



Redwood
Adventure Camp

Parent Handbook

Mission Statement

Redwood Adventure Camp provides opportunities for leadership development, spiritual and personal growth, environmental stewardship, lifelong personal connections, fun, and adventure.

Statement of Philosophy

Redwood Adventure Camp offers outdoor programs to young people ages 10-17, young adults and families. The programs of Redwood Adventure Camp stretch the paradigms of participants through experiential education building self-awareness and offering opportunities for personal growth and challenge. This helps them make a meaningful connection to faith and develops future leaders.

The programs of Redwood Adventure Camp are open to people of all faiths while emphasizing the Christian fellowship and values. We hope to foster in participants an appreciation of the outdoors and recognition of God's creation in people as well as nature. While some aspects of Camp are physically challenging, our staff and administration desire to create a fun experience for participants where their safety and well-being is of utmost concern.

Redwood Adventure Camp is a unique outdoor environment where the beauty of nature is an integral part of the experience. Redwood Adventure Camp provides time away from the routines of life so participants can gain increased personal and spiritual confidence and a better understanding of themselves and Christian values. The atmosphere of Camp allows for depth of personal reflection and interpersonal dialogue as participants develop deep and life-long friendships. The result has been a vibrant and alive Redwood Adventure Camp community. At Camp, everyone contributes to a community where personal responsibility is exercised, consequences mean something, and opportunities for leadership abound.

Goals of Redwood Adventure Camp

1. To make experiential the values and ideals of Christian living.
2. To provide models of Christian morality for our campers through association with our staff.
3. To model a respect for all life and a sense of responsibility for living in harmony with all of God's creation.
4. To provide a wholesome, educational, and rugged outdoor camping experience.
5. To challenge each camper and staff member toward a more full personal growth.
6. To build friendship and a sharing Christian community.

Accreditation and Permits

Redwood Adventure Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) and is visited regularly to assure compliance with ACA Standards.

We receive an operating permit from the Mendocino County of Health and are visited every year by their representative for permit renewal.

Staff

Redwood Adventure Camp is overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors. The Board meets monthly throughout the year to ensure we provide the best possible summer camp experience.

Our Board is joined on a seasonal basis by qualified, passionate, and responsible staff to fill important roles such as counselors, activities leaders, and more. Staff members are chosen through a selective application and interview process. All staff backgrounds are checked against the CA Department of Justice and the National Sex Offender registry.

Staff members undergo an extensive and professional training program in preparation for our campers' arrival. We emphasize group dynamics, child development, hands on teaching methods, outdoor living skills, and safety and health including certification in American Red Cross Lifeguarding, First Aid and CPR.

Financials **Payment Policy**

Redwood Adventure Camp utilizes an online program through CampBrain.com for registration and payment processing. The system is user-friendly and takes you through a step by step process. Your information will be protected during the registration process using such things as 128-bit SSL web encryption (the same level used by many banks for online banking) as well as storing your data on secure web servers. Your registration information will never be sold or used for any other purpose than the event that you are registering for. CampBrain has been in the business of software support for Camps for many years and your privacy and security are the highest priority at CampBrain.com. Applicants may choose to pay in full or simply pay the deposit to complete their registration. Households with a balance due will receive regular monthly statements. Payments toward your balance can be made through your CampBrain registration portal at any time or sent to us through Paypal (office@redwoodadventure.org) or paid by check to: Redwood Adventure Camp, PO Box 2156, Napa, CA 94558.

Camp program fees must be paid in full two weeks prior to your camp program start date. If you need to set up an extended payment plan that continues beyond the end of the Camp season, you can do so by submitting a Financial Aid form and choosing the payment plan option. Please contact our office if you have any questions: email office@redwoodadventure.org or phone (707) 703-9171.

Payment Plans

Participating in a payment plan extends the time for you to make all outstanding payments towards your balance to December 31 following your Camp program. If you'd like to enroll in a payment plan for this summer, simply choose the Financial Aid Application when registering and choose the payment plan option when completing the form.

