

JPMS Outdoor Education Planner

Volume 3, Issue 1

August 2012

John Poole Middle School Goes to Smith Center

September 19, 20, 21

Outdoor Education can be one of the most beneficial and memorable experiences in your child's school career. At camp, we will be able to do things that we can't do in a regular classroom. The classroom teachers are still responsible for instruction, but the classroom becomes the outdoors.

Students attend activity sessions throughout the day to study things we can only study outside.

This year's topics include:

Map & Compass Study

Predator/Prey Activity

Forestry/Nature Study

Confidence Course Activities

Nature Crafts & Games

Night Hiking & Campfire

Astronomy

Outdoor Education Objectives

1. Cultivate students' awareness, knowledge, appreciation, and concern for the natural environment
2. Motivate students to develop positive attitudes toward learning through varied experiences in the natural environment
3. Provide students with many direct experiences in using scientific processes such as observing, measuring, classifying, hypothesizing and predicting
4. Make the students' school program more meaningful by applying the knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to real-life situations beyond the classroom
5. Help students to learn to live democratically and responsibly for the welfare of the total group
6. Improve human relations among students and between children and adults
7. Promote students' physical fitness
8. Instill a sense of responsibility to the environment and promote positive actions towards it

We Need Donations:

Graham crackers

Marshmallows

Hershey bars

Hand sanitizer

Send them in to the English classroom.

Want to volunteer?

We need parents to help with all different aspects of Outdoor Education. Please see pages 5 and 6 for information, and fill out the volunteer registration form if you can help! **The Volunteer Organizational meeting will be Wednesday, September 12 at 6:30pm at JPMS!**

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What to Bring:

Student's clothing and possessions must be confined to **one piece** of luggage which he/she can carry (in addition to his/her bag of bedding). Each child will have his/her own bed but should bring 1) a pillow AND 2) sheets and a blanket OR a sleeping bag in addition to the suitcase. Please wrap all bedding in one large plastic bag. **All possessions should be clearly labeled.** It is not necessary to purchase new clothing. In fact, old clothing is more appropriate for most outdoor activities. **Students are required to wear long pants at all times while outdoors.**

Trash bag for laundry (kitchen trashcan size)

Plastic bags for wet clothing items (grocery bag size)

Boots (sturdy) or hiking shoes

Gym shoes/sneakers

Jacket/sweater/sweatshirt

Jeans or slacks(3 pairs)

Pajamas

Raincoat or poncho with hat

Pillow

Sheets and blanket OR sleeping bag

Shirts-long sleeve and short sleeve

Tall Socks (5 pairs)

Toilet articles: bath towel, wash cloth, comb/brush, soap, toothbrush/paste, deodorant, tissues

Underwear (several sets)

Hat

Reading book

Pen/pencil

Bag lunch (for Tuesday)

Optional Equipment:

Binoculars Watch Insect repellent

Camera/film Deck of cards

Compass Shower cap

Flashlight Stationery/stamps

Lip balm Sunscreen

Strongly suggested—tick repellent and reusable water bottle

Things not to bring:

aerosol sprays music players

curling iron electronic games

knives sandals

gum, candy soft drinks

food matches

Mail

We will have mail call nightly. Please send your child's mail to:

John Poole Sixth Grade

c/o

Lathrop E. Smith Center

5110 Meadowside Lane

Rockville, MD 20855

Phone

Students will not be permitted to use the phone.

If your child becomes ill, you will be notified by a teacher. The camp emergency # is 301-924-3123.

Menu

The Smith Center will provide vegetarian meals only for students who request vegetarian meals on their permission slip.

Wednesday Lunch- bring bag lunch from home

Wednesday Dinner- baked chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, dinner rolls, salad bar, milk

Vegetarian: macaroni and cheese

Thursday Breakfast- egg and cheese omelets, bagels

with cream cheese and jelly, bacon, cereals, juice, milk

Vegetarian: Cereal

Thursday Lunch- hamburgers and hot dogs, French fries, side bar, fruit punch

Vegetarian: veggie burger

Thursday Dinner- spaghetti with meat sauce, French bread, green beans, salad bar, milk

Vegetarian: spaghetti with meatless sauce

Friday Breakfast- French toast, sausage, cereals, bagels with cream cheese and jelly, juice, milk

Vegetarian: Cereal

Friday Lunch- cheese or pepperoni pizza, corn, side bar, milk, lemonade

Vegetarian: cheese pizza

*Side bar: carrots, dip, applesauce, fresh fruit, canned fruit, applesauce, pudding, Jell-O with fruit

*Salad bar: all items on side bar plus salad mix, tomatoes, shredded cheese, carrots, ranch and French dressing

Medication

For all questions regarding medication forms and submission procedures, please contact Ms. Sypes or Mrs. Salyers in the Health Room at 301-407-1029 or email Ms. Sypes at Carrie_A_Sypes@mcpsmd.org.

