

# CHN Camping Checklist



*Imagine yourself at the campground, and consider the ages and special needs of every family member, and pack for comfort.*

*What will everyone need?*

*Plan for comfort, and know that you'll see every style of camping from the Spartan Backpack Camper to the Hilton Camper, and everything in between!*

## Your Home Away from Home

Tent with tarp to go underneath it (protects the tent and keeps the floor dry)

Metal tent stakes and hammer. Skip the cheap plastic stakes.

Old throw rugs for outside tent opening (optional, but will keep things cleaner)

Cot, air mattress, or padding

Sleeping bag or sheets with warm comforter/blankets and pillow

Flashlight for each camper. A battery lantern is nice to share, but everyone should have a flashlight by their bed.



## Bedroom Closet

One complete set of clothes for every day (more if you know your kids will need them).

Extra socks. Long pants for night, shorts for day.

Swim suit and beach towel.

Jacket or sweatshirt for the cool evenings.

Sweats or long underwear, gloves and hat if the weather looks chillier than you are accustomed to.

Rain gear just in case.

Dirty clothes bag.



## The Kitchen

Propane stove (if it's your first time camping and you don't have one, bring propane and share a stove with a neighbor or borrow one from a friend) and matches to light it.

Propane canisters (one per day)

Paper towels, Ziplock bags/baggies, foil, small and large garbage bags

Lantern

Fry pan and pot with lid, depending on what food you plan to prepare and pot holders

Cutting board and knife.

Dishwashing stuff (soap, scrubber, washcloth, towels, water bucket, etc.) You can bring your water back and wash at your table, wash at the camp faucets, or at the bathrooms (most camps

have an outside sink to use).

Plates, bowls, cups, and silverware

Cooking utensils - a few long spoons, turner, can opener

Tablecloth (optional, but some tables are well used and you might want one)

Campfire cooking utensils, like a marshmallow roasting stick. (If you really want yours back, mark with your name and watch them. These tend to get shared around the campfire at night).

Coolers for your refrigerated food. One for the non-refrigerated food might keep critters out.

Plastic tubs for food so that everything is tucked away at night. Plastic pull out drawers work nicely too.

## **The Pantry**

Bottled water, both jug and individual bottles (optional, since water will be potable)

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner fixings for every day. Write the menu out and then bring the kitchen gear needed to make it.

Freeze some food and put in your cooler and it will help preserve it and keep other items cool too.

Salt, pepper, sugar, ketchup, mustard and oil, if you'll need them

Plenty of snacks, whatever your family likes. Being outdoors makes everyone hungrier.

Consider a few extra cans of food, maybe soup, beans or canned fruit that you don't expect to use

and have as contingency food in case something happens to your planned meal.



## **The Living Room**

Folding chair for each family member. You'll use it at your site, and carry it to other sites when you visit.

Lantern. Battery is convenient, propane is brighter.

Small table. Very optional, but if you like to have a place to set your coffee cup, you might want one.

## **The Bathroom**

Bring lots of quarters for the showers, and flip flops to wear there.

Bring your toiletries, but leave the electric gadgets at home. Not all camps have a plug for a hairdryer.

Most people don't need much more than soap, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant.

Need a good look at yourself, maybe for putting in contacts? Bring a mirror. Most campsites use non-breakable

metal mirrors that aren't good for close ups.

Toilet paper is provided, but no paper towels and no soap. Most will have an air dryer.

Bring old bath towels and wash cloths, and a clothesline to dry them on. Using different colored towels, or otherwise distinguishing them on the line will make it easier to reuse (a clip with the

person's name works). But bring plenty of extras anyway because someone will forget, or theirs will fall in the dirt.

### **The Medicine Chest**

Bring any medicines your family needs or might possibly need and put them in a little insulated lunch bag because tents and cars (keep it locked there if you have little ones) get hot during the day, and it could make your medicines deteriorate in quality.

Bring sunscreen, lip balm, and hand lotion, and eye drops if your eyes are sensitive.

Hat and sunglasses

First aid kit, or a few bandages for scrapes.

Tweezers, fingernail clipper, dental floss.



### **Recreation**

Bikes with helmets

Books or magazines

Crochet and knitting supplies – work on a project, or learn how to knit or crochet!

Camera to record it all

Sand toys for the beach

Craft or educational project to share with the children.

Cards and games (bring inside to protect from moisture at night)

Wagon (use to pull gear to your site too)

Day pack for hike

Whistle and compass

Kite, frisbee, binoculars and wildlife pocket guide books

Musical instruments and your favorite song books

Hot chocolate mix, S'mores supplies - (marshmallows, graham crackers and chocolate - Yum!), or your special blend of spiced tea to share at the campfire!

Bring your homeschooling questions and worries to the daily homeschool chats!

# WELCOME

### **Housekeeping Supplies**

Broom and dustpan. Some people have a no shoes rule for their tents, and others just sweep it out.

Having a throw rug outside helps catch a lot of twigs, dirt, and sand.

A degreaser/solvent of some sort to get tar, pitch, or an unknown sticky substance out.

### **Tool Kit**

Hammer, screw driver, hatchet, wrench, pliers, utility knife, jump start kit, air mattress pump,

shovel, duct tape, newspaper. (Only bring what you know how to use, and don't worry, others will have some of these items!)

### **Extras**

An extra folding table is a nice option, but not necessary because campgrounds come with tables

A pop-up for extra shade is also very optional, but many enjoy theirs.

Firewood to add to the community pile. We will have one group campfire in a designated location.



*You won't need everything on this list,  
but we hope it will help you customize your own camping list,  
and empower you to try camping with your children!*

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