



Welcome to the 2026 field season at VYCC! This document is designed to help leaders and members prepare for their season. We know that securing gear can be a daunting experience. However, we are here to help and this list is designed to help you stay safe and comfortable throughout your season.

Please know that you do not need to spend a lot or any money on new gear. We recommend that you search local exchanges and thrift stores for used equipment, or ask friends and family. The following online retailers are great for used gear: [PoshMark](#), [ebay](#), [OutdoorsGeek](#), [GearTrade](#), [REI Used Gear](#), and [Patagonia Worn Wear](#). Other sites like [The Clymb](#), [steepandcheap](#), and [Sierra Trading Post](#) offer good deals on new gear.

Ensure that the gear you bring to VYCC will endure all environmental (dirt/mud) and weather conditions (rain, sleet, snow). If you are unable to secure certain pieces of gear, please let your hiring manager know and we will help you get what you need. We have a small cache of gear that can be loaned out for your season, but we need to know in advance.

VYCC Provides:

- Four VYCC uniform work shirts
- Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) includes eye protection, both leather and gripped work gloves, and hearing protection
- Each person will be issued their own tent
- All group camping gear (stoves, coolers, utensils, first aid kit, etc.)

All of your gear, clothing, and supplies should fit into a large backpack/duffle and daypack. VYCC does have limited storage for items on our campus (these items will not be accessible while on project). Let your hiring manager know if you are thinking about leaving items on campus

Required Equipment:

Boots: ALL LEATHER (or alternative vegan material), sturdy work or hiking style

- Entire boot except laces and sole must be leather
- Must fully and firmly cover the foot to and around the anklebone
- Must be in good condition without splits, holes or tears
- Why do you need all leather boots? Good question! VYCC crews work will all kinds of different tools, some of which are heavy and sharp. We want everyone to have proper foot protection in case a tool lands where it is not supposed to. Additionally, leather boots help keep your feet dry which is very important!



- **Sleeping Bag:** synthetic shell with synthetic or down fill, no cotton bags
 - Fall crews: Recommend having a warmer sleeping bag and/or sleeping bag liner (ex. 20 degree sleeping bag) to account for colder weather
- **Sleeping Pad:** designed to insulate you from the ground which keeps you warm and comfy, closed cell-foam or air (no yoga mats please)
 - Fall crews: We recommend a warmer-rated sleeping pad to insulate you from the colder ground. For example, a pad with an R-value of 3 or higher.
- **Rain Jacket & Rain Pants:** Sturdy and waterproof. Know these will get dirty, no ponchos
- **Headlamp:** Bring extra batteries
- **Battery Powered Watch with Alarm Function:** We cannot guarantee access to charging for smart phones/watches
- **Water Bottles:** Able to hold 3 liters of water total and durable
(*Leaders: 4-5 liters*)
- **Daypack:** ~20-40 liters (able to hold water, lunch, rain gear, extra layers, notebook, etc.)
(*Leaders: allow for additional space for extra crew gear, ~30-40 liters*)
- **Toiletries Bag/Kit:** toothbrush, toothpaste, soap/shampoo, menstrual hygiene products, glasses/contact lenses, comb/brush, etc. **Please also bring personal sunscreen and insect repellent.**
- **1 or more sturdy plastic container/Tupperware:** *To hold your lunch and snacks*

***A note on technology: We ask for crews to be present and limit use of cell phones. We cannot guarantee the ability to charge any device. Please leave tablets and other larger electronic devices at home.**

Required Clothing: (*quantities are recommended; cotton is not advised due to lack of warmth*)

- **1 pair of full length durable work pants:** *Dickies, Wrangler, Carhartt, Dovetail, Red Ants Pants, and Arborwear* are some brands to check out. Please no sweatpants, leggings, hiking pants, or wind pants
- **1 pair of work pants appropriate for the task:** They can be the same as the list above but include hiking pants and or jeans. Please note that the thinner the material the less protection they provide.
- **1 shirt:** polyester, synthetic or wool recommended for layering during the work day or at camp
- **5 pairs of socks:** polyester or wool
- **5 pairs of underwear:** non-cotton
- **Warm Layer:** Jacket, coat, fleece

□ **Additional Footwear:** Light sneakers or close-toed sandals. Footwear is required in the water, while cooking

(close-toed), and around camp to prevent injury. For water activities we require *TEVA* or *Chaco*-like sandals with straps, no flip-flops

□ **Swimsuit/Swim Clothes**

□ **Required Clothing: Spring or Fall**

* Please come prepared for cooler days and nights, with sleet and snow. Extra layers that are quick drying and warm will be important

- Warm jacket/coat/fleece
- Long sleeve synthetic or wool shirt
- Thermal long underwear (top & bottom)
- Gloves and warm hat (for work and camp)

Optional Recommended Items:

□ **1-2 non-work clothing:** Comfortable clothes to wear around camp or when off project, such as jeans, shorts, or hiking clothes

□ **Travel or camp pillow**

□ **Travel or camp towel:** Quick drying and packable

□ **Sleeping Bag Liner:** Especially fall crews

□ **Laundry Supplies:** Cash for laundry services, detergent, dryer sheets

□ **Books, stamps, envelopes, pens, paper**

□ **Lip Balm**

□ **Shower shoes (if staying on campus)**

□ **Playing cards/packable games/frisbee**

□ **Musical instrument (in durable case)**

□ **Small camp chair**

□ **Camera**

□ **Mosquito Head Net**

□ **Hammock**

□ **Insulated Mug/Thermos**

*****Please note that the VYCC is not liable for any damaged, broken, or lost personal belongings/gear*****