



MONTANA NATURAL RESOURCES YOUTH CAMP

Thank you for your interest in the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp, **July 10-15, 2022**.

Enclosed you will find a full application which should be completed and returned no later than **July 1th** with a \$150.00 deposit to:

**Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp
c/o Christina Oppegard
W.A. Franke College of Forestry & Conservation
32 Campus Drive
Missoula, MT 59812-0606**

Phone: 406-243-2773 • Email: christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu

Please take time to read the application fully and accurately, fill it out, and get all of the parent or guardian signatures required. ***The fee for the entire 6 days of camp is \$300.*** Also please understand that each camper will be required to provide proof of their own health insurance. The application should be sent back as soon as possible since our capacity is limited to 30 campers. Qualified campers are accepted based upon when the applications are received. The camp can fill up early, so don't delay.

Two optional programs are available only for 2nd and 3rd year return campers. An overnight backpacking trip several miles into the Seeley Swan is offered only to return campers. This adventure takes place immediately after camp ends on Friday at 3:00 PM and returns the next day Saturday at 1:00 PM. Since we can only take 10 campers this opportunity is only available to the first 10 applicants. The Conservation Leadership School offers several advanced classes during the week and is only available to 3rd year return campers.

The camp instructors are all professional volunteers from the public and private sectors of natural resource management who offer campers a unique opportunity to see real world applications of land management.

We will make every effort to keep campers and adults safe while providing a fun and educational experience at camp. We will comply with county, state, and federal health restrictions. For any reason we are not able to hold camp this year we will send out notifications and refunds will be issued.

If you have any questions about the camp feel free to call me at (406) 243-2773, or you can reach me via email at: christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu

Sincerely Yours,
Christina Oppegard. Camp Director

Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp Sponsorships

The camp fee of \$300 (\$50 extra each for Conservation school and/or backpacking trip) is required for each camp participant. Although campers are welcome to pay for the entire fee on their own, they may also seek sponsorships from a variety of agencies and organizations. A sponsorship usually consists of a \$100 stipend awarded to a camper and mailed directly to the Camp Director. Stipend amounts may vary by organization, area, and year and have traditionally ranged from \$25 to \$300. Past sponsors have been:

- Conservation Districts
- Stimpson Lumber Company
- Weyerhaeuser
- Marks-Miller Post and Pole
- Montana Timber Legacy Foundation
- Northwest Energy
- The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- The Montana Tree Farm System
- The Montana Society of American Foresters
- Local Community Organizations
- Local businesses such as hardware stores or implement dealers.

A letter of support and legitimacy for a sponsorship may be obtained from the Camp Director.

The \$300 fee covers approximately 25% of the cost per student. The balance is covered by larger grants from a variety of agencies and non-government organizations and industries that are obtained by the MNRYC board of directors on an annual basis.

Name of Sponsor, if any _____

(It is highly recommended that campers give a formal report to their sponsor after returning from camp.)

Letter of Recommendation

(Required for all new and return campers)

Please obtain a recommendation letter from one of the following: 4-H leader, teacher, school counselor, county extension agent, Soil Conservation District employee, or natural resources professional. Letter of recommendation needs to include the applicant emotional maturity, why would this camp be good for the applicant, clubs or organization they participate in, ability to interact in a positive manner in an unfamiliar setting for a week with peers and instructors. **No letters from family members will be accepted, regardless of background or employment!**

Letters must be typed with contact information of the person who is recommending the potential camper. Letter of recommendation can accompany application or emailed separately. If emailed separately from application please notify camp director, Christina Oppegard at 406-243-2773 or christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu.

Applicants will not be considered for admittance without letter of recommendation and no letters will be accepted after the camp deadline, unless prior arrangements have been made with the camp director.

Second and Third Year Programs

Conservation Leadership School

The Conservation Leadership School offers two advanced field trip classes for **3rd year return campers**. Participants typically visit an active timber harvesting site, and a restoration project that had to balance multiple objectives for the best use of a resource. Students are asked to use problem solving skills to provide recommendations and/or questions to help improve the project for balancing the objectives of the landowner and meeting the overarching conservation goals for Montana Natural Resources.

An additional fee of \$50 applies to help cover travel expenses, for a full fee of \$350.

10 spaces are available. To be considered, please write a brief statement (min. 500 words) double-spaced on why you want to attend the conservation leadership school and how would you apply what you have learned in your future academics. The statement needs to accompany the application and no letters after the **July 1st** deadline will be accepted.

