

Snow Caving Campout Packing List

Pack everything in plastic bags to keep things dry. It's easier to find your clothes if they're in a white plastic garbage bag than if they're in a black one. Bring extra bags to put wet clothes in, cover your pack, and for just in case.

Personal Gear for Main Pack

- ❑ Synthetic sleeping bag rated to 25° or below. No cotton. Pack in a garbage bag then a stuff sack to keep it dry.
- ❑ Closed-cell sleeping pad, not the big puffy kind, in a garbage bag and stuff sack to keep it dry.
- ❑ Heavy-duty space blanket or tarp for floor of snow cave.
- ❑ Bowl (deep), plastic is good, deep mug, spoon in dunk bag or other. Other utensils optional.
- ❑ Clothing in a plastic bag (see details below).
- ❑ Large plastic bags for wet clothing.
- ❑ Personal hygiene stuff, glasses, lip balm, etc. If you have meds, give labeled to a SM/ASM.
- ❑ Sunglasses or ski goggles.
- ❑ Snow caving shovel or snow saw if you have one.
- ❑ Plastic trowel, tp in Ziploc.
- ❑ Small closed-cell pad for sitting on or insulating a stove. Can be a gardener's kneeling pad or a piece of old closed-cell sleeping pad.
- ❑ Optional – hand/foot warmers, chemical light stick for a night light.
- ❑ Pack cover or x-large garbage bag to keep your pack clean and dry.
- ❑ Tenuis essentials (see list on page 2), inside freezer bag and smaller pack, to be able to carry with you on day hike, etc.

Clothing – Clothing must be synthetic or wool. Do not pack cotton clothing, not even socks. Cotton will freeze you if it gets wet from snow or you sweat in it. Check your outer layer for leaks and holes, and make sure your zippers work.

Outer Layer

- ❑ Waterproof rain pants or snow pants
- ❑ Waterproof rain jacket or snow jacket
- ❑ Waterproof snow boots
- ❑ 2 warm hats
- ❑ 2 or 3 pairs waterproof/water resistant gloves
- ❑ Gaiters are really nice for keeping snow out of your boots

Insulating Layer – Two sets, one for digging your cave, one for changing into afterwards that must stay dry. If your waterproof layer has no insulation, you'll need to bring more layers for underneath it for when you're done digging your cave.

- ❑ Synthetic or wool long underwear, tops and bottoms
- ❑ Synthetic fleece or wool pants
- ❑ Synthetic fleece or wool shirts
- ❑ Synthetic or wool socks, at least 3 pairs

Food and Water

- ❑ Sack lunch
- ❑ Lots of snacks that don't freeze hard, in day pack
- ❑ 2 full water bottles, screw top not pop top

Tennish Essentials

- Pocketknife
- Basic first aid kit including moleskin
- 50' rope
- Emergency poncho or 2 heavy-duty garbage bags
- Full water bottle
- Flashlight or two with good batteries, and extra bulb and batteries
- Emergency mirror
- Whistle
- Emergency food
- Matches in waterproof plastic case and firestarters (vaseline-soaked cotton balls kept in plastic case are good)
- Compass and map of the area

Equipment, if you have it

- Snow caving shovel or snow saw
- Snow shoes or cross-country skis (the troop has snowshoes to borrow)

Every 2 or 3 Boys - Equipment to Share

- Backpacking stove
- Plenty of fuel
- Suitable pot for cooking and melting snow
- Plenty of matches
- Food for the weekend
- Plastic bag for trash

Too much to fit in your pack? You can put these things in a plastic bag inside a waterproof stuff sack and pull them in a sled. You have to tie these down with bungee cords that fit, or rope threaded through holes in the edge of the sled, or your stuff will fall off all the time.

Adults

- Tire chains and whatever you need to put on to put them on
- Weekend or seasonal Sno-Park pass
- Charged cell phone/2-way radio
- Optional - camera