



LETTER TO MY COUNSELOR

to be completed by the camper

You are important to us! We would like to know more about you. Please share with us what makes you a happy camper! Thanks!

Your Full Name _____ Session/Dates Attending Camp _____

Dear Counselor,

My name is _____ My friends call me _____

I have _____ brothers age _____ and _____ sisters, ages _____. My favorite things to do are _____

I am good at _____

I am coming to Wolf Ridge because _____

I hope to be able to try the following things while at Wolf Ridge _____

_____ I get along with friends

who _____ I would like to room with _____

_____ Last summer I _____

I have finished the _____ grade at school. I'm excited to have you as my counselor. I will follow your guidance and here's the best way to help me become a safe, happy and successful camper _____

I know every camper needs to try all that camp has to offer. If I am afraid, or get upset, I will let you know by talking to you and you can help me get back on track by _____

Here is something unique you should know about me _____

Other important things I want you to know about me are _____

Wolf Ridge's Summer Camp Program strives to introduce you to new experiences and opportunities for learning. The counselors and naturalists works together to keep you safe while allowing you to have fun and learn. It is our responsibility to do this. But, you and your parents/guardians also have a responsibility for making the session successful. This agreement outlines some of the things we expect of campers and parents. Thank you for reading and agreeing to follow these behavior guidelines while at Wolf Ridge.

Please read and complete both sides

Please complete this form and mail it back to Wolf Ridge 3 weeks prior to your child's session.

Mail to
Wolf Ridge ELC
6282 Cranberry Road
Finland, MN 55603

Email
mail@wolf-ridge.org

CAMPER BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES & AGREEMENT

Wolf Ridge's rules and agreements are founded on RESPECT. They are laid out here in much the same manner that we discuss them at camp. To help your child have the best possible time at Wolf Ridge we encourage parents / guardians and campers to discuss these behavior agreements in advance of camp.

RESPECT FOR OURSELVES

Take good care of yourself. Stay safe. Do your best at whatever you choose to do. If you need help, feel bad, or are sick, please tell a staff person. If you have an idea, please share it. Remember that you are a valuable part of making camp work for everyone.

RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER

Treat people as you wish to be treated. Every camper may not be your best friend, but we ask you to treat each person well. Listen to each other and to your counselors. No fighting, name calling, or verbal abuse is allowed.

RESPECT FOR OUR CULTURE

At Wolf Ridge you have the opportunity to make friends with staff and campers from many backgrounds. We do not tolerate insults or poor treatment based on race, social class, language, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability or any other difference.

RESPECT FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT & SURROUNDINGS

Take good care of the forests, lakes, streams, animals, trails and property that make up Wolf Ridge. Do not break branches off living trees or pick flowers without consent. Be respect of the insects other wildlife that call Wolf Ridge home. Our hope is to model conservation behaviors and compassion as best we can. We turn out lights, recycle and reuse materials, and pick up trash around campus. As a community, we help with the day-to-day chores of Wolf Ridge including helping to serve food and to clean up in the dining hall, keeping our living space clean, transferring recyclable materials to our recycling station, and participating in Stewardship projects around the Wolf Ridge campus. These actions promote a sense of ownership and camper pride. Try to leave Wolf Ridge and its inhabitants in better condition than when you found them.

SNACKS & FOOD

Wolf Ridge provides three meals a day in the dining hall or on the trail. Wolf Ridge is also a peanut reduced campus. This means, that no peanut or tree nut products can be in the dorms or dining hall facilities. Evening snacks are also available for campers. With this in mind, please leave personal snacks at home. Snacks in the bedrooms of the dormitory lead to messes and attract critters. Counselors collect and store snacks that campers bring to camp. Wolf Ridge returns those snacks when campers leave.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

At Wolf Ridge, we try to maintain a wilderness experience free from the disruptions of mass media and technology- do not bring CD/MP3 players, iPods or cell phones with you to camp. If you choose to bring them for the trip to and from Wolf Ridge on the bus, please understand all devices brought to Wolf Ridge will be collected by the Wolf Ridge Staff and returned before departure.

TELEPHONES

Phones are unavailable for participants and can be used only in a family emergency with the permission of the program directors. Please leave cell phones at home. Parents/Guardians, feel free to call our office during business hours to check in with the directors of the program, but realize that you will not be able to speak to campers directly at that time.

WILDERNESS TRIP SPECIFIC POLICIES

Wilderness travel can be emotionally and physically challenging. Such challenges promote new skills and confidence. They can also be stressful. Participants will need to remember that patience and kindness will help the group succeed. As well, Wolf Ridge adheres to Leave no Trace practices and any applicable wilderness guidelines for the area of travel. As a close-knit wilderness community, participants should expect to pitch in with all day-to-day camping chores. Wolf Ridge cultivates a strong reputation by meeting all fellow wilderness travelers with respect and courtesy.

DISCIPLINE & GUIDANCE

Most youth thrive within Wolf Ridge's environment of respect, choice and positive communication. Our discipline program is based in respectful communication We ask that all participants join us with a mind open to new ideas, activities, and people. However, sometimes campers are not prepared to be a part of the Wolf Ridge Camp Community and their behaviors require attention. Our staff does their best to address these behaviors as they arise but other actions may be required to maintain Wolf Ridge as a safe and open place for all campers. These actions include:

1. Discuss the situation, make a verbal agreement defining the desired behavior, and establish any natural consequences as applicable (e.g. washing dining hall tables for throwing food at other campers).
2. If the problem continues, camper and staff create a written contract. This will be followed by a call home.
3. If the behavior is still unresolved, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the camper will be sent home. It is important to note that should the camp director and staff feel it is necessary to send a child home for any reason, their parent, guardian, or emergency contact person is obliged to pick the child up immediately, at their own expense and with no refund given. We reserve the right to send a camper home without completing steps 1 and 2, as deemed necessary by the director.

AGREEMENT & UNDERSTANDING

We have read the Wolf Ridge Summer Camp Policies outlined above. We agree to follow the guidelines and policies while attending this program and understand the potential consequences if we do not follow these policies.

Signature of Camper _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____