

## Preparing for Camps at the Big Bear Camp Location (Big Bear Village, Camp Artemis, and Big Bear: Advanced)

### **Drop-off and Pick Up for Big Bear Village, Big Bear: Advanced, and Camp Artemis**

Drop off at Big Bear Camp will begin on Sunday at noon. Please note that the camp gate will be closed prior to noon on Sunday. **If you need to drop your child off earlier for some reason you must contact us by the Friday prior to your camp to make arrangements.** At pick up time, 6:00pm on the last day of camp (Friday), we will be having a family-styled potluck. We will be providing some food cooked primitively by the students and you are asked to bring whatever dish you would like to share. There is no need to bring your own plates etc. as these will be provided. Directions to Big Bear Camp: <https://www.wholeearth.org/overnight/#site>

### **A Note About Camp**

Our overnight camp programs are an opportunity for teens to connect deeply with their natural environment, develop team skills, and begin to become self-sufficient adults. Participants in this camp will be expected to make and keep a set of group agreements for the week regarding behavior toward each other and our environment. We encourage students to bring whatever is necessary to stay safe and comfortable but please leave at home anything that will distract from their interaction with their peers and natural environment. We also recognize that when teens get together in a new environment, hormones are likely to run high. We will take necessary measures to keep students safe and appropriate, such as separating sleeping quarters and having same-gender instructors available in all groups but we also expect students to maintain our trust by making good choices for themselves. Cell service is limited at this camp location. We check our messages once per day, though are able to call out at any time if necessary. If you have a true emergency and you need to get a hold of us, call our main number: 541-937-5437 and the Director answering will pass your message on to us. We may not be able to answer right away, however we will be checking the phone for messages daily and will respond when we receive the message.

### **Diversity and Inclusion**

We are dedicated to welcoming all students, regardless of race, culture, religion, sex, gender, or national origin. If your student needs extra support to feel welcome and supported at camp please contact us using the information at the bottom of this page so that we can work with you to find the best solutions. For example, we'd like to hear from non-cisgendered students about their needs prior to camp so that we can assure camp is a welcoming and inclusive place for all. Because of the wide variety of terrain at the site, students with physical limitations should contact us prior to registration so that we can make sure this camp will be able to serve your needs.

### **What to pack for overnight camps at the Big Bear Camp location:**

# Whole Earth Nature School

a 501c3 nonprofit organization

- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Water Bottle (two needed, pack one and one more will be given to you on arrival)
- Toiletries (showers and bathrooms will be available)
- Sunscreen
- Personal Medications (to be given to camp medical director)
- Small day pack
- Personal Snacks (these are optional as three full meals a day will be provided)
- Fixed blade knife with sheath (3"-5" blade length) See:  
<http://wholeearthnatureschool.com/about-knives-at-camp>
- Bug repellent
- Flashlight
- And finally, clothing that can get dirty (earth tones preferred). Note: **We recommend putting your child's name on all clothing items** to aid in returning lost articles.
  - Long pants
  - Shorts
  - Swimsuit (*please come wearing it under your clothes as we will have a water activity the day you arrive*)**
  - Hat
  - T-shirts
  - Socks (at least 1 pair wool)
  - Underwear
  - Warm jacket
  - Raincoat
  - Sunglasses
  - 2 pairs of shoes (*one should be sandals or shoes which can get soaked*)**
  - Bandanna
  - Towel

Please leave at home:

- Non-locking knives (i.e. Swiss Army knives)
- Electronics (iPod, DS, mobile phone, etc.) A dedicated camera is OK to bring.
- Non-biodegradable soap or strong-scented cosmetics
- Wristwatches
- Lighters/Matches