

# - Tuscarora Scout Reservation - WHAT TO BRING TO SUMMER CAMP

Any good Scout should *be prepared* and bring the necessary items when they go camping. Here is a suggested list of things to bring. Talk with your troop leaders for specific guidance on how to pack and what to bring to camp.

## Suggested Personal Gear:

- Scout uniform(s)
- Extra shirts
- Extra pants/shorts
- Socks
- Underwear
- Rain gear
- Swimsuit
- Sleepwear
- Sneakers
- Hiking boots
- Water shoes (or closed-toe footwear that can get wet)
- Warm sweater, sweatshirt and/or jacket
- Towels
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- Sleeping bag / blankets
- Pillow
- Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- Water bottle
- Ground cloth or small tarp
- Watch
- Wallet with money
- Notebook with pen/pencil
- Merit badge pre-requisites
- Scouts BSA Handbook
- Pocket knife
- Fishing gear
- Mess kit (cup, plate, and bowl)
- Utensils (fork, knife, and spoon)
- Folding camp chair
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Bandanna

## Suggested Troop Gear:

- Copies of all necessary paperwork
- First aid kit
- Troop and patrol flags
- Matches
- Lantern(s)
- Rope / twine
- Axes / saws
- Extra pens / pencils and notebook paper

## Packing Tips

**Label your gear:** Scouts should mark all their personal gear! Many times, items are lost or misplaced and never claimed. Placing a name and unit number on items can prevent such losses and helps us reconnect Scouts with lost or found items.

**The Tuscarora Trading Post:** The trading post is open most of the day and has many items that you may want to purchase. You'll find a wide variety of items including camping supplies, T-shirts and apparel, snacks, slushies, drinks, souvenirs, and much more. Please be sure you bring the appropriate spending money so as to not feel left out. We recommend bringing between \$30 to \$60 for the week.

**Electronics:** Every troop has their own unique policy. However Scouts should be encouraged to leave all electronics at home. These devices take away from the summer camp experience. They can promote homesickness and often lead to other problems. Valuables should also be left at home; Camp Tuscarora is not responsible for broken or lost items.

**Make sure you can handle your gear:** Scouts are in charge of their own stuff at camp, so you need to know what's in your bag and where it's packed (for this reason we highly discourage parents from packing for their Scout). Remember that your stuff is your responsibility. While you won't need to haul your gear miles to your campsite, you do want to make sure you can move it by yourself... and remember it has to fit in your tent. A lightweight duffelbag is simple, roomy, and easily squishable under a cot.

**Pack for all weather:** Camp program doesn't stop on account of rain, so be sure to bring raingear (a few extra pairs of socks and a dry pair of shoes can make all the difference during a rainy week). A small and inexpensive plastic tarp can give extra rain protection for Scouts and their gear — it can provide a dry place to sit after a rainstorm, be hung or used as cover on a rainy day, or provide extra coverage over a leaking tent during an extended rain shower. Also note that the average daily high at camp in July is around 78°F, and it can also get chilly at night (Tuscarora sees an average nighttime low of 59°F in the month of July). A sweatshirt or fleece and a pair of long pants can make the cool evenings and mornings more comfortable.

**Stay organized:** Don't just toss everything into your bag—keep your gear neat, clean and organized! Ziploc bags are your friends; they come in every possible size—even super-huge—and they're watertight and waterproof. Packing your stuff in Ziploc bags can help keep your gear clean and organized throughout the week. Plus you can be confident that it won't get wet or ruined if wind and rain come through your campsite at 3AM.

**Still have questions:** Talk to your Scoutmaster or other Scouts in your troop for guidance on what to bring (and what not to bring) to summer camp. Chances are they have a lot of advice on what to bring (and what to leave at home).