



Ready to head outdoors?

Yes, summer is finally here in Michigan. Let's get outdoors and enjoy the weather! Here are a few tips for planning a camping trip. I've included my camping trip checklist.

Do some research and ask questions. Ask your friends who camp a lot and get their feedback. Ask your family what they want. Do they want a campground that has a lot of amenities, scheduled activities?

Since we only went camping once a year, this camping check list was a must have. The first few years, I kept adding things to remind me to bring next year, such as rope to hang your swimsuits on.

Simplify your meals. Hamburgers and hot dogs are a great go to. Plus you can use the same condiments for both meals. I know a lot of families use their crockpots on camping trips so you are a little freer to enjoy the weather and activities. You may even want to make a meal ahead of time so you can just heat it up on the camp stove for a quick meal.

The great things about camping, is the time in the evenings around campfires talking, singing, laughing and playing cards.

One of the things that I found helpful was to bring an extra flat sheet for the bottom of the tent. It made it much easier to clean the tent by shaking the sheet vs sweeping often.

Do you have any camping tricks to share?

I'm very grateful to our St. John's group who made us camp out every Labor Day for the last 6 years. We won't be doing it this year, because our group of girls are all leaving for college this fall.

So you know that will definitely be a future newsletter topic! :)

Looking for more ideas for your next camping trip? These sites are great. Check out <http://www.gocampingamerica.com/> or http://www.lovetheoutdoors.com/camping/tips/tips_and_advice.htm has a wealth of information. Looking for a campsite?

You can check the Michigan Department of Natural Resources website to book a campsite. There are still some good sites left. <https://www.midnrreservations.com/>

Here's my camping checklist:

- Shampoo and conditioner
- Soap and hand wipes
- Medicines
- Deodorant
- Hand and body lotion
- Lip balm
- Personal-hygiene items
- Toiletry bag
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss
- Comb or brush
- Face clothes, towels
- Hair dryer and curling iron
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen and sunglasses and aloe vera
- Contact-lens solution, extra contact lenses or eyeglasses
- Mirror
- Cots, blankets, pillows, foam
- outdoor/indoor rugs
- broom/vacuum-handheld
- coffee maker, grounds, mugs, cream, sugar
- plates, bowls, cups, utensils, napkins, hot cocoa, paper towel
- towels for the beach
- extra pail, dish soap
- rope and clothespins for drying clothes
- lawn chairs
- rags, wash and dry cloths for doing dishes
- tent and extra flat sheets for the bottoms of the tent
- coleman stove, pots/pans, serving utensils, oven mitts
- trailer jacks and leveler (if you are using a trailer)
- table cloth and pins to make them stay on the table
- food, snacks, drinks, coolers, ice
- antibacterial wipes
- Garbage bags, Extra resealable bags – ziplocs

Electronics and Games

- Ipod/cell phones, headphones, chargers and extra extension cords
- Laptop AC convertor and split, Laptop and power cord
- Books and videos, Notebook
- COards, game boards, basketball, bikes, soccer ball, bats, ball & glove, football
- Video camera and charger

Summer Clothing

- Swimsuit
- Shorts and tee shirts
- Pajamas
- Bra, socks, and underwear
- Sweats
- Warm clothing for cool nights
- Rain gear – boots
- Hats
- Running shoes, crocks, slippers, Flip flops

Things to do before leaving

- Thermostat - shut off A/C
- Put mail on hold
- Maps and research done on activities that are available close by
- Bring your camp confirmation

Have fun camping!

Happy Organizing!
Your local professional organizer,

Betty Huotari

P.S. If you would like to share this email with a friend, please pass it along and if they would like to be added to my list, have them send me an email. If you would like to unsubscribe to the monthly news-letter, please send me an email to betty@logicalplacement.com.

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