

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Operations, Bureau of Environmental Education

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Dear Parents and Sponsors,

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announces that camper registration will begin **10:00 AM on Wednesday, January 25th**. Parents may register their children through DEC's online registration system, and pay by credit card, e-check or with a sponsor code. Parents and sponsors can currently access the registration site to create or update their profiles in advance of the January 25th opening. It is important that all contact information is updated since e-mail will be the primary method of contacting parents and sponsors. A link to the registration web site can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/61769.html>. Look for the green "Register for Summer Camp" button.

Sporting clubs, civic groups and environmental organizations are encouraged to sponsor one or more children for a week at camp. Groups who sponsor six paid campers will receive a scholarship to send a seventh child to camp for free after the first six have registered. Information about becoming a sponsor is available at www.dec.ny.gov/education/1866.html.

The weekly fee for the 2017 summer camp season will remain at \$350. This includes program supplies, all meals and snacks, a camper t-shirt and accommodations for five nights.

There will be seven weeks of camp offered at Rushford, Colby and DeBruce and eight weeks at Pack Forest. Camp Pack Forest will host two weeks of camp for ages 11 – 13; weeks 4 (July 16-21) and 8 (August 13-18) will offer programs similar to the other three camps. All the other weeks of camp at Pack Forest will be for ages 14 – 17. Camp Rushford, as in recent years, will offer two sessions of camp for the 14 – 17 age group during weeks 4 (July 16-21) and 5 (July 23-28). You can find out more about the camp weeks, dates and ages at the following NYSDEC web site: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/2013.html>.

Hunter Safety and Bow Education will be offered at each camp; see the information below for specific weeks. The New York State Trapper Education class will also be offered at each camp once again this summer. This class was offered as a pilot program at Camp Colby and Rushford in 2014 and, was such a success again the past two summers, will continue to be part of the sportsman education schedule for all the camps in 2017.

The popular Outdoor Skills Adventure week will once again be offered Week 3, July 19-14, at Camp Pack Forest for 14 – 17 year olds. During this week of camp we will provide an opportunity for older campers to speak with professionals about career choices, participate and gain experience in more advanced activities, and take advantage of fishing in more habitats.

This year will be the 70th summer of camps offered by DEC. Each year with input from parents, campers and sponsors, DEC strives to enhance and improve the program to meet the needs of the campers and organizations that have supported DEC Camps for seven decades. Summer camps always focus on "Safety, Fun, Learning." DEC strives to provide the best trained, and most certified staff of all the camps in New York State. DEC facilities are inspected by the Department of Health before and during each camp season and the program is reviewed annually by DEC Camp Program Staff to ensure the highest quality program that we are able to deliver. Please call Camp Administrative staff at 518-402-8014 if you have any questions.



Sportsman Education Offering and Age Group

<u>Camp Week</u>	<u>Camp Dates</u>	Colby	DeBruce	Pack Forest	Rushford
1	June 25 – June 30	Bow Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 14-17	Hunter Safety Education 11-13
2	July 2 - July 7	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Bow Education 14-17	Hunter Safety Education 11-13
3	July 9 - July 14	Trapper Education 11-13	Bow Education 11-13	Outdoor Adventure Camp 14 - 17	Bow Education 11-13
4	July 16 - July 21	Bow Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 14-17
5	July 23 - July 28	Bow Education 11-13	Bow Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 14-17	Bow Education 14-17
6	July 30 - August 4	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Bow Education 14-17	Hunter Safety Education 11-13
7	August 6 - August 11	Hunter Safety Education 11-13	Trapper Education 11-13	Bow Education 14-17	Trapper Education 11-13
8	August 13 - August 18			Trapper Education 11-13	