



ENY/NE Wesleyan District



KID'S CAMP 2011

August 8th - 11th

Counselor Handbook



Counselor Responsibilities

First and foremost, you are an ambassador for Jesus Christ. The following will help you remember the logistics of your responsibilities for the week:

- 1) Help your group of campers have a safe, fun, and meaningful week.
- 2) Make sure they are acquainted with their cabins/rooms and feel welcomed at camp.
- 3) Help campers enjoy all activities including meals, recreation, and chapel.
- 4) Stay alert for health issues such as illness, getting enough to eat, sleep, and proper cleanliness (i.e. washing hands before meals, bathing, applying sunscreen, and brushing teeth).
- 5) Report your camper(s) who require medication to the nurse for administration. (**All meds** are administrated by the nurse only, including yours. Cabins are to be med-free to prevent campers from consuming them. This is a New York State law.)
- 6) Help supervise swimming and other activities.



A list of do's:

1. Pray for your campers, all through the day, all through the week, as you do activities.
2. Encourage the quieter campers to participate.
3. Sit with your campers in chapel.
4. Be a good example in all areas of conduct such as speech, gossip, dress code and camp policies.
5. A leader's guide will be provided for you to lead the morning small group sessions.
6. Get enough sleep/rest.
7. Remember patience.
8. Report to Head Counselor issues beyond your capabilities.
9. Use the buddy system when escorting or sending campers to the bathroom.

A list of don'ts:

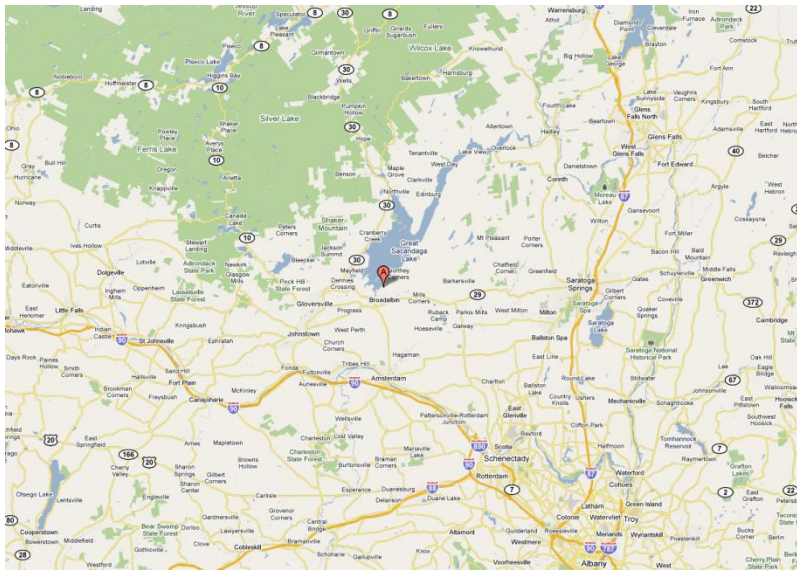
1. Don't complain.
2. Don't discipline by yelling out of anger.
3. Do not let your campers pressure you into something inappropriate-be a leader.
4. Do not counsel campers of the opposite gender.
5. Do not allow campers in cabins of opposite gender.
6. Use cell phone etiquette. Please do not use cell phone while with campers. You will have an opportunity to use them during daily break time.
7. As much as is possible, for your own protection, keep yourself from being alone with a camper. If you have to go somewhere with a camper (i.e. bathroom, cabin, etc.) have them bring a buddy.



Course of Discipline

Levels of Offense:

1. **Misbehavior:** behavior that requires correction, like poor language, disrespect, bad attitude, etc. If an offense is committed the counselor will deal with it.
2. **Disobedience:** behavior that violates clear and stated expectations such as disobeying the counselor, not being where you need to be, or being where you're not supposed to be (opposite sexes sleeping quarters, etc.) If an offense is committed the counselor or the Head Counselor will deal with it if repeated or as needed.
3. **Abuse or Destruction of Property:** behavior that damages or misuses property belonging to the camp, a camper, or a counselor. If an offense is committed the Head Counselor will deal with it directly and it may result in an immediate dismissal from camp.



Camp will take place at the Sacandaga Bible Conference and Retreat Center

Located at:
Sacandaga Bible Conference & Retreat Center
P.O. Box 247
Broadalbin, NY 12025-0247

Directions

From the New York State Thruway (1-90)
Take exit 27 to Amsterdam, Route 30 north
Follow Route 30 north approximately 7 miles, until Route 30 crosses Route 29
Continue on Route 30 north
(Continue directions below)

From the Northway (1-87)
Take exit 14 to Saratoga Springs, then Route 29 west approximately 25 miles.
Turn right onto Route 30 north
(Continue directions below)

From either of the above directions:
Route 30 north bears sharply left at the blinking light in Vail Mills, go straight following the "Broadalbin" signs.
At the Town Monument bear left, follow the curving road 1/2 mile then bear left onto Lakeview Road at Springers Farm.
SBC is 1/4 mile on the left.

GPS Address Location: 114 Burma Trail, Broadalbin, NY

CAMP OFFICE PHONE NUMBER FOR DIRECTIONS ONLY:
(518) 883-3713

Daily Camp Schedule:

Counselors are responsible for getting their campers to each event, activity, or meal on time. Each counselor will have a break every day during one of the activities in the afternoon.

