

PROGRAM GOALS AND DESCRIPTION

Please read before signing permission forms

The purpose of the BCWS summer program is to educate our campers about the natural world, and to nurture in them respect and sensitivity for organisms and the complex ecological web in which we are all a part. The campers' personal growth is an integral part of this process.

Adult campers gain basic and specific knowledge about at least one subject of natural history, are encouraged to behave in a manner that has minimal impact on the environment, and is healthy for themselves and others. They take recreational and reflective time outdoors (alone and in groups), and live as a community with campers and staff of many ages.

Activities include direct interaction with the natural world at all times of day. Campers may be handling plants and animals, hiking in daylight and nighttime, and will have daily opportunities to swim in a freshwater pond or river. The creative, spontaneous nature of the program and vagaries of weather preclude an exact list of the planned activities for any session.

Our hope is that all Adult campers slow down and enjoy the serenity of a weekend away from everyday life by taking the opportunity to sit quietly, read a book, take a stroll, or enjoy a hammock.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR CAMPER BEHAVIOR

We will have an orientation immediately after dinner on Friday. Our standards are intended to protect the physical and emotional well being of the campers, staff and the wildlife sanctuary.

Campers and staff treat one another with kindness. We do not tolerate abusive behavior or language.

BCWS community members must respect the honor, dignity and privacy of others, and the intellectual property of others and BCWS at all times. Without first obtaining written permission of all those involved, campers and staff may not publish identifiable names and photos, personal information of other BCWS participants or any BCWS proprietary information, including photos of BCWS on any public media including that of the internet.

In our behavior, we seek to disturb the sanctuary as little as possible. We conserve resources in any way we can.

We function in groups of all sizes, and also have time alone, but campers are asked to sign out by the weather station if they'll be ranging farther than the main camp area.

We have regular meals and snacks, but no one keeps food outside of the kitchen.

The use or possession of firearms or other controlled substances is prohibited, and defiance of this rule is grounds for dismissal.