



OSU Extension
**4-H JUNIOR WILDLIFE
STEWARDS CAMP**
PARENT INFORMATION LETTER

Please read the following information carefully and share it with your child. We welcome you to a fun week of learning, sharing, caring and growing through our summer camp programs.

STAFF AND INSTRUCTORS

Your Camp Director is Maureen Hosty. Maureen is a 4-H Youth Extension Faculty for Agent in the Portland Metro area and has directed camps for 17 years. The 4-H Camp Staff includes both teen and adult volunteers. Participants receive a high degree of small group interaction and personal attention from 4-H staff and volunteer leaders. These people have been chosen for their interest and ability in working with other people, as well as their skills in special areas. They undergo extensive pre-camp training before taking on this assignment as activity instructors and counselors. Lifeguards, archery instructors and horse instructors have all received specialized training and certification in their respective fields.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The health and safety of campers are closely monitored. The camp provides nutritious and balanced meals. The site has hot and cold running water, showers, and flush toilets. An emergency room nurse will be joining our staff again this summer and will attend to participants' health needs.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

The camp program has limited medical insurance on every participant - coverage extends only to accidents and illnesses originating at camp. The accident limit is \$3000; for sickness, \$1000. Pre-existing illness is not covered. The camp has an infirmary.

AGE LIMITS

This camp is open to boys and girls completing grades 3-8 in June 2009.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Every effort will be made to provide special services or accommodations to participants on an as-needed basis, pending availability. Please let us know your special needs four weeks in advance by indicating so in the appropriate section on the registration form.

CAMPER SCHOLARSHIPS

If the cost of camp is affecting your decision to attend 4-H camp, be sure to check out 4-H camp scholarships. Significant camp scholarships are available to 4-H members through your local 4-H Leaders Association. If you are an active 4-H member, contact your local 4-H office to receive scholarship applications. Also visit our website at www.4hwildlifestewards.org/camp to download scholarship applications from the Oregon 4-H Foundation.

FEES:

Payment of all camp fees must be received by June 15, 2009 for early registration and July 15 for regular registration. Mail to form, with checks payable to: **4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards Camp (P.O. Box 7172, Aloha, OR 97707) NO CHILD CAN BE ADMITTED TO CAMP UNTIL FEES ARE PAID IN FULL!** Questions about your registration and fees can be sent to:

4-H Wildlife Stewards Camp
juniorwildlifestewards@yahoo.com

REFUND POLICY:

- 100% of the registration fee will be refunded if cancellation is requested 10 business days (July 24, 2009) or more before the activity.
- 50% of the registration fee will be refunded if cancellation occurs five to nine (July 31, 2009) business days before the 4-H activity begins.
- **No refunds will be made when cancellations occur within 5 business days of the activity or when the campers do not show up for the activity.**

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE:

You may check-in your camper (including CIT's) from 10:00-11:00 am on Tuesday, August 4, 2009. Parents are welcome to tour the facilities at check-in time. However, to assist in the transition process, we request parents depart shortly after the check-in procedure. Our camp will end with a closing ceremony which we would like you to be part of. It will be a time to share your child's camping experience as we recap the week's events. The closing ceremony will be from 1-2 pm on August 8th. Please plan to stay for the entire program, as your child will be an important part in a skit.

Parents may check their child out of camp from 2:00 - 3:00 pm on Saturday, August 8th. Your promptness is appreciated. If someone other than a parent is picking up your child, we need to know that at registration, and need a permission -to-release form signed by you before we release your child to another adult. Your understanding in this is appreciated.

CAMP BAGS

In order to easily get all the campers gear up to the cabins from the main parking lot each camper must pack all the gear (including sleeping bag, pillow, clothes, etc.) into one bag. 4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards Camp provides oversized duffle bags for all campers. Returning campers can use their 4-H bags from previous years. New campers will receive their 4-H bag at check-in. Parents should be prepared to help their children transfer their belongings into the 4-H camp bags when campers check in. Campers with new bags can return their bags at the end of camp and receive a \$20.00 refund if they do not want to keep the bag.

TEEN COUNSELORS

Trained teen counselors will be assigned 5-6 campers each during the 5 days of camp. It is their responsibility to be with the campers from Camp "Rise and Shine" to bedtime.

JUNIOR COUNSELORS

Junior Counselors are youth who are going into 9th grade **and have completed the 4-H WLS Counselor in Training Program**. They are assigned to a youth cabin and provide assistance to the teen counselors with escorting campers to classes, dining hall and other camp activities. 4-H Junior Counselors are a very important part of our total camp program. 4-H Junior Counselors are both givers and receivers of 4-H camp educational programs. This is an opportunity for youth to develop their leadership skills and be an active participant in 4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards Camp.

COUNSELORS IN TRAINING

Our Counselor in training program is open to all youth who have completed 7th or 8th grade. During their week at camp, counselors in training will stay in the new 4-H camp Cottages, participate in leadership classes, and assist with special camp projects. This is an opportunity for youth to develop and practice new leadership skills in preparation for becoming a camp counselor and at the same time explore wildlife and the environment in a fun atmosphere. Counselors in training do NOT participate in the 4-H horse program.

HOMESICK CAMPERS:

If your child becomes homesick, we will make every attempt to encourage the child to stay. If the child still wishes to leave, the parents will be called. Parents should be prepared to come pick up their child from camp if their child continues to be homesick and upset about being away from home.

We have found that having children call home encourages homesickness. It can also become a problem for a cabin group as they learn of someone else being able to make calls outside of camp. It is therefore the policy of our 4-H camp to encourage children to write home, but not call. Helping campers overcome homesickness is part of their camp experience. Speaking to your child in advance can alleviate many feelings of homesickness once they arrive.

HORSE BACK RIDING

We are pleased to announce that this year we will again offer 4-H Horseback riding at camp. 4-H Horse camp is only a short hike from the main camp. Each camper will have the opportunity to participate in our new horse program. Our instructors are trained horse leaders who have considerable experience teaching youth including beginners. Campers should bring to camp long pants and shoes with heels for participation in this program. Experienced 4-H Horse riders must pass a riding safety test before hitting the forest trails.

FISHING

Staff at the 4-H Center have worked hard over the winter to maintain the pond and keep debris and weeds out.. Last year was an exceptional year for fishing and we expect the same this year. Our 4-H Camp Fishing Derby was a hit and will again take place this year. Fishing is optional and each camper will have the opportunity to fish at least once with their tribe either in the morning (before breakfast) or in the evening (before dinner). We will also be offering fishing as one of our morning classes again this year. Due to the limited space at the pond, only one tribe will be assigned either a morning or afternoon time for fishing. If you have a favorite fishing pole, bring it along. Otherwise, fishing poles will be provided at camp for those who do not own a fishing pole.

MAIL:

We have daily mail service at camp. The address is:

**Oregon 4-H Center
c/o 4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards Camp
5390 4-H Rd., NW
Salem, OR 97304**

To ensure your letter arrives during their camp session, we suggest mailing letters or cards before the camp begins.

QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or want additional applications, please call the 4-H office at (503) 916-6075. Also, visit our website at www.wildlifestewards.4h.oregonstate.edu/camp for additional information.

To contact Maureen Hosty, 4-H WLS Camp Director contact her at 503-916-6075 or Maureen.hosty@oregonstate.edu.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER:

In case of an emergency during our week at camp, parents can contact camp staff at (503) 371-4064.