Questions ???

Please contact Ms. Rice (301) 972-7979

rebecca_rice@mcpsmd.org

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN: Please complete this form and return it to the teacher. The teacher will deliver the completed form to the health assistant or nurse upon arrival at the outdoor education center

Student's Name _____ Male Female

Address _____ Birth Date ____/____/____

School Name _____

Please check all that apply:

- My child needs medication. (Parent is required to furnish medication in the original properly labeled container, correctly authorized on MCPS Form 525-13: *Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication*. No medicine will be given that is not in compliance with MCPS Policy JPC: *Administration of Medication to Pupils*.)
- My child should take the following over-the-counter medications _____
. I have submitted MCPS Form 525-13. (A doctor's signature is **not** required for over-the-counter medications at the outdoor education program **only**.)
- My child is allergic to insect bites to the extent that he/she needs medical treatment. (If adrenalin is required, attach MCPS Form 525-14: *Emergency Care for Management of Anaphylaxis*.)
- My child has an anaphylactic reaction to _____ food(s). Attach MCPS Form 525-14 if adrenalin is required.
- My child is allergic to _____.
- My child has special dietary requirements _____ (Some special diets will require that parents supply some food.)
- My child has other special conditions of which you should be aware. They are: _____

Date of student's last Tetanus shot ____/____/____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Medical Insurance Carrier's Name _____

Group/Organization _____

Policy Number _____

If Family is member of HMO/PPA:

Name of Group _____

Office Used _____ I.D. # _____

Telephone # _____-_____-_____

OTHER INFORMATION

Name of Family Doctor _____

Doctor's Telephone # _____-_____-_____

Parent's/Guardian's Home Telephone #
_____-_____-_____

Female Head of Household **Work** and **Cell** Phone #
_____-_____-_____

Male Head of Household **Work** and **Cell** Phone #
_____-_____-_____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Phone # _____-_____-_____

Check if your child is serving as a high school student assistant and list his/her school _____

I give permission for my child to participate in the outdoor education program described in the accompanying letter which I have read. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the staff of the outdoor education center to secure proper treatment for my child.

_____/_____/_____
Signature, Parent/Guardian Date

Outdoor Education Contract

In order to facilitate learning and enjoyment for all campers, students will be asked to follow standards that are consistent with our standards at school. Students who violate the school discipline policy or the camp standards will be sent home.

We are asking that parents and students sign this form indicating that they are aware of these standards. We are also providing a list for parents as a reminder of what the sixth grade team needs from them.

Students will:

Follow the PRIDE expectations, which include:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Be respectful of others and their property. | Follow directions given by the adult in charge. |
| Remain in the camp boundaries at all times. | Only enter their cabins with an adult present. |
| Remain in their assigned instructional group. | Participate in scheduled activities. |
| Show proper behavior (no horseplay, pillow fights, etc.). | |

Parents will:

- Supervise the packing of their child's luggage.
- Agree to pick up their child from Smith Center if necessary.
- Notify staff of any special needs for their child.
- Send medications and appropriate signed medical forms to school by October 14th.
- Send permission slip and fees to school by September 7th.
- Provide a bag lunch and snack on Wednesday, September 19, or order a school bag lunch through Ms. Rice.
- Provide for transportation to school on September 19 between 7:30 and 7:50 am.
- Provide for transportation home from school at 1:45pm on September 21st.

Fees:

The cost of the outdoor education program is **\$76.00**.

Please send cash or a check payable to JPMS no later than September 7th.

If this fee imposes a financial hardship on any family, confidential arrangements can be made through Ms. Rice or the principal.

No child should be denied this valuable learning experience for financial reasons.

I understand the student expectations and agree to follow the camp standards.
I understand that if I do not follow the expectations at camp, I will be sent home.

