

## Ensure Success On Your Boundary Waters Canoe Camping Trip By BWCA Canoe Outfitter Sue Prom

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Your living room looks like a Boy Scout campsite struck by a tornado. A sleeping bag sits with feathers popping out, bent tent poles poke out through a bag, blackened cook kits grace the floor and miscellaneous camping gear are strewn from wall to wall. The smell of mildew mixed with campfire permeates the air as you try to sort through your gear that was put away after last year's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness camping trip. Your thoughts drift back to the last day of your last BWCA canoe trip when you packed up your gear in a downpour promising yourself you would dry it and wash out your pots and pans as soon as you returned home. With black soot on your face and pine needles in your hair you wonder how on earth you will be packed and ready to go on your wilderness canoe trip by the weekend.

That's where folks like Mike Prom from [Voyageur Canoe Outfitters](#) on Minnesota's Gunflint Trail comes in. He's been outfitting paddling and camping enthusiasts into the wilderness canoe country for almost 20 years. He purchases the best equipment for Boundary Waters canoe trips, sends it out on trips and then cleans it up so it's ready to do all over again. The best way to ensure a successful BWCA camping trip is by using a canoe outfitter.

Canoe outfitters have years of experience and knowledge to base their outfitting equipment decisions on. If a tent needs stakes to make it work then it probably won't be packed for a BWCA camping trip. The soil is shallow in the canoe country wilderness and most stakes meet resistance in the form of a granite rock. A free-standing, dome tent that keeps its shape without stakes is what will be packed into an outfitter's canoe pack.

What difference does it make if you put your gear into a backpacker's frame pack or a canoe pack? A big difference. Outfitters use canoe packs to perfectly fit the shape of the bottom of a canoe. Big and bulky it distributes weight equally beneath the gunwales of the canoe and between the thwarts. A frame pack is long and skinny and relies on items being tied onto the outside of it to carry all of the gear. These attached items get caught on the thwarts and easily get wet when placed on the bottom of a canoe. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area is no place for a frame pack.

A good night's sleep is necessary even when paddling and camping in the Boundary Waters. BWCA canoe outfitters ensure a comfortable night's sleep by packing self-inflating mattresses. All you do is unroll the pad, let it inflate and then rest comfortably for the entire night. There's no need to carry a blow up mattress with a big pump for comfort or warmth when a self-inflating pad will provide the insulation you need to stay off of the cold, hard ground. It takes no energy to inflate and quickly deflates back to the packable form. An outfitter knows an inflatable pad is lightweight, easy to repair and comfortable to sleep on.

Using a canoe outfitter for your BWCA canoe trip makes sense. It's a quick, easy and affordable option for your Boundary Waters canoe camping trip. You'll have great equipment and the best part about it is after your trip is over you'll leave the dirty equipment for the outfitter to deal with and your living room will be tornado free.

Find more useful information about BWCA canoe trips on my website

[www.canoeit.com](http://www.canoeit.com)

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