



Family Camping 101: Oak Openings Camp-Out (Adults and 4+)

Thursday, July 2 at 5PM – Friday, July 3 at 10AM

Give your family the chance to unplug, explore, and experience the magic of camping (without the stress of planning or purchasing expensive gear).

Join us for a family-friendly overnight adventure at the beautiful Oak Openings Preserve Metropark, designed especially for guardians and kids who are curious about camping but may be new to it.

Cook dinner over a crackling campfire, enjoy fun, nature-themed games, and head out on a guided night hike to discover the park after dark. Settle into your tent and fall asleep under the stars. In the morning, wake up to birdsong and a light continental breakfast before heading home with unforgettable Metroparks memories.

No camping experience? No problem. Our staff will guide you every step of the way, from setting up camp to exploring safely at night.

Ages: Adults and 4+

Fee: \$35 per guest (Includes dinner, breakfast, equipment rental, camping permits)

Meet at: White Oak Campground, Oak Openings Preserve

- **What We Provide:** Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, (please indicate your gear needs during registration) camp kitchen gear, dinner (pizza sandwiches/dessert), and breakfast (bagels/fruit/coffee).
- **What You Bring:** Pillow, personal hygiene items (toothbrush/meds), flashlight/headlamp, water bottle, and clothing suitable for the weather (avoid cotton!). See *Packing List* below.

We could be hiking up to 3 miles on various surfaces including dirt, pavement, gravel, sand and some roots.

This program runs rain or shine, sleeping in a tent during a rain shower is actually very soothing! Because of the coordination involved, 50% of the fee is a non-refundable deposit upon registration. If you need to cancel for any reason, please call Ashley Smith at 419-265-2920.

The following packet contains information and resources you need to prepare for the trip including the trip agenda, packing list, and food suggestions for the trip. Please feel free to reach out to your trip leader with any additional questions.

Matt Miller: Matt.Miller@MetroparksToledo.com or 419-704-6057.

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Tentative Schedule

This is our desired plan however it could be subject to minor changes. Please note that trail mileages are approximate.

DAY 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5:00PM Meet at White Oak Campground parking and transport gear to group campsite• Setup "camp", assign tents and sleeping arrangements, bathrooms• 6:30PM Dinner• Camp activities and games• Sunset/Night Hike (~2 miles)• 9:13PM Sunset• Campfire snacks• Settle in for the night
DAY 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6:06AM Sunrise• Coffee/Tea for Adults• 7:00AM Official wake up and Breakfast• Morning Hike (Optional)• Pack up and take gear back to cars• 10:00AM Depart

Total mileage: ~3 miles hiking/walking

Food Plan

For the hike you will need to pack a refillable water bottle and/or water bladder (Camelbak). Plan to carry about 2 liters of water and we can refill at camp. Dinner and breakfast will be provided. If you have food allergies or dietary preferences, please contact your host Matt Miller. Alcohol is not permitted.

Meals Provided

Dinner: We will be cooking together over an open fire.

- Pie Iron pizza sandwiches
- S'mores

Breakfast: A light breakfast will be provided.

- Bagels with peanut butter or cream cheese
- Fruit
- Coffee/Tea

Hike Profile

We will be hiking on a few different surfaces including dirt, pavement, gravel, but the towpath is primarily gravel. The terrain will be relatively flat.



Packing List

Please pack everything into a duffel bag for the night and bring a small day pack (optional) for the night hike.

Sleep system

- Tent (available to borrow)
- Sleeping bag (available to borrow)
- Sleep pad (available to borrow)
- Pillow

Clothing

- 1 pair hiking shoes/boots
- Camp shoes (optional but recommended to let feet breathe)
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 set of clean underwear per day
- Shirt and pants/shorts: synthetic dri-fit (athletic wear) highly recommended.
- Sleep Clothes – these are only for inside the tent. Depending on how cold or warm you sleep you may want a T-shirt/shorts or pants.
- Rain gear
- Fleece jacket

Miscellaneous

- Headlamp or lightweight flashlight (extra batteries)
- Lip balm (with sunscreen recommended)
- Sun protection: hat with brim, sunscreen, sunglasses
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Personal first aid items: Staff will have a full first aid kit, but we cannot administer medications. Please bring a personal supply of your pain reducer of choice in case of sore muscles, headache, etc. (a small supply of ibuprofen, antacids such as Tums, Tylenol and aspirin should cover most inconveniences that may occur).
- Feminine hygiene items
- Hand sanitizer

Water

- Water bottles
- **OR** 1 bladder water system and one water bottle (for ease of drinking in camp/when your pack is off).

Optional

Camera, Note pad/pencil, Whistle, Watch, Book

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What if I am a beginner?
 - a. This trip is perfect for beginners!
2. What will the campsite be like?



- a. We will be camping at an established campground with flush toilets and running water.
- b. There is electricity at the bathroom building, but not directly at our campsite.
- c. There are picnic tables and trash cans and we will take all food garbage to the dumpster for the night.
- d. Check out the website for more details: <https://metroparkstoledo.com/features-and-rentals/white-oak-campground/>

3. What are the tents like?
 - a. There are four-person dome-style tents and two-person backpacking tents available to borrow.