

Watershed Nature Camp 2019



**ONLINE
REGISTRATION OPENS:**

January 2nd for Members

January 9th for Everyone

WELCOME FROM THE CAMP DIRECTOR



I'm thrilled to join your children this summer as the new Camp Director! This will be my sixth summer at the Watershed Nature Camp, and I feel there is something magical about this place that encourages curiosity and creates a love of the outdoors.

Your child will experience nature every day and they'll return home brimming with stories. On a typical summer day, our campers venture into the woods to explore under logs, out into the meadow to catch butterflies or down to the stream to explore watery worlds. Led by our amazing staff, our campers enjoy fresh air, make new friends, and receive a healthy dose of adventure. While our offerings vary in each camp week, our underlying values are threaded through each day.

I am excited to see familiar faces and smiles and to continue fostering great camp experiences! No matter if your child is a newcomer or a returning camper, they will gain an appreciation of our natural world and their place in it. Hope to see you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M.P.", with a long, sweeping underline.

Michelle Perkins
Camp Director

NOTE FROM THE EDUCATION MANAGER



After more than a decade as the Camp Director, I'm handing this amazing program to my friend and former assistant camp director! Michelle is a joy to work with and she is eager and ready to assume her new role. I'll continue at the Watershed as its Education Manager, strengthening our connections with our local schools and communities.

This camp has become, for so many, more than just a summer activity. While we immerse campers in natural fun and adventures, we hope their hands-on explorations will instill a sense of wonder and appreciation for our environment. Our goal is to have them become people who live, breath and treasure our natural world. We hope they grow into young adults who will appreciate and further our mission to have clean, safe and healthy water. During my tenure here, I've seen these kinds of transformations—campers return as CITs, and then some become staff who embark on careers in environmental science. Wherever they end up, we hope our campers become adults who make choices to protect the land and water.

I hope you are ready to embark on this journey and will join us this summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tammy Love", written in a cursive style.

Tammy Love
Education Manager



SESSIONS

AGE ON OCT 1, 2019	July 8–12	July 15–19	July 22–26	July 29–August 2	August 5–9	August 12–26	August 19–23
5	Turkey Tails	Flying Squirrels	Summer Sunfish	Tricky Tracks	Water Pennies	Creeping Caterpillars	Busy Bees
6–7	Buggin' Out	Stream Stompers	Backcountry Basics	Art Meet Wild	Track Troop	Drip Drop	Map Masters
8–9	Habitat Sleuths	Helter Shelter	Ponds & Puddles	Make it Wild	Survivor Kid	Insect Safari	Chill Out
10–11	Trail Team	Wandering Water	Native & Wild	Can-Do-Canoe	Wingin' It	Skill Quest	Earth Artisans
12–14		Where to? Watchung	Packs & Pines	Island Days	River Ramble	High Point Happenings	Home 'Shed Home
15–16	CIT Session 1		CIT Session 2		CIT Session 3		

THEMES

Water	Outdoor Skills	Animals	Natural Art
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BEFORE & AFTER CARE

- **Before Care:** 8–9 a.m., \$10 per camper per day.
- **After Care:** 4–5:30 p.m., \$15 per camper per day.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

- To be eligible for refund, cancellations must be submitted by May 8.
- All refunds will be charged a \$50 processing fee per camper.
- After May 8, a refund will be issued only if we are able to fill the vacancy.
- TWI membership is not refundable.

Watershed Nature Camp

31 Titus Mill Road • Pennington, NJ 08534

P: 609-737-3735 • F: 609-737-3075 • camp@thewatershed.org

REGISTRATION

1. Click Register Now from our camp page: www.thewatershed.org/camp
2. Register for open sessions or waiting lists.
3. You will receive email notification if your child has been cleared from a wait list.
Please contact us if you no longer want the spot.
4. Discounts will be automatically applied to your order where applicable.
 - **Membership Discount:** 5% off when you are signed in as a current TWI member by December 31, 2018.
 - **Multiple Discount:** 5% off when registering for two or more sessions, or two or more siblings.
5. Pay 50% deposit or pay in full by credit card. Final payments due by May 8, 2019.

FINANCIAL AID

- Granted Based on financial need on a first come first served basis.
- Includes limited bus transportation.
 - July 8–26: Trenton/Ewing route:** Dunn Middle School (401 Dayton St., Trenton), Trenton Central High School (1001 W. State St., Trenton), Armstrong Memorial Park (323 Ewingville Rd., Ewing Township).
 - July 29–August 16: Princeton route:** Princeton Community Village (Karl Light Blvd. at Butternut Row, Princeton) and other stops based on need.

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID

1. Click register now from our camp page: www.thewatershed.org/camp
2. Register for Financial Aid ONLY.
3. Send documentation to contact info above.
 - Brief letter from you describing financial need, special circumstances, etc.
 - EITHER: Approved 2018–2019 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals OR: 1040 tax form.
4. We will review your application and inform you of your eligibility.
5. If you receive partial financial aid, recipients must pay the balance by May 8, 2019.

THE WATERSHED CENTER AND RESERVE

Campers will explore our 950-acre Watershed Reserve of fields, forests, trails, ponds and streams. As well as examine the Watershed Center's expression of sustainability in our classrooms, exhibits and science lab.

The Watershed Institute is dedicated to keeping Central New Jersey's water clean, safe and healthy. Visit thewatershed.org to learn more.

5 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$350 per week

We spend time playing, exploring, going for hikes, building with nature, visiting the stream and doing a few art projects too. Camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m. and includes an afternoon rest from activities.

TURKEY TAILS

July 8–12

Discover how humans and animals survive in the wild! Explore the needs of both people and animals by learning how the Lenape people lived here over 300 years ago!



FLYING SQUIRRELS

July 15–19

Amphibians, reptiles, mammals, insects, and more! We will explore field and forest to discover critters small and large living here, and visit with animal ambassadors as well.

SUMMER SUNFISH

July 22–26

What lives in the water? Find out this week when we explore the pond and stream and learn the animals that live there!



TRICKY TRACKS

July 29–August 2

Pack plenty of snacks because this week we hike as far as we can! Practice reading a map, spotting trail markers, and how to stay safe when hiking.

WATER PENNIES

August 5–9

Explore the stream to its fullest! Splash around, find crayfish, and do even more in this stream packed week!



CREEPING CATERPILLARS

August 12–16

Do caterpillars have wings? Observe caterpillars and butterflies in all their life stages, catch bugs, watch birds, and learn about all things with wings in the field and forest!

BUSY BEES

August 19–23

Get creative using natural materials this week! We will build fairy houses and toad homes, make natural collages, and leave the forest more beautiful than we find it!

6 & 7 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$350 per week

We spend time hiking, exploring, building with natural objects, playing games, journaling, visiting the stream and doing a few art projects, too.

Camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

BUGGIN' OUT

July 8–12

What lives under logs and in tall grasses? BUGS! This week is all about bugs, where to find them, how to catch them, and how they help us!



STREAM STOMPERS

July 15–19

Jump into the water this week to explore what lives there! Catch crayfish in the stream, explore the pond for turtles, and more!

BACKCOUNTRY BASICS

July 22–26

Hike, read a map, and learn your backcountry basics! Later in the week, we will gear up and hike as far as we can!

ART MEET WILD

July 29–Aug. 2

Explore new parts of the Reserve in search of materials for our art projects. We will create natural artworks as we explore the natural world through art!



TRACK TROOP

August 5–9

Learn about animals that inhabit the Reserve by finding the clues they've left behind—tracks, scats, fur, and feathers! We will also get up close and personal with some of the animal ambassadors.

DRIP DROP

August 12–16

Cool off with aquatic adventures this week. Chill out as we splash in the stream and explore the pond!

MAP MASTERS

August 19–23

Get 'lost' in the woods this week, as the campers choose the trail! Practice using a map, staying safe, and navigating the trails!



