MARYLAND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
COLLEGE PARK•EASTERN SHORE

Howard County Office

Dear Camper Parent:

We have received your child's application for 4-H Camp, and I am pleased to say he/she has been accepted. I would like to extend a welcome to a most exciting, fun-filled, and educational week from June 21st – June 27th. I am sure your child will have a most enjoyable time.

Enclosed is a copy of the Howard County 4-H Camp Rules/List of Items to Bring to Camp, Specialized Activities & Photograph Release Form, Activity Selection/Description Sheet, and a Health Form. A Maryland 4-H Behavior Expectations form has already been signed and forwarded back to us with your registration form. I have enclosed another copy of the Maryland 4-H Behavioral Expectations for you to go over with your child prior to camp (**Please do not return**).

The following are **very important forms** and **must be returned by May 14th. (Exception -the health form is due no later than June 4th due to the need for a physical.)**

1. **HEALTH FORM** - **ALL CAMPERS** must have had a physical within the last 12 months. A copy of the physician's examination report that includes the required information may be attached. Health forms will stay on file and accompany us to camp **(This is a policy change from last year, therefore if your child went to camp last year he/she will need a health form again this year).**

   Two names and contact numbers are required as contact persons, in case you cannot be reached. Please inform the persons you have listed so they will be aware - in case there is a need to call. **If you're planning to go away for the week or a day, we must have a contact number where you may be reached**.

2. **MARYLAND 4-H BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS** - Both camper/teen leader and parent signatures are required in order to go to Camp.

   If the code is broken, your child will not be permitted to return to camp next year.

3. **PHOTO** - A photo of your child will be taken at check-in on June 21st or once they arrive at camp. This service is provided as a safety precaution while at camp.

410-313-2707 ■ FAX 410-313-313-2712

3525-L ELLICOTT MILLS DRIVE ■ ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ■ U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

4. **ACTIVITY SELECTION FORM** - to be completed by your child and mailed in prior to Orientation.

Orientation is necessary and mandated by the state. Please understand the importance in attending even if you have attended in the past. One parent must attend in order for campers registered to be able to attend camp. We encourage you to bring your camper to this meeting. This is where you will be able to get the answers to any questions you may have concerning camp and learn more about the different activities provided. You and your child will also get to meet the adult and teen leader staff and other campers.

5. **CHALLENGE COURSE AGREEMENT** - both parent and camper/teen leaders' signature are required in order to participate in the challenge course. **Please note:** The Western Maryland 4-H Education Center, as of this date, has only the "Low Elements Challenge Course" in operation. It is hoped that in the future a high rope's course would be constructed. Your signature applies only to the "Low Elements Challenge Course".

REQUIRED PRIOR TO CAMP

1. **MEDICATION** - Any medication going to Camp, must be in the original container, so it can be verified (this includes inhalers, calamine lotion, and other over-the-counter products).

Prescriptions - must have the camper's name on it -- NO ONE ELSE'S!

Labels - do not place a label over the original one -- we need to know what the medication is.

Packing for Camp - place medications in a plastic, zip lock bag. The camper's name must appear on the container's original label, and also on the outside of the plastic bag.

Tablet Medications - please send ONLY enough medication for the week. Upon check out from camp, medication must be picked up. Please advise your campers to report to the nurse for scheduled medications.

Liquid Medications - Include in the plastic bag a spoon/cup, to measure and give liquid medications for accurate dosages.

Collection/Safeguarding - Medications will be collected prior to departure for Camp and kept with educator or volunteer until arrival (for safety precautions). If you should have concerns, please let me know. ***Medications that must stay with the camper/teen leader at all times (i.e., bee stings, inhalers, etc.), must be noted on the health form, and be "prior approved" by letter request to the Extension Educator, in order for the camper to attend camp. It must also be understood that these medications must be handled with care. Medication needing refrigeration must be noted as well on health forms, so that provisions may be made.**

PLEASE NOTE: *Parents, by signing the health form; you will be giving the Registered Nurse permission to administer over-the-counter medications.

2. **PAYMENT-CAMP FEE** - All camp fees should already have been paid. If you have any additional fees remember, check/money orders must be made payable to: **Howard County 4-H Foundation Inc.** If you have applied for a scholarship, you will be notified of the sponsors name and address. Please have your camper write a thank you note as soon as possible.

REFUND - The **refund request deadline is May 15th**. We need to know about cancellations as soon as possible, so that we can assign the reservation to someone else. If your child does not show up on the day of departure, another child is missing the opportunity of taking his/her place -- so, we would like to have advance notice of any necessary cancellations.

