



# YMCA CAMP ERNST CREW PROGRAM SUMMER 2021

## CREW PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Camp Ernst Crew Program is a leadership experience for those entering the 10th grade. The program, housed in the Yurt Village, is designed to help participants gain leadership skills through trainings and experiential service learning. Crew participants form a tight knit group as they work together to complete a variety of tasks and activities every day. Crew members will leave the Crew program with a desire to serve others as well as having grown in Spirit, Mind, Body and friendship.

### CREW RESPONSIBILITIES

The Crew Members, along with their college-age leaders, take responsibility for an assortment of jobs throughout the camp: 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 adventures.



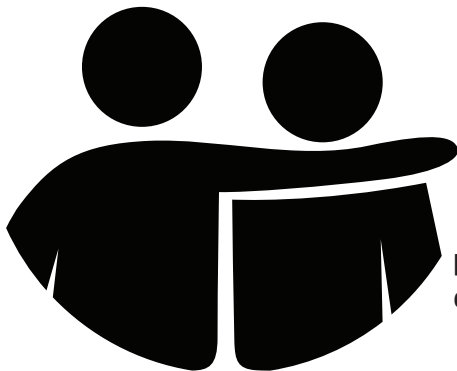
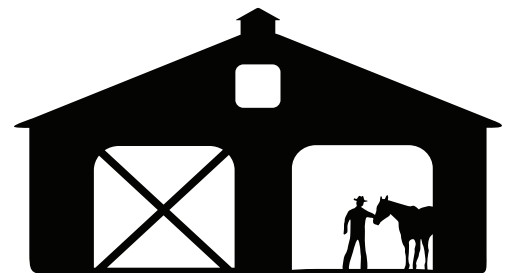
### CREW ACTIVITIES

Crew also finds time for the classic camp fun treasured by all Camp Ernst campers: time at the ropes course, lake, pools nature, crafts, and more. There will be opportunities for creek hikes, campfires, night hikes, mountain biking, fun evening programs like capture the flag, and much more. Crew members will also attend opening and closing campfires, play dodgeball against the LITs, and help run the Camp Ernst Party.



## WRANGLER CREW

The Wrangler Crew program is a leadership experience for those interested in our Ranch program. Participants will spend time learning how to teach and lead barn programs and will get a chance to put into action what they have learned. Riding lessons and group training, along with trail riding, barn chores like cleaning stalls, grooming horses, and feeding the goats will also be included. Wrangler crew members will be at the barn during much of the day and with other crew members in the evening.



## SMALL GROUPS

Having small groups within a larger teen program facilitates friendships and deepens ties. Small groups, each with roughly 9 crew participants and 1 leader, rotate through assignments in the kitchens, bathrooms, and activity areas. Each day the group will encounter lessons in leadership, both formal and informal. Two different small groups may be paired up together at any point in the week, allowing participants to widen their networks and get more deeply acquainted with their other peers. All the crew small groups will gather back together after dinner for evening programs and large group fun.

## 2021 SESSIONS AND COST

**WEEK 1 (June 13-19)**

**WEEK 2 (June 20-26)**

**WEEK 3 (June 27-July 3)**

**WEEK 4 (July 4-10)**

**WEEK 5 (July 11-17)**

**WEEK 6 (July 18-24)**

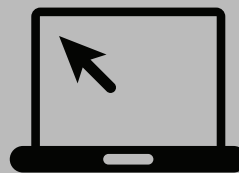
**WEEK 7 (July 25-31)**

**WEEK 8 (August 1-7)**

**WEEK 9 (August 8-14)**

- The cost for the crew program is \$400. The Crew 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.
- There is a \$50 fee reduction for additional weeks.

## HOW TO REGISTER



Beginning July 1st at 8am, crew registration will be available online. Crew registrations are filled on a first come first served basis. Space is limited. Spots for the crew program fill quickly, so we recommend not delaying in registering for this program.

To hold the crew member's 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. For questions, please call the camp office at 859-586-6181.

