

A more personal camping guide, remember we can drop off all the supplies right at the camp ground, so don't worry about too much stuff (my truck barely makes it):

The tent:

- Size: I go by double, if two people camping I bring a 4 person tent. If the whole family is going I bring Taj Mahal (10 person tent).
- Make sure tent has a rain fly or is waterproof. (Getting everything soaked is a quick way to a horrible weekend)
- Check tent before first use. Make sure there is no rip or tears before the first use
- Setup once before you go: There will be plenty of scouts there to help with setup, but again this makes sure everything is there that you need.
- No particular brand of tent seems to be awesome or horrible. Many of us have the Walmart brand tents without any issues
- Ground Sheet: Optional— A ground sheet is a barrier between the tent and ground that helps with water and extends the life of tent floor. Some companies make dedicated products, but a tarp is perfect. Get a tarp that is same size or little smaller.
- Get a tent that looks comfortable to you, don't overthink it.
- Some tents are instant setup

In the tent:

- Mattress: your choice again. You will see 4 inch deep to 24 inch deep queen mattresses at the campsites. Right before bedtime you will hear all the battery powered air pumps going to town. Again think comfort. No one is going to think any differently of you no matter what you bring
- Sleeping bag: No special requirements here either. Most have a temperature rating what they are good down to (my record with this pack is 38°). Sleeping bags work by you heating them up if you get to big of a bag it gets harder to warm up, a smaller sleeping bag for the young ones will keep them warm
- Blanket: Optional — a blanket can come in handy. Adding extra warmth for the sleeping bag, a layer under the sleeping bag (your back is the first thing to get cold at night, surprisingly) blanket in bottom of tent (helps with cleanliness, noise, easier on the feet) or blanket around the campfire
- Light
- Fan: Optional — a fan if it gets hot, battery operated. I almost always bring mine

Around the campground:

- Chairs
- Games for the kids
- BUG SPRAY
- SUN SCREEN (why aren't those combined yet)

Hygiene:

- Tooth brush, paste
- Wet wipes: Tent shower, clean feet, help cool down on hot day
- Shower supplies

Cooking:

- What are you going to eat? Make a meal plan

- Okay now you have a plan, what do you need to pull it off.
 - Many of us will have camping stoves or grills that you can borrow
 - There are a lot of hamburgers and hotdogs going on
- Make sure all your dry goods are sealed up tight, the bugs will find any opening
- Cooler. We only camp for a few days, ice should last in any cooler for that time period. Shouldn't need anything fancy
- There is water at the campsites, it is an outside faucet. Make sure you have enough to keep hydrated.
- Ensure that all food is secure, we will be visited by an overweight raccoon family sometime during the night. Last year I opened my tent to a raccoon sitting, chilling and drinking a yoohoo. I think he opened it himself

Clothes:

- Again logic here.
- Sleeping attire: a base layer to sleep in is the first layer to stay warm at night
- Shorts are fine with one warning. Keep your feet covered with longer socks, there are a lot of bugs in that first 6 inches from the ground.