

# CAMP LOOKOUT PACKING LIST



## General suggestions

Send easy care, rugged clothes. Camp is hard on clothes.

Label all belongings with child's first & last name, not just initials. Items with names tend to be easily returned; initialed items tend to remain unclaimed.

Some families have found that a list of items taped to the inside of the footlocker helps a camper keep track of his/her belongings.

## Luggage

The best luggage choice for short sessions is a single, easy access suitcase or duffel bag and a smaller "carry-on" bag.

Remember, at Lookout, luggage needs to be carried onto the pontoon boat and then to the cabin. For longer sessions, a footlocker or hard plastic storage box with cover (which will slide under the camp beds) and a duffel bag work well. For ease of travel, some families ship luggage to camp via UPS; we will also ship it back to you following the session.

## Bedding

For longer sessions, bring cot or twin sized sheets, blankets, pillow and a sleeping bag (preferably one that can be unzipped and used as a comforter). For shorter sessions, a sleeping bag should suffice.

## Towels

Towels will get wet and dirty-- so bring several towels and wash cloths. Bath towels tend to work better for most campers than big beach towels as the larger towels are more likely to be dragged in the sand.

## Laundry bag/laundry service

Please send a mesh or fabric laundry bag. Do not send a lightweight plastic bag as these rip easily under normal "kid" use.

Most importantly, never send a black garbage bag to be use as a laundry bag. Most black plastic garbage bags are tossed into the dumpsters without anyone first checking to see what they contain! No laundry service is available during sessions except for emergencies.

## Clothing

Shorts, jeans, tops/shirts, sweatshirt, sweater, underwear, socks (some warm and heavy), swimming suit, cap/hat for the beach, pajamas/sleepwear, light jacket, rain gear

## Shoes

Sneakers (a couple pairs, if you have them, in case one pair gets wet), sandals, shower sandals, water shoes/booties

(especially for use while swimming in Lower Herring Lake because of Zebra mussels)

## Other stuff

~ toilet articles (soap, shampoo, etc) in easily carried container, such as a little plastic bucket or toilet kit

~ flashlight, extra batteries

~ disposable camera

~ stamped, self-addressed postcards and envelopes

~ pens and pencils

~ reading materials (books/ magazines)

~ playing cards/quiet (rainy day) games (we also have some available)

## Optional items

~ sports equipment you'd enjoy having at camp-- swim fins, mask, hacksack

~ daypack or small back-pack

~ costume or items for use at skit night or talent show

~ musical instrument that can handle life at camp

~ iPods \*\*note-- camp rules are that these devices may be used only in your cabin, during rest hour, free time or before bed, and may not be used on trips, during activities, while at the beach, etc.

Remember that personal music devices tend to isolate you, the listener, and that one of the reasons to go to camp is to meet and interact with others, plus they break easily at camp!

**Basically, pack from the above list according to the needs of your child and the length of the session. Keep in mind that camp is informal and that most campers don't tend to need the number of clothing changes they might need at home. Pack for warm and cool days plus occasional rain-- Michigan weather is very changeable!**

**Best advice is that if you think you are sending too much, you probably are!**

## What shouldn't be brought to camp?

~ Pets. Herman the hamster and Fluffy the dog have to stay home.

~ Firearms and other weapons.

~ Cigarettes, non-smoking tobacco or alcohol.

~ Fireworks.

~ No expensive jewelry, watches, expensive musical instruments or other easily damaged items.

~ Skateboards and inline skates (there is no place to use them-- plus it's a danger that a friend of yours will "borrow" them and get hurt!)

~ Hairdryers (this is camp-- no need to look perfect!)

~ Radios, CD players, televisions, (camper cabins do not have electricity plus camp is supposed to be an escape from suburban/urban life)

~ Nintendo ds, PSPs, (tends to isolate the player-- camp is to meet and be with people!)

~ Your own private snackbar---chips, peanuts, candy, soda and all that kind of stuff. Use good judgment about snacks/food and pack only minimal amount of "treats". Food in cabins attracts animals.

**Camp cell phone policies are changing. In an effort to keep campers from having to hide "illegal" cell phones, we've decided to allow cell phones in camp. There will be restrictions to where cell phones can be used (in cabins only!) and each cabin group will work with counselors to decide upon an appropriate cell phone policy for that cabin. Of course, we still encourage you to leave your cell phones at home. In addition to the good chance of cell phones being lost or stolen at camp, they are also easily broken in a camp environment (i.e. sand and cell phones are generally a bad combo).**