

Hiking backpacks

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City Library has expanded its collection of [kits and devices for loan](#) with these new hiking backpacks!

These bright orange backpacks will help you explore local trails in greater safety and contain the following equipment:

- North Shore trail map
- Suunto MCB compass with mirror
- Day hiking essentials guide pamphlet
- Bear bell with carabiner
- Expandable hiking pole
- Reflective arm strap

- Purple miniwire carabiner
- Emergency-only supplies
 - Bivvy sack with rescue whistle and tinder chord
 - High decibel whistle
 - Emergency blanket
 - Day Tripper medical kit
 - Tikka headlamp (included batteries)

What else to bring?

Although the NVCL hiking backpacks contain a lot of useful resources, there may be some other things that you need to consider when planning a hiking expedition, such as adequate snacks and lots of water. North Shore Rescue also has a lot of great information [on their website](#), including their fabulous [what to bring](#) page.

Useful apps:

- [AllTrails](#) This app gives overviews of local hiking, walking, biking, snowshoeing and cross-country ski trails.
- [Cairn Safety](#) Hike safely! Share your route and GPS locations with friends and family, download offline maps and get real-time location and status updates.
- [Topo Maps Canada \(iOS only\)](#) This free app allows you to download topographical maps for offline use. Also contains a and distance measuring tool. iOS only.
- [PeakFinder](#) This app allows users to take pictures of distant mountain ranges and identify them.
- [iNaturalist](#) This app is used to help identify plants and wildlife. Take a picture and the app will make the identification and then upload that information so scientists around the world have access to it.
- [Geocaching](#) Want to turn your hikes into a treasure hunt? Use this app to look up caches around your hike and find or add to other people's loot!

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