

Watershed Nature Camp 2021



ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS:
January 19 for Members • January 26 for Everyone

WELCOME TO WATERSHED NATURE CAMP!



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.

We are thrilled to offer day camp again this summer and are committed to keeping our campers, staff, and community safe. For more information on our safety policies please visit our website: thewatershed.org/camp.

VALUES

At Watershed Nature Camp, we believe that every child deserves a chance to experience a summer exploring the outdoors with their peers. We welcome campers and families of any race, religious or spiritual belief, cultural or socioeconomic background and teach our summer staff to be respectful and welcoming to all.

ACCESSIBILITY

We are dedicated to working with you and your camper to ensure an excellent camp experience. Staff are trained on working with children who have neurodevelopmental disorders such as ADHD, autism, and learning disabilities. We do not carry certifications for working with children with disabilities and cannot, at this time, provide full-day one-on-one support. We are currently unable to accommodate children who require mobility devices such as wheelchairs or walkers. We are a very active camp. Campers hike a minimum of 2 miles a day. Our oldest campers hike up to 8 miles a day on moderate to rugged terrain on mowed grass and dirt paths. If you want to discuss if our camp is the right choice for your camper, please reach out for more information. We are happy to work with you to provide the best experience possible.

THE WATERSHED CENTER AND RESERVE

The Watershed Center will be closed to the public this summer. Campers will be spending the majority of their time exploring our 950-acre Watershed Reserve of fields, forests, trails, ponds and streams. The Watershed Institute is dedicated to keeping Central New Jersey's water clean, safe and healthy. Visit thewatershed.org to learn more.

SESSIONS

AGE ON OCT 1, 2021	JUNE 28– JULY 2	JULY 6–9	JULY 12–16	JULY 19–23	JULY 26–30	AUGUST 2–6	AUGUST 9–13	AUGUST 16–20
5	Painted Turtles	Tadpoles	Raccoons	Mayflies	Praying Mantids	White Tailed Deer	Screech Owls	Crayfish Catchers
6–7	Forest Friends	Nature Nuts	Splish Splash	Trail Mix	Puddle Jumpers	Bugs and Butterflies	Stream Team	Trail Tales
8–9	Watershed Safari	Buggin’ Out	Making Mud	Stony Brook Story	Kid vs Wild		Trail Blazers	Stream and Beyond
10–12	Creature Feature	Aqua Quest	Walk the Watershed	Wild or Not?	Survival Revival			
13–15							Outdoor Odyssey	Home ‘Shed Home
15–17	CIT Session 1		CIT Session 2		CIT Session 3		CIT Session 4	

THEMES

Water	Outdoor Skills	Animal	Natural Crafts
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WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY AT WATERSHED NATURE CAMP LOOK LIKE?

Each camp day will include two snack breaks, lunch, free exploration, games (no-touch games only), and a hike. There are many activities your camper may participate in between those activities depending on the theme of the week:

- **Water Theme:** Your camper will spend time at the stream, at the pond or under the sprinkler every day. They’ll also learn about water, aquatic animals, and why water is important.
- **Outdoor Skills Theme:** Your camper will spend time on the trails, learn how to build a survival shelter, and learn about survival skills.
- **Natural Crafts Theme:** Your camper will use natural materials such as sticks, rocks, mud, and clay to create crafts each day.
- **Animals Theme:** Your camper will spend time searching for critters. They may go butterfly catching, crayfish catching, or log rolling. They will also learn about one or more of our animal ambassadors including the Eastern Red Eared Slider, Corn Snake, Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches and more.

REGISTRATION



1. Become a member or renew your membership before January 15, 2021 to receive members-only early access to registration on January 19, 2021.
2. Register for opens sessions or waitlists by following this [link](https://thewatershed.org/camp) and selecting the month your session is in or going to thewatershed.org/camp
3. Discounts:
 - a. **Membership:** A 5% discount will apply automatically if you are a member. You must be logged into your account when registering in order to have the discount apply to your order.
 - b. **Multiple Discount:** When you register for 2 or more weeks use code MULTI2021 to receive 5% off
4. A 50% deposit is due upon registration, full payment is due by May 1, 2021.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

- To be eligible for a refund, cancellations must be submitted by March 31.
- After March 31, a refund will be issued only if we are able to fill the vacancy.
- All refunds will be charged a \$50 processing fee per camper after March 31.
- Watershed Institute memberships are not refundable.

