

November 3, 2009

To: Older 4-H Members

Fr: Don Nicholson, 4-H Youth Development Specialist

It is time to apply for one of the Camp Counselor positions for 2010. I have enclosed an application for you to use. Camp will be held at Camp Inlow, near Philadelphia MO.

Any teen between the age of 14 and 18 (as of 1/1/10) can apply for Camp Counselor. Applications are due in my office by December 28th.

We have a limited number of Counselor positions for Junior Camp (campers aged 8-11) and for Teen Camp (campers aged 12-14). Counselors are selected based upon a variety of criteria, including age, meeting our balance for gender, geographical location, whether they have applied previously to be Counselor and other factors. Prior camping experience is NOT required!

If you have questions about the Counselor position or the application process, please let me know.

The following dates are tentative, but ones you should be aware of. If you foresee significant conflicts to your attending most of these planning sessions, you may not be in a position to serve as Counselor. Participation in planning is the key to your success as a Counselor, and to the success of the entire camp.

- February 13, 2010
- March 27, 2010
- June 5, 2010

All planning sessions will likely be in the Hannibal area. Most will run from 9:00 a.m. until about 1:00 p.m.

The dates for the camps themselves are on the application form.

I have also included a copy of the Counselor agreement. We will talk more about this at our first planning meeting if you are accepted. It may be helpful, though, for you and your parents to look this over as you apply, so you will know some of the expectations of Counselors.



Do not return this at this time. This will be covered during planning session #1

### **CAMP COUNSELOR Roles & Expectations**

The University of Missouri 4-H Youth Development Programs coordinates 4-H educational events and activities, such as 4-H Camp. All participants (adult and youth) must observe the following guidelines for conduct:

1. I will participate fully in all sessions. If I cannot attend a planning session, I will directly notify either Patty Fisher or Don Nicholson (not another counselor).
2. I will participate in at least two of the three camp planning sessions unless other arrangements are made with either Patty or Don in advance.
3. I will work with the Extension Service staff to develop and conduct a quality program for the 4-H campers.
4. I will show respect for property and facilities used during the camp and planning sessions, and assume financial responsibility for any damage I cause.
5. I will observe the established schedule, including being in my own cabin at the announced curfew.
6. I will use appropriate and courteous behavior. I will not swear or use obscene gestures. All participants, guests, chaperons, and visitors will be treated with respect and common courtesy.
7. This event should bring about a “natural high.” I will not use alcohol, stimulants, or non-prescription drugs.
8. I will help develop, and observe all basic camp rules and agreements, including in part:
  - No tobacco.
  - No fireworks, matches or lighters.
  - No boys in the girl’s cabins and vice versa.
  - If you break it, you bought it. Cost of repairing damage to cabins will be shared equally by the residents.
  - Observe camp boundaries.
9. I will serve as a positive role model. By my example, I will help individuals learn to respect and cooperate with others. I will teach others to participate with honesty and fair play.
10. I will work as a “team player” for the good of all people. I will work cooperatively with other staff for the good of all involved.
11. I will provide a safe environment. I will not harm youth or adults in any way, whether through harassment, physical force, verbal or mental abuse, neglect or other harmful experiences.

*I understand and accept the responsibility for following the above guidelines, and understand that failure to do so could result in dismissal from 4-H Camp and my role as Camp Counselor. Further, I accept financial responsibility for damages to property or materials, travel costs, and/or program costs which might result from violation of this agreement.*

4-H Camp Counselor Application  
2010

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (if you check it regularly): \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the two camp sessions would you like to be considered for? (check one or both)

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior Camp: June 26 - 29, 2010 (plus June 25)

\_\_\_\_\_ Teen Camp: June 29 – July 2, 2010 (plus June 28)

Have you *applied* to be a Counselor at this camp before this year? \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in serving as 4-H Camp Counselor?**

**What skills would you like to learn more about that would help you prepare for your role as Counselor?**

**Do you have special skills, abilities or interests that would be useful as a Counselor? If so, what?**

**In your opinion, what is the most important skill or ability a camp counselor must have? Explain why?**

**Think back over all your years as a camper (4-H or other), and describe one incident where you witnessed a counselor exhibiting true leadership. Tell what they did and how it showed leadership.**

The first camp planning session will be Saturday February 13, 2010; 9:00 – 1:00 p.m. in the Hannibal area. To the best of your knowledge, is this a date you can commit to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application due in your local Extension office on or before December 29<sup>th</sup>**