

# experience LEARNING

## Mountain Stewards Middle School Summer Program



**Sunday:** Arrival between 1 & 2pm (please eat lunch before you arrive). Group will hike to the main campus at the yurts. Move into dorms, and prepare for weeks activities. Participants will divide into small groups for a cook off before dinner. Here, individuals will have the opportunity to work together to create something delicious for all to enjoy. Dinner will be served at 6pm followed by nocturnal explorations and salamander hunt. *Sleep in gender divided dorms.*

**Monday:** Breakfast at the yurts, move out of the dorms, pack up expedition-style packs, backpack out to campsite at the Beaver Ponds, set up camp, learn camp craft skills, divide into chore groups (dinner/fire/clean up), and campfire games in the evening. *Camp out in tents.*

**Tuesday:** Introduction to trail maintenance/stewardship project in the morning, group will spend the afternoon exploring the subterranean environment of the Sinks of Gandy. Solo reflection time before dinner, divide into chore groups (dinner/fire/cleanup). Star gazing in the evening. *Camp out in tents.*

**Wednesday:** Orienteer to the summit of Spruce Mountain using a compass and topographic map. Hike back to camp, divide into chore groups (dinner/fire/clean up), sensory awareness activities in the evening. *Camp out in tents.*

**Thursday:** Survival skills in the morning. Finish up stewardship project in the afternoon, (trail maintenance) before heading back to camp. Divide into chore groups (dinner/fire/clean up), games in the evening. *Camp out in tents.*

**Friday:** Break camp, hike out to shuttle vehicles. Group will shuttle to Sweetwater Farm campus to learn about bats, and assist in the construction of bat boxes (stewardship project). Shuttle back to the Spruce Knob Mountain Center to de-issue any borrowed gear, shower, and move back into the dorms. Dinner at the yurts, reflective campfire activities to follow. *Sleep in gender divided dorms.*

**Saturday:** Breakfast at the yurts, move out of the dorms, facility clean up, and landscape art on the back deck. Departure at 11:30am from the yurts at the Spruce Knob Mountain Center. Join us for dinner and family night on July 15<sup>th</sup> (more information can be found on our website).

#### **Reminders:**

- You will receive an official letter at the end of the program outlining the scope of the work provided and the number of service hours earned. If you need a specific form filled out for proof of service hours please bring it with you.
- Drop off on Sunday will be at the high gate at the Spruce Knob Mountain Center between 1 and 2pm.
- Pick up on Saturday will be at the yurts at the Spruce Knob Mountain Center at 11:30 am (join us for family night!).
- Outside of emergency situations, your child will be responsible for administering any necessary medications while on the program. Please double check that these medications are not expired, and that your child is capable of self-administration (pack written directions). If you carry an epi pen, or asthma inhaler, plan to bring an additional as a backup, and oral Benadryl as needed.
- We recommend leaving all electronics and cell phones at home, campers should plan to be unplugged for the length of the program. Anything brought on the trip could potentially be lost, destroyed, or gotten wet – pack accordingly!

#### ***Experience Learning Inc.***

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