



New York State Outdoor Guides Association Education and Standards Committee Suggested Outline for NYS Guide Examinations General Exam – Required of All Applicants

1. DEC Rules and Regulations
2. Trip Planning and Preparations
3. Camp sanitation and health
4. Land Navigation
5. Weather Knowledge
6. Survival
7. Safety
8. Winter Activities and Special Considerations

Suggested Outline for Small Craft Section of NYS Guide Exams

1. Personal Flotation Devices (life jackets)
2. Terms relating to small craft and their use
3. Entering and leaving craft
4. Capsize Procedure
5. Rescue of Others
6. Weather Precautions, Considerations, and Reactions
7. Motorboat Use (only small boats are considered here)
8. Cleanliness and Sanitation around small craft
9. Invasive species such as Zebra Mussels, Eurasian Milfoil, Etc.

Suggested Outline for Camping Section of NYS Guide Exams

Note: You will need this if you will be out with clients overnight, even if on a guided trip in another specialty.

1. DEC Rules and Regulations regarding overnight camping on State Land
2. Campcraft
3. Sanitary Concerns
4. Winter Considerations



Suggested Outline for Fishing Section of NYS Guide Exams

Note: The New York State Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide Syllabus may be referred to during the exam. It is recommended that those taking the exam familiarize themselves with how to reference information to get specific answers to specific questions.

1. Rules and Regulations
2. Fish Identification
3. Fishing Tackle and Techniques
4. Fish Behavior
5. Fish and Trophy Care
6. Fishing Safety
7. Zebra Mussels and other invasive species

Suggested Outline for Hiking Section of the NYS Guide Exams

Note: This certification is required for outings on foot, snowshoes, etc. However, it is **not** required if the activity falls under another guiding specialty such as camping, fishing, or hunting.

1. Planning
2. Gear, Clothing, and Footwear
3. Hiking Techniques and Procedures
4. Weather Considerations
5. DEC Rules and Regulations
6. Horse Trail Regulations
7. Winter Considerations, including Snowshoe Use
8. Safety

Suggested Outline for Hunting Section of NYS Guide Exams

Note: The use of the New York Hunting Regulations Guide syllabus may be referred to during the exam. It is recommended that those taking the exam familiarize themselves with how to reference information to get answers to specific questions.

1. Rules and Regulations for Big and Small Game
2. Firearms
3. Hunting Safety
4. Game Identification
5. Meat and Trophy Care



Suggested Information Sources

Licensed Guide Program: dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/fish-wildlife-plant/licensed-guide-program

Licensed Guide Program Laws and Regulations: extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/legal_protection_pdf/guidesregs.pdf

Environmental Regulations: dec.ny.gov/regulatory/regulations

Lands and Forest Regulations: dec.ny.gov/regulatory/regulations/chapter-ii

Leave No Trace: <https://lnt.org/>

BSA (Boy Scouts of America) Field Book

New York State Outdoor Guides Association (NYSOGA): www.nysoga.org/

Adirondack Mountain Club: <https://adk.org/>

NYS DEC Hunting Syllabus: extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/huntguide.pdf

NYS DEC Fishing Syllabus: extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/fishguide.pdf

NYS DEC Camping Guide: www.dec.ny.gov/docs/permits_ej_operations_pdf/2021guidefull.pdf

NYS Boating Guide: www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/nysparks/ny_boatersguide_21/