

Equipment List

Wilderness Horsepacking

Welcome to NOLS! We look forward to having you with us this summer.

Please take the time to read this equipment list carefully before making decisions about what equipment you will use on your course. You have enrolled at NOLS to learn a variety of outdoor skills. One of the most important of these skills is the ability to outfit yourself properly for your own backcountry trips. Upon completion of your NOLS course, you will have a better understanding of your personal equipment needs; therefore, we recommend renting your gear from NOLS with the option to purchase after your course. However, if you wish to purchase equipment prior to your course, it is **extremely important that you read the item descriptions carefully, shop wisely, and avoid purchasing expensive equipment solely for the use of your course.** The NOLS admissions office at 800-710-NOLS, has more information about outdoor equipment stores in your area.

NOLS Outfitting is a complete rental facility and retail store with an extensive inventory of outdoor equipment and clothing. Except for a few items that are listed in the checklist as **Must Bring**, a student can be completely outfitted for a NOLS course from our equipment warehouse in Boulder, WY/ Three Peaks Ranch. You may already own some of the items on the list and are welcome to bring them. However, your instructors will inspect all equipment you bring, even if it is new, and they will determine if it is acceptable for your course. **All equipment must be approved by your instructors, and must meet, or exceed, NOLS requirements.** If an item is not approved for your particular course, you can leave it with the rest of your baggage in our secure storage lockers at Three Peaks Ranch. Also, please note that certain items on this equipment list may be required for early season courses, based on environmental conditions such as late spring snow pack, and not for courses later in the season.

If you will be purchasing gear before your course begins, consider our preferred retailers. Preferred retailers are retail stores whose staff is familiar with NOLS. Ask the NOLS Admission Office about Preferred Retailers in your area by calling 800-710-NOLS (6657) or by visiting www.nols.edu.

The availability of each item is indicated as follows:

Purchase Only -Indicates that the item is available from NOLS, but for PURCHASE ONLY.

Must Bring -Indicates that the item is NOT AVAILABLE from NOLS; bring from home.

Prices are projected for current summer Horsepacking courses at NOLS Rocky Mountain Three Peaks Ranch. Purchase price listed is for new gear; the purchase price for used gear will be discounted proportionally according to amount of wear.

All prices are subject to change. Rental prices are listed per week.

In addition to the course tuition, each student is charged an equipment deposit for the course. (Please see your statement for the amount.) The equipment deposit is intended to cover the cost of equipment rental and cleaning. You will be charged separately for replacement of lost or damaged equipment. Your actual charge will vary according to how much gear you rent from NOLS. In addition to the rental charges, many students decide to purchase new and used equipment from NOLS. We offer substantial discounts for used equipment and, if you decide to buy rental gear, the rental fee will be waived for that piece of equipment. These purchases may raise the total outfitting bill well above your equipment deposit.

If you have any questions or would like more information regarding any of the items on the equipment list, please contact NOLS Rocky Mountain Outfitting at (307) 332-1422 or (307) 332-4784; E-mail: outfitting@nols.edu; or visit our web site at www.nols.edu. *or*, contact the Three Peaks Ranch directly at (307) 537-5236.

Planning Your Clothing Needs

You will want to have at least two sets of clothing. One set of clothes will be for the 5 days of classes spent at the ranch. You will need a second set of clothing for the field portion of your course. Finally, you will also want to have a clean set to wear home at the conclusion of your course. These sets include socks, jeans, underwear, t-shirt, and long sleeve cotton shirt, but do not include insulating and protective layers.



Upper Body Layers

You will need at least 3 insulating layers, plus a wind-proof layer, which must fit comfortably over each other so they can be worn at the same time.

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Base Layer (Mid-Weight Synthetic)	Purchase Only	\$40-\$60	1	Mid-weight underwear top made of wool, polypropylene, Capilene® or ZeO2™.	
Middle Layer (Fleece Pullover or Jacket)	\$5	\$40-\$60	1	Polyester fleece pullover/expedition weight top of Polartec® 100 or 200, fiberfill jacket or a wool sweater.	
Top Layer (Synthetic Puffy Jacket)	\$5	\$50-\$150	1	Heavyweight, full-length zip fleece or fiberfill jacket of Polartec® 300 or equivalent weight.	
Fleece Vest	\$3.75	\$35-\$50	1	Optional. A polyester fleece vest of Polartec® 200 or a synthetic filled vest.	
Wind Shirt / Anorak	\$5	\$55	1	A lightweight, breathable, nylon wind shell either pullover or parka style. This must be large enough to fit comfortably over the 3 insulating layers. Gore-Tex shells are acceptable.	
Rain Slicker	\$5	\$80-\$105	1	A durable, roomy, full-length waterproof garment, which will fit over all three insulating layers. Must be split to the waist to allow for riding.	
Long Sleeve Cotton Shirts	Must Bring	Must Bring	2+	Bring 2 that snap or button down and have a collar (one for the ranch and one for the field portion of the course). On warm days they help with sun and insect protection.	
T-Shirt	Purchase Only	\$16.95-\$24	2+	One for class days at the ranch and one for the field portion of your course. T-shirts with the Three Peaks Ranch logo are available for purchase.	