Discounts

Sibling Discount

(not applicable to Family Camp)

The first camper is the oldest camper within a family and will be charged full price. Thereafter, siblings registered for camp will receive the following discount(s):

- 20% off for Second Camper registered in Family
- 50% off for Third or More Camper(s) in Family

Referral Discount*

Receive \$50 off when you "Bring A Friend to Camp" or refer a camper/family to one of our summer camp programs. Refer enough friends and your week at camp could be free! In order to receive the referral discount of \$50, the camper/family who is referred should indicate the referral source on their online application.

*These discounts will not be applied during the online registration process. Upon receiving your deposit and online registration as well as the deposit and online registration of the camper you referred, our Administrative staff will make the necessary adjustments in your account to reflect the above discounts towards your outstanding balance if applicable. Your discount will be included on all future statements.

If you have questions related to discounts & billing, please email office@redwoodadventure.org or call (707) 703-9171.

Refunds

All deposits for all camp programs are non-refundable. In cases of homesickness, dismissal, or voluntary withdrawal, there is no refund of fees. Any cancellation at least two weeks prior to the start of the registered session will result in a refund of 75% of the camp fees less the deposit. Cancellations with notice of less than two weeks will result in a refund of 50% of the Camp fee less the deposit. A physician authorized written medical excuse is required to be considered for a full refund (less deposit). Requests for refunds with special circumstances must be submitted in writing for consideration. If a camper does not show for a registered session without notice, there will be no refund issued.

Camperships

For over 50 years Redwood Adventure Camp has provided a very unique opportunity for personal and spiritual growth, leadership development, environmental stewardship, lifelong personal connections, fun and adventure. We have consistently held true to our belief that all children should experience this opportunity regardless of their financial circumstances. To help accomplish this goal we offer financial assistance in the form of camperships. We also offer a wide range of financial options including partial camperships, payment plans and various combinations of the two.

To apply for financial aid, register you child(ren) in their preferred session and choose the "Financial Aid" session as well in order to complete our financial aid form. When you check out, choose the Deposit Only payment option. All registrations, regardless of the need for financial assistance require a deposit (\$100). This deposit will be refunded to you in the event that you do not receive the amount of financial aid you require. Applications are reviewed and financial assistance is awarded on a first come, first served basis. We will contact you when we have processed your application.

Please note, only applicants who are in good standing with Camp and do not owe a balance from previous seasons will be considered for financial aid.

Camp Forms

Forms with an * are available through our registration portal (redwoodadventure.campbrainregistration.com). All Forms must be completed and submitted by July 1st prior to our camping season.

*Medical Form (required for all): Must be completed or updated by parent/guardian for children or adult participant each year of participation.

*Additional Information, Permissions and Agreements (required for all): Must be completed or updated by parent/guardian for children or adult participant each year of participation.

*Camper Information for the Counselor: Must be completed by the parent/guardian for campers participating in all Core and Challenge programs as well as campers in the Advanced and Adventure/Survival programs who are new to Redwood Adventure Camp.

[Immunization Record/Health Exam](#) (linked and attached): This form should be completed by your family physician. It is required for all new campers (youth and adult) and must be updated for any camper participating for the first time in the Advanced or Adventure/Survival programs, and all Graduate program participants. It is required for all CIT or new staff members. Staff members, adults, and Family Camp participants are required to complete physicals every four years.

If there has been a major change in a camper or participant's health from the previous year, failing to recognize and disclose health changes could put your camper or you and others at risk. New medicines, surgery, illness, and changes in disease process are all reasons to ask your provider to reassess the participant's health status and fitness to participate.

Medications and Homeopathic Treatments

Any medications your camper takes, including but not limited to, any maintenance medications; behavioral disorder medications; antibiotics; herbal/homeopathic medicines; vitamins; eye/ear drops; inhalers; epinephrine "epi" pens, etc. must be listed (including dosage) on the Physician's Exam. Any prescribed medication or non-prescription, over-the-counter medication MUST be noted properly in the Physician's Exam. Please send all medications to camp in their original container noting the RX number and physician name.

Medications added or changed after exam: For any medication prescribed or changed for your camper after their exam, you will need to bring the medication in the original pharmacy container noting the RX number and physician name. If this is not possible, you or your health care provider will need to provide us with a prescription.

Over the counter (OTC) medications for the common cold, stomach ailments, headaches, cuts and abrasions are stocked in our Health Center and administered by our Health Center staff according to our camp physician's standing orders. Call the camp office if you need more specific information.

