



PREBLE COUNTY CONSERVATION CAMP 2023

April 18th, 2023

Dear High School and College Students,

Our eighth annual Conservation Day Camp is approaching, and we are looking for some great high school and college students to serve as camp counselors! Serving as a Conservation Day Camp Counselor is a fantastic opportunity to develop leadership, responsibility, and teamwork skills. In addition, it is a great way to build your leadership portfolio for future goals such as 4-H Camp Counselor, Junior Fair Board member, and applications for college, scholarships, and jobs.

This year's Conservation Day Camp will be held June 20th-22nd from 9 am-2:30 pm each day at the Preble County Historical Society and Nature Reserve, 7693 Swartsel Rd., Eaton.

As the organizers of Conservation Day Camp, we look for individuals who enjoy working with children, are good role models, and have a positive and willing attitude. Applicants must be current high school or college students.

Enclosed you will find a Camp Counselor Application and Responsibilities Form. Please read the information carefully, and if you agree to uphold these responsibilities, complete the enclosed information and return to the address below.

**Return to: Preble Soil & Water Conservation District,
Attn: Savannah Ballweg
2789 US Rt. 35 E, West Alexandria, OH 45381
By May 26th**

A mandatory counselor training session will be held on Tuesday, June 6th from 5pm – 6:30pm at the Preble County Historical Farm, so please mark your calendars. You must attend the training session to be a counselor.

If you have questions, please contact me at 937-456-5159 or sballweg@prebleswcd.org.

Sincerely,
Savannah Ballweg
Preble Soil and Water Conservation District

***** Application due May 26 *****



PREBLE COUNTY CONSERVATION CAMP 2023

Counselor Responsibilities

COUNSELOR DUTIES:

I, as a Conservation Day Camp counselor, will be expected to:

1. Attend a counselor training meeting to prepare for camp.
2. Be a responsible counselor...
 - a. Be with my campers at ALL TIMES.
 - b. Get to know each of the campers in my group personally and by name.
 - c. Have all campers, including myself, check in medications with the nurse.
 - d. Make sure that all of my campers are familiar with the camp site, rules, and daily schedule.
 - e. Help campers take care of personal possessions.
 - f. Check for illness or injury, but don't make a "fuss" about minor issues.
 - g. Set a good example by not using profanity or telling off color jokes and stories.
 - h. Not have tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs in my possession, or use these substances during camp or while I am participating in the counselor training program.
 - i. Never punish a camper by ridicule or physical punishment – patience and understanding works wonders.
 - j. Urge safety at all times. Take time to explain how and why to do something safely.
 - k. See that all campers are involved in all activities. Make sure no one is excluded.
 - l. Facilitate a feeling of togetherness within your group. Address any issues which might create divisiveness. Be loyal to your assigned group. Don't ask to be transferred to another group.
 - m. Make sure all campers understand they are responsible for their own behavior.
 - n. Be sure that all campers know that they must remain on the camp grounds at all times.
 - o. Remember that the camp rules apply to you as well as the campers. You are setting an example that your campers will follow.
 - p. Be flexible. Plans might change and weather is unpredictable.

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SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

I, as a Conservation Day Camp counselor, will be expected to:

1. Arrive at 8:00 a.m. each day of camp and stay each day until 3:00 p.m.
2. If a program ends early and there is free time ALWAYS keep the campers busy with games or activities.
3. Always keep your group together and do a head count before the start of each program.
4. KNOW THE SCHEDULE...make sure you lead your group to each program at the proper times.
5. Always have respect for the program presenters by providing help when needed, quieting the group before starting, and helping with clean-up.
6. DO NOT talk with other counselors during programs.
7. Make sure your entire group makes it through the lunch line.
8. Make sure everyone cleans up his/her trash after lunch.
9. Participate in activities yourself with great enthusiasm!
10. Bring your group to the closing area and help with dismissal each day.

DISCIPLINE POLICY:

1. You will be responsible for handling excess talking, interruptions, rudeness, horse play, etc.
2. Every time a camper is corrected that is one "strike".
3. After the third strike the camper is to be brought to one of the Camp Staff who will keep them for 30 minutes.
4. If they are brought to the Camp Staff for a second time they sit out for 30 minutes again and his/her parents are called. The third time a camper is brought to the Camp Staff he/she will be sent home.
5. In the case of any major problems such as profanity, endangering others, sexual harassment, etc. the camper will be automatically taken to the Camp Staff for the 30 minute sit out.
6. Counselors are to set the example...campers look to you for leadership!

