

Maine Woods Explorers: Summer 2017

“An Outdoor Learning Experience for Children”

It is our mission at NREC to allow students to increase awareness and appreciation of natural resources around us and to understand the stewardship necessary to sustain them. These goals are met through in depth, science based, experiential education and outdoor recreation. We provide quality hands-on, nature-based activities that are challenging and fun. The woods and waters of Maine, especially those of the Moosehead Lake Region, provide us with the perfect setting for our outdoor recreation.

The summer 2017 schedule offers six weeks of day camp: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9 am – 3pm for youth ages 8-14. Class size is limited to 15 to ensure a quality experience. Each week is a different theme where students can explore, learn, and have fun! Locations and activities may change due to weather.

Week 1: Rock Climbing Camp with Acadia Mountain Guides! July 5th-7th: A rock climbing adventure right in our own ‘backyard’, Kineo! We will have two Acadia Mountain Climbing School guides leading three days of discovery and climbing. Learn basic knots, team work, how rocks are formed, and basic orienteering followed by two days of hands on climbing at ‘Little Yosemite’! This special week of camp is limited to 12 kids. AMG will provide rock climbing shoes, harnesses, helmets, and technical gear. Upon registration, a separate consent waiver will be emailed/mailed to each participant.

Week 2: Paddling Week! July 12th-14th: Maine has over 6,000 lakes and ponds, almost 32,000 of rivers and streams, and a long storied history with paddle sports. Learn about the author Henry David Thoreau’s trips into ‘The Maine Woods’ over 150 years ago. We will kayak and canoe: learning about the equipment, proper preparedness and safety, skills and handling, and stewardship. All powered by you!

Week 3: Primitive Skills Week! July 19th-21st: We will explore awareness and the skill sets for a life of enjoying the outdoors, whether planning for backcountry travel or how to explore our bountiful natural surroundings. Explorers will learn fire safety and responsible use, orienteering, wild foraging, and animal track identification. Learn to build shelters and so much more!

Week 4: History Detectives Week! July 26th-28th: Uncover the mysteries of the Maine Woods. Our natural resources and location made the Maine Woods the site and source of a rich history. Log drives, massive furnaces producing charcoal and iron, US Air Force Training mission gone awry, and WWII POW camps. We will follow the clues, use our orienteering skills, and hit the trails for a hike through the past.

Week 5: Fishing Week! August 2nd-4th: Learn about water ecology and native species. Try your hand at fly tying and casting with the folks from the Kennebec Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Go fishing with local guide Dan Legere and the IF&W Fish Biologists on Indian Pond. Fish on!

Week 6: Summer Biathlon! August 9th-11th: Learn what the sport of Biathlon is all about: the physical challenge of endurance sport combined with precision shooting! Visit Big Pine Gun Club in Willimantic and learn firearm safety and tips for the Summer Biathlon. Archery 101 with certified archery instructor and national traditional recurve champion, Robin Gardella. Archery helps you learn focus, mindfulness, a new set of skills and best of all, it’s fun! Shooting with air rifles and run some more on the NREC trails for a friendly Biathlon competition.

Registration: To reserve a space, please complete registration & consent form (download at www.nrecmoosehead.org) and mail with full payment to NREC PO Box 1329, Greenville, ME 04441. Enrollment is on a first come first serve basis. We will email to confirm your registration. Fees (per week): \$25 members (Family Level or higher)/\$35 Non-members. AMG Rock Climbing Camp is \$50 for all. Partial or full scholarships are available. For more information email Suzannah Sinclair at NRECMoosehead@gmail.com or call 207-280-0782.