



# YMCA CAMP ERNST CREW PROGRAM

SUMMER 2017

## CREW PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Camp Ernst Crew Program is a leadership experience for those entering the 10th grade. The program is designed to help participants gain leadership skills through trainings, leadership rotations, guest speakers, and experiential service learning during their two week stay. They will form a tight knit group with the other crew members as they work together to complete a variety of tasks every day. It is our hope that crew members will leave the crew program with an understanding of our "camper-first" philosophy and a desire to serve others.

## CREW RESPONSIBILITIES



The Crew's primary responsibility during their two week stay will be to perform an assortment of jobs throughout the camp. These tasks include washing dishes, serving food, cleaning bathrooms, sweeping, mopping, working on facility projects such as clearing trails and painting. These experiences are used to develop the leadership skills that will be beneficial in future summers at camp and other life endeavors.

## CAMP ACTIVITIES

Crew also finds time for the classic camp fun treasured by all Camp Ernst campers. Their college-age leaders will schedule time at the ropes course, lake and pools. There will be opportunities for creek hikes, campouts, campfires, night hikes, mountain biking, horseback riding, and much more. Crew members will attend opening and closing campfires as well as the Camp Ernst Party each week. Crew members will also be given some opportunities to assist with camp-wide programming.

### WRANGLER CREW

The Wrangler Crew program is a two week leadership experience for those interested in our horse program. Participants will spend their first week learning how to teach and lead barn programs and will get a chance to put into action what they have learned by assisting in teaching our ranch programs for the campers during the second week. Daily riding lessons and group training will also be included. Wrangler Crew members will be at the barn during the day and will join the other crew members in the evening for the traditional camp activities.

### 2017 SESSIONS AND COST

**SESSION A:** June 11-24 (\$450)

**SESSION B:** June 25- July 8 (\$450)

**SESSION C:** July 9-22 (\$450)

**SESSION D:** July 23- August 5 (\$450)

**WRANGLER CREW SESSION 1:** June 11-24 (\$450)

**WRANGLER CREW SESSION 2:** July 23-August 5 (\$450)

\*Crew members may only participate in one crew session. The crew program costs \$450 for a complete two-week session. This fee is used to help defer the costs of food, supervision, leadership development, activities, and supplies for the Crew Program. Limited financial assistance is available upon request.

**ADD ON WEEK 9 CREW:** August 6-12 (\$125)- Week 9 Crew is available as an additional add-on week for crew members who have already completed a 2-week session. All Week 9 crew members will participate in the traditional crew program.

## HOW TO REGISTER

Beginning October 1st, crew registration will be available online. Crew acceptance is filled on a first come first served basis. Space is limited and spots for the crew program fill quickly.

Part of the crew application will require the crew candidate to be present. To hold the crew members spot, a \$100 deposit is required at the time of registration.

To register, visit our website [www.myYcamp.org](http://www.myYcamp.org) and click on the blue register button.

## WAITLISTS

If the Crew session of your choice is full and you would like to be placed on the waitlist, you must call the office at 859-586-6181 and request to be put on the waitlist for that session.

We maintain active waitlists and encourage everyone to apply. Those on the waitlist can register for a spot in their second choice session if it is available while remaining on the waitlist for their first choice. If/when a spot becomes available, we will contact you.

## CREW ORIENTATION NIGHTS

Each crew member and a parent/guardian will be required to attend a Crew Orientation in the Spring. Reservations will be made on the crew registration form. The crew program is very different from traditional week long camp, and this orientation night will help prepare both the crew member and parents. Crew Orientation will be held here at Camp Ernst. The dates for the orientation are:

Tuesday April 4, 2017 from 7:00pm-8:30pm at Lakeview Lodge  
Tuesday April 25, 2017 from 7:00pm-8:30pm at Lakeview Lodge  
Wednesday May 10, 2017 from 7:00pm-8:30pm at Lakeview Lodge

If you live outside of the tristate area, please contact Michael Lindley ([mlindley@myY.org](mailto:mlindley@myY.org)) to make a special arrangement.

## CREW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHERE DO THE CREW SLEEP?

The Crew members stay in the Yurt Village, part of the Leadership Village in the Lakeview area at YMCA Camp Ernst. Crewies share a yurt with approximately 20 of their peers plus their crew leaders. They spend time all over camp doing activities and serving in both kitchens, and hang out between meals at the Lakeview Pavilion, affectionately known as "The Pav."



### DO THE CREW HAVE COUNSELORS?

The Crew is led by a unit leader and seven to eight other college-age leaders, who stay in the yurts with them, supervise them in the kitchens and around camp, and help them build friendships with each other. These crew leaders often become trusted advisors and mentors for the crewies.

### HOW LONG DO CREW MEMBERS STAY?

Each Crew session is two weeks long. Crewies stay on the Saturday between their two weeks. For a small fee they can send their laundry to be done at the Laundromat, or parents can arrange a time with the camp office to pick up and drop off laundry. The Saturday between the weeks is designed as a laid back day of recreation, when the crew typically goes on a big creek hike, goes boating at the lake, and has their own campfire. Parents should not expect to visit with their crewie at all during their two-week session.

## WHAT DOES A CREWIE'S DAY LOOK LIKE?

Crew members wake up earlier than everyone else at camp to get to the kitchen. They eat breakfast, serve during the meal, take a break after breakfast clean up is finished, and do it all over again for lunch and dinner. Wrangler crew members will spend their time in the barn during the day, instead of in the kitchens. In the evenings, crewies participate in camp evening programs and some crew-specific games. They head to bed by 10:30 and lights out is typically by 11pm.