Overnight backpacking trip

The overnight backpacking trip is offered to all return campers based on a first 10 applications basis. We will create a reserve list when applicable. **This opportunity extends camp an extra day, starting at 3:00 pm on Friday, July 15th when the regular camp ends. Backpackers will return July 16th by 2:00 pm and will be picked up at the Lubrecht Forest parking lot.** This overnight backpacking trip is limited to only 10 campers per use restrictions of backcountry sites on national forest lands. Destinations may vary from year to year based upon conditions but typically require a 1-3 mile hike to an alpine lake where campers will spend the night. Backpacks and sleeping bags can be provided, though if campers possess their own they are encouraged to bring them. Sturdy hiking shoes are required (running shoes do not qualify!) that offer good stable foot protection and traction. If new shoes are used campers are highly recommended to have worn them for at least 5 miles prior to backpacking (putting them on wet and walking them dry is a good way to break them in). This will prevent chances of blisters or foot abrasions as hiking up and down trails with weight is different than just walking. Objectives for this trip are to have fun, experience an out-of-the-way place, learn the basics about packing for a trip (meals, drinking water, clothing, safety), and setting up a comfortable and functional camp with minimum impact to nature. Often there are trout in the lake so campers may want to bring their fishing rods (only rods that can be taken apart to 4 feet or smaller - fly or spincast). Catch and release fishing will be allowed. Swimming (water is typically quite cold) is also possible. A minimum of 2 adults (though typically 4) will accompany campers. Food is supplied.

An additional fee of \$50 applies to help cover travel, permits, equipment sanitation and food.

10 spaces are available. To be considered, please write a brief statement (min. 500 words), double-spaced explaining the following. Why do you want to go on the backpacking trip? What will you gain from the experience? What do you think you will learn? The statement will need to accompany the application and no letters after the **July 1st** deadline will be accepted.

TRAVEL FORM
(To Be Completed by Parent/Guardian)

The camp does not provide shuttle service or overnight accommodation before or after camp. However, we do offer a car pool option (see below).

- *The camp can arrange for pick-up and/or drop-off for people traveling by bus or airplane. Arrangements need to be **scheduled 20 days before the first day of camp**. Itinerary needs to be emailed to the camp director.*
- *If a camper is driving a vehicle to camp they will be required to give the ignition keys to the camp director and will not be able to use the vehicle for the duration of the camp unless there is an emergency.*

ARRIVAL:

My son/daughter will be arriving by:

- car Driver: _____
- bus
- airplane
- other

DEPARTURE:

My son/daughter will be leaving by:

- car Driver: _____
- bus
- airplane
- other

I understand, that these instructions will be followed in getting my son or daughter to and from camp, and understand that I am certifying the accuracy of the travel information provided. Unless, I inform the camp director of our permission for any change, our campers will be expected to follow the instructions above.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Please indicate here, if you consent that we can share your contact information with other parents for possible car-pooling to and from camp.

- Yes, please share my contact information for possible car-pooling.
- No, do not share my contact information.

CAMP RULES

The organizers of the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp and the staff of Lubrecht Experimental Forest want your week to be filled with exciting experiences, new friendships and fun. To help make this happen, they expect each camper to be considerate of others, participate fully in the camp program and observe the following rules.

The camp rules are intended to assist in providing for the health, safety and social well-being of everyone attending camp. If a situation or question arises which is not clearly covered by this list, ask the Camp Director **before acting**.

- *Social distancing of 6-feet must be maintained when possible.*
- *Face masks are encouraged, but not mandatory.*
- *Periodic hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer will be strongly encouraged.*
- *Obtain the Camp Director's permission before leaving camp for any purpose.*
- *Respect the camp facilities and natural surroundings-do not deface or destroy them in any way. Deposit your litter in the containers provided.*
- *Please be curious to everyone at camp-profanity or foul language will not be tolerated at any time.*
- *ALCOHOL, DRUGS, GUNS, TOBACCO, VAPES, MATCHES, AND FIREWORKS ARE PROHIBITED. We reserve the right to search personal belongings for prohibited items.*
- *Violation of any of these rules is grounds for dismissal of individuals or groups and forfeiture of camp fees. Parents will be promptly notified along with the person recommending the camper. Individuals so dismissed must call their parent or guardian and arrange transportation home at their own cost.*
- *It is not possible to anticipate every possible situation that might come up. In the absence of a rule regarding a specific activity or situation — **CONSULT A CAMP COUNSELOR.***

CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

I acknowledge that I understand the basic rules for participation in the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp and agree to and comply with:

- *** Participate fully in the program.
- *** Be responsible for my own behavior and uphold exemplary standards for the group.
- *** Abide by the basic rules for living at the camp, this includes post bed times.
- *** Leave the camp facility in as good or better condition than I found it.
- *** Support and abide by the camp staff's leadership.
- *** Refrain from possessing or using tobacco, vapes, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or fireworks.

