

CANOE CAMPING



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Pennsylvania is home to not just foot trails, but water trails, the oldest of which is the Susquehanna River Trail Middle Section. Thinking of canoe or kayaking camping? Read on to learn about the six W's of camping!



WHERE

- What is your destination?
- File a float plan—location and time of launch and take out, where you wish to camp.
- What is your back up campsite should your chosen site be full?
- Do you know the water body? What do you need to learn?
- Do you have the appropriate maps? Do you need a permit?



WASTE

- How will you manage your waste, both organic and inorganic?



WEIGHT

- Is your canoe or kayak “trim” or “balanced”?
- Do you have enough freeboard to keep you safe?
- Can you safely paddle and portage the load?



WATER

- Are your skills equal to the water on which you will paddle?
- What will the source of your drinking water be? Are you prepared?
- What is your back up plan in case of inclement weather?



WHAT

- What is on your packing list?
- What extras do you need in case of emergency or to meet the needs of the members of your party?

? WHAT IF

- What are your contingency plans in case you:
 - Lose a paddle
 - Get lost
 - Get delayed
 - Tip
 - get sick