## WAITLISTS

If the Crew session of your choice is full and you would like to be placed on the waitlist, please select "add to waitlist" on the online registration page. Have a second choice? You may register for that session and still click "add to waitlist" for your first choice. We maintain active waitlists and encourage everyone to apply. Don't let being on the waitlist scare you, lots of changes happen between now and summer that allow for open spots in crew. If/when a spot becomes available, we will contact you.

## 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.



### 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?

Crew sessions are one week long. Crew members also have the opportunity to sign up for multiple weeks.

## 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, clean up after, and do it all over again for lunch and dinner. Their small groups will also rotate together through camp activities and leadership lessons. 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.

## SAMPLE CREW DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00	Wake Up	- Assignments may include kitchen duty, bathroom duty, work crew, or camp activities.
7:30	Breakfast assignment	
11:30	Lunch assignment	- Small groups will rotate together through assignments, camp activities, and leadership lessons.
3:00	Leadership activities	
4:15	Dinner assignments	
7:30	Evening Program	- Camp activities will include things like ropes, lake, archery, nature, ec.
10:30	Devotion	
11:00	Lights out	

## WHAT EXACTLY DOES THE CREW DO?

Crewies rotate between a variety of service roles at camp within small groups. They will wash dishes, serve food, clean toilets, work 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. In addition they have opportunities to do camp activities like ropes, lake, and classic valley activities such as archery and creek hikes.

## 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 while everyone is learning the routine and the responsibilities and still getting to know one another. In the end, crewies are sad to leave their new camp family, and parents are amazed at the confidence and maturity built.

## WHAT ARE DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES?

Check in is between 3:00-4:00pm on the Sunday of your week. All crew members must be signed in by an adult and all medications turned into the nurse during check in. Check out is the Saturday of your session at 9:45am (with the exception of week 4, which ends on Friday evening). There will be a short optional crew closing that parents and family members are invited to that will start around 10:00am. Crew members are expected to be moved out of the crew cabin prior to the closing.

## 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- Week \_\_ Yurt \_\_  
YMCA Camp Ernst  
7615 Camp Ernst Road  
Burlington, KY 41005

## WHAT DO THEY HAVE TO BRING?

See the packing list, 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 (no tank tops), sturdy closed toe shoes, hair pulled up, and wear a hat or bandana. We recommend that you pack your belongings in a large Rubbermaid-type tote box/drawer set. Clearly mark items with crew member's name; this will help in finding lost items.

## CREW PACKING LIST

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

## PROHIBITED ITEMS INCLUDE

- ⊗ Cell phones
- ⊗ Apple watches, fitness trackers
- ⊗ 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.)
- ⊗ Drugs, alcohol, juuls, e.cigarettes

### 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.

### 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 the close-knit team built by serving others together. Most crewies leave camp saying they have found a "second family" here.

### 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.

### CAN I STAY OVER ON THE WEEKEND IF I AM DOING TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS?

Yes. This stayover option is for campers who are staying two weeks in a row and would like to stay on the Saturday and Sunday between the weeks. The cost is \$95 (\$130 for the two-night stayover between weeks 4 and 5). Campers will use this time to recover and prepare for the next week. Activities usually include time at the pool, a movie, and plenty of time to rest. Laundry is included.

### WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO WASH DISHES BUT STILL WANT TO BE AT CAMP?

Crew may not be for everyone. Those who are still looking for a traditional camp experience may sign up to do LITs. They will still gain leadership skills through this program, but in the same familiar format they love and know from their earlier years as a camper.

### CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE COST?

The fee for a week of Crew (\$400) is reduced as compared to a week of our LIT program (\$638; "Leaders in Training"). The service function that members of Crew perform at camp helps to offset the cost of their week at camp. Service is about 33% of the Crew's daily schedule most days, and the weekly fee is reduced by 37%.

**CAN I EARN SERVICE HOURS FROM CREW?**

Yes! Each crew member will earn 40 hours of community service for each week they attend. Crew members will be sent a service hour letter by the end of August to document their service here at camp.

**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 four 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 feel free to email us at [ce@myYcamp.org](mailto:ce@myYcamp.org) or by calling the camp office at 859-586-6181.