

May 5, 2006

Laura,

Enclosed is some information on the Utah trip.

If you buy everything they recommend, it's going to get pretty expensive. I've made 2 purchases so far. I bought a Camelbak reservoir (for carrying drinking water) for \$30 and a Tikka Plus headlamp for \$38. I got them from Moosejaw, a hiking/camping equipment store in East Lansing. Now I wish I'd tried to find them on eBay.

I looked at the rain gear at Tractor Supply. They have suits for \$17, but they may be too bulky to carry in a backpack along with all the other stuff. Moosejaw's cheapest was the Marmot Precip. Jacket is \$99 and pants are \$70 or \$90. The \$90 pants have zippers the full length of the pant legs. That's a lot of money if it doesn't rain. I'm going to see what I can find on eBay.

I bought my hiking boots a couple years ago at Walmart for \$20. They are comfortable, but probably a little heavy. I also have a backpack I bought for about \$15 a few years ago. It should be OK.

The other thing I don't have is a windbreaker. I wonder if the rain jacket couldn't serve as a windbreaker?

Steve