8 & 9 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$385 per week

We spend time hiking, playing games, visiting the stream, building shelters, creating art projects and journaling. Thursday evening cookouts are included. Camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m., except Thursdays 9 a.m.–8 p.m.

HABITAT SLEUTHS

July 8–12

Explore nooks and crannies, flip logs, and poke around habitats with us! Discover big and small animals that live here, and visit with animal ambassadors!



MAKE IT WILD

July 29–August 2

Natural materials rule this week as we get dirty and create artwork. Mud, leaves, pinecones, sticks and stones are all we will need!

SURVIVOR KID

August 5–9

Test your trail senses, use a compass, and find hidden treasures! Enjoy a week of geocaching, hiking, and trail skills!



HELTER SHELTER

July 15–19

How would you survive in the wilderness? Learn how to stay safe when exploring outdoors how to make a fire, build a shelter, and more!



INSECT SAFARI

August 12–16

What animal has six legs and wings? AN INSECT! Sweep-net the fields, try to catch butterflies, and discover all types of crawly critters along the way.

CHILL OUT

August 19–23

Cool off this week with our favorite aquatic activities—stream exploration, water games and more!

POND AND PUDDLES

July 22–26

Stomp the stream and play in the pond. We will explore each environment for frogs, fish, and bugs, and then compare what we find!

10 & 11 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$495 per week

We pack our days full of hiking, exploration, games, shelter-building, visiting the stream and making natural art. Wednesdays include a day trip and Thursday overnights include evening programming, tent camping and campfire cooking! Camp day is 9 a.m.—4 p.m. plus Thursday overnights.

TRAIL TEAM

July 8–12

Learn compass skills, geocaching, and how to read a map in this skill-packed week. Practice navigation skills on a hike around the stunning Merrill Creek Reservoir!



WANDERING WATER

July 15–19

Join us for water fun every day! We will investigate our stream and pond, then go canoeing on the Delaware & Raritan Canal to spot turtles, herons, and other wildlife!

WILDLY NATIVE

July 22–26

Look for the amazing creatures that live on the Reserve! Then discover the animals that live nearby in the Pinelands with a visit to Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge!

CAN-DO CANOE

July 29–August 2

Ready, set, paddle! Find frogs, crayfish, herons, and turtles in the Stony Brook, then go canoeing on a local water body!

WINGIN' IT

August 5–9

Discover the winged creatures that live around us every day. Practice bird-spotting with binoculars, then use those birding skills on our trip to Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

SKILL QUEST

August 12–16

Can we work together to survive the Watershed wilderness? We will practice teamwork on the low ropes course and climbing wall at YMCA Camp Bernie as well!



EARTH ARTISANS

August 19–23

Venture outside and explore your inner creativity! We will collect natural materials, turn them into artworks, and enjoy a fossil hunting trip to Big Brook Preserve.



12-14 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

(price differs per week)

We include big hikes, habitat and animal investigations, group challenges and creative projects. Each week includes a trip and an overnight.

Camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m. except overnights.

Weeks are rated 1 🐾 (most relaxed) to 5 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (most challenging).

WHERE TO?

WATCHUNG! 🐾 \$500

July 15–19

The Watershed Reserve is your home base for canoeing, hiking, and camping. Our Wednesday day trip takes us hiking in the Watchung Reservation. Overnight is Thursday–Friday on the Watershed Reserve.



WATER GAP WANDER

🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 \$545

August 5–9

Float down a wilderness section of the Delaware River. Look for wildlife and camp by the river! We will be carrying all our food and camping gear for a one night stay at a primitive site. Overnight trip is Thursday–Friday.

PACKS AND PINES 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾

\$520

July 22–26

‘Rough it’ on a wilderness backpacking trip in the Pinelands, where carnivorous plants, lizards, and more amazing wildlife abounds! We will hike the Mullica River Trail while carrying up to 20 lbs on our backs and camp for one night at a primitive campsite. Overnight trip is Thursday–Friday.