WEATHER POLICY:

1. A "runner" will be sent to each program if bad weather is approaching.
2. Bring your group to the assigned area IMMEDIATELY but calmly!
3. Try not to rush the campers and cause panic. Bring them to the assigned area in an orderly fashion.

***** Application due May 26 *****



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Counselor Application

1. All applicants must have completed 9th through 12th grades or be enrolled in college.
2. Applicants **MUST** commit to attending all three days of camp.
3. More camp details will be mailed to accepted counselors in late May.
4. Please return completed application to: Savannah Ballweg, Preble Soil & Water Conservation District, 2789 US Rt. 35 E, West Alexandria, OH 45381 (937)456-5159 by May 26th, 2023.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ GRADE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____ T-SHIRT SIZE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL OR COLLEGE ATTENDED: _____

In case of emergency, contact:

NAME: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

Have you ever served as a camp counselor? Yes No

If yes, for what camp? _____

I understand that if selected to serve as a counselor for Preble County Conservation Day Camp, I will be expected to follow the rules and responsibilities given to me. I also recognize the commitment and responsibility involved with being a Conservation Day Camp Counselor, and I believe I am able to accept the challenge. My status as a Preble County Conservation Day Camp Counselor may be terminated by either party at any time for failure to abide by these or other policies and procedures.

Signature of the Applicant

Date

***** Application due May 26 *****



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEDICATIONS

1. All prescription drugs **MUST** be carried in the container in which they were issued (with medical orders and physician's name intact). Others will not be accepted.
2. Only exact amounts of medication are to be brought to camp.
3. Pills must be counted upon arrival in camp and at the end of camp by parent and First Aid person. No medications other than those prescribed by a physician should be brought to camp. Do not pack medication in a personal backpack or bag. It must be given to the camp nurse at registration.

CHECK IF PARTICIPANT IS ALLERGIC TO:

- Foods (specify): _____
- Medication - Prescription or Non-Prescription Drugs _____
- Serious Ivy or Sumac Poisoning: _____
- Bee or Insect Stings: _____

Prescribed Treatment: _____

LIST ALL PRESENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS:

This includes: Contact Lenses, Braces, Diabetes, etc., which require medication, treatment, or special restrictions or considerations in participation.

Conditions: _____

Medications _____

Please indicate if your child has any special needs or requirements that we should be aware of to help ensure his/her time at camp will be a positive one: _____

PHYSICIAN'S NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AND SIGN:

_____ has my permission to attend Preble County Conservation Day Camp and participate in the program and activities (with the exception of those restricted activities listed). I understand participants will be supervised. I also understand the Staff, Preble Soil & Water Conservation District, and Preble County Historical Society are not responsible in the event of accidental injury or illness, nor the compounded injury or illness to the participant's present medical conditions listed. I give permission to camp staff to administer basic first aid to my child, including ibuprofen, acetaminophen, and Benadryl. I further understand in case of serious injury or illness I will be notified. If I cannot be contacted, I give my permission to the attending physician to hospitalize, secure proper treatment, and to order injection, anesthesia, or surgery for the participant as named above.

My child has my permission to apply to be a Preble County Conservation Day Camp Counselor. I realize the responsibility the position holds. I feel my child can accept the commitment and follow through with all assigned tasks and duties. I give Preble Soil & Water Conservation District permission to publish in print, electronic, or video format the likeness or image of my child. I release all claims against the above organizations with respect to copyright ownership and publication including any claim for compensation related to use of the materials.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

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1. Why are you interested in serving as a camp counselor?

2. What previous experience do you have working with youth? (i.e. Sunday School helper, mentoring program, etc.)

3. What activities have you been involved in through school, church, 4-H, FFA, Scouts or other groups?

4. Please list the names of two references we may contact regarding your character and leadership abilities. These may include club advisors, teachers, youth group leaders, etc. Please do not list friends or family members.

Name

Relationship

Phone Number

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