



CAMP MANITO-WISH YMCA Staff Packing List

This list includes all clothing and equipment you will need for your time at Camp and on your wilderness trip (trail).

- Bring enough clothes for 1-2 weeks. You should wear outdoor clothing you will be comfortable in. You DO NOT need the fanciest, newest equipment out there. Likely, much of what you already own from previous trips or outdoor endeavors will work just fine. Camp Manito-wish does not require a special uniform for staff beyond a staff shirt and earth-toned bottoms, however, the rest of your clothes should be suitable for camping - do not bring fancy clothing.
- Don't have something on this list?
 - Email the Summer Program Director (pdsummer@manito-wish.org) and we can check our Gear Library inventory to see if we have it for you to use while you are here.
 - Head to your local thrift store and see if they have what you need.
- Laundry service is offered weekly through a local company. However, you may be on trail when it is picked up and we encourage you to pack accordingly. We let everyone know to put their laundry in the pickup pile each time it is done. Please make sure that your laundry bag is launderable. We also recommend labeling your clothing in case of mix-ups. They are rare but may happen.
- Leave valuables at home. **Camp is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.**
- Pack in soft, labeled luggage/duffle bags as you will have limited storage space in your housing.

Bedding:

- International staff do not need to bring their own bedding, though you may if you would like. Camp will provide sheets, a pillow and case, and a blanket to all international staff upon arrival, though we ask that you return it at the end of your contract. We do not provide towels. You can visit Walmart or a local thrift store to purchase these on your way to Camp.

Weather:

- Northern Wisconsin is known to stay on the cooler side almost year-round. Temperatures between May and August usually stay between 35°F (2C) and 85°F (30C). Layer accordingly!

ANY QUESTIONS?

Call us at 715-385-2312 or e-mail us at pdsummer@manito-wish.org

For the Cabin and In-Camp

Item	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Duffle bag or suitcase	1-2	To put all of these things into!	
Laundry bag	1	Launderable Mesh bag labeled with your name.	
Day bag/backpack	1	Helpful to carry a laptop, binder, water bottle, layers, sunscreen, books, other things around Camp.	
Alarm clock	1	Useful if you tend to forget to set your phone or watch alarm.	
Watch	1	Necessary for all counselors and TCs going on Trail, highly encouraged for Program Staff to keep phones out of sight.	
Warm blankets	1-2	Northern Wisconsin weather can be unpredictable and some nights it can get down to 30°F.	
Twin bed sheets	1-2	A second set is nice to have.	
Pillow with case	1		
Sleeping clothes	1-4 sets	Bring something for cold northern Wisconsin nights.	
Bath towels	2-3	*We do not supply these, plan to purchase during your stay!	
Wash cloths	1-2		
Toiletries	1 set	Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, menstrual hygiene products, hairbrush, nail clippers, deodorant, q-tips, shaving gear, etc.	
Shower caddy	1	Something to carry your toiletries to the washhouse or bathroom.	
Earth-toned bottoms	1-2	For Opening and Closing Days, Sunday Chapel, cabin pictures, and the Closing Banquet. Staff shirts will be provided.	
Socks & underwear	8-14 pairs	Enough for 1-2 weeks. Laundry is done once a week.	
Swimsuit and towel	2 - 4	These will be used at Camp and on your wilderness trip – towel for the waterfront. 2-piece suits are best for ease of going to the bathroom on trail.	
Pants/shorts	5-7 pairs	A mixture of both will be good for the weather and activities at Camp. Pants are required at the horse barn. Bring athletic clothes to run around in!	
T-shirts	5-14	If a graphic t-shirt, content must be appropriate (no drug, alcohol or other explicit references).	
Long sleeve shirts	2-5	See above note for acceptable graphics.	
Sweatshirt/fleece	3		
Flannel shirt	1	Paul or Pauline Bunyan Day embraces lumberjack themes.	
Something white	Optional	For tie-dye in the Craft Shop (t-shirt or long sleeve shirt is best).	
Water Shoes	1	Full coverage water shoes (no skin exposed below the ankle) to be worn for Wilderness Water Safety, the Swim Challenge, Rove, and while sailing.	
Close-toed shoes	1-2	For most activities, you'll need closed-toed shoes to participate.	
Flip flops/shower sandals	1 pair	To be worn to the washhouse and during showers.	
Sandals with a heel strap	1 Optional	Can be an option to wear around Camp (Chacos, Tevas, Keens).	
Wool/fleece hat	1	Anything that will cover your ears and keep you warm.	

