



Boy Scout Troop 183
Chartered to St. Michael's Episcopal Church
444 South Harbour Drive, Noblesville, 46062
<http://troop183.scoutlander.com>



Recommended Personal Gear & Clothing for Campouts (or, The New Scout's Necessities)

Scouts and adults should strive to bring the minimum personal gear. All Personal gear except tent must fit in one backpack or duffle bag so that the Scout may carry all personal gear in one trip from trailer or parking lot to campsite and from campsite back to trailer or parking lot.

- Full Class A Scout uniform
- Minimum 2 pairs of Scout socks – 1 for Friday night & 1 for Sunday
- Waterproof Breathable Rain Jacket & Pants (**Plastic or PVC are strongly discouraged as they are not durable – rain ponchos can restrict movement**)
- High Quality major brand 0-degree to 20-degree Sleeping bag (NOT a department store sleeping bag) (**See notes below on sleeping bags.**)
- Insulated Sleeping pad (closed cell foam pad is best)
- Duffle bag or backpack. Except for tent, all personal gear should fit in one bag. (**Scout should be able to carry his gear in one trip from the trailer to the tent.**)
- Reusable cup, bowl, fork & spoon – Plastic or Lexan is recommended (**traditional metal mess kits are not recommended, except possibly for backpacking**) (**troop does not use paper, plastic or Styrofoam products**)
- Waterproof ankle high boots **are strongly recommended** – hiking type recommended
- Extra pair of shoes
- Boy Scout Handbook, notebook and pen
- Small towel & toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap & shampoo)
- 2-3 Pairs synthetic or wool hiking socks
- 2-3 pairs of 100% synthetic sock liners **strongly recommended**
- 2-3 Synthetic t-shirts and underwear (polyester or nylon)
- 1 Pair synthetic or wool long underwear (pants and shirt/top)
- 1 Pair of synthetic long pants & 1 synthetic long sleeve shirt (Scout pants are excellent outdoor wear)
- 1 Heavy weight synthetic fleece
- 1 Winter weight hat that covers ears and neck (not a baseball type hat)
- 1 Extra change of synthetic clothes (underwear, t-shirt, long sleeve shirt, long pants)
- Folding knife – should fit in Scout's hand and blade cannot be longer than 4" (**Scout must have Totin'-Chip to carry knife.**)
- Personal first aid kit – See Boy Scout Handbook
- 32 oz Reusable and refillable wide mouth water bottle (**Camelback-type hydration packs are not needed and discouraged for new Scouts**)
- Headlamp - Small headlamp (2-3 AAA battery-size) recommended (waterproof preferred) -- handy for hands free work around camp
- Matches & Fire starting kit (**Scout must have Firem'n Chit to carry matches and fire starter kit.**)
- Compass (maps provided by troop as needed)
- Whistle
- "Car bag" – duffle or other bag with extra set of clean clothes and shoes for ride home from outings

Parents' Important Message -- Cotton clothing, especially denim, is a very poor choice for camping and outdoor adventures as cotton is bulky, cold, and slow to dry when wet. Two to four layers, depending on the weather, made of fast drying synthetic materials should be worn. More information on gear will be provided at troop meetings and from the Scoutmaster!

Sleeping Bag Notes: Every individual sleeps differently from another in terms that can only be described as sleeping "warm" or "cold". For this reason, not every sleeping bag will work for every individual. Some sleepers need a 20° bag to feel comfortable on a 35° night. Likewise, some sleepers might feel comfortable in a 35° bag on a 20° night. Finding the right sleeping bag for you may therefore take some experimentation. You might start with a 30° or 35° bag that will be suitable for all camping situations except winter camping. For winter camping, you can then add a sleeping bag liner (can add 10°), or perhaps invest in a cold-weather bag.