EARLY & LATE CARE

- **Early Care:** 8-9 a.m., \$10 per camper per day
- **Late Care:** 4-5:30 p.m., \$15 per camper per day
- Extended care will be limited to 10 campers maximum.
- *Membership and Multi discounts also apply to early and late care.*

FINANCIAL AID

- Available based on financial need
- Will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is dispersed
- Will include limited transportation as follows:
 - TBD
 - TBD

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID

1. Complete documentation and send to camp@thewatershed.org:
 - Financial Aid Application found online: thewatershed.org/camp
 - A letter expressing need
2. We will review your application and inform you of your eligibility.
3. If you receive partial financial aid, you must pay the remaining balance not covered by financial aid by May 1, 2021.

5 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$150 per week, 10 campers per group

We spend time playing, exploring, going for hikes, building with nature, visiting the stream and creating natural art.

Camp day is 9 a.m.–12 p.m.



PAINTED TURTLES

June 28–July 2

Explore the natural world through art! Search for colors and textures in plants and animals. Create your own artwork with natural materials.

TADPOLES (\$100)

July 6–9, 4 day week

Discover the creatures that live in ponds, streams, and damp forest floors! Search for them on the trails and in the water. Build a toad house and visit some of our resident amphibians!

RACCOONS

July 12–16

Discover which animals live here and how they survive! We'll see how far we can hike this week while searching for animal signs.

MAYFLIES

July 19–23

Join us in learning through play at the stream! We will flip rocks, use nets, and discover the small critters that live in the stream this week. You'll be amazed at who we might find!

PRAYING MANTIDS

July 26–30

Our focus is everything insects this week. We'll catch bugs in the meadow, visit the butterfly house and learn about what makes an insect an insect!

WHITE-TAILED DEER

August 2–6

Learn how humans survived 300 years ago! We will explore natural artifacts to discover what life was like long ago for those that lived here.

SCREECH OWLS

August 9–13

Song birds, raptors, water fowl, owls and more! Discover which birds live here and how to spot them.

CRAYFISH CATCHERS

August 16–20

Enjoy the stream and water every day this week! We'll catch plenty of critters in the stream and explore as much water as we can.



6 & 7 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$150 per week for half-day program OR \$350 per week for full-day program
10 campers per group

We spend time hiking, exploring, building with nature, playing games, journaling,
visiting the stream and crafting natural art.

Camp day is half-day 9 a.m.–12 p.m. OR full day 9 p.m.–4 p.m.



FOREST FRIENDS

June 28–July 2

Discover animal signs while hiking and exploring. Explore animal artifacts like bones, tracks, nests, and even scat!

NATURE NUTS (\$100)

July 6–9, 4 day week

This week is all about playing with nature. Create natural pieces of art using mud, stones, sticks, leaves and more!

SPLISH SPLASH

July 12–16

Have fun with everything water this week! Hike to different water sources here and discover what's there, and splash in the Stony Brook.

TRAIL MIX

July 19–23

This week we'll make a treasure map, hike as far as we can, and learn how people survived 300 years ago!

PUDDLE JUMPERS

July 26–30

Cool off with a week full of stream and water exploration. Find out what creatures live in our streams and waterways!

BUGS AND BUTTERFLIES (\$150, Half-day program only)

August 2–6

Observe and catch insects all over the trails and even in the water too. Visit the butterfly house and see how we raise caterpillars!

STREAM TEAM

August 9–13

Get your feet wet catching critters and exploring the stream! We will also have the chance to meet a resident aquatic animal.

TRAIL TALES

August 16–20

Hit the trails this week and learn how to stay safe while exploring outdoors! Have the chance to get 'lost' in the woods and how to find your way back.



8 & 9 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

\$400 per week, 15 campers per group

We spend time hiking, playing games, visiting the stream, building shelters, creating art projects and journaling. Thursday evening cookouts, where campers will enjoy dinner around a campfire, are included. Staff will prepare the cookout meals.

Camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m., except Thursdays 9 a.m.–8 p.m.



WATERSHED SAFARI

June 28–July 2

We'll focus our attention on all the critters that live here. Bugs, butterflies, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles! We will also have a chance to meet many of our resident animal ambassadors.

BUGGIN' OUT (\$350)

July 6–9, 4 day week

Hike and explore, searching for the small critters that live all around us! We will discover many of the insects that live here and even visit the butterfly house.



MAKING MUD

July 12–16

Get dirty with us this week! We will make mud, harvest clay, and design art from what we collect outside.

