or disposable, 2-3 total)
- Medication (No Camp Nurse on site)
- Daypack or backpack
- Refillable water bottle (name on it)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent (non-aerosol)
- Ointment for bug bites
- Sunglasses
- Bandana or hat
- Hair ties
- Chapstick and/or lip balm
- Flashlight/headlamp, extra batteries

**Optional Items**
- Disposable camera
- Reading materials/books/journal
- Playing cards/non-electronic games
- Stationary, pen/pencil, stamps, envelopes
- Swim vest or floaties (only if needed to swim)
- Earplugs or sleeping mask for light sleepers
- Friendship bracelet string
- Garbage bag (pack pillows in if it rains during check-out)
- Feminine sanitary products (if needed)
- Small battery operated fan for bed or larger fan for cabin/yurt/tent to share (no plug-ins)
- Mattress pad (not required)
- Mess kit or plastic cup, plate, & silverware for outdoor cooking (NO GLASS)

**Camp Theme Packing (Optional)**
- Around the World: International or National theme clothing or accessories Mom & Me: Twin day! Bring a matching outfit! Can be silly, crazy or campy!
- Splash Spectacular: Blue or water focused shirt or accessory to wear on Tuesday

NO inappropriate words or pictures on allowed

**CELL PHONES**
We understand that adults may need to bring their phones on camp, however, we ask that unless you are taking pictures or using it during your own time, that you keep it away during instructor run activities. Phones distract other campers and your instructor.

**Please do NOT bring the following:**
- FOOD/SNACKS/CANDY – Food in tents and cabins attracts critters (skunks, raccoons, and other woodland creatures). Unless you or your camper has special dietary needs that absolutely require them to bring their own food, we recommend you leave any food at home. If your family decides to bring food it must be stored in your car or in a unit kitchen area.
VALUABLE ITEMS – iPods, mp3 players, portable DVD players, radios, electronic games, cell phones, expensive jewelry, and anything else that might be considered valuable should be left at home. These items are unnecessary at camp and dampness could ruin these items.

OTHER- Weapons, fireworks, alcohol/tobacco ILLEGAL substances, lighters, aerosol cans, personal sports equipment, pool toys, animals/pets.

Packing Tips

Clothes to Have Fun!
Please, pack clothing items that you and your campers can really play in. Families will get involved in a “hands-on” way and your clothing may show the wear & tear. Please, do not bring expensive clothing to camp. Camp will NOT be responsible for lost or damaged articles.

Labeling Clothes and Equipment
Before packing clothing and camp gear, remember to mark/label each piece with your family’s name. Mark the article of clothing so that the family’s name will be easily seen when searched for. The collar, waistband, or tags of most clothing articles and inside hats/shoes works well. For towels, sheets, pillowcases, and sleeping bags place tape, with name, on opposite corners to label, or label the items tags/corners with permanent marker. Mark names clearly on miscellaneous items as well! Don’t forget to mark bags and/or totes, too!

We ask that you please use full names (no initials), as many families will share similar initials. At camp, some clothing/items may be misplaced, left at camp, or even packed into another family’s bag. Thus, proper “ID” on belongings and clothing will greatly assist in the return of articles to their proper owner.

Any lost and found items must be retrieved from camp. All lost and found items will be thrown out, donated, or cleaned for use at camp, if they are not collected one month after the camp season ends. Lost and found items will NOT be mailed home.

Packing Items
Pack clothing/belongings into one duffel bag, tote, backpack, or old suitcase. Duffel bags are the preferred camp luggage - easy to carry and easy to store.

Final Note to Packers
This checklist is for your convenience. Avoid unnecessary purchases. If you can substitute something on the list with an item you already have, feel free to do so.

Frequently Asked Questions

Masks: family members can bring their favorite face masks to camp. However, we recommend that you pack extra! Cloth masks are fun, but a day under the sun can make them uncomfortable. It is highly recommended that you pack a few disposable masks as well. Facemasks could get lost or dirty during camp.

Swim vest or floaties: Any families who are worried about their campers passing the swim test are welcome to bring a personal vest or floaties for their family members. Children, 5 and older, can swim in deeper levels than their swim level, if they have swim vests or floaties while in that section. We do have vests available on camp, but we cannot guarantee that they will fit all campers. Children under 5 must be accompanied in the pool at all times!

Small battery operated fan for bed: Families sleep in non-AC units. Lodges, cabins, yurts, and tents can get warm throughout the day. We recommend that families bring a small battery operated fan (not hand held) for their bed/cabin. This will help to circulate air and to keep your family cool. Clip on ones may be able to attach to some bunks. If you would like to bring a larger fan for the whole family, you may. Please be advised that not all units have outlets. Click HERE for an example.
**Why two bathing suits?** Families will swim every day (weather permitting). It’s nice to have a dry bathing suit to put on.

**Why do I need to pack a fitted sheet if I’m packing a sleeping bag?** Most families find it more comfortable to have a sheet lining the vinyl mattress.

**Can we wear sleeveless shirts?** Yes, however we will not allow halter tops, spaghetti straps, or anything that is deemed overly revealing.

**Will my family need a laundry bag?** Families will NOT be doing laundry while on camp. Please pack enough clothes for your entire stay on camp. Exceptions are made for any accidents. If families would like to bring a laundry bag to store dirty clothes, they may.

**Do I really need to pack two pairs of shoes?** Living outdoors, families can get wet and messy. Sudden downpours are frequent at camp and can leave a pair of shoes wet for the rest of the week. It’s best to plan for that by packing an extra pair.

**Can my daughter wear Crocs or Chaco/Tiva sandals?** Crocs and sandals (with a back strap) are really only suitable for wearing in the shower or during lake activities.

**If I forget to send my camper with an item, what can I do?** Forgotten items can be dropped off at the Camp Office. Please remember to call or email the camp beforehand. Communication beforehand is essential. There are times on camp when no one is in the Camp Office. The Camp Director’s phone number and email can be found on your confirmation email.

**Have additional questions about camp?** Contact our Member Services team at 800-692-7816 or by email at MemberServices@gshpa.org.