

Polk County 4-H Camp Counselor Application Information



**Junior 4-H Camp
Whispering Cedars Camp
Genoa, NE
June 5-7, 2024**



Return the signed Camp Counselor Agreement to your local Extension Office and complete the on-line registration form at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfLr7yc_sQFPTzE4VnZzm42yezsnstGpOx7xfEdsQB7dsebw/viewform

Applications are due by May 3, 2024

NOTE: Camp Counselor Agreement, Due May 3. Counselors must be 16 to 18 years of age before January 1 of the current year. No fee for Counselor to attend camp.



CAMP COUNSELOR AGREEMENT

As a counselor, you are the most important ingredient for a successful camp. After the camper has forgotten everything else about camp, they will remember you and the things you did for and with them.

You are called counselors because your job is to counsel the boys and girls who come to camp. Counseling involves listening, sharing, guiding and advising campers. It is helping them adjust to new situations, giving encouragement and caring about each camper. It is a combination of little things that show the camper you care about him or her.

It is a serious responsibility, but one whose rewards you will enjoy in many different ways for a long time. We are excited about having you on our team and look forward to working with you.

EXPECTATIONS

Expectations of the Camp Counselor:

1. To understand the objectives of 4-H camp.
2. To enjoy working with children.
3. To provide for the safety and well-being of each camper at all times.
4. To be enthusiastic, understanding and a willing leader.
5. To be a positive role model setting a good example in conduct, dress, personal appearance and attitude.
6. To understand the needs and interests of your campers.
7. To understand and abide by the rules and guidelines, the emergency procedures, and the 4-H Camping Code of Conduct.
8. To exercise mature judgment, cooperation, team work and the ability to smile.
9. To have a good sense of humor.

A Good Camp Counselor Can Expect:

- A brand-new, wonderful experience.
- To make close, lasting friendships.
- To have fun while learning.
- To grow personally through a job well done.
- To gain personal growth, wider interests, new skills and a new appreciation of friendship and leadership.
- An experience that is a valuable addition to your resume.

SPECIFIC COUNSELOR JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend counselor training and orientation meetings.
2. Arrive a camp on time for the first day of camp.
3. Help camp staff get ready for the arrival of campers.
4. Organize activities for early arrivals.
5. Review camper registrations for any medical problems.
6. Know about allergies and/or medications necessary for any of the campers in your group/cabin. Be sure campers needing medication report to the staff member in charge of first aid when medication is due.
7. Greet campers on arrival and help them find their cabins. Make them feel welcome and part of the group. Show your campers the campgrounds.
8. Make sure your entire group arrives at each session or activity on time.
9. Remain with your group at all activities, except when excused by a staff member.
10. Follow all safety guidelines and know emergency procedures.
11. Supervise your cabin and insist that lights-out be followed. Do not leave your cabin at night except for emergencies.
12. Get up with your campers.
13. Assume responsibility for workshops, hikes or special activities assigned to you.
14. Assist campers with ceremonies or other assigned activities.
15. Help campers enjoy camping.

4-H EVENTS - CODE OF CONDUCT

1. You are expected to attend all sessions of the planned program. Inform a staff member if you are not feeling well or have a schedule conflict.
2. Observe hours established by the staff and be in your room or cabin.
3. Dress appropriately for the occasion. At all times you should be courteous and polite. No swearing.
4. Except for the planned program, do not leave the camp site at any time without permission of camp staff or camp director.
5. Do not smoke or use alcohol/drugs (except those directed by doctor).
6. Avoid damaging property. You are responsible for any damage or misconduct in your room or cabin.

I, _____, will abide by the 4-H Events Code of Conduct and fulfill my responsibilities as a 4-H Camp Counselor.

(Signature)

(Date)