



LETTER TO MY CAMPER'S COUNSELOR

to be completed by the parent or guardian

The staff at Wolf Ridge values each camper. This letter helps us understand your child and to help them become a safe, successful and happy camper! Thank you for taking the time to complete this form!

Camper's Full Name _____ Session/Dates Attending Camp _____

Dear Counselor,

This is _____'s _____ year at an overnight camp and _____ year at Wolf Ridge. They are feeling
(please check one) _____ Excited _____ Ambivalent _____ Somewhat nervous _____ Very Nervous about attending camp.

At home, my camper lives with (if parents are separated, please put a star near the parent/guardian with which the camper lives.)

_____ 1 parent/guardian _____ 2 parents/guardians _____ Other _____ Brother(s) & Ages _____ Sister(s)

& Ages

Parent 1/Guardian name, Occupation _____

Parent 2/Guardian name, Occupation _____

The longest my camper has been away from home without family is _____ nights. When they were away from home, they felt

I want my child to attend camp because _____

_____. I hope my camper will _____

_____ while at camp.

The best words to describe my camper's personality are _____

My child thrives in:	Location	Time	Person	Context	
<input type="checkbox"/>	In school	<input type="checkbox"/>	Upon waking	<input type="checkbox"/>	When in large groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	During meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	Morning	<input type="checkbox"/>	When in small groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	At home	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>	When by him/herself
<input type="checkbox"/>	In vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	When in transition
<input type="checkbox"/>	In her/his bedroom	<input type="checkbox"/>	Evening	<input type="checkbox"/>	In noisy environments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____

They are most happy about _____ and most unhappy

when _____. My camper gets frustrated, angry, upset or sad, when

_____ They

handle these emotions by (hitting, screaming, isolation, throwing things, talking back, etc) _____

_____ We handle
their behavior by (techniques used) _____
_____. My camper is apt to
be afraid of _____. When they are over-excited, which looks like
_____ a great way to calm my camper down would be _____
_____. My camper best advocates for their needs by _____
_____.

My camper wakes up on average at (insert time) _____ and in order to get a good nights sleep they need to
(read, music, brush teeth, etc) _____
_____ before bed. My camper typically goes to bed at (insert time) _____. My camper has
the following chores at home _____
_____ and is _____ at taking care of
their own personal belongings.

My camper gets along with other campers who _____
_____.

They generally treat other participants and adults _____
_____. When working in a group, they tend to be a _____
_____.

My camper's swim ability/level is _____.

When working with my camper, please ensure you _____

_____. It's important to know _____
_____ about my camper.

Sincerely, _____ Date _____

Wolf Ridge's Summer Camp Program strives to introduce campers to new experiences and opportunities for learning. The counselors work together to keep your camper safe while allowing them to have fun and learn.

You and your camper also have a responsibility for making the session successful. On the Letter to My Counselor form completed by your camper, you will find the Camper Behavior Guidelines & Agreement. This agreement outlines some of the expectations we have of campers and parents/guardians. Please take the time to read through and discuss it with your camper. Following and understanding these behavior guidelines helps us to ensure everyone has a positive experience at Wolf Ridge!

Please complete this form and mail it back to Wolf Ridge or upload to your camp registration account at least 3 weeks prior to your child's session.

Mail to

Wolf Ridge ELC
6282 Cranberry Road
Finland, MN 55603

Email

mail@wolf-ridge.org



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 _____ brother(s), age(s) _____ and _____ sister(s), age(s) _____. 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, overwhelmed, 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 or upload to your camp registration account at least 3 weeks prior to your child's session.

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6282 Cranberry Road
Finland, MN 55603

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CAMPER BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS & 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 camper have the best possible time at Wolf Ridge we encourage parents/guardians and campers to discuss these behavior expectations 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 a positive experience 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 THE EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, AND BELONGINGS

Take good care of your belongings, other camper’s belongings and Wolf Ridge equipment and materials you use at camp. Ask before using something that does not belong to you. Treat these items well so they can be used outside of your particular camp session, and prevent hard wear and tear on equipment. Accidents happen, and we know things can break sometimes. Treating equipment and belongings with respect can prevent issues with other campers, lost items or equipment being rendered unusable.

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 off 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 and treenut free campus. This means, that no peanut or tree nut products can be in the dorms or dining hall facilities. Evening snacks are 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 depart campus.

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 prior to departure.

TELEPHONES

Phones are unavailable for participants and can be used only in a family emergency with the permission of the program director. Please leave cell phones at home. Parents/Guardians, feel free to call our office during business hours to check in with the director 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.

BEHAVIOR CHALLENGES AT CAMP

All camp activities are designed to reinforce the characters and principles of the Wolf Ridge Summer Camp Program. When working with children, our staff uses a strength based approach of behavior management. If a camper’s behavior is disruptive to the experience of others, appropriate action will be taken by staff. Most incidents are handled effectively by staff, but if behavior problems continue, we will always call parents to enlist your help. Campers who are continuously disruptive and the behavior challenges are not being solved, a guardian will be asked to retrieve the camper from camp. If an incident should occur, Wolf Ridge will institute a behavior plan with the camper to help them overcome any challenges they may be facing with their group.

This is a 4 step plan and includes:

1. Verbal warning and positive redirection provided.
2. Written contract between the Counselors, Managers and camper will be made. This allows the camper to provide input about the process and have some ownership over what may happen should the incident keep occurring. This contract is signed and kept in confidence between the camper, Counselors and Managers. No other camper would be involved unless the initial incident included another camper.
3. Parents will be contacted by the Camp Director for further behavior management consultation and the camper will be provided with a final warning.
4. Camper would be removed from camp and parents/guardians are notified and a plan is made to come retrieve camper.

Wolf Ridge does have a Zero Tolerance Policy on violence. Any act of violence, including bullying, towards any person, animal, equipment, property or facilities will result in a camper being immediately sent home.

AGREEMENT & UNDERSTANDING

We have read the Wolf Ridge Summer Camp Policies outlined above. We agree to follow the expectations 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 _____