Homeopathic Treatment must come with parental and physician consent in the original container.

All medications and homeopathic treatments are required to be turned in to the Health Center staff at check-in. The only exceptions are inhalers and epi pens which Health Center Staff must be informed of and can be carried by the camper.

Health and Safety at Camp

Our program is designed with camper health and safety in mind. We have a well-equipped Health Center on camp grounds with a licenced medical provider (nurse/EMT) in charge of medications and first aid needs. Health Care is the direct responsibility of the Director and the Health Care Manager in coordination with the camp's physician/nurse consultant, the hospital, and the insurance company. The Health Care Manager is responsible for the day-to-day implementation of Health Care procedures.

Health Care During Camp

The Health Care Manager shall screen campers on the day of arrival for communicable diseases and other health problems as outlined in the Health Care Protocols.

All medications and homeopathic treatments are required to be turned in to the Health Center staff at check-in. The only exceptions are inhalers and epi pens which Health Center Staff must be informed of and can be carried by the camper.

Parents will be contacted if a child develops a high fever or any other sickness that may require outside medical attention, or if a child sustains an injury that requires hospital care. Parents are generally not notified in the case of mild coughs or colds, minor twists or strains, scratches, bug bites, unless the illness or injury will require further care upon the camper's return home. Parents will be notified immediately if their camper's ailment is interfering with their child's camp experience.

Adventist Health Memorial Hospital is 45 minutes away from camp and utilized for emergency services. It offers 24 hour care and consultation. Transportation to and from the hospital is provided by our camp staff for non-emergency trips. Ambulance service is provided by Leggett Valley Fire Department EMS for emergencies. A staff member will be with your camper at all times during their transport and throughout a hospital visit.

Should your child need off site care, your insurance company will be billed directly by the hospital or clinic.

Ticks, Mosquitos, and Poison Oak

Ticks, mosquitoes, and poison oak are all present at Redwood Adventure Camp. Our staff is trained to identify and avoid these common outdoor hazards as much as possible and are instructed on proper treatment if needed.

Ticks and mosquitoes are a common outdoor concern. Please make sure to send your camper with bug repellent. We encourage our staff to remind campers to apply repellent multiple times throughout the day. We also recommend campers conduct tick checks with a buddy at the end of each day.

Sun Protection

Campers spend their days outside with prolonged exposure to the sun. Please make sure to send your camper with sunscreen and help your camper understand when and how to apply their own sunscreen. Staff will remind campers to reapply sunscreen throughout the day. Staying hydrated is also very important. Be sure to send your camper with a water bottle labeled with their name.

Emergency Procedures

The likelihood of anything cataclysmic occurring while your child is at Camp is minimal. But rest assured, we are ready for any potential situation.

The most critical element is communication. For day to day communication, we will utilize a mass email to the adults connected to a campers application. This will also be our primary source for communicating in an emergency situation as we can get a message out to many people at one time.

FIRE & SMOKE

In recent years, fire has become a more regular occurrence in Northern California. The local CAL Fire unit comes to Camp at the beginning of each summer and walks the property assessing fire risk. Most years, they will issue us a permit which allows us to have campfires in group campsites as well as at our main campfire pit. In extreme drought years, we have been issued permits solely for our main campfire pit. It has been over 10 years since fire permits have been issued for use on our overnight camping trips.

In case of wildfire in the surrounding area, we have worked with CAL Fire to establish a multi-phase plan in case of evacuation. We are confident that we would be able to safely and calmly evacuate all campers to a safer location if needed.

We have occasionally experienced high smoke levels in our area due to smoke from fires quite far from our location. Typically, due to our proximity to the coast, smoke does not linger more than a day. Because smoke conditions change so rapidly, we do not envision closing due to smoke in the area unless ordered to do so by a government agency.

Transportation

Transportation to and from Camp is provided by van or chartered bus. Parents are responsible for the timely arrival of the camper to pick-up locations. Pick up locations and times can be found on our website under the Transportation tab on the Parents page.

Please plan to arrive at your bus location at least 15 minutes early. Please note, no camper will be allowed on the bus without his/her parent(s) in attendance. If a parent will not be present, prior arrangements MUST have been made with the Camp administrator. In the event that a camper is not present at the arranged pick up location, Camp staff will call the phone number provided on the camper's application. The bus will wait no more than 15 minutes past the predetermined time.

