

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT PACKING LIST

Cabin-Based New Student Trips

We will be staying at a facility with open-air cabins, but this is still an outdoors trip, so it is important to be prepared for the elements in order to ensure that you'll have the best possible experience. All the specialty outdoor equipment can be borrowed from us for free, so you shouldn't need buy anything. Be sure to submit your **Online Gear Request form** to College Outdoors as soon as possible, **even if you do not plan to borrow anything**, so we can prepare equipment. If your trip will use wetsuits and other specialized water gear, we'll provide that for everyone so those items are not included in this list.

A note about cotton: Cotton has little place on outdoors trips except in-camp and as T-shirts, bandannas, and underwear. Cotton robs your body of heat if it gets wet and can cause hypothermia. Never plan to wear cotton long underwear, blue jeans, cotton fleece jackets, cotton sweats, or similar items on an outdoor trip while hiking or doing other outdoor activities.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT – available to borrow from College Outdoors for FREE

- DUFFEL BAG.** A good way to keep all your gear together. A backpack or small to medium size suitcase will also work.
- SLEEPING BAG & SLEEP SHEET.** Almost any sleeping bag rated for temperatures of 40 degrees Fahrenheit, or colder, will work for this trip. A sleep sheet is a thin sheet, sewn in a tube, that slips inside the sleeping bag. It can be nice to have when the night is warm enough that you don't want to be wrapped up in your whole bag, or to add warmth on a cooler night. A sleep sheet is only required if you are borrowing a sleeping bag from us.
- SLEEPING BAG STUFF SACK.** Most sleeping bags come with a stuff sack. We recommend you have one for your trip to protect your bag from damage and keep it contained.
- RAIN JACKET.** Rain can come at any time in the Pacific Northwest—and you will need good rain gear when you are living in Portland for the winter! Coated nylon, rubberized fabric, and Gore-Tex all work great (and are listed here from the least to the most expensive). *Don't* plan to use a cheap, fold-up poncho. Also, don't bring an insulated rain jacket, as you will be too hot if you have to hike in it. Gore-tex and other breathable fabrics are going to keep you the most comfortable if you have to exert yourself in your rain gear. If you choose to buy new rain gear, it helps to talk to a salesperson at an outdoor store or chat with someone at an outdoor store online.
- RAIN PANTS.** The suggestions for a rain jacket fabric apply here as well. Additionally, for rain pants, zippers at the cuffs that allow you to take your rain pants on and off without removing your hiking boots can be very convenient.
- HIKING PANTS,** to keep the sun and bugs off your skin while hiking or hanging out.
- LONG SLEEVED NON-COTTON SHIRT.** Good for keeping the sun and any mosquitos off of you. Nylon, fleece, Capilene, or other synthetic fibers will work the best.
- 1-2 LONG UNDERWEAR (TOP AND BOTTOM).** Quality polypropylene (synthetic, non-cotton) and wool long underwear usually come in three weights: light, mid, and expedition. All types can be used in a combination of layers to provide warmth, even when wet. Capilene, Thermax, Thermostat, and Smartwool are common brand names. For this trip, you should bring light-weight. Long underwear serves as an important insulating layer, and it is very important that it isn't made of cotton, which won't keep you warm if it gets wet!
- SWEATER or FLEECE JACKET.** Wool or synthetic fibers all provide great insulation, and keep you warm even if they get wet. If it's lightweight, bring two. No cotton sweatshirts please!
- WARM HAT.** Wool, polypro, capilene or fleece.
- WARM GLOVES OR MITTENS.** Often nice to have on hand during cool evenings and mornings.
- 3-6 PAIRS SOCKS & 1-2 PAIRS SOCK LINERS.** No cotton socks—they can't keep your feet warm when they're wet and lead to blisters. **Three pairs** of wool, polypro or synthetic fiber socks will ensure dry, warm, happy feet. **An additional pair** of thin, non-cotton, slippery liner socks (such as silk or polypro) to wear under your thick wool will aid in blister prevention on day hikes. Socks that fit well also help prevent blisters.
- COMFORTABLE HIKING BOOTS.** We suggest bringing sturdy boots with good ankle support, preferably mid- or high-tops. We do have high-quality hiking boots to loan out, but bring your own if you already own them. Your own boots will be better conformed to your feet (i.e. more comfortable and less likely to give you blisters). If you buy new boots, be sure to break them in by hiking around your neighborhood. Our most common injuries are blisters from students who haven't broken in their hiking boots!

