

TCODS - Tillamook County Outdoor School

Outdoor School Information and Counselor Expectations '11

www.outdoorschool.org

To: Students Interested in Serving as Counselors at Outdoor School

From: Moses, Dean Bones, ODS Director

You MUST read this entire sheet BEFORE signing up to be an Outdoor School (ODS) counselor!

Please keep this sheet with you FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

1. ODS '11 is being held in two 1-week sessions:

Week #1 Saturday, September 24 - Friday, September 30

Week #2 Saturday, October 1 - Friday, October 7

2. **NOT EVERYONE WHO SIGNS UP TO BE AN ODS COUNSELOR WILL BE SELECTED** to attend ODS. Selections are based on recommendations from high school staff with input from law enforcement personnel. Usually upper class (ie. senior, junior and then sophomore) students are chosen first. A limited number of students are chosen from sign-ups in 4+ high schools. Students are usually chosen in the order of sign up on the school sign-up sheet. **EACH PERSON MUST SIGN UP HIS/HER OWN NAME ONLY!**

3. Selected counselors will be at **Camp Meriwether, just south of Cape Lookout in Tillamook County, by 12:45 PM and ready to begin training at 1:00 PM Saturday of the week each will be a counselor.** Counselors will remain in camp until 4:00 PM Friday. **Each student must have transportation out of camp by 4:30 PM.**

4. **Students involved in sports or other school activities will NOT be allowed to leave camp during the week.** Check with your coach or advisor to see if you will be allowed to attend camp. Most schools have not allowed football players, volleyball players, or cheerleaders to attend camp. However, check with your school administration. Cross-country track members have usually been able to attend.

5. There will be an ODS counselor introduction meeting at 4:20 PM in the middle gym at East Elementary in Tillamook on **Monday, September 19th, for all selected counselors.** (East Elementary is located across from Tillamook Junior High School on Alder Lane.) Use the front entrance. This meeting will last approximately 1 1/2 hours. **No selected counselor should miss this meeting. If you have an incredibly important reason to miss the meeting, contact Moses yourself prior to the meeting.** See the contact information below!

6. **NO STUDENTS WHO ARE:**

SUSPECTED of being involved in drugs including alcohol,

HAVE A HISTORY of resisting authority,

HAVE A HISTORY of severe absenteeism, or

HAVE A REPUTATION of shirking responsibilities WILL BE ALLOWED TO SERVE AS ODS COUNSELORS. (It is the hope of ODS staff that those students will not sign up or will be crossed off of the signup list by high school staff who review the list.) If you sign up, please be advised that an authorized person will be doing a **law enforcement records check** for substance abuse and other criminal activity. Any infraction during the past year will result in the student NOT being selected as a counselor. Be advised that the ODS director is only told that the student should not be selected - no other information is shared with him.

7. **MAJOR RULES WHILE IN CAMP:**

a. **Outside of prescription drugs used under a doctor's care, there are absolutely no drugs, alcohol, or tobacco including chewing tobacco allowed in camp!**

b. **High school students must each remain in their cabin areas at night with the sixth graders they are responsible for!**

c. **Sixth grade students will not be harmed by high school students!**

d. **Profanity, vulgarity, and insubordination will not be tolerated! Failure to abide by these rules will result in notification to parents and school, and the counselor will be suspended from camp immediately!**

8. Try to finish and hand school assignments in by the Friday before camp unless you make other arrangements with your teachers.

9. **Take a "sack supper" with you to camp to eat on Saturday evening, the 1st supper of training.** (It helps us cut some costs.)

10. Your friends are NOT allowed to visit camp! Please tell them of this request! It is also in the best interest of selected counselors for boyfriend/girlfriend and best friends to attend separate weeks. Your attention must be focused on the 6th graders!

11. There is a \$35.00 fee for each selected counselor. Please pay this money at the ODS introduction meeting on September 19th. (The actual cost to TCOODS is at least \$110.00 for each counselor. **Donations beyond the \$35.00 are needed AND appreciated!**)

12. **If you are still interested in being an ODS counselor, and if, according to the above information, you believe you qualify, please sign the "Yes, I would Like To Be An Outdoor School Counselor" sign-up sheet by September 9th at the end of the student day.**

For more information contact Moses by email at Moses@oregoncoast.com, by phone at 503-392-3059, or by mail at PO Box 4, Cloverdale, OR 97112.

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