STONY BROOK STORY

July 19–23

Explore our stream, the Stony Brook! Who lives there? Where does the water go? Learn through exploration and play!

KID VS WILD

July 26–30

Learn how the Lenape lived here 300 years ago. Practice some bush craft by building a fire, survival shelters, and natural rope.



TRAIL BLAZERS

August 9–13

Come hike with us as we explore using compasses, maps, and GPS. We may even find some hidden treasure!

STREAM AND BEYOND

August 16–20

Explore what lives in the water! This week we'll explore as many bodies of water that we can while searching for critters.

10 & 12 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

Price Varies, 15 campers per group

We spend time hiking, playing games, visiting the stream, building shelters, creating art projects and journaling. Thursday evening includes an optional cookout where campers will enjoy dinner around a campfire. Staff will prepare the cookout meals.

Camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Thursday cookouts 9 a.m.–8 p.m.



CREATURE FEATURE (\$415)

June 28–July 2

Explore what it's like to be a critter here, be it mammal or insect! Wednesday will feature a visit from our friends at Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge and some of their animal ambassadors.

AQUA QUEST (\$350)

July 6–9

Enjoy a week of exploring the stream and water here on the reserve. This week we'll hike through the stream to explore the Stony Brook in a new way!

WALK THE WATERSHED (\$400)

July 12–16

This week we'll search all over the Reserve for geocaches! Learn how to use a GPS unit while exploring on and off the trails this week, we'll also learn to navigate with a compass.

WILD OR NOT? (\$415)

July 19–23

Explore the Reserve for native animals and their signs. Wednesday will feature a visit from our friends at Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge and some of their animal ambassadors.

SURVIVAL REVIVAL (\$400)

July 26–30

We'll challenge ourselves this week to work together and survive! Sharpen your outdoor skills through tracking, shelter-building, and fire-building.



13-15 YEAR OLD CAMPERS

Price Varies, 10 campers per group

We spend time hiking, playing games, visiting the stream, building shelters, creating art projects and journaling.

Weather permitting, on Wednesdays we will meet at a different location less than 20 min. away from the Watershed Reserve. On these days check-in will be extended to 9:30 a.m. and check-out will be extended to 4:30 p.m. for campers in the 13-15 age group. This is to accommodate drop off/pick-up of your other campers at the center first. Early or Late care will not be available on Wednesdays for campers in the 13-15 age group.

Camp day is 9 a.m.-4 p.m., overnights Thursday 9 a.m.-Friday 4 p.m.



OUTDOOR ODYSSEY (\$450)

August 9-13

Hike to the furthest reaches of the Reserve this week. Wednesday, August 11th we will meet at the Sourland Mountain Preserve to hike and explore!

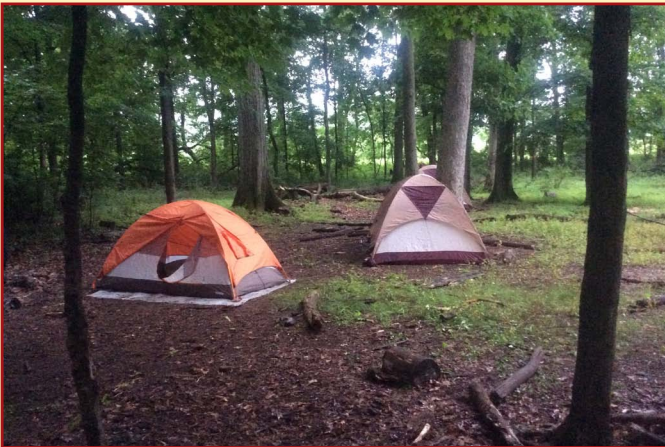
This week includes an optional campout Thursday-Friday where campers will spend the night in tents on the reserve. All meals will be prepared by staff. Tents will be provided so each camper has their own tent to sleep in.

HOME'SHED HOME (\$475)

August 16-20

This week we'll explore the stream and other bodies of water on the reserve everyday. On Wednesday, August 18th we'll meet at Princeton Canoe rental to go kayaking on the D&R canal.

This week includes an optional campout Thursday-Friday where campers will spend the night in tents on the reserve. All meals will be prepared by staff. Tents will be provided so each camper has their own tent to sleep in.



COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING PROGRAM

For individuals ages 15-18 who are interested in working with children, learning about the outdoors, and building leadership skills. This volunteer program will include daily hands-on activities with campers, a weekly training session, and mentorship from our experienced camp staff. The Counselor-in-Training program spans 2-weeks.

