

## **2006 General Staff Information**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **Ellyn Weinstein, Assistant Director**

To Contact Ellyn directly:

Toll Free: 877-425-8175 Pin# 4663 or 585-271-1938

Email: [ellyn@campfernwood.com](mailto:ellyn@campfernwood.com)

To Contact the Camp Fernwood Winter Office:

Toll Free: 888-295-4446 or 610-695-0169

### **THE STAFF EXPERIENCE**

Being a camp counselor is one of the most rewarding jobs you will ever have. We believe that excellent staff are the key ingredient in providing our campers with a wonderful summer experience. You will be appreciated for your teaching skills, your patience when dealing with children, your creativity and your sense of fun and your ability to wear many "hats" over the course of the summer. As a counselor you will have an opportunity to share your personality, your experiences and your interests with the camp community. At Camp Fernwood you can also try to waterski or throw a clay pot on the wheel for the first time. We encourage you to take full advantage of all the amazing activities and resources for you throughout the summer. There is no other place that you can be employed and at the same time paddle in a kayak on your free time throughout the day. In addition to being outdoors and being active, you will also learn a lot about yourself, gain self confidence, learn how to live and work on a team, and make some of best friends you will ever have.

At Camp Fernwood we pride ourselves on our high counselor return rate. We have many counselors who have been with us for over five summers. Some have remained with us up to 25 years! Our male and female staff come from a variety of backgrounds and from all over the USA and world. Although the summer flies by, the memories last a lifetime.

### **BACKGROUND**

Camp Fernwood celebrated its 85th year in 2005 and has been directed by members of the same family for 4 generations. Throughout the years Fernwood has maintained fine traditions, a warm atmosphere, and an idealistic spirit. The Fernwood philosophy fosters traits such as tolerance, unselfishness, and an appreciation of a simpler life in the outdoors.

Fernwood is the summer home to approximately 175 girls, ages 8 to 15, and over 100 adults. The "Fernwood Family," is built on a strong sense of community.

### **LOCATION**

Fernwood is located in Poland, Maine. Camp Fernwood is approximately 45 minutes northwest of Portland and about 2 1/2 hours from Boston.

Camp Fernwood offers a natural rustic setting away from city life. Camp Fernwood is close to many New England attractions such as the White

Mountains, Maine State Parks, and the beautiful coastline. All of these places can be reached easily on a day off.

### **CAMP SESSION: IMPORTANT DATES**

2007:

WSI Course Begins TBA

Support Staff Arrival Date Sunday June 10

Lifeguarding Course Begins TBA

Horseback riding Staff Arrival Date TBA

International Staff Arrival Date Friday June 15

**Pre-camp Staff Orientation Begins Saturday June 16**

Campers arrive Friday June 22

Parents visiting day Saturday July 21

Campers leave Saturday August 11th

**Staff leave Sunday August 12**

Support Staff Leave Tuesday August 14

Our intensive staff orientation takes place for six days before the campers arrive. We will provide you with the tools and information that you will need to feel comfortable and fully prepared when the campers arrive.

Throughout the orientation, you will prepare your activity, become familiar with our traditions philosophies, and make new friends.

### **STAFF PRE-REQUISITES**

- All counselors must have the ability to teach or help with one or more of our activities.
- Counselors must have completed one year of college or be at least 19 years of age.
- All waterfront staff are required to have Red Cross Lifeguarding and CPR training or equivalent certification.
- All swim instructors are required to have a Water Safety Instruction certification.
- Fernwood seeks counselors with the genuine desire to share themselves while teaching, supervising and living with our campers.

### **WHAT WILL I BE DOING**

Counselors teach one activity during the day (e.g. water-skiing). Some staff will teach more than one activity each day (e.g. Dance and Aerobics). All staff are involved with planning evening activities, either as participants or leaders. Staff creativity and willingness to help out are always appreciated. On our weekly trip day out of camp, all campers and staff are divided into small groups to go biking, hiking, on cookouts, canoeing, and other enjoyable outdoor and nature based trips in the Maine and New Hampshire area. One day a week is also dedicated to special events such as a carnival and team sports competition while some of the staff have the day off. Both camps have a traditional evening campfire and non-

denominational service. Counselor responsibility also includes being a part of a bunk family either living or working with a cabin of about ten campers. All staff share rest hour and nighttime duty (OD) and other tasks and responsibilities. Being a staff member is hard work. The hours can be long and very busy, but it is also very rewarding!

### **WHERE WILL I BE LIVING?**

Most female counselors live in cabins with the campers in the position of "bunk moms" for the summer. Cabins are spacious wooden bungalows with screened windows, and most have an indoor bathroom and wash area. Cabins house approximately 10 campers and at least two counselors. Male staff and other female staff live in nearby staff housing. They are also assigned to a cabin of girls as a bunk "aunt" or "uncle", and have the opportunity to be an integral part of the bunk family.

### **UNIFORM**

Camp Fernwood requires uniform for campers and staff. Staff uniform is navy blue shorts or pants, and white t-shirts or shirt. We provide all staff with one warm navy blue outer garment. However you will need to bring an adequate supply of regular uniform clothing, as well as the usual supplement of clothing required for outdoor living. A full packing list will be sent to you in the spring. All laundry is done weekly by camp at no extra charge. A dresser, bed linen, blankets and towels are all provided.

### **RELIGION**

Camp Fernwood is non-sectarian. Our campers and our counselors represent many different faiths. An ethical, non-denominational service is conducted each week by different groups of campers and volunteer counselors, in which they explore themes that are important to them such as friendship, leadership, or courage.

### **TIME OFF**

Time off consists of unscheduled time each day, early evenings out of camp (beginning at 5:30pm) and full days off at regular intervals throughout the summer. There is no curfew imposed at Camp Fernwood, as we trust and expect that our staff will get sufficient rest to carry out their daily responsibilities. There is a staff lounge with a TV and VCR for off-duty staff, and also staff email access. Staff are free to use camp facilities during their time off, as long as it does not interfere with the campers' activity.

### **SMOKING, ALCOHOL, AND DRUG POLICY**

Smoking is discouraged, but is permitted in certain designated areas, only during time off, and never in the presence of campers. Maine law prohibits alcohol for people under the age of 21. We enforce this state policy. The use of illegal drugs, including marijuana, is strictly prohibited, and suspected use may be cause for dismissal.

### **STAFF PAY SCALE**

Salary is based upon age, education, counselor experience, specific skills, and level of responsibility. A travel allowance is paid to help defray the cost of transportation to camp. Room, board, weekly laundry, e-mail access, a designated staff phone, and a staff lounge with a TV and VCR are all provided.

**No written information can fully convey the warm, friendly feeling that our girls and counselors experience together each year. Only camping with us can provide a true understanding of the spirit at CAMP FERNWOOD.**

**Please don't hesitate to call or e-mail if you have any questions. Call us at 877-425-8175 Pin# 4663 or e-mail us [ellyn@campfernwood.com](mailto:ellyn@campfernwood.com)  
We look forward to getting to know you!**