

## **What to wear camping!**

When camping in Ealdormere or at Pennsic you will face many different kinds of weather- hot and cold, dry and wet. Check weather reports for the area, but be prepared for the weather to be contrary! Use washable natural fabrics and remember that linen will usually feel cooler than cotton which will usually feel cooler than silk noile. Wool is usually more water repellent, and can be cool or warm, depending on the weight and weave of the cloth.

Do cover your head against the sun to ward off sun/heat stroke and reduce the need for sunglasses. Large straw hats or linen hoods can be worn by men and women, and ladies usually have a number of options for veils. Use lightweight but opaque natural fabrics for these. In the evening a wool hood or shawl can be helpful to keep you warm, and is much easier to wear and carry than a whole cloak.

Take care of your feet and wear comfortable shoes or sandals. Bring at least two pairs. Period shoes may need to have inserts added for comfort, and the soles scuffed for traction. Bring enough socks, at least some of them wool, because they are warm even when wet. Waterproof footwear can be good if you are expecting rain.

Pack your garb in waterproof containers like Rough Totes™. Keep your accessories organized either in boxes or bags so that they don't get lost on the tent floor. Bring something to sleep in- or at least to wear to the bathroom in the middle of the night! Be aware that your thighs can chafe when you are wearing skirts of any kind. Bring and apply powder, cornstarch or solid deodorant between your legs, or wear well fitting shorts under your tunic.

Pack one change of under clothes (shirts, under tunics, etc. plus mundane undies if you wear them in garb) for each day you are planning to be camping, plus 1-2 more. For overclothes (doublet, cotes, skirts and bodices) you should bring one for every other day that you are there, plus 1-2 more. Have at least one outfit suitable for either temperature extreme. Choose only one (or maybe two) basic styles of garb so that everything will go together. Bring layers for maximum versatility. During Pennsic, plan to do your laundry at least once so you can re-wear things.

For example, a basic tunic can be worn alone if it is hot, or covered with another tunic or an apron dress, or wear all three if the evening is cold. For a 4 day camp bring: 5 (under) tunics, a warmer over tunic, and two apron dresses (one linen, one wool); 5 linen hats or scarves for day, a hood for cool nights; pins/jewelry; socks and shoes and any modern undies you require.