



STAFF PACKING LIST

Take a good look at our camper packing list located on the pre-camp guide on our website. This should give you a pretty good idea of what you need to bring to camp in terms of clothing/gear/etc.

Everything that is listed below is what returning staff have chosen to emphasize and are considered to be the "necessities" for a summer at CHMK! Remember there is limited space at camp and there is the option to do laundry roughly 2-3 times a month. You will end up wearing a lot of the same things, so no need to bring everything you own. Ohio weather varies immensely and ranges from 70-90 degrees in the daytime and drops to 40-50 degrees at night. The sun can be hot and we often experience daily rain showers in the afternoon, so keep both of those things in mind when packing.

CLOTHING:

- T-shirts (mix of athletic/synthetic shirts and a few cotton shirts). The campers are not allowed to wear tank tops, so neither can we. You can certainly bring a few to wear on days off
- Shorts and pants (athletic shorts, hiking pants, sweatpants, leggings, a pair of jeans, etc. Variety is key)
- Long sleeves/light jacket/flannel
- Fleece or other mid-weight layer
- RAIN GEAR. Absolutely essential. Bring a good rain jacket and rain pants
- Swimsuit and clothes that can get wet! For ladies, the swimsuit must be a one-piece
- Lots of underwear/socks (regular and hiking socks)
- A few "day off" clothing items (dress, tank top, etc.)

** Bring costumes, funky clothing, wigs, crazy outfits, etc. This will come in handy and will make your camp dances, skit nights, and lip-sync battles all the more exciting

FOOTWEAR:

- Good, sturdy hiking boots. Remember to break these in before camp! Ones with ankle support are ideal (waterproof vs. non-waterproof is a personal preference and up to you)
- Tennis shoes/trail runners. Good for smaller hikes, time around camp, etc.
- CLOSED TOE water shoes. We do not let campers wear open toe shoes around camp and in the water due to foot injuries, so therefore we cannot wear them either. Think keens, crocs, etc. You can definitely bring your Chacos and Tevas to camp, but those can only be worn on days off/when campers are not on site
- Shower shoes (flip flops work great)
- Day off shoes (sandals, Chacos, whatever)

TOILETRIES/MISC.:

- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Shampoo/conditioner/soap/facewash etc.
- Shower bag/shower caddy (optional, but very helpful)
- Brush/comb

- Deodorant and any other personal hygiene items (tampons, shaving necessities, etc.)

GEAR:

- Daypack. Make sure your daypack is a good size as you will be carrying everything for your group while you are on site (med kit, snacks, hand sanitizer, etc.). A traditional school-sized backpack is a good reference for when looking at appropriate sizes
- Sleeping bag and sleeping pad
- Bowl, spork, mug
- Headlamp with extra batteries

** On our overnights, you will be provided with everything you need to make the experience what it is for the campers (tents, cookware, etc.). However, think about what you would bring on your own trips (bandanas, Ziplocs, crazy creek chair, whatever you consider to be your essentials) and pack those! The happier you are on overnight the happier the kids

ESSENTIAL CAMP ITEMS:

- A WATCH. It is extremely important that as staff we get our groups to where they need to be and show up for meetings and activities on time. Get a good watch and one you like because it will become your new best friend
- Water bottles (at least two or three)
- Journal/notebook, pens/pencils
- Sunglasses/hat
- Winter hat and light pair of gloves
- 2-3 towels (shower and for water activities)

CABIN ITEMS:

- Not essential, but if you are driving out to camp, it is helpful to have boxes/totes/bags for moving your things from your car to cabin, and then from cabin to cabin during the season.
- We recommend bringing a sheet/blanket for the bed, and while some just use their sleeping bag while on site, it is nice to have sheets/blankets/a comforter for the cabin. Think about this being your home for two months – make it cozy!

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- Books
- Good camera
- Laptop computer (helpful for writing parent letters, filling out evaluations, doing "life stuff" on days off, etc.)
- Aux cord/phone charger for vans when out on expedition
- Playing cards/other games
- Stationary/materials to write letters (time to bring back snail mail!)

Use this list, as well as the camper lists, for your guidance. Do not bring items of extreme value, that you care immensely if they get lost/damaged, or any clothing/gear that you don't want to get dirty. The key is being comfortable and having gear and other essentials that are functional and practical. If you have any specific questions regarding packing and/or gear, please do not hesitate to reach out to your director or seasonal mentor.