

# 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.