

Maine Woods Explorers: Summer 2018

“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 2018 schedule offers six weeks of day camp: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9* am – 3*pm 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: Mountain Biking! July 11-13th Learn bicycle operation and safety with Maine Bicycling Coalition. Explore the trails around AMC's Medawisla Lodge and develop the skills and experiences for confidence exploring. AMC's conservation and recreation lands allow public enjoyment of trails in the famed 100-mile wilderness. *Program limited to 12 participants. Additional permission form.

Week 2: Moosehead History! July 18th-20th: The Moosehead Marine Museum allows an exploration of their living Museum, the steamship Katahdin, led by local guides. A ride aboard the Katahdin provides a mesmerizing view of the vast natural resources Moosehead Lake offers. In honor of Henry David Thoreau's travels to the Moosehead, we will hike #4 mountain and get an elevated perspective of Moosehead Lake.

Week 3: Summer Biathlon! July 25th-27th: 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. Shooting with air rifles and run some more on the NREC trails for a friendly Biathlon competition.

Week 4: Moosehead Natural Stewards Week! August 1st-3rd: Meet stewards of the Maine Woods. Understand the relations between geology, silviculture, and biology in maintaining a healthy boreal forest. Learn the roles of Maine Inland biologists, foresters, game wardens, and everyday citizens in its sustainable uses. Hike Big Moose Mountain and see these high value natural resources.

Week 5: Fishing Week! August 8th-10th: 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. Visit the east outlet of Kennebec River and learn how the stream is an excellent habitat for salmon as both developing and adults spawning. Go fishing with local guide Dan Legere and the IF&W Fish Biologists on Indian Pond. Fish on!

Week 6: Paddling Week! August 15th-17th: Maine has over 6,000 lakes and ponds, almost 32,000 of rivers and streams, and a long storied history with paddle sports. We will kayak: learn about the equipment, proper preparedness and safety, skills and handling, and stewardship. A Kennebec Middle River rafting and duckie trip: develops water awareness and paddling skills. All powered by you! *8am Friday departure & arrived back 4:30pm. Additional permission form and fee, no member discount.

Registration: Complete registration, consent form (download @ www.nrecmoosehead.org) & mail with full payment to NREC PO Box 1329, Greenville, ME 04441. Enrollment is first come first serve. We will email to confirm your registration. Fees (per week): \$25 NREC members (Family Level or higher)/\$35 Non-members. Partial or full scholarships are available. 'Paddling Week!' is \$45 for all. For more information email NRECMoosehead@gmail.com