

Shipping Your Stoves

Let's review what you learned at the final Advisor Briefing about shipping your stoves. This entire process is also demonstrated in the [Airing Your Stoves and Fuel Bottles](#) and [Shipping Your Stoves](#) videos on the [Watchu Experience Web site](#).

1. After emptying the fuel and thoroughly airing out for a few days, place the stoves, stove bags, funnel, fuel bottles, bottle caps, repair kit, etc. in separate zip lock bags with all containers open. The zip lock bags will protect your equipment from contamination by the packing materials.
2. Place everything in a cardboard shipping box with plenty of return home packing material including extra packing tape, labels, markers, etc. This is a good place to put extra baggage tags and home address labels for shipping your backpacks home. Seal the box using postal tape and label according to USPS (United States Postal Service) or UPS (United Parcel Service) requirements. Remember the only carriers reliably serving Philmont are the USPS and UPS. The USPS "If it fits, it ships" box is perfect for your stoves.
3. Color code all four sides of the box with colored tape or markers in a distinctive pattern so the box will be easy to identify in the Philmont post office on the shelves with hundreds of other boxes. The Philmont Post Office will be full of brown boxes, so here too the USPS "If it fits, it ships" white one it will makes finding yours a bit easier.
4. Ship to Philmont no later than 14 days before your Philmont arrival. Address your stove box:
YOUR NAME
COMPLETE EXPEDITION (*crew*) NUMBER (*for example, 708F3*)
CAMPING HEADQUARTERS
PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH
47 CABALLO ROAD
CIMARRON, NM 87714
5. Be certain to purchase the USPS or UPS tracking and/or arrival confirmation service. You will be able to keep track of the progress of your stove box via home computer. Do not purchase return postage. Philmont has a full-scale U.S. Post Office at Camping Headquarters (Base Camp) which you will use to send your stoves home.
6. Pick up your stoves on Day 1 at the Philmont Post Office in Camping Headquarters. At that time ask them how they want you to handle the shipping home. Store your

shipping box, broken down and carefully folded, in your Camping Headquarters locker.

7. On your last full day in the backcountry, do your best to deplete your fuel supply and begin to follow the instructions from the Philmont Post Office. For example, eat dinner for lunch, purge your stoves, give away left over fuel to another crew in your camp, open and begin airing out your stoves and fuel bottles.
8. When you return to Camping Headquarters continue to air your bottles until after lunch.
9. **Pack the stoves but DO NOT seal the box.** Take the box the Philmont Post Office at Camping Headquarters before 4:00pm. Absolutely **DO NOT** take the stoves to the U.S. Post Office in Cimarron.
10. Explain to the Philmont postal staff what you have done to air out the stoves. If they are satisfied, they will have you seal the box and the stoves will be on their way. If they are not satisfied, they will hold the opened box for a day or two, allowing further airing, before they seal and send the box to you.
11. Yes, almost anything can happen when mailing your stoves to or from Philmont. But seldom are there any problems such as damaged or lost stoves. The above process is absolutely the best trail for success. If something does happen, Philmont staff will help you find a solution. In the worst case you can purchase whatever you need from the Tooth of Time Traders, including stoves.

Advisor Question: How many stoves should we take - two or three?

Answer: Philmont recommends three stoves for a 12-member crew. If you have followed the suggestion and developed an expert "Fire and Water" team who can repair the stoves blindfolded, you can do it with two stoves. If you use Coleman Feather (or equivalent) stoves you will find there are plenty of helpful experts along the trail. However if you feel uncomfortable, go with the three stove suggestion - bring two Coleman Feather stoves (or equivalent) with 11-ounce fuel tank attached and one Coleman Apex II (or equivalent) as back up. The Apex II (or equivalent) is essentially a Feather which uses your regular 22-ounce fuel bottle for the fuel supply instead of an attached tank. This way you only carry the extra weight of the very light burner assembly.

Phil Fact: The Villa Philmonte was the summer home of the Phillips family, a smaller version of their main home, Philbrook, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It is located across the road from Camping Headquarters, and served as the Philmont Training Center prior to the construction of permanent facilities. The house has been completely restored to how it looked in the 1930's. The hour-long tour is free, but reservations are required; ask your Ranger to make yours for late in the afternoon Day 1, the morning of Day 2 if you have an afternoon bus to your trailhead turnaround, or the afternoon of Day 12 after you get off the trail. In addition to viewing the impressive rooms and their furnishings, you will learn much about Waite Phillips and his remarkable story.

Phil Fact: The Villa Philmonte is a smaller version of the Villa Philbrook, Genevieve and Waite Phillips' home in Tulsa, Oklahoma, built at the same time (as was the Philtower office building). In 1938 they donated the Villa Philbrook to the City of Tulsa in 1938 to be used as an art museum, and the Villa Philmonte, Philmont Ranch, and the Philtower to the Boy Scouts of America. The beautiful Villa Philmonte patch is a great souvenir of your visit.



Your Philmont hosts,

Genevieve and Waite Phillips

Villa Philmonte, Philmont Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico