



Contact: 609-737-7592

Welcome! We look forward to sharing an exciting summer with your child! Please read this letter carefully; it contains everything you need to know before coming to camp!

What's new for 2013? You may have noticed the NEW name for our camp – we think it describes who we are and what we do perfectly! Whether your child is coming to camp for just a few days or several weeks, he or she will still have the same exciting outdoor experiences and contact with the natural world that we are known for.

Also new this year is our interim Summer Camp Director John Wojtowicz. Summer Camp Director Tammy Love is taking maternity leave this summer. Many of you will remember John from camp last year – he was the Group Leader for the 3rd and 4th grade groups. John holds a BS in Sociology from Richard Stockton College of NJ and is pursuing a Masters in Social Work from Rutgers University. An Eagle Scout with several years of supervisory camp experience through the Boy Scouts of America, we are excited to have John lead summer camp this year!

Our third piece of news this summer involves our property – we are ready to begin construction on our LEED-platinum environmental center! Because the safety of our campers and staff during the construction phase is of the utmost importance to all of us, this year we will implement 2 drop-off and pick-up sites. This change is implemented to reduce the number of vehicles entering and exiting our Main Reserve parking lots each day. ALL Watershed Nature Camp programs will still visit the pond and stream each week, join in insect safaris, build shelters in the woods and explore/enjoy our 930-acre 'classroom'!

<i>Campers in the following programs...</i>	<i>Should be dropped off and picked up daily at...</i>
Outdoor Adventure River Ramblers Earth Artisans Natural Navigators Night Owls	Pond House 261 Wargo Road Pennington
Nature's Partners I & II Explorers CIT I, II & III Teen Trekkers All programs for campers entering grades 1 – 4	SBMWA Main Reserve 31 Titus Mill Road Pennington

Driving directions to our Main Reserve and the Pond House are attached to this mailing. The Main Reserve driveway is one-way. The Pond House entrance is two-way and all cars must yield to incoming traffic. The speed limit at both locations is 10MPH. Park in the designated lots and walk your child(ren) to the drop-off areas. Signs directing you to the check-in areas will be posted at both sites. For safety, cars are not allowed to drive up to the drop-off locations.

Daily Camper Pick Up and Drop Off

An authorized adult must physically sign your child IN and OUT with the Group Leader each morning and afternoon, regardless of the location. Please walk your child to the Group Leader for sign in/sign out. Campers will not be permitted to leave their groups until an authorized adult signs them out.

On your camp registration form, you provided names of adults who are authorized to drop your child off and pick them up. If there are any changes or additions regarding authorized adults, call our office or speak directly to your child's Group Leader. If your child has permission to ride their bike to and from camp, that must also be noted on their camp registration form.

Camp Hours

Camp is rain or shine! Summer camp programs run from 9AM to 4PM, Monday through Friday, with exceptions listed in the chart below. We cannot accommodate children arriving earlier than 9AM or staying later than 4PM. If you have 2 or more children attending camp that need to be dropped off at different locations, please plan accordingly.

<i>The following camp programs...</i>	<i>Meet on these dates/times...</i>
Nature's Partners I (child with an adult)	June 26, 27, 28, 9:30-11:30AM each day
Explorers	July 1, 2, 3, 9:30AM – 12:00PM each day
Counselor-in-Training (CIT) I	July 8-19, 9:00AM – 4:30PM each day
Counselor-in-Training (CIT) II	July 22-August 2, 9:00AM – 4:30PM each day
Counselor-in-Training (CIT) III	August 5-16, 9:00AM – 4:30PM each day
Teen Trekkers	August 19 and 20, 9:00AM – 4:00PM August 21, 9:00AM – 8:00PM
Nature's Partners II (child with an adult)	August 19, 20, 21, 9:30-11:30AM each day

Absence, Late Arrival, and Early Pick-up

Call us as soon as you know your child will be absent or you will be arriving late. If we do not hear from you, our office will call you to ensure your child is safe. Let us know in advance if you need to pick your child up early; it may require our staff to change plans. Call us for all absences or late arrivals. If you call before 8:00AM or after 6:00PM, leave a message in the office voicemail, 609-737-7592.

Cancellation Policy

Camp cancellations must be received in writing one month prior to the start of the scheduled program for consideration of camp fee refund. Please direct written cancellation and request for refund to the attention of Watershed Nature Camp in the Education Department, 31 Titus Mill Road, Pennington. If written notice of cancellation is received less than one month prior to the start of session, a refund will be issued *only* if another camper fills the space. Vacancies may be filled first from our established wait lists. There will be a \$40 processing fee for all cancellations. SBMWA membership fee is not refundable.

Health and Wellness

You must notify us of all medications that must be administered during the camp day. Campers are not permitted to carry any medications (prescription, over the counter or homeopathic), with the exception of Epi-pens or rescue inhalers. Any other medication (prescription, over the counter, and homeopathic) must be given to the Group Leader in its original packaging, with written instructions from you about administration and dosage. Prescription medications must have your child's name on the label. The Group Leader will keep all medications in a locked bag and administer them according to directions. All medications must be noted on your child's health form. Alert our

staff to any changes in your child's health since registering for camp. Make sure we are aware of all food allergies or sensitivities that your child has, as well as his/her possible reaction.

Keep your child home if he or she is sick – we do not have facilities or staff to care for sick children. We will call you to pick up your child if he or she becomes sick during the camp day. Note that your child must be fever-free for a full 24 hours before returning to camp.

