



VerShare 2017 *Community Camp*

July 10th - 14th, 2017

Vershire Town Center

CAMPER REGISTRATION & INFORMATION PACKET

ACTIVITIES FOR CHIPMUNKS (AGES 5Y-7Y)

PONDS & STREAMS

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

AMAZING ARTS

AFTERNOONS at BACKYARD CAMP

ACTIVITIES FOR BOBCATS (AGES 8Y-12Y)

HORSE SENSE

NINJA ADVENTURE

OUTDOOR SKILLS

GAMING UNPLUGGED

HERBAL FUN

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

OTTER ADVENTURE CAMP RETURNS THIS YEAR!!! (AGES 11Y & 12Y only)

3day/2night trip to GROTON STATE FOREST, KETTLE POND

DEPART: WEDNESDAY JULY 5TH RETURN: FRIDAY JULY 7TH

THIS TRIP WILL INCLUDE KAYAKING, HIKING, OUTDOOR SKILLS, & TEAM BUILDING

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 31ST!

Registration materials available now online!

www.VerShare.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Camp Coordinator: Andrea Herrington 333-3690

vershare.camp@gmail.com

General Information

STAFFING: We thank the many volunteers from near and far who make this camp possible by offering their time to share their passions with young people as Activity Leaders! They will be assisted by Counselors and by CITs (Counselors in Training).

COSTS: The camp is **free** to all children. VerShare is a non-profit organization determined to enhance life in Vershire through programs such as these. We rely on donations, grants, and the help of many, many volunteers to make camp run. Tax-deductible donations to the VerShare Children's Activity Fund are gladly accepted, especially from families who have the means to contribute, have not participated in a VerShare fundraiser, or live out of town.

AGE GUIDELINES: The description of each activity includes age guidelines. While the activity has been designed with this age group in mind, the guidelines can be flexible. Call or email if you have questions. It is a long, active camp day: *parents of the youngest campers are urged to consider the half-day option.*

REGISTRATION: Please fill out the enclosed registration form (**one form per child**) and mail to the Camp Coordinator c/o VerShare, at the address on the form, **postmarked by MAY 31st**. Make sure you list several different choices for each session. Campers will be assigned to activities based on the order in which their registration forms are received **and** their town of residence. Campers who reside in the Westshire School towns, Vershire or West Fairlee, will be registered first, followed by other applicants. Confirmation letters will be sent around June 10th. After receiving responses, we will fill any empty spaces off the waitlist starting in early July.

DAILY SCHEDULE: The camp day runs from 8:30 - 3:30, with a half day option. In addition to camp-wide circle times & tent group times, campers will participate in morning and afternoon workshops. Lunch for Chipmunks is at 11:30 and for Bobcats is at 12:00. Campers will be expected to bring a bagged lunch. We hope to get enough volunteer support to continue the daily salad bar featuring local food. Campers who cannot bring a lunch for any reason will be provided with a simple one.

ATTENDANCE: It is very important that your child be able to attend all 5 days of each activity for which he/she registers. Activities follow a set schedule that relies on children being there each day. Your child may not be able to complete his/her project(s) if s/he misses a day, and it is not fair to others if your child takes the place of another who could have attended the full week.

ILLNESS: If your child becomes ill or injured while at camp, we will notify you and ask you to come to pick your child up. You must be available, or designate someone else who will be available, to pick your child up. In the case of a medical emergency we will rely on the services of the Vershire Fire and Rescue and/or Upper Valley Ambulance. The same guidelines that determine when you should keep your child home from school apply for camp.

TRANSPORTATION: We strongly encourage car-pooling. **Please let us know on the registration form if your child(ren) will need transportation and we will try to help you find a ride.**

Transportation for field trips during the camp will be in the 12 passenger VerShare van driven by camp staff, by vans owned by The Mountain School and driven by Mountain School staff, or by camp staff or parents in private vehicles. Children under 8 years old must have an appropriate car seat to use when leaving camp in a vehicle on a field trip.

HELPERS: This camp runs on the energy of volunteers. We always welcome donations of food and/or time. All financial donations are tax-deductible. Please join in the spirit of co-operation that makes VerShare Community Camp work, and remember to let us know how you will help us this year at camp on the registration form.

CHIPMUNK CAMP (ages 5-7)

Morning Activity Leaders & Activity Descriptions

Ponds and Streams- Richard Jayne

Do you like to play hide and seek? Cool off in the water while we seek the bugs, frogs, crayfish, and beavers that hide in and around our waterways. Lots of experiments and explorations as we splash and play in the streams and ponds by Richard's house. *Maximum enrollment 8*

Native American Studies- Patty Manning & Matt Manning

Join Patty & Matt in exploring Mother Earth through Native American stories, songs, activities, natural crafts and games. *Maximum enrollment 8*

Amazing Arts- Aurora Berger & Andi Herrington

Aurora will guide young artists in exploring traditional arts & crafts materials such as beads, friendship bracelets, paints, and more. Andi will lead explorations of the woods, fields and streams around the Town Center for inspiration such as moss, flowers, sticks, and stones; come make art bloom! We have ideas for projects, but we can't wait to see your ideas, too.

