Gold Rush 2026 – Participant Equipment Checklist

To help youth feel prepared for the Gold Rush event, here is a recommended checklist of items. Some participants may be new to this type of adventure, so this guide ensures everyone comes ready for fun, teamwork, and outdoor challenges.

Personal Gear (each participant should bring):

- Weather-appropriate clothing (layers: base, insulating, waterproof outer layer)
- Warm hat, gloves, and scarf/neck gaiter
- Sturdy boots or shoes (water-resistant if possible)
- Personal water bottle
- Trail Snacks
- Notebook and pen/pencil
- Small personal first aid items (band-aids, lip balm, etc.)
- Backpack to carry personal items
- Camp chair or sit pad (for downtime at campsite)

Team Gear (carried in sled or wagon):

- Klondike sled (decorations encouraged for spirit points)
- Ropes (various lengths: 6 ft, 10 ft, 20 ft)
- Tarp(s) for shelter-building or ground cover
- Poles or staves sticks (Qty: 3 @ 5 feet) and (Qty: 2 @ 3 feet)
- Basic first aid kit (bandages, triangular bandages, gauze, etc.)
- Silva style (Orienteering or Lensatic) compass and map of event site (if provided)
- Small toolkit: duct tape, scissors, rubber bands, marker, etc.
- Fire-starting supplies (if required: matches, fire starter, waterproof container)
- Trash bag (to keep site clean and carry extra gear)
- Outdoor skills handbook (Boy Scout, Military or Survival)
- Metal trash can lid or steel plate (fire and cooking stations)
- Cooking equipment: Single hot pot, utensils and bowls/plates. Make one meal with a minimum of one protein and two vegetables. Meal must include enough food for the mayor to judge.
- Required ingredients: Chicken, celery, and onion.

Optional / Bonus Items (extra credit for preparedness):

- Extra gloves or socks (in case of wet or cold weather)
- Small American flag or themed decorations (250-year celebration spirit)
- Pocket-sized reference cards (knots, first aid basics, Morse code, etc.)

Pro Tip: Improvisation and creativity are encouraged — groups don't need expensive gear to succeed! A limited supply of 'loaner gear' may be available at the event for new groups.