



# WAKONSE

## Information for the Wakonse Conference

**Clothes** The dress for the entire conference is very casual: jeans, sweatshirts, sandals, tennis shoes are very appropriate. Expect to get sand in all footwear. Plan on layering your clothing. Jackets over sweatshirts for early morning and evening wear, but be ready to peel off, one layer at a time, for the warmer late morning and afternoon hours. The average daily temperatures are in the mid-80's for highs and mid-50's for lows; but it is about 10 degrees cooler on the beach of Lake Michigan.

**Meals** There will be three substantive Camp meals each day. Breakfasts are served from a cafeteria line; cold cereal and fruit are always available. Lunches and suppers are served family style with food served by representatives from each table. If you have special dietary needs (vegetarian, low fat, etc) please inform the Wakonse staff before the conference.

**Accommodations** You will share a dorm/cabin room with another Wakonse fellow. The room will have two single beds and small dressers. You will be furnished with sheets, a thin pillow and one wool blanket. You are encouraged to bring a sleeping bag and sleep in that. There are two women's and two men's rest rooms in each dorm; each has two showers. Slippers/sandals are encouraged to keep sand off your feet after showering. Bring your own shampoo, hair dryer, etc. Soap will be furnished. You will also be provided a towel and washcloth. There is often not an abundance of hot water for showers; you will want to stagger showers. A washer and dryer are available. We will provide detergent for your use.

**Chataqua** A tradition of the Wakonse conference is the chataqua, a time to share your hidden talents (talent being defined in the loosest and kindest manner imaginable). Please come prepared to share your talents with us - as musician, as

thespian, as comic, as storyteller, or be ready and willing to join or organize a chataqua ensemble for our enjoyment.

**Other Activities** During breaks at the conference, you will have opportunities to enjoy the beautiful environment. Activities include communal hikes in the woods and through the sand dunes, climbing a large sand dune (Old Baldy), walking the miles of sandy beaches, time to visit the lighthouse and Claybanks Pottery Studio, canoeing on Stony Lake (in favorable weather), horseback riding, golf (we will have an early morning round of golf on Sunday), a non-denominational service at the Chapel of the Dunes, evening quests to the Stony Lake Yacht Club (a five-minute walk with a flashlight). There is a local grocery store next to the Yacht Club for any additional needs (and they have some of the best ice cream cones!).

**Smoking Policy** Smoking is not allowed on the premises of Camp Miniwanca. It is about a four minute walk to get off camp grounds.

**Telephones** There are pay phones in the dorms/cabins and at the Four Seasons Conference Center. The telephone number at Camp Miniwanca for emergencies is 231-861-2262. This number is only operative until 5 pm Michigan time.

**Cleanliness** It is important that we keep the campsite and the beaches litter free. Please be extremely conscious of this courtesy to our hosts.

**Suggestions** Here is a list of some additional items to bring with you (courtesy of past Wakonse Fellows): alarm clock; sleeping bag; camera; wool socks; ear plugs; umbrella and/or poncho; sunglasses; suntan lotion; pillow; flashlight (a necessity); extra batteries; sweatshirt and jacket; binoculars; hat; kite; fanny pack; covered travel mug; copy of favorite poem/reading; field identification guide for birds, plants, stars, etc.



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## Packing Tips

**MAYBE:** take these if ...

### These will be there

- Towel and washcloth
- Pillowcase and thin pillow
- Bed sheets and wool blanket
- Single beds, small dressers
- Closet with a few hangers
- Roommate
- People who really care about teaching

### Take these \*

1. Casual clothes for 5-6 days (jeans, t-shirts, etc.)
2. Layer-able clothes for cold and warm weather
3. Comfortable footwear you can fill with sand
4. Warm socks and a sweater or hoodie
5. Lightweight cold weather gear \* - cap, gloves, scarf
6. Beachwear - windbreaker, sunblock, sunglasses, hat
7. Rain gear - poncho/umbrella/slicker
8. Sleeping bag or blanket
9. Alarm clock
10. Shower attire - flip-flops and a lightweight robe
11. Toiletries, including soap and shampoo
12. Medications and a medical insurance card
13. Packet or small box of kleenex
14. Flashlight and batteries
15. Fanny pack
16. Travel mug and/or water bottle
17. Pen and journal/notebook for writing
18. Things to share - experience, ideas, poetry, talents
19. Book you have not had time to read yet
20. Open mind, warm heart, and sense of humor

1. Handout - 15 copies in a manila envelope for the materials exchange (if you want to share)
2. Favorite pillow (if thin won't cut it)
3. Sleepwear (if you wear it)
4. Hair dryer (if you have enough hair)
5. Ear plugs (if you don't want to hear the snoring)
6. Cash (if you want to visit the Yacht Club or store)
7. Instrument (if you like to perform)
8. Bathing suit (if you want to do the polar bear dip)
9. Beach towel (if you like lying on the beach)
10. Favorite snack or special coffee (if you can't live without it)
11. Plaything - ball, kite, game (if you like to play)
12. Golf clubs (if you have room and want to play on Sunday morning)
13. An inexpensive souvenir from home (if you want something to give to your roommate)
14. Quarters and a small soap packet (if you want to wash clothes)
15. Boots or supportive shoes (if you plan on taking long hikes)
16. Binoculars and a field guide (if you like to ID birds, plants, stars ...)
17. Camera and batteries or charger (if you like to take pictures)

### LEAVE THESE BEHIND

- Tobacco products (okay, smoke off the camp grounds)
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Dressy clothes
- Expensive things you'd worry about losing
- Negative attitude

Prepared by [Chris Clark](#), University of Notre Dame  
[Suggestions welcome](#)

\* You may be able to shorten the list if you check the [weather forecast for Shelby](#) (note that it is usually colder by the lake.