Please check the following box to acknowledge your understanding of your responsibilities as a camper.

MONTANA NATURAL RESOURCES YOUTH CAMP

Quick Facts

WHERE: At Lubrecht Experimental Forest, approximately 30 miles east of Missoula, on Highway 200.

WHEN: Campers should arrive between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. They should be registered and settled into their cabins prior to 4:30 p.m. They should be on time in attending the camp orientation session at 4:30 p.m. The first meal will be at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Campers are to be picked up at 3:00pm on Friday, after the slide show. **Parents are encouraged to attend the slide show presentation at 2:30pm, which is the capstone of our week at camp.** Overnight camping trip for selected return campers will leave at 3:00pm and will return on Saturday at 1:00pm.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP: Bring your own bedding and other personal articles. Comfortable outdoor clothing and toilet articles, including towels, are necessary. Swimsuit, camera, flashlight, rain gear, warm clothing and shoes suitable for hiking are desirable. There will be some activities in the water so wading shoes may be in order. Mornings are often cold at Lubrecht, even during the summer so please bring some warm clothes. If you bring a car you will be requested to leave it parked during the camp and to turn in the keys to the camp director.

List of materials needed for camp (check list)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag or bedding | <input type="checkbox"/> Face masks | <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand sanitizer or hand wipes | <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack (swimming and rafting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bed sheet (twin size) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cap or hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and insect repellent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towels | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm jacket (nights are cool) | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight or headlamp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear | <input type="checkbox"/> Alarm clock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking boots | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of clothes for 5 days (Jeans or long pants for some activities) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Eyeglass strap (if you wear glasses) | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Medication, (if any) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoes suitable for rafting | | |

Optional Equipment

- Camera
- Compass
- Musical instruments
- Hand lens
- Binoculars
- Extra Blanket (nights can be cold)

Live music is encouraged and welcome at campfires and free time.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS, GUNS, TOBACCO, VAPES, MATCHES, AND FIREWORKS ARE PROHIBITED
We reserve the right to search personal belongings for prohibited items.

KEEP THIS FORM — BRING IT TO CAMP WITH YOU

CAMPER'S MEDICAL FORM

The MNRYC will have an **on-site First Aid station** for this year's Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp and will have arranged to have basic supplies available in the event of an accident or illness. We can assure you that your child's safety will be of utmost importance throughout the camp and that we anticipate a safe and fun experience for everyone involved. **Each child must have health insurance coverage during camp.**

We require basic medical information for each camper. Please make sure your child has enough of their medications to last the whole camp. Failure to disclose pertinent medical information may result in denial of application or child being sent home. Please complete the forms below.

Participant's Name _____ **Date of Birth** _____ **Age** _____

Emergency Contact #1 Name: _____ **Relation:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

Emergency Contact #2 Name: _____ **Relation:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

Primary Care Physician: _____ **Phone:** _____

Medical Insurance Coverage _____ **Policy #** _____

Known Medical Conditions (e.g., diabetes, asthma, developmental disabilities, communicable diseases, etc.)

Please indicate any medication your child is currently taking (medication, reason, dosage per day, times, prescribing doctor, and noted side effects).

Do you wear MedicAlert tags? Yes No

Date of last Tetanus shot: _____

(If last tetanus shot was over 10 years ago, booster shot is recommended before the start of camp)

Do you have any physical complaints or chronic illness at this time? Yes No

If so, what? _____

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement, Release and Power to Authorize Medical Treatment

I hereby grant _____ permission to attend the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp.

I understand that each camper is required to be covered by health or accident insurance that is provided by their family or guardians. The Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp does not provide health or accident insurance coverage.

I have read the Camp Rules and understand that violation of them is grounds for dismissal of my son or daughter and forfeiture of fees, and that the return home in the case of dismissal will be at my expense.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to the consent that I have granted above for the minor child’s participation in the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp, my agreement to provide health or accident insurance for the minor child, and my understanding of the Camp Rules, I hereby make the following acknowledgments or releases:

1. I acknowledge that there is an inherent risk in the activities in which my child will engage during Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp. Those risks include, but are not limited to: dangerous natural conditions such as dangerous plants or insects; weather which could lead to dehydration, heat stroke, hypothermia or death; expected or unexpected encounters with wildlife which could lead to injury or death; dangerous natural conditions of rivers or streams which could cause injury or death or water temperatures which could lead to hypothermia and drowning; campfires; indoor and outdoor camp settings which may not have adequate lighting at night; hiking trails which may contain obstacles or uneven terrain; whitewater rafting on rapids which could cause occupants to suffer injury or death; ropes course and climbing wall the use of which could lead to participant suffering injury or death; exposure to water that could lead to accidental drowning; and damage to my child’s person or property. I agree to assume all risk associated with my minor child’s participation in the Camp.
2. I hereby waive any right to any claim against the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp or any of its employees or agents for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense result from any act or omission of any carrier, government, private legal entity, or third person. I also assume sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp against any loss due to any financial obligation or liabilities that I may personally incur, or any damages or injury to persons or property that I or my minor child may cause during his or her participation in the course.
3. I further release the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp from any claims arising from the aggravation of any physical disability or illness not disclosed to Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp and grant the employees and agents of the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp full authority to take whatever actions they may consider to be warranted under the circumstances regarding my minor child’s health and safety, and, at their discretion, to place him or her in any hospital or in the hands of any local doctor for medical treatment at my own expense, or to transport my minor child by any means of conveyance required at my own expense for medical treatment or in the event of my demise.
4. I certify that my minor child is in good health and to my knowledge does not have any physical problems which would hamper his or her participation in said activities.
5. I certify that I have explained to my minor child that there are inherent risks involved in his or her participating in Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp which could lead to injury or death.
6. I certify that the information that I and my minor child have provided on the Camp application and all related forms and releases is accurate.

WHEREFORE, I have subscribed this document on this the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Parent Signature

Parent Name (please print)

Witness to Signature

Witness Name (please print)

Acknowledgement of Participant

I have read the acknowledgement of risks set forth in Paragraph 1 above, and am aware that my participation in Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp involves inherent risk which may lead to injury or death. I understand that I am assuming that risk by participating.

Participant Signature

Participant Name (please print)

Photo Release

Parental Permission for Minors (under 18 years old)

Every year, the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp (MNRYC) develops a camp video. The video is posted to the MNRYC website, YouTube account, and Facebook. During educational activities associated with the camp, campers and other participants may be photographed or filmed. This form grants permission to use images of campers for the camp video and other educational and promotional purposes that support the mission of the MNRYC.

I, (please print) _____, give the MNRYC permission to record still and motion images of the minor named below. I understand that these images will be in the public domain, i.e., the rights belong to the community at large, are unprotected by copyright or patent, and are subject to appropriation by anyone worldwide. I understand that the MNRYC may store these images for use in any medium in perpetuity.

Signing this form is neither mandatory nor necessary for camp participation. Without this permission, images of campers will not be featured in the camp video or other promotional material.

Minor's Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian's Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE, AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

In consideration of **Montana River Guides**, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "MRG"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify and discharge MRG, on behalf of myself, my spouse, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that **whitewater river rafting, canoeing, river boarding, kayaking, and/or river rescue classes** entail known and unanticipated risks that could result in serious physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

These risks include, among other things: whitewater rapids will be encountered; your boat could turn over and/or you could have to swim rapids risking collision with rocks and entanglement in trees; head injuries can occur; you can slip or fall during a hike, resulting in damage to equipment or personal injury; exposure to the natural elements can be uncomfortable and/or harmful; you should be aware that this exposure could cause sunburn, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and heat cramps; also prolonged exposure to cold water can result in hypothermia; exposure to potentially dangerous wildlife, insects, plants; and accidental drowning is also a possibility.

Furthermore, MRG employees have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather or other environmental conditions. They may give incomplete warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary and I elect to participate in spite of all the risks.

3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless MRG from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or use of MRG's equipment or facilities, including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of MRG.

4. Should MRG or anyone acting on their behalf be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.

5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage to myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.

6. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining document shall remain in full force and effect.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against MRG on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein.

I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and agree to be bound by its terms.

Signature of Participant _____ Print Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____ Date _____

**PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION
(Must be completed for participants under the age of 18)**

In consideration of _____ (print minor's name) ("Minor") being permitted by MRG to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless MRG from any and all claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Print name: _____ Date: _____

Montana River Guides reserves the right to use any photographic or film records of this activity for promotion and/or commercial purposes.

