

Eagle Lake Excursion Camps:

Mountain Discovery Camp Checklist



Essential Items

The best way to dress for summer mountaineering is in layers as weather is unpredictable and often changing. Synthetics and wools are the best fabrics, as they keep you warm even when wet. **Avoid 100% cotton** as it holds moisture and can cause a person to become easily chilled. **Loose-fitting jeans are not acceptable**, camouflage, fleece, or nylon pants over long-johns or shorts are better. Note: There are no laundry facilities available; extra clothing and gear is kept at Eagle Lake in the base tent. The following is a general list of clothing and equipment to bring for a safe and comfortable trip:

- 3-4 T-shirts and pairs of underwear
- 1-2 pairs of shorts plus one pair of running shorts
- 1-2 long-sleeved shirts or sweaters (wool, fleece, acrylic blend)
- 1-2 pairs of pants (camouflage, lightweight wool, fleece, nylon; no jeans)
- 2-3 pairs of wool or wool blend socks; 1-2 pair liners; other socks
- 1 set of long underwear (polypropylene, thermal, or 50/50 blend)
- Swimming suit (no 2-pieces please), sunglasses, hat
- Stocking cap and lightweight mittens or gloves
- Rain jacket with hood – **rental option**
- Bath towel and toiletries (include chapstick and sunscreen)
- 1 pair of old tennis shoes that can get dirty and wet
- 1 pair of trail shoes or hiking boots (well broken-in and waterproofed)
- Backpack with full wraparound hip belt (65 liters minimum capacity) – **rental option**
- Daypack (small back pack)
- Mummy sleeping bag (synthetic, lightweight, rated to at least 20 degrees) – **rental option**
- (2) 1 quart water bottles with water tight lids / hydration pack (i.e. Camelback)
- Flashlight/headlamp (don't forget spare batteries)
- Small but complete travel Bible, small notebook, and pen (campers will keep Bible with them on trail)

Optional Items

Other items you may want to bring include:

- Inflatable sleeping pad – **rental option**
- Portable camp chair (i.e. Crazy Creek) – **rental option**
- Rock-climbing shoes – **rental option**
- Camera
- Insect repellent
- Sweatshirt
- Spending money (\$25-\$50 for items like a camp picture, snacks, etc.)
- 1 set of nice clothes for banquet night
- Plastic bowl and spoon

Boots and Foot Care

It is necessary to have a good quality over-the-ankle boot for climbing and for hiking. Be sure to purchase them early enough to wear until they are broken in before arriving at camp. It is not necessary to buy an expensive pair of heavy leather boots; the lightweight hiking boots made with cordura, nylon, or suede are acceptable. However, a stiffer sole is better for the kind of rock at Eagle Lake. Please bring your pair of specialized rock climbing shoes if you have them; just remember that you still need some sort of hiking boot as well. Climbing shoes are not necessary; so if you don't own a pair, please don't feel the need to buy some just for this program. Be sure that ingrown toenails or other chronic foot problems like corns, or warts are taken care of before you come to camp.

Note: leather is the best choice for footwear, but a combination of leather/cordura is acceptable as long as they provide proper support when wearing a 35-45 lb. Work boots or cowboy boots are not acceptable, as they do not provide the comfort or support required for long hikes and rock climbing.

Pre-Conditioning

The rugged terrain and higher altitude of Colorado make wilderness backpacking a tough challenge for those who are in poor physical shape. You can expect to hike three to five miles each day, carrying a 35-45 pound pack, up and down hills, and on and off trails. Therefore, it is highly recommended that each camper carry out the following minimum conditioning program five times per week for at least a month prior to arrival at camp. Aerobic conditioning is especially important. This will make your time at camp more rewarding, enjoyable, and safe.

Suggested exercises are as follows:

- Do at least 20 sit-ups or crunches each day and 15 push-ups (modified for girls) each day; more if possible.
- Run at least 1 mile each day or 2-3 miles every other day; or, bike for a minimum of 1/2 hour (medium to fast pace) five days/week.
- Start walking whenever possible to and from school or work, and climb stairs instead of using the elevator.
- Hike 2-3 miles once per week while wearing your hiking boots. You also may want to try a hike or two with a 10-20 lb. on your back (the weight you might carry at Eagle Lake.)

Eagle Lake Excursion Camps:

Excursions General Information



Camp Forms

To complete your camp registration, return all forms with the balance at least one month prior to camp. Please do not fax your forms. Forms to be returned include:

- Health History and Examination Form
- Release of Liability
- Parent Questionnaire
- Transportation Form

A reminder: the Camper Health Examination Form must be signed and completed by the camper's doctor within the 24 months prior to camp dates. Eagle Lake cannot retrieve past health forms. Parents or guardians must fill out the "Health History" section and sign in the space provided. We request that your camper has all the current inoculations recommended by your county Health Department.

Arrival & Departure

Parents accompanying campers to Eagle Lake should arrive between 1:00pm and 3:30pm on the opening Sunday of each camp. Our gates will not open before 1:00pm (please do not enter the property before then). Campers are to be picked up at Eagle Lake between 8:30am and 10:30am on the closing Friday of the camp session. Late pick-ups are not allowed, and will be subject to a \$150 overnight stay fee (Eagle Lake does understand that emergency situations arise and will forgo the fee if a call is received before 11 AM). Eagle Lake offers limited weekend stays to campers arriving early, needing to stay later, or coming to two consecutive weeks of camp without a continual program in between. A one week notice is required to schedule a weekend stay. The fee for a one night stay is \$150 per camper; the full weekend is \$300 per camper to cover the camper's off-site accommodations and food as well as counselor supervision. Due to programmatic conflict, there are no weekend stays available July 1-3, July 8-10, and August 12-13.