Monday

10:00-12:00	Counselor Set-up
12:00 p.m.	Lunch/Prayer with Counselors
1:00-4:00 p.m.	Camper Registration
(1:30)	Beachfront—Swim Test
(2:30)	Beachfront—Swim Test
(3:30)	Beachfront—Swim Test
4:30 p.m.	Clean-up—Get ready for supper
5:00 p.m.	Supper
6:00 p.m.	Rally
7:15 p.m.	Snack
7:30-8:30 p.m.	Evening Game—Counselors vs. Campers
8:30 p.m.	Showers
9:00 p.m.	Lights out (grades 2-4)
9:30 p.m.	Lights out (grades 5-7)



Tuesday/Wednesday

7:15 a.m.	Rise & Shine
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:45-9:20 a.m.	Morning Chapel/Creation Moment
9:20-9:50 a.m.	Small Group Time
10:00-10:15 a.m.	Snack
10:15-11:45 a.m.	Free Time with Counselor
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
12:45-1:45 p.m.	Beachfront or snack/craft/mini-golf/playground or on Tuesday is archery and Wednesday is Rock Wall Climbing/Basketball
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Beachfront or snack/craft/mini-golf/playground or on Tuesday is archery and Wednesday is Rock Wall Climbing/Basketball
3:15-4:15 p.m.	Beachfront or snack/craft/mini-golf/playground or on Tuesday is archery and Wednesday is Rock Wall Climbing/Basketball
4:30-4:50 p.m.	Clean up for supper
5:00 p.m.	Supper
6:00 p.m.	Rally
7:15 p.m.	Snack
7:30-8:30 p.m.	Evening Game—Counselors vs. Campers
8:30 p.m.	Showers
9:00 p.m.	Lights out (grades 2-4)
9:30 p.m.	Lights out (grades 5-7)

Thursday

7:15 a.m.	Rise & Shine
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:45-9:30 a.m.	Camp Clean-up
9:45-10:15 a.m.	Closing Rally
10:30-11:00 a.m.	Departure/Gym/Check-out

Combating Homesickness

You may encounter a camper who experiences the longing for home. The best way to treat this is to prevent it. Here are a few ways to do this:

Make each camper feel welcomed into the group by getting them to learn each other's names *right away*. Come with some name learning games to play during that first day. Also come with "get to know you games" this will help your group bond quicker and a camper will feel more a part of a group.

Be clear about what to expect. What is the schedule? What are the ground rules for your group? Spell these out from the beginning and honor them. This helps the camper feel more secure.

Keep busy. The down times before bed and quiet times are when campers feel homesick the most. Be sure to stick to the lights out time because a tired camper is an emotional camper. Also, remember kids need more sleep than you do.

Do not promise a call home. Calls can only be made in emergencies. This may sound harsh, but it's true, a call home makes a camper miss home more.

If you find yourself with a homesick camper, fear not, there are ways to deal with it:

- 1) **Try to get their minds on camp.** What activities are they enjoying? Are they looking forward to something on the schedule? Get them redirected into the mindset of camp and what is going on. In other words, don't dwell too much on their feelings of homesickness; this is like saying to a dieter, "don't think about chocolate cake." If you talk about home, they will think about home.
- 2) **Find out what their interests are.** Get them talking about things they like.
- 3) **Utilize other staff.** If you have a camper that is especially needy in this area, hand them over to the head counselor.



Leading a Child to Christ

As you attend the rallies and during devotions, you may have the opportunity to ask the campers if they have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. If they do not, please carefully consider these suggestions.

- 1. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit in the child's life.** Conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit. God will draw children to Himself. Never force, coerce, or push a child to make a decision. Salvation must be freely accepted. Be prepared for teachable moments.
- 2. Pray for the child.** Pray for open doors to share the Gospel. (Col. 4:2-4) Pray God will prepare their hearts and make you sensitive to the opportunities.
- 3. Understand when the child is ready.** When a child understands that God is a person who loves him or her, when a child can know the difference between right and wrong, when he or she experiences sorrow for doing wrong, and when the child gains a basic understanding of Jesus as God's Son who died for his or her sin, then that child is ready to respond!
- 4. Know how to explain the plan of salvation.**
Here is a method for presenting the gospel to children.
 - 📖 Jesus wants children to come to Him (Mark 10:14-15).
 - 📖 God loves you (John 3:16a).
 - 📖 You have sinned against God (Romans 3:23).
 - 📖 The penalty for sin is death (Romans 6:23).
 - 📖 Jesus died on a cross to pay for your sin and came alive again 3 days later (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
 - 📖 You can ask Jesus to take away your sins (Romans 5:8).
 - 📖 You can receive the forgiveness of sins and become a member of God's family (John 1:12)
- 5. Help the child pray to express faith in Christ.** Here is a simple prayer you might use. "Dear Jesus, I know I have sinned, and I am sorry. I turn away from my sins and ask you to forgive me. I believe you are God's Son and died for my sins and came alive again. I confess my sins to you, and now I want to receive you into my life as my Friend and Savior. Thank you, Jesus. Amen."
- 6. Rejoice, Review, Reaffirm.** Celebrate with the child and give them the opportunity to share with the whole group. Have either you or the child talk to their parents. Encourage them to read their Bible daily, pray, and attend church regularly.

