



YMCA CAMP ERNST CREW PROGRAM SUMMER 2024

CREW PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Campers who are entering the 10th grade have the option to attend camp as an LIT camper or participate in the Crew Program. The Crew 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 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, 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.



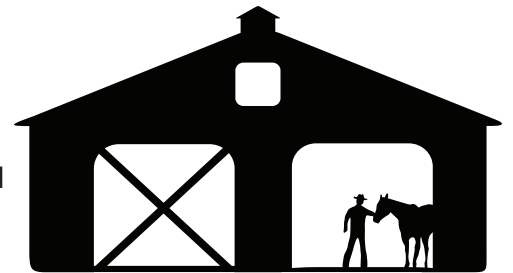
CREW ACTIVITIES

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 with 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 lead the equestrian program. 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.



2024 SESSIONS AND COST

Crew cost \$495 a session. There is a \$50 discount for additional sessions.

The Crew fee is used to help defer the costs of food, supervision, leadership development, activities, and supplies for the Crew Program. Financial assistance is available.

WEEK 1: June 9-15
WEEK 2: June 16-22
WEEK 3: June 23-29
WEEK 4: June 30-July 6
WEEK 5: July 7-13
WEEK 6: July 14-20
WEEK 7: July 21-27
WEEK 8: July 28-August 3
WEEK 9: August 4-10

REGISTER NOW



CREW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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. 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	Each crew member will receive a schedule with the job they are scheduled for each meal.
7:30	Breakfast Assignment	
10:00	Break	
11:30	Lunch Assignment	In between meals, crew will have plenty of time for rest and camp activities.
3:00	Camp Activities	
4:15	Dinner Assignments	
7:30	Evening Program	
10:30	Embers	
11:00	Lights out	

DO THE CREW HAVE COUNSELORS?

The Crew is led by a unit leader and several 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.

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, getting dishes through the hopper faster than anyone else, and working together as a team. 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.

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. In the end, crewies are sad to leave their new camp family, and parents are amazed at the confidence and maturity built.

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.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact us by email ce@myycamp.org by calling the camp office at 859-586-6181.