



Overnight Camping

What are you getting into?

- You will be hiking with your gear to a campground about ½ mile away and spending 1 night camping
- You will help to prepare a meal over an open flame
- You will need to know how to...
 - Identify the basic needs for camping
 - Dress for the conditions
 - Pack appropriately
 - Find and set up camp without getting lost
 - Getting help if you do get lost
 - Build a fire keep the critters away
 - Avoid known hazards
 - Poop in the woods
 - Leave no trace
 - Handle your dog responsibly

What have you gotten your dog into?

- Your dog will need to:
 - Have their backpacking badge
 - Wear a backpack and carry it's own items
 - Stay close to you and walk with a loose leash
 - Avoid chasing wildlife

Basic Needs for Camping

- Food
- Water
- Shelter
- What is the priority?

Special Considerations for Backpacking with your Dog

- Know the dog rules for where you're headed
- In addition to current vaccinations, inquire as to additional preventative measures that you might take (e.g., frontline for tick infested areas)
- Make a temporary id
- Start with short day trips
- Let someone know your plans
- Keep your dog leashed and under control
- Pick up after your dog and carry it out at the end of the trip (or bury for longer trips)
- Watch for signs of heat exhaustion

Dressing for Success

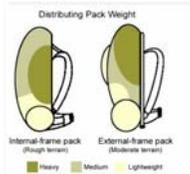
- Base layer for moisture management
- Middle layer for insulation
- Outer layer for weather protection

Packing for your dog



Packing for yourself

- Keep your heaviest items close to your back, centered between your shoulder blades.
- Pack heavy items near the top of your pack for on-trail travel, to center the weight over your hips.
- Pack heavy items near the bottom of your pack for uneven terrain or cross-country travel. This keeps your center of gravity low for better balance.
- Keep often-used items such as sunscreen, snacks, map and compass where you can get to them easily



Not getting lost

- Stay on trails
- In unfamiliar territory, carry a map and a compass
- Be aware of:
 - Borders (roads, powerlines, bodies of water) and where they lead/intersect
 - Landmarks
 - Direction of travel relative to borders and landmarks
- Look behind you as you hike because the scenery might not look familiar otherwise on the way back

Signaling for Help

- Blow a whistle three times in a row every few minutes
- Use a signaling mirror to catch the attention of search and rescue personnel
- Create a signal fire (burn wet leaves, tires, etc.)

Choosing a campsite

- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Use established campsites when possible
- Better to camp on grass or rock than on fragile vegetation
- Stay at least 200 feet away from lakes and streams

Building A Fire

- To build a fire, you need to:
 - Bring an ignition source
 - Gather tinder, kindling and fuel
 - Clear a circular area about 4 ft in diameter
 - Keep a bucket of water nearby
 - Place the tinder in a pile of kindling
 - Ignite the tinder
 - As the kindling catches fire, add fuel

Keeping the Critters Away

- Keep a clean site
- Do not leave food or backpacks containing food unattended
- Be aware that anything with an odor can attract critters including toothpaste and deodorant
- Store all food and attractants in a bag suspended from a tree

Avoiding Hazards

- You need to be aware of the hazards that exist in your local environment. In Michigan, they include:
 - Snakes
 - Poison Ivy
 - Insects
 - Bears
 - Traffic Barrels
 - Sasquatch

Pooping in the Woods

- Find a spot away from people and water
- Dig a 6 in deep hole
- Do your business
- Cover it up

Leave No Trace

- Plan ahead to avoid impact:
 - Travel and camp in small groups
 - Repackage foods to reduce containers
 - Take a litterbag and poop bags to carry out all refuse
 - Pack light taking only essentials
 - Research the park regarding dogs
 - Are they allowed?
 - Could they be considered a meal for local wildlife?

Leave No Trace

- Travel to avoid impact:
 - Walk single file in the center of the trail
 - Stay on the main trails or mowed areas
 - Look at and photograph, never collect
 - Leave woodchips and leaves on paths and around tents
- Keep dogs from chasing wildlife
- Pick up after your dog

Leave No Trace

- Minimize campfire impacts:
 - Use a lightweight stove for cooking
 - When fires are permitted, use established fire rings
 - Keep fires small, only using sticks that can be broken by hand
 - Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out fires completely, then scatter cool ashes

Leave No Trace

- Respect Wildlife
 - Observe wildlife from a distance, do not follow or approach them
 - Never feed animals
 - Store food and other attractants securely
 - Control pets at all times or leave them at home
 - Avoid wildlife during sensitive times

Leave No Trace

- Be considerate of others
 - Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience
 - Be courteous; yield to other users on the trail
 - Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock
 - Let nature's sounds prevail

Leave No Trace

- Dispose of waste properly
 - Pack it in, pack it out
 - Deposit human waste in catholes
 - Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products
 - Wash yourself or dishes 200 feet away from any streams or lakes, using small amounts of biodegradable soap and water
 - Scatter strained dishwater

Leave No Trace

- Leave what you find
 - Observe, but do not touch cultural or historical structures and artifacts
 - Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them
 - Avoid introducing or transporting non-native plants and insects
 - Do not build structures or dig trenches