Our advice? Bring the sweaters, fleece jackets and other layers you think might work. We'll advise you on the best combination for your course, the season and area.

Lower Body Layers

Should consist of 2 insulating layers, plus a durable wind layer, which must fit comfortably over each other so they can all be worn at the same time. Insulating layers must also fit comfortably under jeans.

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Base Layer (Mid-Weight Synthetic)	Purchase Only	\$30-\$45	1 pair	Midweight underwear top of wool, high performance polyester, polypropylene, or Capilene®.	
Middle Layer (Exp-Weight Synthetic)	Purchase Only	\$40-\$60	1 pair	Expedition weight bottoms that must fit over the primary layer. Or you may choose to bring fleece pants.	
Fleece/puffy Pants	\$5	\$60 - \$150	1 pair	Optional. Polartec 200 or a similar weight or synthetic puffy pants. Side zippers make them easier to put on over boots.	



Lower Body Layers (Continued)

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Wind Pants	\$5	\$60	1 pair	Breathable, nylon wind pants that are roomy enough to fit over all lower body garments. Gore-Tex pants are acceptable. Zippered legs are useful for putting on over boots.	
Hiking Shorts	Purchase Only	\$36-\$48	1 pair	Optional. If you like to wear them, bring them. Loose fitting nylon athletic or river shorts. Nylon "quick dry" shorts can double as swim trunks.	
Denim Jeans	Must Bring	Must Bring	2 pairs	2 pairs (one for the ranch, one for the field). Jeans that are in good shape and can be worn over synthetic or wool long underwear.	
Briefs/ Sports Bras	Purchase Only	\$15 - \$20	3 pairs	We recommend that men go with cotton briefs or boxers. Women should use what's comfortable, but avoid cotton if possible.	
Chaps/ Chinks	\$15	\$250	1 pair	Optional. If you already own a pair, bring them.	
Rain Pants	Purchase Only	\$90 - \$110	1 pair	Optional. Can be handy around camp in bad weather. Side zippers make them easier to pull over boots.	

Our advice? Bring the synthetic or wool long johns, fleece or exercise pants you think might work. We'll advise you on the best combination for your course, the season and area.

Head, Neck and Hand Layers

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Sun Hat	Purchase Only	\$18.95	1	A baseball cap works fine. Three Peaks Ranch specific baseball hats are available.	
Cowboy Hat	Purchase Only	\$40-60	1	Wide-brimmed hats for protection from sun, rain or snow are recommended for all courses. The crushable felt hat style is the most popular.	
Plastic Rain Hat Cover	Purchase Only	\$4.00	1	Optional. For cowboy hat.	
Wool or Fleece Hat or Balaclava	\$1.50	\$15-\$20	1	Needed for warmth. Polartec 200 weight or polypropylene.	
Silk Scarf/ Wild Rag	Purchase Only	\$12 - \$24	1	Optional. This is a great, light-weight cowboy accessory that provides extra warmth, and protection from wind and insects.	
Mosquito Head Net	\$0.50	\$6	1	A netted hood to provide some relief from mosquitoes.	
Gloves	Purchase Only	\$15-\$30	2 pairs	Either wool or Polartec.	
Leather Work Gloves	Must Bring	Must Bring	1 pair	Optional. These are for hand protection while working with ropes and leading packhorses.	

Our advice? As long as they're not cotton, bring your gloves and mittens. We'll check them and see if they'll work. You may need one or two pairs, depending on the weather and time of the year.



Footwear					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Cowboy Boots	\$10	\$100-\$150	1 pair	Either pull on or lace-up styles are acceptable. Should fit with a thick pair of wool socks. Boots should have smooth, composition soles (without lugs), and at least a one-inch heel. NO leather soles; they are too slick for the terrain. We recommend buying your own boots if you have hard-to-fit feet, including sizes smaller than a 6 or larger than a 14.	
Wool Socks	Purchase Only	\$9-\$19	5 pair	Ragg wool or wool/synthetic blend. Ski socks or other tall socks work well with cowboy boots.	
Camp Shoes	Must Bring	Must Bring	1 pair	Running, tennis, or cross-training shoes. Open-toed footwear is not allowed around horses.	
Galoshes	\$7	\$20	1 pair	Lightweight mid-calf length rubber galoshes that fit over cowboy boots and camp shoes. Mid-calf rain boots with a heel are acceptable (Bogs, etc).	

