

Field Trips By: James Webb

As our membership grows there has been increased interest in field trips. I thought it would be appropriate to add a list of items to consider as important field trip necessities. The items are based on safety, clothing, equipment and personal needs. Always check on the particular dig you are headed to for special needs and concerns.

For safety

- Always use *Common Sense*
- Water
- First Aid Kit – never leave home without it
- Eye protection
- Appropriate clothing
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Hard hats
- Don't forget your medication

Clothing

- Footwear (hiking boots, steel toed boots, waders, running shoes)
always check the dig site for special requirements.
- Gloves
- Knee pads
- Appropriate Clothes: long pants (shorts are ok for collecting but not for mining) and/or long sleeved shirts.
- A change of clothes (be aware of the seasonal weather)
- Hat
- Towel

Equipment

- Hammers (depending on location)
- Chisels (the ones with guards are well worth the difference in price)
- Picks, Shovels, Pry Bars
- Backpack
- Buckets, cloth bags, small containers, zip lock bags
- Newspaper / Toilet Paper (for wrapping fragile specimens)
- Cart (if distance is a concern).
- Common Sense

Most hardware and home improvement stores carry these tools.

Personal Items

- Food and drinks
- Flashlight
- Camera
- Trash Bags for trash and dirty clothes
- Toilet Paper

Not all the items listed are necessary all the time, use common sense. Safety comes first for yourself and the people around you. If you are in a group stay within the group and if necessary to leave kindly advise someone of where you are going and when you are returning.

Let's make any field trip we undertake fun and safe for all.