



## Overnight Camping

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### 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

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### 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

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## Basic Needs for Camping

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

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## 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

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## Dressing for Success

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

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## Packing for your dog



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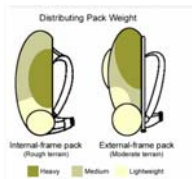
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## Packing for yourself

- 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



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## 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

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## 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.)

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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

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## Pooping in the Woods

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

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## 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?

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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

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