Our camp staff is trained in standard first aid and each staff member carries a first aid kit at all times. Each group contains at least one staff member certified in CPR. A certified lifeguard is present on off-site canoeing trips. Campers are encouraged to wash their hands before meals and after toileting. Each staff member carries baby wipes and hand sanitizer for cleaning when we are 'out in the field.'

What to Bring – Camp Packing List

Campers should come dressed comfortably for active outdoor days. We suggest shorts, t-shirt, sneakers with socks, and a hat – remember that your camper's clothing will probably get dirty! If siblings are attending camp the same week, each child should pack their camp items in a separate bag. The following items (labeled with camper's name) should be packed in a sturdy bag, backpack, or duffel bag that your child is able to carry:

- **Refillable water bottles** – To stay hydrated, campers will carry water bottles with them at all times and refill throughout the day. Make sure your child has enough water bottle capacity for half a day. For older children, this may be 2 or 3 quarts. For younger children, 1.5 or 2 quarts (or, alternatively, 3 or 4 pint-size bottles). Children will not be carrying all of these full every day, but we will fill them all up for a longer hike so we do not run out of drinking water.
- **Lunch and two healthy snacks** that do not require refrigeration or reheating (*Explorers* and both sessions of *Nature's Partners* only need one snack and no lunch)
- **Small backpack or sport pack** to carry lunch, water, and essentials on trail hikes (all other items can be stored during the camp day when not needed)
- **Two pairs of shoes** are very important for happy, healthy feet:
 - **One pair 'water shoes' for wading** – rubber boots, sneakers, or close-toed/hard-soled sandals. We will change into these shoes for the water only, then back into hiking shoes.
 - **One pair 'hiking shoes' with socks for everything else** – hiking shoes/sneakers, close-toed/hard-soled sandals, or rubber boots (with tall socks to prevent rubbing irritation).
 - **Note:** *if you have a pair of shoes that works for both wading and hiking (such as most Keen sandals) you may wear them all day, provided you have an extra pair of dry sneakers with socks to change if you become uncomfortable or develop blisters.*
- **Sun hat** for sun and heat protection: baseball cap, bucket hat, etc.
- **Complete change of clothes**, including socks and underwear
- **Light rain poncho or jacket** (our outdoor camp is rain or shine!) – No umbrellas please.
- **Small towel** for drying off
- **Plastic bags** for wet or dirty clothing and shoes
- **Rescue inhalers and Epi-pens** – All other medication (prescription, over the counter and homeopathic) must be given to the Group Leader in its original packaging, with written instructions from you about administration and dosage. The Group Leader will keep them in a locked bag and administer them according to directions.
- **Sunscreen (recommended) and insect repellent (optional)** – No sprays please. We do not provide these products and do not encourage campers to share because of allergies.
- **Sunglasses (optional)**

What NOT to bring – leave the following items at home

Do not send anything that is not allowed to get wet, dirty, lost, or broken. Do not send candy and gum. Do not send food to share with other campers. Leave expensive jewelry and all electronics at home. The following shoes are prohibited at camp: Crocs, clogs, ballet flats, boat shoes, flip-flops, and any shoes with open toes, soft soles, or open backs.

Cell phone usage by campers is not permitted in camp, on trips or during overnights – keep cell phones at home. Campers are not allowed to place or receive calls while at camp, except when approved by the Camp Director. A phone call to or from home may magnify homesickness. Camp is jam-packed with activities to keep kids engaged and happy. The Camp Director will contact you in the event of a problem or illness.

Overnight Information

Overnights are included for campers entering grades 5 through 9 (except *Teen Trekkers*). We provide Thursday dinner, Friday breakfast, lunch, and snacks (we will attempt to accommodate dietary restrictions with enough advance notice). If your child will be participating in an overnight, he or she will need overnight supplies – we will give you a list of supplies the Monday before the overnight. You probably have these supplies at home, except the following:

- **Outdoor sleeping bag** (not a slumber bag) in a plastic bag. *We have a few available to borrow.
- **Mess kit** (mesh bag containing a metal or plastic plate, bowl, cup, fork, knife, and spoon).
- **Headlamp or flashlight** with fresh batteries

Summer Camp Nature Shop

Our nature shop will be open to summer campers every week. Your child's counselors will remind you of the upcoming shop visit by sending a note home a day or two before. Our shop sells items that allow your child to continue their exploration of the natural world at home! Field guides, insect nets, bug boxes and flavored honey sticks are some of the more popular items with our summer campers. ALL summer campers always receive 10% off their purchase. Items range in price from \$.25 to \$15.00 and purchasing a memento of their week at camp is always optional!

Help your child prepare for camp!

We want your child to have a wonderful camp week. To help prepare your camper for the best experience possible, discuss these topics with him or her before the first day of camp:

- Show respect to everyone as well as the environment.
- Try to make new friends.
- Cooperate and help out when asked.
- Listen to your counselors and follow the camp rules. If you are having a problem, tell your counselors. They want to keep you safe and happy.
- There are many new things at camp. You may not love them all, but give them a try!

Questions? Call Watershed Nature Camp at the Education Department: 609-737-7592

If you still have questions, we invite you to call us Monday through Friday, between 9AM and 5PM. If no one picks up, that means we are out having fun with the campers so please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible during business hours. The Summer Camp Director John Wojtowicz or Education Manager Maryann Polefka will be happy to assist you.