If you chose to drive your camper to Camp, please arrive as close to 3:30pm as possible. Drop off location will be at Rounder's Field. As we are busy preparing for campers, parents will not be permitted to enter Central Camp.

Directions to Camp:

Redwood Adventure Camp is located approximately 120 miles (2 hours) north of Santa Rosa in Leggett, California.

From the South:

Take Hwy 101 north through Laytonville. Take the Hwy 271 exit (approximately 16 miles north of Laytonville). Turn left onto Hwy 271 and continue on for 1.5 miles. Turn left onto a dirt road at mile marker 1.43 (there will be a sign for the "Hermitage" on the left). Continue down the dirt road to the bottom of the hill. Turn left before you reach the group of houses and follow the signs to the dirt bridge that crosses Rattlesnake creek. Continue on the main road over the Eel River and turn left at the first dirt road into Rounders Field.

From the North:

Take Hwy 101 south towards Leggett. Take the Hwy 271 exit (approximately 5 miles past the So. Leggett exit). Turn right onto 271 and follow the directions above.

Homesickness

In the case that your child is homesick, the staff will do everything they can to ease your child's troubles. Parents will be contacted if homesickness doesn't fade and interferes unduly with the child's experience. Campers as a general rule are not permitted to talk over the phone. Years of history has proved that the "no phone call" policy reduces homesickness. Telephone conversations between parents and homesick children are a last resort, as they most often worsen homesickness and lead to a child's early return home.

Please DO NOT make a deal with your child that "if you don't like it, I will come get you." The first time a child is unhappy, they may hold you to that promise, and you will be left without any options. You can promise that if there are any problems you will be working with the Directors and the counselors to make sure the child is happy.

Packing List

The following is a list of items that are recommended for packing.

The following is a list of items that are recommended for packing. When preparing your camper for their departure, please keep in mind that they will be sleeping and playing outdoors. Please do not hesitate to contact our office should you have any questions regarding what your camper should bring with them. Electronic equipment of any kind is prohibited at camp with the exception of a camera. There is **NO** cell coverage at Camp nor are there available places to charge a phone. A small inexpensive camera is recommended due to the rugged nature of the terrain and the proximity of water. Redwood Adventure Camp is not responsible for any loss or damage to personal equipment brought to camp. Any other equipment brought to camp besides a camera will be confiscated and returned to the camper at the end of the week.

The use of tobacco, alcohol, vaping or other drugs is strictly forbidden to campers and staff alike. The parent of a camper who brings drugs to camp will be called to pick up their child immediately, and no refund will be issued.

What to pack:

- long pants
- shorts
- short- & long-sleeved shirts
- plenty of socks and underwear

- warm jacket
- swim suit
- towel
- comfortable hiking shoes (please break them in before coming to Camp)
- sandals for hiking in the river (Teva-style is best, not flip-flops)
- sleeping bag
- thin (Thermarest-style) sleeping pad
- sunscreen
- mosquito repellent
- toiletries
- chapstick
- stationery & stamps
- flashlight
- water bottle
- sunglasses
- pocket knife
- recommended but not required: Bible, journal, hiking backpack, playing cards/books/etc.
for rest periods, rain jacket, extra flashlight batteries

What not to pack:

- CD's
- Portable game players
- Walkman's
- iPods
- radios
- cell phones
- watches
- candy/gum
- tents
- cots
- magazines
- food (anything brought will be shared amongst the camper's group)
- money (there is nowhere to spend it!)
- guns

On-line Camper Photos

In recent years, the posting of camper photographs online has become very popular. We attempt to post photos every day to our secure site. We will also send home photos to the

adults connected to a campers registration. Photos of campers that are posted to social media will never have camper names attached and will include campers that permission has been granted on the registration forms.

The posting of photos is one of the more challenging issues to balance while trying to allow a child space to grow and still provide parents a sense of comfort by seeing their child in a safe and happy environment. Therefore, we make every effort to take photos in an inconspicuous manner. Many times there is no posing. Some children run to the camera and some run away from it. We attempt to get a wide variety of campers and activities, but cannot guarantee every camper will appear in the daily photos.