

Maine Woods Explorers: Summer 2019

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 summer 2019 schedule offers six weeks of day camp: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9 am – 3 pm for youth ages 8-12. Class size is limited to 12. Each week is a different theme where students can explore, learn, and have fun! Locations and activities may change due to weather.

Week 1: Paddling Week! July 10-12: Paddling sports have long been a vital part of the Moosehead Region experience thanks to its many lakes, ponds and rivers. Day 1, kayak: learn about the equipment, proper safety, and paddling skills. Day 2, canoe: learn about the equipment, proper safety and canoeing strokes, with opportunities to venture among the islands of Lily Bay on Moosehead Lake. Friday will be a river trip, with options for students to either kayak or canoe based on personal preference.

Week 2: Trains, Planes & Boats: Moosehead Transportation Week! July 17-19: Learn about the storied history of the Moosehead Region and the unique forms of transportation that both tourists and locals have utilized for more than 150 years. Tour an old railroad depot – once a hub of train traffic and travelers, now in the process of being restored. Tour the Greenville Airport, followed by some up-close exploration of float planes. Cap off the week with a 3 hour cruise on the *Katahdin*, the only vessel to survive from Greenville's thriving and nostalgic steamboat era.

Week 3: Fishing Week! July 24-26: Learn about water ecology and native species. Try your hand at fly fishing and casting with the folks from Trout Unlimited. Visit the east outlet of the 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.**

Week 4: Hike the Appalachian Trail Week! July 31-August 2: Hike some of the most scenic pieces of and connectors to the Appalachian Trail in our region of Maine. Learn the exciting, hands on skill of using maps and compasses to navigate in the Maine woods with retired Game Warden Roger Guay. Over the next two days, get a chance to practice your skills on Wilson Falls hike, followed by our exploration of Gulf Hagas, also known as the "Grand Canyon of Maine."

Week 5: Summer Biathlon Week! August 7-9: Learn what Biathlon is all about: the physical challenge of endurance sport combined with precision shooting! Learn archery with certified archery instructor and national traditional recurve champion, Robin Gardella. Visit Big Pine Gun Club in Willimantic and learn firearm safety and shooting skills for the Summer Biathlon. Finally, shoot air rifles and run some more on the NREC trails for a friendly Biathlon competition!**

Week 6: Fire Tower History Week! August 14-16: Discover the vital role that fire watchmen and fire towers played in the history of central Maine! Bill Cobb and Bill Spach will be our guides, bringing decades of experience and immersion in the local history of this field. Tour the brand new replica fire warden's cabin, learning about this unique vocation and the various challenges and adventures of the job. Hike Williams Mountain, one of the few mountains with a watchman's cabin still standing alongside its fire tower. Finally, we will hike Mt. Kineo and experience not only the fire tower with its breathtaking views, but old ruins and lost historical sites that our guides will lead us to.

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. Scholarships are available. **Fishing & Biathlon will be reserved for children who DID NOT attend Fishing and/or Biathlon Camp Summer 2018.