

Canoe Camping Checklist

By Kimberly French

- Packing
 - Pack light.
 - Choose clothing that you can put on and take off in layers.
 - Bring "sample" sizes of items, it will significantly downsize your duffle.
 - Choose a paperback rather than a hardcover book.
 - Waterproof your gear with two layers of plastic plus an outer protective layer of nylon or canvas.
 - Put inside a canvas or nylon duffle bag to protect the plastic from tears, punctures, and abrasion.
 - Use several small waterproof bags, such as zip-locks when having limited space in a canoe.
 - Tie with a bow-knot that can be easily released in the event of a capsize.
 - Do not use bow or stern lines for tying gear.
- Camping
 - Leave a trip itinerary with someone.
 - Plan a route that meets your interests, wilderness skills, and time available.
 - If you are part of a large group, split up and travel separately to reduce the noise and visual effect you have on other visitors.
 - Make camp early enough in the day to ensure finding a developed campsite.
 - Camp only at developed campsites identified by their steel fire grates and latrines.
 - Keep a clean campsite and hang your food pack Do not keep food in the tent.
 - Keep campfires small.
 - Burn only dead, downed wood.
 - Put your fires dead out whenever you leave the site.