Maximum enrollment 8

Afternoons At Backyard Camp

Backyard Camp- Andrea Herrington

Children will work in their tent groups to create a "backyard" camp at the Town Center property. Age appropriate activities for these afternoon sessions **may** include:

Shelter Construction	Fire Pits	Outdoor cooking
Hiking	Exploring the woods	Map making
River exploration	Building a swimming hole	Camp songs

Ages 5-7 Maximum enrollment 24 (in three tent groups of 8 each)

BOBCAT CAMP (ages 8-12)

Morning Activity Leaders & Activity Descriptions

Ninja Adventure- Aaron Hoopes

- ❖ Join the Sensei of Dragon Mountain Kung Fu, as he leads explorations into the wilds of Vershire. Learn ninja and kung fu skills, climb rocks, practice Zen Yoga and nature meditation and mindfulness techniques. *Maximum Enrollment 8*

Horse Sense- Dawn Hancy

- ❖ Learn to think and act like a horse! In this activity we learn to work safely with horses and how to choose and care for a horse in harmony with nature and the local ecosystem. Campers will start by signing a Horse Sense Pledge, learn and work with humans, horses and equipment at camp and on field trips. Earn a Horse Sense Certificate by teaching other campers what you have learned. No horse experience required. *Maximum enrollment 8*

Outdoor Skills- Bonna Wieler

- ❖ Come play in the natural world, building your outdoor skills! Kayak on local waterways, learning correct boat handling and paddling techniques that will last you a lifetime. Learn fire-building without paper or matches, cook over the fire, make rope, use knots that you can untie, and much more. *Maximum enrollment 8*

Afternoon Activity Leaders & Activity Descriptions

Herbal Fun with Zanni- Suzanne 'Zanni' Lacey

- ❖ Take an herb hike everyday and discover the plants in our backyard. We will focus on a plant a day and make something with it. Maybe a salve or a tea, lip balm or a medicine. Create a plant journal and draw the plants we discover, as well as notes and recipes. We will honor the earth with ritual and offerings as we collect plants and make a medicine bag. *Maximum enrollment 8*

Advanced Native American Studies- Patty Manning & Matt Manning

- ❖ If your kid is one of our many campers who try to take 2+ years as Chipmunks with Patty & Matt, this is a special opportunity! Join Patty & Matt in further exploration of Mother Earth through Native American stories, songs, activities, natural crafts and games. *Maximum enrollment 8*

Gaming Unplugged- The Howe Family

- ❖ Come play Magic: The Gathering with your fellow campers. Magic is a card game where you (the wizard) use your magic (represented by five types of magic cards) to duel other wizards. Will you be a wizard who summons mighty creatures to defend you, one who works to bring zombies onto the battlefield, or one who just enjoys tossing fireballs and lightning around? We'll start the week with the basics (no prior knowledge of the game needed really, it's easy to pick up) playing some 1 vs 1 games. Later on there will likely be some team play variants and free for all matches. Bring your own cards if you have them (and want to do so) but there'll be plenty of decks to choose from if you don't. *Maximum enrollment 8*

OTTER ADVENTURE CAMP (ages 11 & 12 ONLY)

Otter Adventure Camp RETURNS THIS YEAR!

This off-site adventure will take place the week before the onsite day camp.

Wednesday, July 5th- Friday, July 7th, 2017

Bonna Wieler, of Bold Paths Adventures, will lead water safety, kayaking, and outdoor skills workshops. She will be assisted by Andi Herrington, Camp Coordinator and Aaron Hoopes, of Dragon Mountain Dojo, who will lead many of the team building activities. All activities are challenge by choice.

Otter Adventure Camp will be based out of the Vershire Town Center Building, the home campus for VerShare Community Camp. We will travel to Groton State Forest and spend 3 days/2 nights there exploring and building our skills.

Otters will be joining Outdoor Leadership Week (OLW) for this trip. Our OLW participants are Counselors-in-Training, ages 13-15y. Many activities, such as hiking & kayaking & outdoor skills like campfire building and knot tying will include all participants. There will also be times that the Otter and the OLW groups break out and work on skills separately. Tents will be by gender AND age.

Saturday June 10th will be a day to meet & greet other Otters and families as well as prepare for our trip. We will plan our menu as well as do a preliminary gear check. At this meeting in June (time tbd), we will complete all necessary forms. More detailed information, gear lists, etc will arrive via letter with your registration confirmation.

Please plan to arrive on Wednesday 7/5 at 8:30am and be picked up on Friday 7/7 at 5:30pm.

Wednesday 7/5 Meet at Vershire Town Center 8:30am. Final gear/food check.

Team building activities. Depart for Groton State Forest. Set camp & build journals.

Thursday 7/6 Outdoor Skills: Kayaking, hiking, leadership training

Friday 7/7 Break camp; day hike, return to Vershire Town Center. Pick up 5:30pm.

Can a tween do both Otter Adventure Camp AND Bobcat Daycamp the following week? YES!

However, to be fair, if a tween decides to do both, they will *not* be enrolled in Bonna's kayaking/outdoor skills group the following week to allow more kids to experience kayaking. It is a high preference activity that always has more requests than enrollees.

MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT: 8

Because of limited enrollment spaces, 12 year olds will be given first choice.

Donations to the VerShare Children's Activity Fund are encouraged but not required. If you are able to contribute, please make checks payable to VerShare. VerShare is a 501(c) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible. This year we continue to rebuild our VerShare Community Camp. We have expanded the opportunities for leadership training for our CITs (ages 13y-15y) again this year and are excited to once again offer Outdoor Leadership Week. We are working hard to offer a **high-quality, free camp in our community**; maintaining the reputation of our camp while keeping it simple and local. While most of our staff volunteer their time and materials, there are costs associated with camp. Grants & fundraising throughout the year, such as the annual Snowshoe-a-thon, helps to cover most of these costs.

If your family would like to contribute a donation, please send it to:

Children's Activity Fund, VerShare, PO Box 112, Vershire, VT 05079 attn. CAMP,
or you may include it with your registration forms.

Please find enclosed my donation of _____.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELP
IN SO MANY WAYS

WE ARE EXCITED FOR THIS YEAR
OF OUR COMMUNITY CAMP

KEEPING IT SIMPLE. KEEPING IT LOCAL.

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR KIDS
AND OUR TOWNS!

REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill out one sheet per child and mail to the address below.

Name of child: _____ Age: _____ Current grade: _____

School: _____ Town of residence: _____

Please rank your child's preferences, 1-3 (1 being the highest) for each time period.

Chipmunk Camp (AGES 5-7y)

Morning

- Amazing Arts
- Ponds and Streams
- Native American

Afternoon

- Backyard Camp _____
- Half-Day Option _____

Bobcat Camp (AGES 8-12y)

Morning

- Horse Sense
- Outdoor Skills
- Ninja Adventure

Afternoon

- Gaming Unplugged
- Herbs
- Advanced Native American Studies

MAIL REGISTRATION BY 5/31 TO:

VerShare Camp Coordinator

3292 Vershire Center Road

Vershire, VT 05079

Or email to:

vershare.camp@gmail.com

Otter Adventure Camp (AGES 11y & 12y ONLY)

Otter Adventure Camp: Off-site overnight trip: July 5-7, 2017

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP & PARENT CONTRACT

This camp is a community effort. Our hope is that every family will find some way to contribute. Please check the jobs you can help with.

Playground duty (supervise children beginning of day lunchtime end of camp day)

Transportation to/from camp (morning/afternoon carpools)

Activity/field trip transportation (driving/chaperoning)

Life Guards

Kitchen Duty (help with snacks, salad bar & clean-up)

Camp Clean-up (Friday evening July 14th)

Food Donations

Parent Contract

VerShare is providing your child with a free, high-quality summer camp experience. In return we ask you to agree to the following:

I agree that I will be, or have someone else be, available for my child in the event of illness, injury or serious misbehavior.

I understand this could include coming to the VerShare Town Center to pick up my child.

I agree to abide by the camp's arrival and departure times.

I relieve VerShare, the Town of VerShare, & any volunteers, including Mountain School van drivers, from all responsibility and liability if my child is injured or taken ill while participating in camp activities at the VerShare Town Center or on a field trip.

I consent to have my child receive First Aid and, if necessary, be transported to a hospital for emergency care. Any and all such transportation and medical care is to be at my expense.

I give my child permission to ride in the VerShare van, a Mountain School van, or a private vehicle driven by a camp staff member/volunteer to and from camp field trips.

Printed name of Parent/Legal Guardian & Signature

Date

Emergency and Medical Care Information- Please fill out one per family

Child's name _____ Date of Birth _____

Child's name _____ Date of Birth _____

Child's name _____ Date of Birth _____

Child's name _____ Date of Birth _____

Mailing Address _____ Phone _____

Parent/Guardian we should try to contact first: _____

Address: _____

email _____

Place of occupation _____ Best daytime contact # _____

Parent/Guardian we should try to contact second: _____

Address: _____

email _____

Place of occupation _____ Best daytime contact # _____

Pediatrician _____ **Town** _____ **Phone** _____

Dentist _____ **Town** _____ **Phone** _____

Allergies and medical problems (List clearly for each child)

Will your child(ren) need to take medication at camp? yes no (If yes, we'll send a form.)

Do(es) your child(ren) have any special dietary needs?

Do(es) your child(ren) need a camp provided lunch? _____

Would you like us to work with your child(ren)'s school on how to best support him or her at camp?

For example, if your child is on an IEP at school, we can work closely with the school to complement the plan with your permission.

Is there anything else we should know about your child(ren)?

Will your child(ren) need transportation to or from camp? ____yes ____no

(if yes, we will try to arrange a ride for them)

Please give names of at least two other people who may be called in an emergency if above persons cannot be reached. These persons are also authorized to take the child to and from camp.
Children will not be allowed to leave with any other person without permission from the responsible Parent or Legal Guardian.

Name: _____ relationship to camper: _____

Address: _____ phone #s: _____

Name: _____ relationship to camper: _____

Address: _____ phone #s: _____