Camp days for Counselors-in-Training are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. See below for session dates:

SESSION 1 *June 28-July 9*

SESSION 2 *July 12-23*

SESSION 3 *July 26-August 6*

SESSION 4 *August 9-20*

If you are interested in becoming a Counselor-in-Training please visit our website to learn more about how to apply. Please email camp@thewatershed.org or visit our [website](#).

WATERSHED NATURE CAMP FAQ

What are the dates and hours of camp?

The 2021 camp season is weekdays June 28 – August 21.

- Age 5 camp day is 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Ages 6–7 camp day is half-day 9 a.m.–12 p.m. OR full day 9 p.m.–4 p.m.
- Ages 8–15 camp day is 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Do you offer extended care?

Yes, we offer per day Early Care from 8 a.m.–9 a.m. and Late Care from 4 p.m.–5:30 p.m. Some quiet activities will be available. **Please note:** extended care will not be available for campers attending camp off-site.

What is your refund policy?

To be eligible for a full refund, cancellations must be submitted by March 31. After March 31, a refund will be issued only if we are able to fill the vacancy. All refunds will be charged a \$50 processing fee per camper after March 31. Watershed Institute memberships are not refundable.

What if my camper is sick?

If your camper or someone in their household is sick please refer to our COVID-19 policies on the [website](#) regarding symptoms and attendance. If your camper becomes unwell at camp you will be contacted to pick them up immediately.

What are you doing to ensure the safety of the campers?

We will be taking a number of measures to protect both campers and staff this summer. For a comprehensive list of the safety measures please refer to our COVID-19 policies on the [website](#).

- **Outdoor Only Activities:** Our camp activities will take place entirely outdoors. The only time campers or staff will be going in and out of the building will be to quickly get materials or to take shelter during unsafe weather.
- **Staff Policy:** Camp groups will be considered cohorts within their age-group. Staff teams will work with one age group of campers the entire summer and not interact directly with other campers or staff. Summer staff will be prohibited from going to high risk locations like beaches, indoor dining, and other crowded areas.
- **Masks:** Campers and staff will wear face masks for the majority of the camp day. The only time masks will be removed is when staff have ensured that both themselves and campers are a safe distance apart. This will happen at meal times and periodically throughout the day to cool off.
- **Watershed Center:** The Watershed Center will be closed to the public during the camp day. Masks will be worn *at all times* while indoors. Eating indoors is prohibited.

What about the weather? Thunderstorms?

In the rain, we put our jackets and ponchos on and keep exploring! If it's excessively hot, we'll spend time in the stream, under sprinklers, and in the shade. During thunderstorms or other unsafe weather, we will take shelter indoors. If it is predicted that conditions will be unsafe for more than 30 minutes, you will be notified that your camper(s) will be taking shelter indoors and you will have the opportunity to pick them up.

What does a typical day at Watershed Nature Camp look like?

Each camp day will include two snack breaks, lunch, free exploration, games (no-touch games only), and a hike. There are many activities your camper may participate in between those activities depending on the theme of the week:

- **Water Theme:** Your camper will spend time at the stream, at the pond or under the sprinkler every day. They'll also learn about water, aquatic animals, and why water is important.
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WATERSHED NATURE CAMP FAQ (cont.)

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, and open-toed sandals) are not allowed.

Do you serve meals?

Campers must bring a lunch and at least two snacks daily (campers attending Early and/or Late Care should bring an extra). Healthy meals are provided during overnights and cookouts and will be prepared by staff.

What do campers need to bring?

The three main items to remember are: plenty of water and food for the day, a change of shoes, and a change of clothes. For a complete list, please refer to the Camp Guide on the [website](#).

How do you handle food allergies?

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



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 sunscreen mid-morning and mid-afternoon. To maintain a safe distance, staff will not assist campers with the application of sun-screen. For younger campers please make sure they wear clothing that makes reapplication of sunscreen easy. Aerosol sprays are not allowed.

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.

What are Watershed Nature Camp staff like?

Our core staff are primarily college students and recent graduates who are passionate about the environment and have experience working with children in the outdoors. These staff members are typically between the ages of 20-25. Our junior staff are high school juniors and seniors who have shown a strong work ethic, are excited to share their knowledge of the outdoors, and demonstrate eagerness and aptitude to work with children. Our staff undergo a robust two week training where we cover safety policies, working with children outdoors, natural history knowledge, appropriate camp games and songs, and justice, equity, and diversity training.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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