MORE on Pg 2 →

- CLOSED TOED WATER SHOES.** Keens, old sneakers, or Tevas *with covered, closed-toe* will work just fine. **Do not bring** open toed sport sandals such as Tevas or Chacos because they don't protect your feet from injury (such as stubbing toes into rock). **Closed-toed shoes are required at all times on College Outdoors trips.**
- LARGE GARBAGE BAGS.** One or two heavy-duty, 1.4 mm thick or thicker, (*25 gal. or more*) to help keep your clothes and sleeping bag dry, and to pack out garbage at the end of the trip.
- WATER BOTTLES** (at least 2 liters total capacity). Any lightweight plastic bottle that does not leak will be OK. Empty Gatorade bottles are a cheap, easy way to go. Camelback hydration systems work as well.
- DAY PACK,** for carrying some warm clothing, food and water on day hikes from the base camp. Your school bookbag will be fine for this as long as you can wear it on your back. No messenger bags.
- SUNGLASSES** with ultraviolet (UV) protection. This is for your own safety! On a bright summer day you can burn your eyes as well as the rest of your skin.
- "CROAKIES," "CHUMS" or GLASSES STRAPS** to keep your glasses/sunglasses on your face or around your neck, not broken.
- SUN HAT or BASEBALL CAP** to keep the sun out of your eyes and off your face.
- HEADLAMP.** A headlamp leaves your hands free for camp tasks. You'll need it for walking between dark buildings at night.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT – you will need to bring yourself (not available to borrow)

- SHORTS**—one or two pairs (synthetic fabric if possible).
- SWIMSUIT.** Only required for trips with water-based activities (kayaking, SUPing, surfing); optional for hiking-only trips, since you may still have an opportunity to swim for those who are interested.
- T-SHIRTS** or other lightweight synthetic shirts. Bring two or three.
- UNDERWEAR.** Changing each day into clean underwear will help prevent discomfort, yeast infection, and urinary tract infection – especially for women. Cotton is fine, and may be preferable since it is breathable.
- TOWEL.** There will be showers at the camp.
- SPORT SANDALS or TENNIS SHOES** for in-camp wear. We recommend old nylon tennis shoes or closed-toe sandals (such as Keen brand), which are lightweight and provide maximum foot protection. **Do not bring** open toed sport sandals such as Tevas or Chacos because they don't protect your toes or upper foot from injury (such as stubbing toes into rock). **Closed-toed shoes are required at all times on College Outdoors trips.**
- PERSONAL TOILETRIES.** These items include toothpaste, toothbrush, contact lens supplies, eyeglasses, shower supplies, and menstrual products. Try to find travel-size items and avoid bringing anything in a glass container.
- SUNSCREEN AND CHAPSTICK** rated at SPF 20 or higher.
- MEDICATIONS.** **If you will be on any medication during the trip, please be sure to bring double the amount you need,** in two separate containers. Inform your trip leader of what you are taking and give them the backup supply in case yours gets lost or wet. It is your responsibility to collect it from your Trip Leader at the end of your trip.
 - **IF YOU HAVE BEEN PRESCRIBED AN EPIPEN OR INHALER, BRING IT.** Even if it has been several years since you last used it, please carry your life-saving medications just in case.
- PROOF OF MEDICAL INSURANCE CARD.** *If you do not have insurance through Lewis & Clark College, then it is extremely important to bring your medical insurance card. Digital versions are OK. **Don't leave home without it.***

MORE on Pg 3 →

OPTIONAL ITEMS – you may want to bring, but are not essential

- N95 OR KN95 MASKS.** Masks are great to have for both preventing the spread of illness, and in case of wildfire smoke. N95 masks are best, especially if you are mitigating inhalation of smoke. If you or a member of your group becomes ill, you may need to wear masks indoors (including in the van/bus).
- CAMERA.** Do not rely on access to your cellphone camera.* A dedicated camera is encouraged if you like to take your own photos, though a group trip camera is usually taken along on all trips.
- HAND SANITIZER.** We will have hand sanitizer available, but it's always a good idea to have your own personal supply.
- PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT.** We carry a group kit, but you may want to bring one of your own that includes Band-Aids, moleskin or second skin (for blister prevention and first aid), and waterproof first aid tape.
- BANDANA or BUFF.** Cotton is fine for this.
- SUN SHIRT,** breathable shirt to keep the sun and bugs off your skin while hiking or hanging out.
- BINOCULARS**
- EYEGASSES** and one extra set (either another pair of glasses, or a set of contact lenses.)
- GAMES** (e.g., cards, etc.)
- MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.** Something like a harmonica or flute packs easily, and guitars are welcome too!
- NOTEBOOK/JOURNAL** and a pencil.
- MONEY** for extra purchases you might want to make; there won't be any required expenses.
- PILLOW.** A small pillow is comfy, or a just use bunched up clothes in a stuff sack and save a lot of space in your bag!

***Note About Cell Phones:** Your trip leader will collect cell phones and other electronic devices to be stored during your trip. These trips are an opportunity to leave modern technology behind for a few days, and connect with each other. Trip leaders will carry a satellite phone for emergency use, since cell reception is often not immediately available in wilderness areas or river canyons.

Weather: It's not unusual to have rain storms or even a little **snow** in late August in the mountains, so be prepared with warm clothing, a warm sleeping bag, and good raingear. August is usually some of the best weather in Oregon, with mostly sunny skies and relatively low humidity. However, come prepared for any conditions so that you can enjoy the trip no matter what the weather!

If you have any questions, you can call us at 503-768-7116, anytime. If we are out of the office, just leave a message and we will call you back. If you prefer to get some of your own gear but are unsure of where to shop, or you have some items but you aren't sure if they are quite right, give us a call! We can recommend vendors and discounted gear dealers, and we LOVE to talk with you about the trips!