

Wilderness Trip Leader Performance Profile

Wilderness Trip Leader Skills:

- High level of experience being out in the wilderness, and high level of comfort leading others in the wilderness
- Can lead a variety of trips: backpacking, canoeing, climbing, horsepacking
- Knowledge and practice of wilderness medicine. Minimum: current Wilderness First Responder certification or ability to acquire one
- Extremely organized; can handle the management of multiple areas of trip leading: including people, equipment and logistics
- Practice and educate participants on Leave No Trace principles
- Cool as a cucumber; best laid plans can go awry, and the wilderness combined with a group of teenagers offers a level of uncertainty. The wilderness trip leader is calm, collected, a problem solver and is able to anticipate possible scenarios ahead of time.
- Transference; can carry the essence of a Camp Augusta experience out into the wilderness. Wish, wonder and surprise may be in the backpack, and it is definitely in the heart of all on-trip activities
- Time management; wilderness trip leaders do not operate on camp's schedule. They are responsible for keeping up with the trip itinerary in the wilderness as well as planning appropriate mealtimes and breaks
- Stamina; trip leaders are on 24/7 when they are in the wilderness and are expected to meet the physical demands of each trip
- Community Involvement; when not in the backcountry trip leaders will perform wilderness-related tasks at camp, facilitate main camp activities, and be a positive and active part of the community

Wilderness Trip Leader Tasks:

- Help plan numerous trips of different types, including (but not limited to) a backpacking trip, canoeing trip, climbing trip, horse-packing trip and biking trip.
 - Organize routes, map everything out with the wilderness liaison, and provide backup plans.
- Complete all pre-trip tasks including: write trip itinerary, pack gear, pack food, reserve vehicle from camp, pre-trip contact with each participant
 - Plans all meals within Camp Augusta's food philosophy and food budget
 - Organize equipment for trips
 - Contacts participants at least 3 days prior to trip, answer any questions from family and participants
 - Inform office elves how wilderness trip participants will arrive/be picked up from camp (bus, plane, car, etc.)
- Complete all post-trip tasks including: clean, repair (if necessary), and store all gear, clean vehicles & return keys, debrief with Wilderness director and co-trip leaders, complete parent letters
- Monitor and guard the emotional, physical, and spiritual health of each camper
- Plan special wake-ups and evening embers every night for campers

- Collaborate with other trip staff, and on-site staff. Work with other trip staff to combine efforts and expertise for a magical trip
- Coordinate with parents and campers ahead of time.
- Manage how the wilderness trip interacts with the camp community. When the group returns to site, they co-ordinate activities with the Puppet Master (PM), meals with the kitchen, and closing ceremonies with the Village Leaders (VLs)
- Engage with the rest of the camp community to offer fun, memorable experiences even beyond the realm of leading trips in the wilderness
 - Wilderness Trip Leaders will, while in camp, facilitate activities, participate in evening programs, campfires, and bringing magic to our camp community