Student Signature _____

I understand the parental expectations.
I understand that I cannot participate as a chaperone/visitor unless I have submitted a volunteer registration form and a chaperone disclosure form by September 7th.

Parent Signature _____

Volunteer Information ~ Page 1

We need many parent volunteers, both male and female, to make the Outdoor Education program run effectively. We have various volunteer opportunities available, which include the following various responsibilities.

Please mark your calendar for the volunteer organizational meeting on September 12 at 6:30pm at JPMS.

Wednesday Daytime 9:30am to 5pm

- Unload luggage
- Eat lunch with students (bring bag lunch)
- Supervise unpacking in cabins
- Supervise afternoon activity
- Supervise cabin time before dinner

Wednesday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

- Set up evening activities
- Supervise evening activities
- Supervise snack time

Wednesday Overnight 9:30pm to 8am Thursday Morning

- Supervise cabin time and sleeping

Thursday Morning 8:30am to 12pm

- Assist with journal writing
- Supervise morning activities
- Supervise cabin time before lunch

Thursday Afternoon 12:30 to 5pm

- Supervise Student Service Learning activities
- Supervise afternoon activity
- Supervise cabin time before dinner

Thursday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

- Assist with journal writing
- Supervise snack time

Thursday Overnight 9:30pm to 8am Friday Morning

- Supervise cabin time and sleeping

Friday Morning 8:30 to 11:30am

- Assist with packing in cabins
- Supervise morning activities
- Supervise students before lunch

Volunteer Information ~ Page 2

Volunteer Disclosure Form and Informational Brochure

In order to ensure the safety of every child at Outdoor Education, Montgomery County Public Schools requires all parent volunteers to disclose any criminal charges or convictions. A chaperone disclosure form is printed on the reverse of your volunteer registration. Please ensure that both sides of this document are completed and submitted no later than September 7. Volunteers also need to review the MCPS informational brochure regarding volunteering.

Sleeping Arrangements

Parent volunteers sleep in the same rooms as the students, with separate cabins for men and women. If a male parent accompanies his daughter to Outdoor Ed, he will sleep in the boys' cabins, while moms whose sons attend Outdoor Ed will sleep in the girls' cabins. Parents will need to bring the same materials as the students, including clothing for the outdoors, toiletries and towels, pillows, and bedding (either a sleeping bag or sheets and a blanket).

Meals

Parent volunteer shifts are structured such that parents arrive after or leave before meals are served, but eating with the students is an enjoyable and economical option. Volunteers need to submit payment for all meals to JPMS (with a check made out to the school) by September 7. Costs and times are listed below, and the menu is listed on page 2 of the newsletter.

Breakfast – 8am – \$5.50

Lunch – 12pm – \$6.85

Dinner – 5pm – \$7.85

Clothing

Volunteers will participate with students in most activities, so volunteers need to dress like the students, complete with sturdy shoes, layered clothing, and long pants. No shorts are permitted for outdoor activities. Volunteers should also bring a water bottle and rain gear because activities will occur rain or shine.

Transportation

Volunteers will need to provide their own transportation to and from the Smith Center. The address, telephone number, and driving directions are listed below.

Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center
5110 Meadowside Lane
Rockville, MD 20855

Phone: 301-924-3123

Fax: 301-924-3149

FROM POOLESVILLE: Traveling South on I-270 take the exit for I-370 going East towards the Metro. Take the Shady Grove Road East exit. Pass Midcounty Highway. Take a right onto Muncaster Mill Road. After Avery Road traffic light, turn right onto Meadowside Lane into the park. At the L.E. Smith Environmental Education Center sign, turn right.

Volunteer Registration Form

Thank you for volunteering to help with Outdoor Education!

