

Iowa Driftless Trip
September 10-12, 2021
What to Bring Check List

Covid Requirements: Face masks, hand sanitizer

Clothing Suggestions:

- Long sleeves** are preferred as protection from sun, bugs, errant hooks, etc.
- Rain Gear**
- Layers**
- Extra dry cloths** in the event of unplanned events.
- Fishing Buffs** are useful in protecting your neck/face from sun, bugs; **light fishing gloves** to protect hands.
- Plastic bags** for managing wet clothes, dirty clothes, etc. are quite useful.
- Hat with a brim**- Always wear a hat with a brim when fly fishing as protection from an errant cast.
- Polarized Sun Glasses**- Always wear eye protection when fly fishing. **Polarized** sunglasses also help you see under the water for safer wading. **Polarized** sun glasses help you read underwater structure and locate fish for more effective fishing. In low light, wear glasses or safety goggles for protection.

Fly Fishing Gear:

- Fly Fishing Rod(s)**
 - 5 weight is a good all-rounder;
 - Some people prefer a lighter 4 weight or even a 3 weight for stream trout fishing;
 - 6 weight could be used, but not ideal for many Driftless situations. Useful on bigger water, streamer fishing for larger fish, or fishing in strong wind conditions.
- Fly Fishing Reel(s) and fly line** matching the weight of your rod(s).
- Boots & Waders** Highly recommended; other options such as hip boots, wet wading, etc., are possible.
- Trout Fishing Net** - nice to have but not essential.
- Wading Staff** - nice to have but not essential.
- Fly Fishing Supplies and Accessories (some commonly used items are listed):**
 - Some type of fishing pack** (Usually a fishing vest, chest pack, sling pack, fanny pack, or lanyard)
 - Flies organized in fly box(es)** (See Suggested Fly List)
 - Tippet** (for stream trout, I usually carry 4x, 5x, 6x, and occasionally 7x when fishing very small flies)
 - Fly Fishing Leaders** - tapered 9 foot 5x leaders are a good choice.
 - Nippers** for clipping your line
 - Forceps** for removing the hooks from your catch
 - Strike indicators** (there are many options)
 - weight** (weighted biodegradable putty, or small spit shot to help certain flies sink more quickly)
 - floatant** (a silicone based liquid to lightly coat dry flies before use to help them stay buoyant longer)
 - dry fly shake powder** (a desiccant to help draw moisture out of a wetted dry fly to help buoyancy).
 - a small head lamp** is a good option if you plan to fish in low light conditions in the evening.
 - Numerous other accessories are available, but non-essential.
 - Feel free to bring fly tying equipment/supplies if you choose. However, with good weather, there probably won't be much time for fly tying. If it rains, perhaps???

Food & Beverage

- Lunches & Snack Foods**--For this trip, **you are responsible for organizing your own snacks & lunches**. It is recommended that you pack your preferred lunches/snack foods from Chicago---you can also pick up items in the Driftless Area, but this is likely to be inconvenient to our fishing locations.
- Special Dietary Requirements**- We are not equipped to meet all special dietary requirements of our guests. **If you have dietary restrictions, we ask that you make arrangements for food that meets your needs.** Full kitchens and outdoor grills are available for your use in each of our 3 rented buildings.
- Beverages**-Bring along any preferred soft drinks, water, and alcoholic beverages that you may prefer.
- Water bottles, food coolers, lunch bags, car coffee mug, or other containers** suitable for use in the field.

Other Important Items:

- Delorme Gazetteer for Iowa** (Very useful detail maps as compliment to gps for helping navigate back roads & finding & notating remote stream access); Any other preferred maps/fishing guide books.
- Any medications you require**
- Personal first aid kit**
- Wisconsin Fishing License** (Carry at all times while fishing); **Much easier to purchase online before the trip.**
- Insect Repellant**
- Sun Screen**
- Cell Phone & charger** to stay in touch with other members of the group (when reception permits)
- Internet Access is available** at the resort, so you may want to bring your tablet/laptop & charger.
- Check book or cash** to settle up the lodging & shared meal cost at conclusion of trip.
- Shaving Kit** (toothpaste, soap, etc.); (Linens & towels are provided by Resort; Extra towels from home useful)