

**INDEPENDENT RUSTIC CAMPING  
TAHQUAMENON FALLS STATE PARK  
August 27-29, 2021**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Mileage:** Optional Day Hike to Tahquamenon Falls (Various Mileage Options: 2 - 8 Miles)

**Terrain:** Moderate. The trip will be on a marked trail at a State Park.

**Experience:** Beginner. This trip is perfect for those with some experience camping, but who are looking to learn to be more independent in a rustic setting. This is a great course to serve as a stepping stone to Backcountry Camping or Backpacking.

**Gear:** Participants will be responsible for providing their own personal gear, including some meals (see gear list below).

**About Tahquamenon:**

Tahquamenon Falls State Park encompasses nearly 50,000 acres and stretches more than 13 miles. Most of the park is undeveloped, and the park's centerpiece is the Tahquamenon River and its waterfalls, which are viewable from multiple accessible overlooks. The Upper Falls is one the largest waterfalls east of the Mississippi River and has a drop of nearly 50 feet, is 200 feet across and has a maximum flow of 50,000 gallons of water per second. The river's amber color is caused by tannins leached from the cedar, spruce and hemlock trees in the swamps drained by the river, and the extremely soft water churned by the action of the falls causes the river's trademark large amounts of foam. Just 4 miles downstream is the Lower Falls, which consists of a series of five smaller falls cascading around an island.

**About the Trip:**

Participants will set up camp at the Group Camping Area at Rivermouth. All participants will camp and cook independently in our happy tent neighborhood. This is an opportunity to learn how to set up your own tent, start a fire, cook your food on a camp stove, and filter your water in a supportive learning environment. Time to take the lead and become comfortable with all the various tasks required for a backcountry camping trip!

Mentors will be available for assistance and will run mini clinics throughout the weekend to teach a specific skill or share an experience. This is a very hands-on trip!

**Tentative Itinerary**

Friday

- 2pm Arrive at Camp
- Camp Set Up
- Camp Stove Clinic
- 6pm Dinner (Provided)

Saturday

- Clinics
- Day Hike(s) to Waterfalls
- Relax and Make New Friends

Sunday

- 8am Breakfast (Provided)
- Leave-No-Trace Clinic
- Camp Breakdown

## Potential Clinic Topics

Instructors will work with the participants to choose which topics they would like to learn more information about. Clinic Topics are hands on and may include the following:

- Backcountry Meals
- Camp Stoves
- Water Filters
- Fire Building
- Hanging Tarps
- Tent Setup
- Gear Selection
- Knot Tying
- Leave No Trace

Weather in the Upper Peninsula can be unpredictable but that's part of the fun! Participants should be prepared for average August temps but should also be prepared for much cooler conditions, wind, and rain.

Participants will need to secure their own vehicle permits for Michigan State Parks.

We will start the trip with a trip orientation at the Rivermouth Area of Tahquamenon Falls State Park on Friday, August 27th at 2pm. From there we will set up camp at the Group Use Area. Saturday we will hike Tahquamenon Falls and practice various camping skills. Our plan Sunday is to enjoy breakfast together and then break down camp, so that those with long drives can hit the road before lunchtime. This trip will occur Rain or Shine so please be prepared!

Participation in the day hike is not required. Given that we are at a State Park and not in a secluded Backcountry area, participants not partaking in the hike may leave camp for other activities. It is required that you discuss your plans with your instructor prior to leaving camp, provide your contact information, and return to camp at the agreed upon time. You are expected to be responsible for your own safety and stay within your skill level. Although you may do some things alone (i.e., a run to town), if you are going for a hike or enjoying another wilderness activity you may be asked to go in groups no less than two for safety reasons.

If a participant has any questions that they need answered prior to making the decision to sign up, please email [dnrbow@michigan.gov](mailto:dnrbow@michigan.gov). After the registration period is closed, the instructors will contact all participants and provide additional information and provide additional opportunities to ask questions.

## PERSONAL EQUIPMENT LIST FOR PARTICIPANTS

### Required Items:

Tent (for personal use only)

Sleeping Bag (synthetic or down fill)

Sleeping Pad

Hiking Shoes

Short Sleeve/Long Sleeve Shirts

Camp/Hiking Pants/Shorts

Fleece Jacket

Waterproof Rain Jacket

Wool/Synthetic Socks

Water Bottles

Headlamp or Flashlight

Camping/Backpacking Stove and Fuel

\*If you do not have a stove and fuel, please reach out. We do have extras to provide to participants as needed, but do not enough for everyone.

Camp Kitchen Kit

Cookware

Plate, Bowl, Spoon, Fork, Mug/Cup

Saturday Meals (1 dinner, 1 lunch, 1 breakfast, snacks, beverages such as coffee/tea)

Note: Friday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast will be provided.

Toilet Paper in a Ziplock

Personal items [i.e., toothbrush, toothpaste, sunscreen, medications, etc.]

**Items for Practice:**

If you have any of the following items, please bring them so that we can practice. We will bring some extras as well but will not have enough for everyone.

Water Filter/Purifier

Fire Starting Supplies (i.e., Lighter or Matches)

Tarp, Lines, and Stakes

\*Any other gear that you would like to practice with...

**Optional Items:**

Rain Pants

Sunglasses

1-2 bandanas and/or pack towel

Camera

Book/field guides

Trekking poles

Hat/Gloves for cool evenings

Pocket Knife

Camp Chairs



Michigan Department of Natural Resources

BECOMING AN OUTDOORS-WOMAN
REGISTRATION FOR
BEYOND INDEPENDENT RUSTIC CAMPING
WORKSHOP



This information is required by authority of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for participation consideration.

PRINT OR TYPE. REGISTRATIONS ARE LIMITED AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE WORKSHOP

REGISTER EARLY! WORKSHOP SPACE IS LIMITED FIRST REGISTERED - FIRST ENROLLED

WHERE

TAHQAMENON FALLS STATE PARK
41382 WEST M-123,
PARADISE, MI 49768

WHEN

AUGUST 27 - 29, 2021
ARRIVE - 2:00PM, AUGUST 27, 2021

COST

\$90.00
WHAT SIZE SHIRT: UNISEX OR WMNS
PLEASE CIRCLE S M L XLG XXLG

CANCELLATION
DEADLINE

AUGUST 2, 2021 (FOR FULL REFUND)

THIS PROGRAM IS LIMITED TO 20 LADIES - REGISTER EARLY!!!

Registration form with fields for Full Name, Address, City, State, ZIP, Telephone, and Emergency Contact Name and Telephone. Includes a red warning: 'Must be at least 18 years old to participate.'

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all the information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, I have read and understand the information contained herein; I recognize and understand that the program involves some risks and I take responsibility for all action or injury that may result from participation. Further, I release the State of Michigan and its agents and instructors, from any and all liability for any such injuries.

Signature Date

PHOTOGRAPH AND/OR VIDEO RELEASE

I hereby grant permission to use my photograph or video of me taken during this BOW event in any official publicity pieces. Publicity pieces include (but are not limited to) news releases, publications, videos and web use.

Signature Date

E-STORE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.

Make check or money order payable to "State of Michigan" and send with completed and signed registration to:

MICHELLE ZELLAR
MI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
5100 State HWY M-123
Newberry, MI 49868

MI Department of Natural Resources
5100 State HWY M-123
Newberry, MI 49868
Or FAX - 906-293-8728

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle at the DNR office in Newberry 906-293-5131 ext. 4004 The program is limited to 20 women.

FOR DNR USE ONLY

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