ISLAND DAYS 🐾🐾🐾 \$570

July 29–August 2

Enjoy kayaking, fishing, birding and more at Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center on the coast of NJ! Overnight trip is Wednesday–Friday.

HIGH POINT

HAPPENINGS 🐾🐾 \$535

August 12–16

Journey north to NJ’s highest point! We will get to know High Point State Park through hiking, swimming, and exploring from our base camp—their group cabin! Overnight trip is Wednesday–Friday.

HOME ‘SHED HOME 🐾

\$500

August 19–23

Return ‘home’ to the Reserve for canoeing and hiking. Our Wednesday trip we will paddle on a local water body. Overnight is Thursday–Friday on the Watershed Reserve.

15 & 16 YEAR OLDS—COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING

\$260 per session

Counselors-In-Training or, CITs gain valuable experience and training as they assist camp staff with our younger campers. CITs must enjoy working with children, being outdoors and working hard. CIT day is 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. except Thursdays until 8 p.m. or overnight. Additional information will be sent after registration.

The fun of being a CIT comes from helping campers enjoy camp! CITs will work with a different age group each week, and will be placed based on experience and camp needs. After a successful summer, CITs may be invited back for a second year as Senior CITs.

SESSION 1 *July 8–19*

SESSION 2 *July 22–August 2*

SESSION 3 *August 5–16*

WATERSHED NATURE CAMP FAQ

1. What are the dates and hours of camp?

The 2019 camp season is July 8–August 23. Sessions run Monday through Friday. Sessions are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with exceptions for cookouts and CIT.

2. What is the dress code?

Dress for active outdoor play—shorts, t-shirt, and closed-toe, hard-sole shoes. Open-toe or soft-sole shoes (flip flops, crocs) are only allowed indoors and for portions of overnights.

3. Do you serve meals?

Campers must bring a lunch and at least two snacks daily (campers attending Before and/or After Care should bring an extra). Healthy meals are provided during overnights.

4. What do campers need to bring?

The three main items to remember are: plenty of water, a change of shoes, and a change of clothes. For a complete list please refer to the Parent's Guide found on the camp page.

5. How do you handle food allergies?

Please inform us of all food allergies when you register. We do not exclude foods from camp. Campers are instructed to clean their hands after eating to avoid contamination.

6. What about weather?

In the rain, we put our jackets and ponchos on and keep exploring! We seek shelter in heavy rain, thunderstorms, and excessive heat.

7. What is the staff like?

Groups are staffed at a ratio of 5 to 7 campers per staff member. Staff is primarily comprised of college students and full-time staff. All camp staff members are First Aid and CPR certified, and some possess Lifeguarding, Wilderness First Aid, or other advanced safety certifications.



8. Should I bring insect repellent or sunscreen?

Campers should arrive wearing your choice of sunscreen and/or insect repellent. Campers will be instructed to re-apply mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Staff can assist younger children with application when necessary. No aerosol sprays please.

9. What about poison ivy and ticks?

Staff members are trained to teach campers how to identify and avoid natural hazards like ticks and poison ivy. Campers should also check themselves daily. If you have further questions, contact the Camp Director.

10. What if my child is sick before or during the camp day?

If your child is not feeling well, please keep them home and call us to report their absence. Campers must be symptom-free (fever, vomit or diarrhea) for 24 hours before returning to camp. If your child becomes ill during the camp day, we will call you and early pick up may be necessary.

11. Do you offer before or after camp extended care?

Yes, we offer Before Care from 8 to 9 a.m. and After Care from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Some quiet activities will be available.

13. What is your refund policy?

To be eligible for refund, cancellations must be submitted by May 8. All refunds will be charged a \$50 processing fee per camper. After May 8, a refund will be issued only if we are able to fill the vacancy. TWI membership is not refundable.



31 Titus Mill Road
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Phone: (609) 737-3735

Your water. Your environment. Your voice.



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