

Appendix M

CLOTHING CHECKLIST

For Warm-Weather Camping:

- ☐ T-shirt or short-sleeved shirt (lightweight)
- ☐ Hiking shorts
- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Socks
- ☐ Long-sleeved shirt (lightweight)
- ☐ Long pants (lightweight)
- ☐ Sweater or warm jacket
- ☐ Brimmed hat
- ☐ Bandannas
- ☐ Rain gear

Layering

For the most comfort in the outdoors with the least weight in your pack, use the layering system. Choose layers of clothing that, when combined, will meet the most extreme weather you expect to encounter. On a chilly autumn day, for example, you might set out from the trailhead wearing long pants, a wool shirt, a fleece sweater, mittens, and a stocking hat. As you hike, the effort will cause your body to generate heat. Peel off the sweater and stuff it in your pack.

Still too warm? Loosen a few buttons on your shirt or slip off your mittens and hat. You also can use layering to keep cool in hot climates by stripping down to hiking shorts, a T-shirt, and a brimmed hat. Lightweight long pants and a long-sleeved shirt will shield you from insects, brush, and the sun.

Footwear for Camping

Almost any durable shoes will do for a frontcountry camping trip. When your plans include walking to a backcountry campsite with all your food and gear in your pack, hiking boots can give your feet and ankles protection and support.

In addition to boots for hiking, you might want to carry a pair of running shoes or other comfortable, lightweight shoes to wear around camp. Any shoes or boots you use for camping must fit well. Your heels should not slip much when you walk, and your toes should have a little wiggle room.

Clean your boots or shoes after every outing. Use a stiff brush to remove mud, or wash them off with water and mild soap, then allow footwear to dry at room temperature. (Placing shoes too close to a campfire can dry out leather and damage nylon.) The manufacturers of leather boots might recommend treatment with a boot dressing or waterproofing agent; follow their instructions.

Be sure to break in new boots before using them in the field. Wear them several times, gradually extending the length of time you wear them until they feel like a natural part of your feet.