3. **ORIENTATION** - There will be a Howard County 4-H Camp Orientation on **Thursday, May 14th** at the Howard County Fairgrounds at **7:00 P.M.** The fairgrounds are located off of Rt. 144 west of Rt. 32 in West Friendship. At the Orientation, you will get better acquainted with the Western Maryland 4-H Center, which is located in Garrett County. The Camp rules will be reviewed; you will meet the adult staff and teen leaders, and will learn more about what is expected from you and your camper during this camping experience. Camp Teen Leaders and Camp Adults must arrive at 6:00 P.M. additional training will be conducted at this time. If you have teen leaders attending camp we ask you to remain outside of the designated area until 7:00 p.m. so their training can be completed.

At the Orientation, we will discuss:
Check-in will be 7:30 - 8:30 A.M. and the bus will leave as soon as everyone is checked in. A diagram of the fairgrounds will be available designating parking location, bus parking area and where luggage needs to be dropped off.

*__Parent volunteer help is needed for the following__:

- A nurse who is willing to help with a brief health check on June 21st at camp check-in.
- 6 volunteers to serve as chaperones on the busses to camp on June 21st.
- Additional volunteers are needed to help at the fairgrounds during check-in on June 21st. If interested in volunteering, please **contact Rick Hodiak at 410-313-1914**.

Please pack your camper a lunch that will not perish before it gets to camp. Place it in a well insulated bag with <u>their name on it</u>. Lunches will be collected at the fairgrounds and be returned once they reach camp. A drink will be provided. No extra food or drinks should be taken on the bus for consumption on the way to Camp.

On our return, June 27th, we estimate the buses will arrive at the Fairgrounds between 4:00-5:00 P.M. A recording will be placed on 410-313-2708 if the bus arrival is expected to be late.

A Charter Bus Company will transport Howard County 4-H Campers to camp.

EMERGENCY CONTACT - Contact may be made with Camp Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. through the Extension Office at 410-313-2707, **but for emergency purposes only. If it is necessary for an emergency, during hours other than listed above, you may call 301-245-4266 or 301-245-4204. Please note: Emergency calls ONLY. You will need to be patient because it may take a while for someone to get to the phone or you may need to have someone call you back.**

MAIL IS WELCOMED - Please don't forget to send letters or post cards a few days prior to camp or at the very BEGINNING of the week in order for them to reach your child while still at Camp. I encourage you **NOT to pack or send candy**, because of its attraction to wild animals. In the case it is packed, I ask you to monitor the amount of snacks, especially candy. A small portion is acceptable and **must** be placed in a metal container. Boxes **must** be kept to the size of a small shoebox. Please put "Howard County" on the envelope so that the mail that arrives too late to be delivered to Camp can be directed back to me. *Any mail received after camp will be forwarded back to campers. Please make a note of the address.

Western Maryland Center
243 4-H Road
Swanton, MD 21561

Howard County

There are still a few campers who do not receive a letter or even a postcard from home. Please, **WRITE** to your child/children, while they are away, but please DON'T write something that will make them home sick. For instance, don't write that you miss them, or will be glad when they get home, but rather, tell them that they only have a certain number of days left, that you are proud of them, and ask questions about what they are doing, so they will have something to write back about, etc.

PICKUP - If you are picking up your child from camp, you must submit a request in writing to Linda Hodiak so that his/her luggage can be kept off the bus. If it's already known that it will be necessary for someone other than you to meet your child/children at the fairgrounds when we return from Camp, a letter must also be written to Christine prior to camp. A letter also will be needed if your child will not be riding the bus to camp.

BEHAVIOR - Every effort will be made to try to ensure that your child has a truly enjoyable and memorable experience at Camp. Our Camp Directors, along with the adult staff, will personally try to work with your child as much as possible. However, any Camper who does not follow the rules and regulations jeopardizes his/her opportunity to return to 4-H Camp another year. Also, a youth's behavior could require them to be sent home AT YOUR EXPENSE!

Please talk to your child so they can take full advantage of our educational/enrichment program by participating with high standards of behavior. By signing the required 4-H Behavior Expectations your child/children have agreed to be on their best behavior! **No misbehavior of any kind will be tolerated**. Please make sure you and your child have read and understand the 4-H Behavior Expectations. Feel free to contact Christine Lothen-Kline at 410-313-1911 or Linda Hodiak at 410-857-8532 if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

Christine Lothen-Kline
County Extension Coordinator
Howard County

Linda Hodiak
Camp Director

Diane Bosse
Camp Director

Enclosures: Camp Rules/List-Items to Bring to Camp
Elective Activity Form
Specialized Activities & Photograph Release Form
Maryland 4-H Behavioral Expectations
Health Form

g:/camp/mary/campforms/acceptancepack