Packs & Bags					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Day Pack	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Optional. A medium-sized, lightweight daypack with a capacity of 1,500 - 2,000 cubic inches.	
Small Stuff Sacks	\$1.50	\$4.00	2+	2 or more, small nylon or mesh sacks for organizing items in your pack.	
Zip Bag	\$1	\$12	1	Nylon duffel bag (approx. 12" x 24") with zippers, used as clothing storage bag. Recommended rental item. Rental bags are sized for use with panniers.	

Sleeping Gear					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Sleeping Bag	\$15	\$160	1	We recommend synthetic fill bags (Quallofil, Hollofil, Polarguard, etc.) for durability and ease of care in a variety of conditions that we encounter. A bag with approximately 3 pounds of fill (rated to 20° F.) is required. Down or feather filled bags are not suitable for wet and windy conditions commonly encountered on NOLS courses. Two varieties of sleeping bag liner are available for those who want some extra warmth.	
Thermarest	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Optional. Can be handy for the time at the ranch, but will not be used in the field, when you will be sleeping on multiple horse pads. Only bring it if you already own it!	
Extra Large Stuff Sack	\$1.50	\$24	1	Extra large for bulky synthetic bags. We WILL NOT use Compression stuff sacks. We encourage you to rent this item. Rental stuff sacks are sized for use with panniers.	

Miscellaneous Items

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Insulated Mug	Purchase Only	\$3.50-4	1	Optional. 12 to 20 oz., insulated mugs with lids are preferred.	
Bowl	Purchase Only	\$4	1	A bowl with a snap-on or screw-on lid is highly recommended.	
Spoon	Purchase Only	\$1	1	Lexan spoons are light, durable and recommended.	
Water Bottle	Purchase Only	\$12-\$15	1	1 quart or liter size plastic bottle such as the Nalgene® brand.	
Bike Bottle	Purchase Only	\$5	1	Squirt type bottles are easier to drink from, while riding.	
Instant Hand Sanitizer	Purchase Only	\$1.50	2	Must have 2 oz. bottles for keeping hands clean.	
Lip Balm	Purchase Only	\$3	1	Stick, cream, or tube type moisturizing balm with sun protection factor (SPF) 15 or greater.	
Sunscreen	Purchase Only	\$7-\$9	1	A 3 to 6 ounce tube with sun protection factor (SPF) 15 or greater.	
Bandanas	Purchase Only	\$2	2 or 3	A few of these are always handy.	
Sunglasses	Purchase Only	\$40-\$130	1 pair	Lenses should block 100% ultraviolet and 95% infrared light.	
Glasses And Contact Lenses	Must Bring	Must Bring	1 or 2 pairs	Bring a spare pair.	
Head-Lamp	Purchase Only	\$29-40	1	Durable and lightweight. Bring spare batteries.	
Disposable Lighters	Purchase Only	\$1.50	1	Use for lighting your camp stove.	
Insect Repellent	Purchase Only	\$5	1	1 small bottle. No aerosol spray cans.	
Toiletries	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, brush, skin lotion, tampons. Bring all travel sizes.	
Watch	Purchase Only	\$20-65	1	A watch with an alarm.	
Notepad And Pencil	Purchase Only	\$9.95	1	A small, lightweight pad is fine.	
Sunglass Retainers	Purchase Only	\$5	1	Chums® or Croakies® for keeping track of your glasses or sunglasses.	
Pocket Knife	Purchase Only	\$20-45	1	Optional. One small knife is sufficient; NO large knives.	
Water Filter	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Optional. We supply Potable Aqua tablets (hydroperiodide), and/or Aquamira to disinfect water. If you are sensitive to iodine, bring chlorine based tablets or a water filter. Otherwise, a filter is not recommended.	
Trash Bags	Purchase Only	\$1	2	Thick bags or compactor bags highly recommended. They are used as a waterproof liner for your sleeping bag and clothes bag.	

Group Equipment

The exact amount of this gear is determined by your instructors depending upon anticipated weather, terrain, and the general goals of your particular course.

Tents & Shelters
Reference Books
Cooking Gear
Trowels or Shovels
Water Purification

Maps & Compass
Fuel and Fuel Bottles
First Aid Kits
Fishing Equipment
Veterinary and Horseshoeing Kits

Camp Stoves
Binoculars
Equipment Repair Kits
Saddles and Tack (Western)
Food Rations

