

# Troop/Crew 14 Backpacking Equipment Checklist

(Complied by Mark Montrose, Scoutmaster, 408-247-5715)

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## Basic Essentials

*Use discretion on appropriateness of need, such as weather, time of year, etc.*

ID Card – Listing emergency phone numbers and medical information

(Name and phone number for parent/guardian, doctor, dentist, medical insurance)

Pocket knife and

Whistle for emergency use

Small first aid kit

35 cents (for emergency phone calls. 1-800-COLLECT is free to the caller)

Water kit

Container appropriate for activity (bottled water, one or two liter soda containers, sports bottle, etc.)

Filtration equipment (purification tablets, charcoal filters, hand pumps, H<sub>2</sub>O Pure<sup>®</sup>, etc.)

Rain gear and emergency shelter (depending on type and nature of activity)

Trail food (carry an amount worth one extra day should the need arise)

Matches and fire starters (waterproof matches, butane lighter is preferred)

Small flashlight and extra batteries (use discretion if night hiking/camping is to be performed)

Map and compass

Pump or stick type/lotion insert repellent (100% Deet.<sup>®</sup> No spray cans)

Chap Stick, sunscreen and sunglasses (optional)

Medication (Must be carried by the adult leader)

## **Personal Equipment**

-Pack and frame

Ensure assembly fits and is in top mechanical condition

-Waterproof sleeping bag/compression sack

-Sleeping pad and ground sheet (5' x 7')

-Plastic bag labeled "FOOD ONLY"

-Small mess kit and utensils

Cup and small bowl

Fork/knife/spoon

Spices if desired (carried in old film canister)

-Cleanup gear

Soap (biodegradable), carried in old film canister

Small toothbrush/toothpaste and comb

Washcloth (in a Ziploc bag)

Small hand towel

-Two plastic bags (for trash and wet clothing)

-Trash bag to cover backpack at night (keeps the pack dry)

- 20 feet or more of lightweight rope or braided nylon cord

-Small roll of toilet paper with cardboard removed. If desired bring a plastic trowel. Both can be carried in a plastic bag

-Trail snacks (trail mix, granola bars, dried fruit, Power-bars, high-energy snacks. Lots of carbohydrates and minimal sugar).

-Drink container (plastic is mandatory)

-Bear canister (depending on area of hike and need)

Optional equipment (Nothing electronic)

Scout handbook, pocket bible

Small writing pad – pen/pencil

Watch, camera/film

Pocket sized fishing gear, binoculars

## **Clothing\***

-Scout uniform

Class A – Mandatory for transport to/from activity

Class B/C – Activity/Civilian. Change after arrival at site.

-Hiking boots and tennis shoes (optional)

Change shoes at the end of the day to let boots dry out

- T-shirts and extra underwear (depends on number of days)

- Hiking pants (long or short depending on weather and terrain).

Denim jeans are the worst types of pants to backpack in.

- Extra socks and liner (prevents blisters)

Wool preferred – cotton keeps the feet wet.

- Hat with brim

- Belt with small buckle

- Swim suit (if desired)

- Sweatshirt

- Jacket/windbreaker

- Bandana or small scarf (dusty trails)

- Knit cap/gloves (cold weather activities)

- Rain gear (ponchos, gaiters, etc.)

- Thermal underwear (cold weather)

- Warm jacket/parka (cold weather)

- Plastic or coated nylon bags to put wet clothing in

- Other clothing as desired

- Blister kit (includes Moleskin<sup>®</sup> and Second Skin<sup>®</sup>)

\* Includes what you are wearing

## **Patrol Equipment**

Needed for every 2 scouts: Backpacking tent with rain fly and ground sheet or two nylon tarps with cords and tent pegs.

Needed for every 3 scouts: Backpacking stove and fuel (windscreen for Wisper lights<sup>®</sup>), cooking pots with lids, pot gripper, other cook gear, dish soap (biodegradable), scrub pad/sponge (small), nylon pot scraper (end of old ladle), small towel.

Needed for whole patrol: Backpacking food, spices (in film containers, etc.), water filter system, small plastic shovel, sewing kit, bear canister, plus other items deemed required per previous agreement to divide weight and responsibility for its use.

NOTE: All gear that might be exposed to rain or water should be waterproof.

\*\*\*The key item to remember is that one must carry everything on their back. Weight is a major consideration and will cause frustration, if not physical harm to the inexperienced scout. Also, every item takes up space. Use judgment in repackaging all items; includes clothes put in vacuum-sealed sandwich bags to minimize volume. It also helps keep weight to a minimum.