Baseball cap or hat with brim	1	Sun protection is the primary use, but also used during some evening games.	
Headlamp with batteries	1	To be able to navigate the night in-camp and on trail.	
Water bottle	2-3	Liter size recommended (recommend Nalgene brand) Note: We sell these at the Camp store with our logo for a fun keepsake.	
Bug spray	1 bottle	Non-aerosol.	
Sunscreen	1 bottle	Non-aerosol.	
Camera	Optional	Extra memory cards and batteries also recommended. Make sure all parts are clearly labeled.	
Musical instruments	Optional	Many staff enjoy playing their guitar, trumpet or other instruments. Camp is not responsible for broken instruments.	
Books/journals	Optional	Can be nice to have during down time and for reflection.	
Playing cards	Optional	Helpful to keep kids and yourself busy during down times.	

FOR WILDERNESS TRIP -

ALL counselors and TCs will go on a multi-day wilderness trip. These items can also be used in-camp. Weather in the Northwoods can be unpredictable. It is best to bring layers to wear on trail for cool mornings and hot afternoons.

Footwear			
Equipment	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Boots – see below for more info on footwear	1	Canoe trips - Boots with good ankle protection and support, and a durable sole. These will get wet. Backpacking trips – Backpacking boots with great ankle protection and support, and a durable sole. Sea Kayaking trips – Neoprene boots or tennis shoes with neoprene socks.	
Socks	3	Wool or polypropylene (no cotton).	
Campsite shoes (could be closed-toed shoes from in-camp)	1	Gym shoes for around camp. If wearing Crocs, they need to have no holes (ex. Bistro Crocs). Flip flops, Keens, Chacos or any footwear where the foot is exposed will not be allowed on the trip.	

Upper Body Clothing			
Equipment	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Light to mid-weight long underwear	1	Synthetic or merino wool base layer top.	
Fleece jacket	1	Should fit over other layers. Good for chilly times at the campsite.	
Rain jacket	1	“Rain proof” not “rain resistant.” Durable and heavy-duty waterproofing is highly recommended and should fit over all layers.	
Lightweight synthetic top	1-2	Short or long sleeves. This can be a polypro or wool top. Long sleeves are highly recommended as they provide bug and sun protection.	

Lower Body Clothing			
Equipment	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Light to mid-weight long underwear	1	Synthetic or merino wool. No cotton.	
Fleece pants	1	For chilly times in the campsite.	
Rain pants	1	Waterproof and durable. Vinyl/rubberized is okay.	
Lightweight tripping pants	1	Zip off, quick dry pants work well as bug and sun protection. Nylon wind pants also work well.	
Nylon shorts or swim shorts	1	Wear these for swimming, and around camp.	
Underwear	2-3 pairs	Underwear, and sports bras (recommended not cotton).	

Sleeping Equipment			
Equipment	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Sleeping bag	1	We recommend synthetic or down bags rated to 20 to 30°F, with a compression stuff sack. If backpacking, space and weight are at a premium, bring a more compressible bag. For people new to camping, we recommend synthetic sleeping bags. Note: We have a small number of sleeping bags available for international staff to borrow.	
Sleeping pad	1	Either inflatable (i.e. Therm-a-Rest) or foam (3/8" thick) that will serve as the insulator between you and the ground. Note: We have sleeping pads available for staff to borrow.	

Miscellaneous Personal Gear			
Items	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Wool/fleece hat	1	Can be the one for in-camp. Anything that will cover your ears and keep your head warm.	
Baseball cap or hat with brim	1	Can be the one for in-camp. Sun protection is the primary use.	
Bandanas	2-3	Great for using as a headband, dish rag or for personal hygiene.	
"Pee Rag"	1	Bandana or other reusable cloth product used specifically for feminine hygiene.	
Bug Net/Head Net/Bug shirt	1 - Optional	Can be helpful for buggy campsites and portages.	
Knife	1 - optional	Small pocketknife or Leatherman. Useful for cutting cheese, sausage, and onions on Trail.	
Crazy Creek or camp chair	1 - optional	For around the campsite – everyone appreciates back support!	
Dry bag or stuff sack	1-2	5-10L for small items you would like to keep accessible in your boat or near the top of your pack 15-20L for clothes and sleeping bag in case of a tip or rain Reputable brands: Sea to Summit, Sealine, NRS, Outdoor Research	
Sunglasses	1 - Optional	Helpful for sunny days – consider adding paracord or "Croakies" floaters to keep them from sinking to the bottom of a lake.	