Payment/Refund/Cancellation Policies

All checks must be made payable to The Navigators, not Eagle Lake Camp. Camp balance is due in full one month prior to camp date. If balance is not paid before camper arrives at camp, Eagle Lake reserves the right to charge your credit card on file for your remaining balance. No refund will be made for dismissals due to disciplinary action, late arrival, or early departure. Refunds of the full tuition minus the \$100 non-refundable deposit may be given if request is legitimate and is made in writing more than 2 weeks prior to the scheduled camp week. Otherwise, refund requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Eagle Lake reserves the right to cancel any camp before the date of departure. If cancellation should occur, campers have the option of receiving a full refund (including deposit) or transferring to another camp.

Telephone Use/Faxes/Email/Mail Policies

With the exception of emergencies, campers are not allowed to make or receive direct phone calls or receive emails or faxes while at Eagle Lake. However, we can relay important messages to them. We do not offer a phone call home as a means of helping a camper overcome homesickness as such action often makes the situation more difficult after a camper hears the voice of the one he or she is missing the most. If necessary, a parent will be contacted at the discretion of the camp director and options will be discussed as to a beneficial course of action for the camper.

When mailing letters or packages, please allow up to 7-10 days for delivery. Write "camper" next to the camper's name and the camp dates on the front. **Note: mail will not be delivered out on the trail; campers will receive their mail when they return to camp.**

Mail may be sent to campers at this address:

Eagle Lake Camp
Name, "Camper," Week #
PO Box 6819
Colorado Springs, CO 80934

Contraband

Campers are not to bring pocket knives, weapons, fireworks, iPods, MP3 players, Discmans, Gameboys, cards, comic books, or gum. All campers are to refrain from using tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. Failure to comply with this policy is grounds for dismissal. All camper belongings will be searched at the beginning of each camp session and contraband items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the session unless the confiscated item is illegal.

Medications

If a camper is on prescription medication, it must be checked in at registration with one of our camp medical staff. We do not allow campers to keep prescription medication (with the exception of inhalers) on them as our medical staff distributes all medication at the time it needs to be taken by the camper. Please do not bring over-the-counter medications as our infirmary is sufficiently stocked to meet the demands of most headaches, coughs, and scrapes. If you have specific questions, please contact the Eagle Lake office.

Clothing

Only modest fashions in dress are permissible; halters, spaghetti-strap tank tops without a form of clothing cover, bikinis, and ultra-short shorts are unacceptable and will be addressed. No laundry will be done while at camp, except in the case of an emergency.

Injury or Illness

In the event of an injury or illness, your child will be treated to the best of our ability. If Eagle Lake determines that a camper's condition requires treatment beyond our medical team's abilities, urgent care or emergency room treatment will be sought. In the event of a serious injury or illness requiring emergency room treatment or hospitalization you will be contacted immediately. If you express concern or disapproval regarding the use of outside medical care, you may choose to come pick up your camper from Eagle Lake within 3 hours of first contact. If you cannot pick up your camper within 3 hours, Eagle Lake will continue with the course of action that we determine is in the best interest of the camper and camp.

Personal Food

Please do not bring personal food to camp as it attracts wild animals.

Spending Money

Any money that a camper brings to camp must be deposited in his or her camp store account at the time of registration. The camper will receive a camper identification number (clearly printed on the back of his or her nametag) that corresponds to his or her own store account to make purchases. As long as adequate funds are available, the appropriate amount will be deducted from the camper's account, which works as a debit account. Any remaining balance is refunded to the camper on the last Thursday evening of camp along with a printed statement of his or her purchases for the week.

Often parents ask how much money they should send with their kids to camp. This really is a matter of preference, but we would suggest anywhere from \$25-\$50. Eagle Lake apparel (hats, sweatshirts, T-shirts) snacks, jewelry and other items are available in our Camp Store.

Parent Visitation

There is no parent visitation for any Eagle Lake Excursion camp as all programs take place on the trail.

Lost & Found

All personal items should be clearly marked with first and last name. For information about ordering pre-made labels for your camper's belongings, visit our website at www.eaglelake.org. While not responsible for lost items, Eagle Lake catalogs lost and found for possible C.O.D. return. Items not claimed within two weeks of the camp session are donated.

Questions

Visit the Eagle Lake web site at www.eaglelake.org for most answers about programs, staff, dates, prices, and to other frequently asked questions. If you need to speak with someone, the Eagle Lake Camps office is open Monday -Thursday from 8:00am-4:00pm (MST) and Friday from 8:00am -12:00pm (MST).

Contact Information

Eagle Lake Camp Office
P.O. Box 6819
Colorado Springs, CO 80934
Phone: (719) 472-1260
Fax: (719) 623-0148
Web: www.eaglelake.org
Email: registrar.el@navigators.org

Colorado Department of Human Services

Eagle Lake Camp is a licensed child care provider by the state of Colorado. To file a complaint with the Colorado Department of Human Services, please contact:

Colorado Department of Human Services
Division of Child Care
1575 Sherman Street, First Floor
Denver, CO 80203-1714
Phone: (303) 866-5509
Fax: (303) 866-4453