

# Pack 438 Camping Checklist and Tips

## Camping dos

- Always watch out for your son and know where he is at all times. Enforce the Buddy System always (make sure your son is with a buddy – and knows he is - if he is not physically right there with you. They will need constant reminding).
- Do a trial set-up your tent before you get on the camping trip. Make sure it is complete and you know how to put it up.
- Always bring rain gear (Cub Scout camping is usually fair-weather camping but better safe than sorry)
- Always have a change of clothes to wear to sleep in. This is mainly to stop you getting cold due to moisture in the fabric, and also in case you have come into contact with poison ivy.
- Always have a tarp to put under your tent. Make sure none of it sticks-out from the bottom of the tent or it will collect rain and make the inside of your tent wet.
- Get your son to do as much of the work in camping as possible (help putting up the tent, carrying stuff, etc).
- Air-out your tent, tarp, and sleeping bags as soon as you return home to allow condensation to dry-out (otherwise you get a musty smell that's hard to shake).
- Store your sleeping bag loose when you get home, not in its stuff-sack, or it will lose loft (loft gives it warmth).
- Be sure to drink plenty of water throughout the day and encourage your scout to do the same. A refillable water bottle is essential.
- All scouts must have adult supervision when they are around the Friday night friendship fire. The fire safety rules mentioned in the camporee packet must be followed.

## Camping don'ts

- Never sleep in a tent with a child who is not your own. – BSA rules
- No alcohol anywhere, anyhow, anytime. – BSA rules
- No smoking in sight of Cub Scouts. – BSA rules
- Cub Scouts should not have knives in Tiger and Wolf ranks. Bears and higher ranks can only bring pocket knives if they have completed the “Whittling Chip” pocket knife achievement and if they also bring their Whittlin’ Chip card or badge. No knives with a blade longer than the width of a child’s palm. – BSA rules.
- Avoid 100% cotton clothing. Cotton stays damp and makes you feel cold.
- Leave behind Nintendo DSs, iPods, or other electronics / game systems. This is the boys’ opportunity to get away from all that. Besides, they could get damaged or lost.
- No precious toys/ jewelry – could get damaged or lost.

## Camping equipment list (for you and your son)

1. Tent
2. Folding/camp chair
3. Sleeping bag or blankets
4. REQUIRED: Insulating layer (matt, air mattress, or thick blanket) for each person.
5. REQUIRED: Wool cap for sleep (or hoodie) and cold mornings.
6. Pillow.
7. "Wet shoes" or boots for the morning dew. Dry shoes after mid-morning.
8. Jacket and light gloves (cold AM).
9. Rain coat or poncho
10. Class A and Class B uniform
11. Extra pair shoes
12. Extra socks (several pair)
13. Change of clothes
14. Bug Spray
15. Sun screen
16. Compass (orienteeing!).
17. Camera (optional)
18. Scout book and Pencil/paper.
19. Flashlight and extra batteries
20. Snacks and drinks (if you have a favorite snack or drink)
21. Water Bottle with your name on it to keep at all times
22. Plastic plate, bowl, knife, spoon and fork or a mess kit to be washed, mesh bag for hang drying.
23. Mug for Hot Choc/coffee/juice/lemonade.
24. Games, cards etc to play during down time, at night or if raining
25. Medications
26. **Health Forms\*\* (mandatory)**
27. Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, etc)
28. Fishing gear if you want to fish
29. Bears and Webelos: Whittling Chip (card). No whittling chip, no knife use.