Hot drink equipment	1 - Optional	Can't live without your mate? Love French press coffee? Have an emotional support coffee mug? Bring them along, and make sure you label them!	
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Staff-Specific Gear			
Items	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Fairy lights	Optional	Add a bit of personality to your cabin or personal space.	
Silly costumes	Optional	Use these during the Swim Challenge, Opening Day dinner, or just for fun around Camp! Folks bring onesies, tutus, even silly hats and wigs. Don't want to bring any? We have a small costume department you can dig through for fun supplies.	
Nice clothing	Optional	Feel like dressing a little nicer than your Paul/ine Bunyan Day flannel? Bring something nice for the Staff Banquet!	
Foam mattress topper	Optional	Bring it along or purchase one from Walmart on the way up! Our mattresses aren't too fancy.	
Games	Optional	Have a favorite board game (that's Camp appropriate)? Bring it! You'll have quiet time in the cabins or with your friends, and no one wants to be bored!	
Computer	Optional	Camp also has computers to use for work and printing.	
Notebook/pens	Optional	Always handy to have writing stuff.	
Prescription meds		If you're a counselor, these need to go to the Health Center!	
Spending money	Optional	On days (and nights) off, folks will go get ice cream or go into town!	

DO NOT BRING:
Illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol, weapons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have a zero-tolerance policy for all drug, tobacco, and alcohol use while you are employed by Camp. GLITTER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The craft shop will have glitter, please do not bring your own! It never comes out...it lingers forever.

TRIP SPECIFIC GEAR -

ALL counselors and TCs will go on a multi-day wilderness trip. You are welcome to bring your own paddle, personal flotation device (PFD), and shoes. If you do not have a paddle or PFD, you can borrow them from Camp. If you bring your own, please read the guidelines below.

Canoeing Trips:

- Boots: We recommend boots with a sturdy sole and good ankle support. Ideally these boots would have drainage (no Gore-Tex, should have mesh paneling). Do not plan to go on your wilderness trip in tennis shoes, Converse, Keens, Chacos, or Crocs. Plan to have wet feet while you are traveling; you will change into dry shoes once you get to camp for the night.
- Paddle: We recommend Bending Branches as an easy starter paddle. We recommend not bringing paddles you care about on in-camp trips due to the potential for low water levels and rocks. If you would like to purchase

paddles at Camp we have Bending Branches Loons and Mohawk paddles for sale. You can also bring your own if you would like.

- PFDs: We have PFDs for everyone to borrow. If you would like to bring your own you can. We do not recommend bringing rescue PFDs. **It must be a Type III PFD.**

Backpacking Trips:

- Boots: You need a light backpacking boot; do not bring heavy mountaineering boots. Pick a sturdy, stiff-soled boot that will hold up to rugged travel and provide ankle support. Also, make sure that the boot fits well; you ought to be able to wear a heavy pair of wool or wool-blended socks with them. Break them in by wearing them often before you come to Camp or you will get blisters.
- Weight: On backpacking trips, you carry all your equipment to each campsite every day. Keep this in mind when you pack and choose lighter options when possible.

Sea Kayaking Trips:

- Wet shoes: Either neoprene booties with a sole, or supportive, closed-toe water shoes.
 - NRS's soft booties and Astral's low sneaker-style options are great examples. Look for a boot that will keep you warm, has good tread, and will be comfortable sitting in a kayak all day.
 - NRS: Paddle Wetshoe, Backwater Wetshoes, Kicker
 - Astral: Brewer, Techyak, Loyak
- PFDs: We have PFDs to borrow. If you would like to bring your own for your comfort you can. **If you choose to bring your own, it must be an approved rescue-style Type V PFD.**