

From the desk of Gus Denzik

May 22, 2019

Dear Canadian Outbacker,

I hope you are excited as I am about the trip this year. We are doing the Ralph Bice Lake loop this year, which includes the waterfall, awesome fishing, exploring and amazing sunsets. This year our staff is Me, Joshua Denzik, Annemarie Laws, Grace Larrick, Noah Scott and Jay Humphreys. We have been doing this trip for a combination of 45 years! We leave at 9 AM on Saturday so be here at 8:30 to get checked in and ready. We will be back on the following Saturday and will call in route so that we can assure pick up just after we get into the driveway. Normally since we are traveling back we get in about 2:00PM but have had traffic issues as well as a breakdown a few years back and it put us back later.

Check your paperwork! We need either of these options: a passport or a passport card, or a state issued Id and a birth certificate (both). Call the camp if you are having any issues ASAP! This will be my 21st year as a Canadian Outbacker. I have seen record highs, record lows and everything in between. We have had people who have never been out of the country and world travelers. We have had experienced campers and first timers to sleeping in a tent. In all, I have yet to hear anyone say that this was a not one of the greatest experiences of their lives. It has been for me something that I look forward to all year as the highlight of my ministry here at Butler Springs. I am glad that you are going to be a part of it! Please ask if you do not find the answer to any question that you have. Read the attached materials and even if it seems odd just follow the plan.

Above all else pray, pray and the pray some more! Know that you are being prayed for as well. I am so excited!

In Christ,

Gus Denzik
Warrior Servant

Theme Verse: Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Outback List of Important Things!

1. Passport or the new passport card or an original copy of your birth certificate and a state issued photo id- you need to get it now or contact me!!!

2. Backpack – Shoulder Straps and a Waist belt adjusted to fit comfortably. (Must hold all of your gear for the trail and your share of group gear and food) Camp has some packs that are reserved on a first come first serve basis. We have also used some water tight buckets. Bring what you have and camp can help supplement to find a combo that works for you and your canoe partner. We divide up into partners when we get started so don't worry about that.

3. Spare duffle bag – We go as lite as possible for the outback section and then use an extra bag for the remainder of your gear. Put your name on everything.

4. Foot wear – Hiking boots with good arch and ankle support or a decent (high quality) full foot latching sandal (not flip flops!). Durability is important!

5. Sleep Gear – A mummy style sleeping bag rated 40 degrees is fine. No rectangular bags! Camp has a limited number of bags that can be reserved.

6. Fork, Spoon, bowl, cup. No sense in taking anything else. This is all you need!

7. 2 Water bottles, small Gatorade bottles (24 oz or 32 oz) work fine. No steel bottles...they sink!

8. Clothing: For the Outback

1 pair of light shorts to wear and one swim suit, sock combo(even if you just bring sandals socks feel good at night!), One tee shirt to wear and one to pack, a wash clothe and underwear to wear and one to pack, light weight rain jacket and pants (it can be cool at night and in the mornings) – NO Jeans.

9. Other Necessary Items

Backpacking style small tent (we partner up and put people together so that we take only what we need, foam sleeping pad, Towel (not necessary in back country – we air dry), hat, toothbrush and small tooth paste, hair brush, deodorant – small dry, soap (we have special soap for the backcountry), Personal supply of TP, Bug cream, Sun Screen, light first aid needs – the staff will carry a more comprehensive kit, flash light, matches or a safety lighter. Nothing in the backcountry can be in cans - no spray cans of any kind (It is actually illegal to pack cans into Algonquin!).

10. Still Other Potential Items:

Camera, sunglasses, hammock, small amount of cash

11. Items **not** to bring:

Hunting knives (folding pocket knives are okay), Electronic stuff – (These are usually valuable and would be left at the trail head in the vans which get very hot and could be broken into), illegal things or medications not prescribed for you(All meds should be left in their original bottles), large sums of money, everything else that you know better than to bring!

12. Pack all gear to be carried in Gallon size Ziplocs. This insures them being dry and fresh when you want to use them.