

SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

Use your judgment and make changes to fit your needs. Remember that it normally is still cold in Michigan in May. Plan for fieldwork in near freezing temperatures, rainy conditions. Temperatures can fluctuate wildly within a day (cold in the morning, and everyone swimming in the lake in the afternoon). The final week or two of camp tend to be quite warm. Prepare to dress in layers, and prepare for all of those layers to be soaked if you don't have the proper rain gear/boots.

Field Gear/Equipment (XX=required for discipline, x=recommended)

FORS	WLDL	FAQS	
XX	XX	XX	Day pack (small back pack like you use here at school)
XX	XX	XX	Compass (sighting mirror w/declination correction Silva Ranger, Sunto MC-2, Brunton O.S.S. or similar – azimuth models preferred but quadrant bearing is acceptable)
XX	XX	XX	Mosquito head net (bring two in case you lose/tear one)
XX			Diameter tape (Required for Forestry students) Other students, if you have a D-tape, you should bring it with you to camp.
XX	XX	XX	Text and handouts required for your major-specific measurement class.
XX	XX	x	Field guides for Dendrology (tree/shrubs/wildflowers)
	XX	XX	Field guides for your specific major (Wildlife: Birds/Mammals. Fisheries: Fish)
	XX		Binoculars (required for Wildlife students during bird week) (see special note below on binocular tips.)
x	XX	x	Headlamp (Required for Wildlife students, but nice to have for everyone.) and batteries
x	x	x	Waterproof paper (Rite-in-the-Rain notebooks) for class notes
XX	XX	XX	A separate field notebook. Wildlife majors will need an additional notebook for bird week.
XX	XX	XX	Clipboard suitable for field use
XX	XX	XX	Canteen or water bottle – sufficient to get you through an 8-hour day in field [2-3 liters]
XX	XX	XX	Pocket knife or multi-tool (4 inch blade or less!)
XX	XX	XX	Hard hat (Lowe's, Menard's, Sears and/or any lumber store carries these)
	XX	XX	Chest waders (required for Fisheries and Wildlife, but nice for everyone to have)
		XX	Fishing pole and tackle (required for Fisheries) optional for those who want to fish on the lake (fishing license required)
		XX	Polarized sunglasses
XX	XX	XX	Shoes / Boots: the best footgear for this region is at least one pair of waterproof (rubber) boots and one pair of field boots. One pair of tennis shoes is also desirable. Note: break-in new boots prior to camp! Pay attention to fit and support. You may wear rubber boots hiking all day long. New, stiff, or ill-fitting boots are the number one cause of foot blisters.
XX	XX	XX	Rain gear, a reasonably good rain coat and rain pants are essential pieces of equipment if you'd like to stay dry and healthy. Again, something that won't easily tear.
x	x	x	Tupperware or other sealable container (provides a nearly crushproof lunchbox)
x	XX	x	Gloves (work/field gloves) Wildlife students must have a pair of thin, well-fitting gloves (be able to zip a zipper with them on) for small mammal trapping. You won't use these for any other field work after small mammal trapping, so an additional pair of gloves is recommended
x	x	x	Box of 2-gallon clear Ziploc plastic bags (to place your clipboard in during rainy days)
x	x	x	Mosquito repellent – because your head net won't protect your arms
x	x	x	Permanone/Permethrin tick repellent (to put on clothes – NEVER on skin)
XX	XX	XX	Calculator (with good batteries) with Trig functions
XX	XX	XX	Pencils and erasers
XX	XX	XX	A 3-ring binder for class notes (1½ or 2 inch)
x	x	x	Additional notebook paper, pens, colored pencils/markers (as least 3 or 4 colors), highlighters, notecards and other "homework/note-taking" office supplies

Additional items to consider for your packing list

Coats. You will need a warm coat or jacket. Something that won't easily tear.

Bedding: blankets, sheets, warm sleeping bag, and pillow with a spare pillowcase

Pants (several pairs of blue jeans or field pants) and shorts (for leisure time – afternoons can be warm later in May)

Shirts (strong cotton, woolen or flannel shirts for the field)

Sweaters/sweatshirts

Socks (several pairs of heavy socks for field shoes, and light socks for street shoes)

Liner socks (e.g. Fox River X-Static, CoolMax Liner Socks) to minimize blistering

Shorts! It gets warm up there, too!

Multiple face masks – enough to last you between laundry cycles

Towels (hand and bath)

Swimming suit (swimwear is required in Hagerman Lake) and beach towel

Toiletries (toothbrush, paste, soap, comb etc.)

Laundry bag, laundry detergent, dryer sheets

Sufficient medication to provide comfort while working through a common cold or seasonal allergies (Asprin/Tylenol, allergy/cold medication, etc.)

Enough prescription medications to last the entire 5 weeks

Dress clothing and shoes (fisheries students have formal presentation; others may bring only if you desire)

Dendrology textbook

Statistics textbook

Hand sanitizer, spray sanitizer, sanitizing wipes

Books; the area in and around the camp abounds with interesting plant and animal life. Therefore, you may want to bring field guides for birds, wildflowers, ferns, mushrooms, etc. or guide books for recreational opportunities.

Equipment to fit your camping needs - recreational camping opportunities will be available for all, not required.

Miscellaneous (camera, musical instruments, watch, fishing tackle, athletic equipment, hobby items)

Bandages, moleskin, Neosporin. Days can be damp and long. Be sure you have what it takes to manage blisters.

Waterproof phone case – everyone is working in and around water/saturated ground at various points

Tweezers/tick remover

Sunscreen

Wader repair kit

Folding "camp" chair

Flashlight

Health insurance card in case of emergency

Binocular tips for wildlife students:

There is no single specification. The best binoculars for a beginning student would be rated at 7 or 8 magnification.

More advanced students (those who are more used to using binoculars) will benefit from 10-power magnification. The standard combinations to look for are binoculars labeled 7x35, 8x35, 8x42, or 10x42. The first number is the magnification. Don't get anything smaller than 7 power, or greater than 10. The second number indicates the width of the outer lens, and reflects the amount of light that enters the binoculars (and therefore the sharpness of the image, especially at lower light levels). In general, the larger the second number, the better the image, but the binoculars may be bigger and heavier. Most popular binoculars are 7x35, 8x42 and 10x42. Students not used to using binoculars should go for the lower magnification - it is easier to find the object in the field of view.