

GENERAL SAFETY

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN: Lack of supervision is the most common factor at camp for injuries and accidents with children/youth. Please stress with parents and leaders that it is the group's responsibility to know where children/youth are at all times and to provide direction when needed. Camp staff will give direction when indicated but will appreciate the support and pro-active intervention of the group leadership. This insures a better experience for all involved.

ANIMALS: Camp Hebron is a wilderness environment. As a general rule, wildlife should be enjoyed from a distance. A wild animal that approaches a human may be sick (rabies, etc.) and therefore should not be touched. Notify staff immediately if an animal appears to be acting strangely.

We discourage the keeping of food in rooms, especially in the more rustic areas since it may attract wild life. Please take trash to dumpsters and sweep out cabins and shelters before leaving in order to help us keep these units pest-free.

SNAKES: There are a variety of snakes that live in and among us at Camp Hebron. Typically you will see the black snakes. There are two poisonous snakes that are native to this area. These are Timber Rattlers and Copperheads. In the spring, young snakes look like fat worms. A baby, poisonous snake is still dangerous. Most snakes will leave humans alone unless they feel cornered or at risk. For this reason, encourage children to enjoy them from a distance and refrain from chasing or picking up any snakes or large worms. In the event that a guest is bitten, try to remember what the snake looked like and tell staff immediately. The poison control number is also listed with the emergency numbers by each guest phone. Please do not kill snakes. Ask staff for help if there is a problem.

INJURIES: The staff work hard to create a safe environment for all. However it is impossible to eliminate every possible hazard and, even in the best of situations, accidents do happen. In the event of an injury, staff should be notified and an incident report completed as soon as possible. Camp Hebron carries a limited camper medical coverage on all of our guests as part of the assessed fees.

FOOT WEAR: To reduce the possibility of injuries, we ask that guests wear proper footwear when on the grounds. There are bees, snakes, poison ivy, sharp thorns, twigs and other foot hazards throughout the grounds.

STAY ON TRAILS: Staying on the trails reduces the risk of poison and avoids hazards mentioned above.

TICKS: Ticks are prevalent, especially in late spring, early summer. Parents should check children, especially in soft parts of the body for ticks. Staff can assist in removal.

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: Protective equipment (e.g. bike helmets, knee/elbow pads, etc.) should be used when appropriate.

NO GUNS/WEAPONS/FIREWORKS: Dangerous sports (riflery, archery) and fireworks are prohibited.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS: Use common sense when participating in activities that could present a hazard. For instance, golfers should only use the chapel field when there is no game on the ball field and no danger of hitting other guests or vehicles.

RESPECT GATES AND SIGNAGE: There are areas of camp that can be a lot of fun but are also dangerous if not used properly. These include the pool and lake (boats). Please respect locks and fences. Children should not be allowed to sit or play on the boats when locked to the dock. In addition, advise children and other group members that buildings other than those to which you have been specifically assigned are off limits. This reduces the risk of disturbing other guests and also of getting into something potentially harmful.

VEHICLE SAFETY: The speed limit on the grounds is 14 ½ miles per hour at all times. It works best if vehicles are parked and guests walk between locations while on camp. Please be on the alert when you drive since it is not uncommon for bikes, skaters and young children to unexpectedly appear in the road. Under no circumstances should guests ride on the outside of vehicles or on the sides of pick-up trucks.

STRANGERS ON CAMP: Camp is a relatively safe environment. However we are not totally isolated from the world. There are no gates prohibiting entry and occasionally persons come down from the Appalachian Trail. Camp's policy is that all guests are to register at the office or with the person on-call if the office is closed. This will often be your assigned host. In the event that you see someone hanging around that raises your anxiety, contact your host and staff will check out the situation. Please report any unusual incidents to the camp staff in a timely manner.

Thanks for reading this information. It is our prayer that you will have a safe and meaningful visit with us!