## WHAT EXACTLY DOES THE CREW DO?

Crewies rotate between a variety of service roles at camp, from washing dishes to serving food to cleaning toilets to working on facilities projects (e.g. building benches or installing landscaping) around the property. Wrangler Crewies will spend their time in the barn, learning how to teach and lead rides, partaking in lessons, and completing barn chores. Between meals they have an opportunity to do some camp activities as well as time to hang out at the "Pav." They have an evening for ropes, a day for lake and banana boat, and ample opportunities for camp activities.

## WHY DO THEY LOVE CREW IF THEY ARE DOING ALL OF THAT DIRTY WORK?

There's something to be said for the camaraderie built while working hard. We have found that our teens like having a "purpose" at camp and seeing behind the scenes. They have pride in making the most delicious bug juice, unclogging a stubborn toilet, or getting dishes through the hopper faster than anyone else. They sing songs, play loud music, and dance while mopping. Mostly, they enjoy the friendships created and strengthened at camp for the two weeks of the session, and the close-knit team built by serving others together. Most crewies leave camp saying they have found a "second family" here.

## HOW SHOULD I PREPARE MENTALLY FOR MY CREW SESSION?

Prepare to be open minded to new experiences and new people. Get excited about making a ton of new friends. And get lots of sleep because crew is exhausting. Expect to be really tired, especially the first week. It can be tough at first, while everyone is learning the routine and the responsibilities and still getting to know one another. Towards the end of the first week the hard parts tend to round into a crazy amount of fun and the remainder of the session flies by. Crewies are sad to leave their new camp family and parents are amazed at the confidence and maturity built by two weeks at camp on crew.

## WHAT ARE DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES?

Drop off is between 12:00pm and 1:00pm on the first Sunday of your session. We ask that you do not arrive earlier than 12:00 so the crew leaders and nurse can be prepared for your arrival. All crew members must be signed in by an adult and all medications turned into the nurse during check in. Check out will be on the second Saturday of your session at 9:30am. There will be a short optional crew closing that parents and family members are invited to that will start around 9:45am. Crew members are expected to be moved out of the crew cabin prior to the closing.

## WHAT DO THEY HAVE TO BRING?

See the packing list on the next page, but some useful items are a watch, extra shoes and socks, and lots of clothes that can get (very) dirty. While at the kitchen, crew members must have shirts with sleeves, sturdy closed toe shoes, and hair pulled up. We recommend that you pack your belongings in a large Rubber-maid-type tote box/drawer set. Clearly mark items with crew member's name; this will help in finding lost items.

## SAMPLE CREW DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00	Wake Up	4:15	Dinner Duty
7:30	Breakfast Duty	7:00	Break time*
10:15	Break time*	7:30	Evening Program
11:45	Lunch Duty	10:30	Devotion
2:30	Break time*	11:00	Lights out

\*During break time, crewies will participate in leadership and camp activities.

## CREW PACKING LIST

- Old t-shirts
- Shorts
- Lots of socks!!!
- One-piece bathing suit
- Long pants/jeans
- Sweatshirt
- 2 pairs of old shoes
- Hiking/work boots
- Raincoat/boots
- Black attire for dodgeball
- A sleeping bag, pillow and sheets
- A working wrist watch!
- Towels
- Shower articles- bath towel, wash cloth or sponge, soap, shampoo/conditioner, toothbrush and tooth paste, shower sandals, etc
- Sunscreen/bug spray
- A battery operated fan
- Water bottle

## PROHIBITED ITEMS INCLUDE

- Cell phones
- Electronics (i-pods, hand held games, computers, etc)
- Extension cords (prohibited unless equipped with a surge protector)
- Pocket Knives/weapons
- Matches/Lighters
- Expensive Items (clothes, shoes, jewelry, etc.)

### AM I ALLOWED TO HAVE MY CELL PHONE?

No. We want you to be able to focus on the crew experience and the new memories and friendships that you will form while you are here for your session. Cell phones must be left at home.

### HOW DOES THE LAUNDRY WORK?

For a fee, camp offers a laundry service on the Saturday in between sessions. We will provide each crew member with a bag, and the camp staff will take it to a local laundromat where they will wash and fold the laundry. You may also pack enough clothes for the two weeks, or arrange for your laundry to be picked up at the camp office on Saturday morning before 11:00am.

### CAN I STILL RECIEVE MAIL ON CREW?

Mail will be kept in the office and a crew leader will bring all mail to the pavilion for distribution once a day Monday through Friday (times will vary depending on schedule). Please avoid sending any immediately perishable items. Mail should be addressed as follows:

Crew Member's Name- CREW Session \_\_\_\_  
YMCA Camp Ernst  
7615 Camp Ernst Road  
Burlington, KY 41005

### CAN A CREWIE DO MORE THAN ONE SESSION?

No. However, Week 9 Crew (coincides with week 9 of summer camp) is designed to be a third week of crew for those who have already completed a two-week session (A-D).

### WHAT IF I NEED TO CHANGE MY CREW SESSION?

Please call the office as soon as possible. A crew member may change sessions as long as there is availability. If the desired session is full, they may be put on the waitlist.

### WHAT IS THE CANCELLATION POLICY?

A deposit of \$100 per person is required with registration and is non-refundable after March 15. The final balance is due at the latest by two weeks before the session begins. Cancellation for a session must be made at least two weeks before that session begins. Cancellations within two weeks of the session's start day will be nonrefundable. All cancellations must be made in writing, by emailing [ce@myYcamp.org](mailto:ce@myYcamp.org)

### STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact our Teen Program Director, Michael Lindley, by email at [mlindley@myY.org](mailto:mlindley@myY.org) or by calling the camp office at 859-586-6181.