

From the desk of Gus Denzik... but for the Grace of God go I.
Dean of the Canadian Outback
Butler Springs Christian Camp

May 10, 2024

Dear Canadian Outbackers!

We are pretty excited about the trip we have planned. We will meet and leave from Butler Springs Christian Camp at 9am on Saturday, July 13th and return on Saturday the 20th by 4PM. We will make calls in route if we will be later (or sooner)! We stop at a church on the way up to go through gear, divide food and make final plans. We head into the back country on Sunday. When we leave we stop again to break up the trip home.

It is a long drive and we will stop fairly often. It is usual for you guys to grab a snack to while away the time, so prepare accordingly. We will provide all the meals and such for the trip. The recommended gear list is below!

Along as staff this year are Jay Humphreys, Elijah Humphreys, Kedrick Fitzgerald and Josie Taylor! We have a combined back-country knowledge of more than 50 years! This is and has always been a tremendous experience. We will have time to explore and experience a place that is as amazing as you are. (I know cheesy but true!!!)

The theme this year is 'James Chapter 1' which seems like it is not very creative but it will be an awesome part of our journey. If you want to truly take advantage of this memorize James 1! (just kidding, but actually not!) Pray with me for a blessing of fun, fishing, laughter and growth as we take on the wilderness!

In Christ,

Gus

Outback List of Important Things!

1. Passport(19 or older must have a PP or the PP card), passport card or a birth certificate and a state issued picture id. A passport is not required but a birth certificate and picture id is and will speed us through the border crossings! Canada Fishing License if you plan on fishing (16 or older)! You can get it online before we leave or grab one at a place we stop in Canada. We will be on the water from Sunday the 14th until Friday the 19th. It is your choice. If so also bring fishing gear.
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 that we give out on Saturday!
3. Spare dufflebag – for day tripping...Put your name on everything.
4. Full foot latching sandal (not flip flops!). Durability is important!, Spare shoes for hiking, exploring etc. Socks as you like them. I only take and wear sandals but I bring heavy wool socks for the evening and mornings!
5. Sleep Gear – Camp sleeping pad, sleeping bag.
6. Fork, Spoon, bowl, cup. No sense in taking anything else. This is all you need!
7. 2 Water bottles, Used Gatorade bottles (32 oz) work fine and don't cost extra and steel bottles sink!
8. Clothing: 2 pair of light shorts to wear and one swim suit, sock combo(even if you just bring sandals, socks feel good at night!), A tee shirt to wear and 2 to pack, a wash clothe, underwear as necessary, light weight rain jacket and pants (it can be cool at night and in the mornings)
9. Other Necessary Items
Backpacking style small tent (we partner up and put people together so that we take only what we need)(Camping hammock system is acceptable), sleeping pad, Towel, hat, toothbrush and small tooth paste, hair brush, deodorant – small dry, soap, 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 and a small Bible.
10. Still Other Potential Items: Sunglasses, 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.