Camping Checklist – Know before you go!

1. Know Before You Go!
   Check www.fs.usda.gov/alabama or call your local Forest Service office for camping availability before heading out.

2. Have a Solid Plan
   - Expect large crowds.
   - Check road conditions.
   - Have a full tank of gas.
   - Does access require 4WD?
   - Tell someone your plan.

3. Prevent Wildfires
   Know what fire restrictions are in place and be prepared with alternative cooking & heat sources, such as a backpack stove or propane burner. Call the local Forest Service office for information.

4. Cooking Supplies
   Ensure you have matches/lighter/firestarter for a stove or campfire, cook pots, eating utensils, and trash bags

5. Sun Protection
   Use sunscreen, wear a hat and sunglasses, and stay hydrated!

6. Water
   Bring plenty of water (at least one gallon per person/day), especially in hot or dry regions. Many remote areas will not have fresh water available. Bring chemical treatment or a water purifier for treating water.

7. Proper Gear
   Make sure you’re well equipped with a tent and sleeping bag, sturdy shoes, rain and cold weather gear, and extra clothes. Bring along a well-stocked first aid kit, just in case.

8. Trail Food
   Bring plenty of food, such as granola bars, trail mix, or other compact, nutrient food. Avoid sugary snacks.

9. Map & Compass
   Bring a hard copy map of the area you’re visiting and a compass. Visit http://bit.ly/fs-maps or scan the QR code for maps before heading out. Cell phone service may not be available where you’re visiting.

10. Flashlight or Headlamp
    Don’t forget extra batteries!

11. Pocket Knife
    A pocket knife or multitool can help with food preparation, gear repair, first aid, or other emergency needs.

12. Bring a Whistle
    If you become lost or separated, stay put and use a whistle. Signal by blowing three blasts (a well-known emergency signal).

Tread lightly and leave no trace!