Parent Name _____ Student _____

Email Address _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Work Phone Number _____

Please indicate which shifts you would like to volunteer:

_____ I would like to participate in the entire experience.

_____ Wednesday Daytime 9:30am to 5pm

_____ Wednesday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

_____ Wednesday Overnight 9:30pm to 8am Thursday Morning

_____ Thursday Morning 8:30am to 12pm

_____ Thursday Afternoon 12:30 to 5pm

_____ Thursday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

_____ Thursday Overnight 9:30pm to 8am Friday Morning

_____ Friday Morning 8:30 to 11:30am

Notes for Ms. Rice _____

Please sign below to indicate your understanding of the following:

- I have read the MCPS informational brochure and **signed and attached the volunteer disclosure form.**
- I understand and agree to the sleeping arrangements and luggage expectations.
- I have **included payment** for any meals I plan to eat with the students. I plan to eat:
_____ Wednesday dinner _____ Thursday breakfast _____ Thursday lunch
_____ Thursday dinner _____ Friday breakfast _____ Friday lunch
- I understand and agree to the clothing expectations for volunteers.
- I plan to attend the **volunteer meeting on September 12 at 6:30pm at JPMS.**

Signature _____ Date _____

Montgomery County Public Schools
Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center
5110 Meadowside Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20855



Chaperone/Student Assistant Disclosure Form Outdoor and Environmental Education Program

Mr./Mrs./Ms.: _____ (Please print first and last name)

Child's Name: _____ School: _____
(If applicable)

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell (optional): _____ E-mail (optional): _____

I have read and understand the *Guide to Chaperoning in the Outdoor Education Program* brochure and understand the expectations of volunteering as a chaperone in the outdoor education program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please check if you are a high school assistant accompanying the school.

Name of High School : _____

I _____, hereby under the penalty of perjury declare and affirm that I have _____ have not _____ (please check one) been convicted of nor am I the subject of any pending criminal charges for the commission or attempt to commit any crime(s) as defined by the *Criminal Law Article, Code of Maryland*.

If yes, please explain (use additional paper if necessary): _____

I further understand that I may be subject to a background check.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Safety and Security

In order to assure the safety and security of our students, all chaperones will be asked to sign a document indicating that they have not been convicted of any crime as defined by the Criminal Code of Maryland and may be subject to a background check..



*Outdoor Environmental
Education Programs*

I hear and I forget,

I see and I remember,

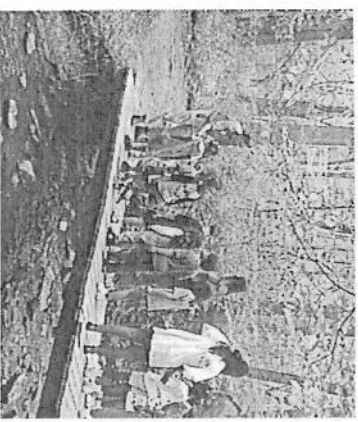
I do and I understand.

*Guide to
Chaperoning in
the Residential
Outdoor
Environmental
Education
Programs*

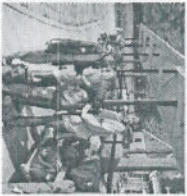
*Outdoor Environmental Education
Programs*

5110 Meadowside Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20855

Phone: 301-924-3123



Chaperoning at Outdoor Environmental Education



Chaperones are an integral part of the Montgomery County Public

Schools (MCPS) Outdoor Environmental Education Residential Program. Chaperones support the educational experience and strengthen the link between the school and the community. Chaperones provide many benefits for the program, for school staff, and for students. They often bring a wealth of experience and valuable background knowledge that increase student learning.

Chaperones are employed to assist in the instructional component of the program and help supervise the nonacademic activities., which may include table setting and food serving by the "kitchen patrol" students, supplemental recreational activities, and dorm life.

General Expectations

The outdoor education experience is an extension of the school's instructional program. It is often one of the most memorable experiences in a student's educational career. As such, the first priority of the program is to ensure all students experience a safe, challenging, high quality educational experience. Chaperones, working with school and outdoor education staff, help to create that environment.

Role of Chaperones

Chaperones are role models and should conduct themselves in a manner that is appropriate for a school setting.



Characteristics of good chaperones include the following:

- Display respect for all children and adults.
- Address behavior issues in a positive manner and share any concerns with MCPS staff immediately.
- Ensure a safe environment for students at all times.

Children look for clear directions and adult guidance. They respond to consistent and positive interactions with their teachers and their chaperones.



As with all MCPS facilities, alcohol, smoking, and illegal items or substances are not permitted or tolerated.

Individual schools have the option of choosing chaperones or student assistants to help with the residential program. This decision is based on a combination of factors, including program needs, number of volunteers needed, and availability of volunteers to spend evenings. If an adult is interested in chaperoning, a contact should be made with the teacher in charge at the participating school.

Outdoor Environmental Education Programs

5110 Meadowside Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20855

Phone: 301-924-3123