



Camp Olson YMCA Job Descriptions:
Wilderness Skills Instructor

Responsible to:

Outbound Trips Director, LDP Director

Compensation:

Base rate of \$270/week plus room and board, bonuses available

Responsibilities:

1. General

- a. Support the overnight process for Outpost staff and Counselors on their overnight.
- b. Teach ethical wilderness skills and prep campers for a successful overnight experience
- c. Maintain clean and orderly Homestead, Campsites, and assist with upkeep at Outpost.
- d. Work closely with the Overnight Director and Outbound Trips Director.
- e. Participate in all whole-camp activities.

2. Specific

- a. Teach Leave No Trace Principles, history of the Homestead and land, and wilderness skills as defined by the Wilderness Skill Expectations.
- b. Increasing Camper Skill Development through demonstration and participation in the overnight campout process.
- c. Supporting Staff and Camper skill development
 - i. Rather than DOING required overnight tasks for counselors, the Wilderness Skills staff should provide demonstration and the opportunity to practice
- d. Improving the overnight campout experience for cabin groups by teaching proper techniques and by instilling appreciation for wilderness camping.
- e. Maintaining the condition of all Camp Olson campsites.
- f. Wilderness Skills staff may also provide assistance in acquiring important lost or forgotten medications, equipment, gear, or clothing.
- g. Staff may work on campsite maintenance or return to the Outpost to assist the Outpost Director with any Trips Center tasks.
- h. Ensure a safe and clean program.
- i. Participate in ALL evening games and campfire programs.

3. Administrative Duties of the Wilderness Skills Instructor

- a. Maintain a dialogue with the Leadership Development Program Coordinator and Outpost Staff with regard to staffing and tripping issues.
- b. Keep a running inventory of supplies and equipment and re-order materials and supplies through the proper avenues.
- c. Write an end-of-summer report that evaluates Wilderness Skills
 - i. What went well? What didn't?
 - ii. New lesson ideas



- iii. Tips on teaching, supply stores, day-to-day maintenance of the Shurds
- iv. Inventory
- v. Future/prospective staff
- vi. Anything that may help future Instructors

Qualities Needed

A. General

1. Understanding of the mission and goals of Camp Olson and an appreciation for living out of doors.
2. Ability to work with people.
3. Affinity for working with children.
4. Knowledge of camping and wilderness skills
5. Experience or interest in outdoor education
6. Ability to problem solve.
7. Flexibility and ability to work independently

B. Specific

1. Experience in camp leadership.
2. Minimum age 18 years old by start of camp season.
3. Certification in CPR and First Aid.