

Girl Scouts of Western Washington
MOUNTAIN VALLEY COMMUNITY CAMP

Program Aide Expectations and Information

(must be signed by PA and a parent)

We expect all of our program aides to:

- Be positive!
- Be on time
- Ask for help or advice when you need it
- Communicate with your program aide advisors
- Complete PA Training
- Attend Trainings
 - June 4th PA Day
 - July 12th Potluck
- Follow camp policies (no cell phone usage, sandals/open toe shoes, appropriate language, follow camp rules, appropriate clothing, etc.)

It is our goal for everyone to have a great week at camp!

Program Aide arrival and departure times are not the same as the campers. PA's arrive on Saturday, August 6th at 2pm, and depart camp on Saturday, August 13th at 11:00am.

Appropriate clothing and shoes must be worn at all times. At least 2 pairs of shoes. A pair of tennis shoes/ hiking shoes that are broken in, and/or a sturdy pair of sandals with heel straps, such as Teva's or Keen's. Water shoes are a good 3rd pair of shoes. You will be wearing them all week so make sure they are comfy. No flip flops except for in Lower Tillicum. You need to be able to run, jump, and play in them on bumpy, lumpy, uneven ground.

Appropriate language and conversations at all times. While not using swear words is probably obvious please consider that using other types of slang or negative type words in front of campers (which may be understood by teenagers) is not appropriate. The same is true for conversation topics. Little ears hear more than you might think. In addition, within the program aid unit please consider conversations or sharing that may be "too much information" for fellow program aides.

No electronics or cell phones usage is allowed at camp. We realize teenagers have busy active lives and being disconnected for a week can be trying. Cell phones, computers, etc. are a way of

life, however, camp gives us all a chance to escape our busy, hectic lives, to unplug for a while and enjoy the activities and people at our beautiful and fun-filled camp.

What you say!! You use your phone for an alarm clock? Not to worry, you will most likely sleep in as long as you can every morning anyway. Your program PA advisors will be your official alarm clocks and make sure you are up and out of your bed in time for flag! Aren't they wonderful! What you say!! Your phone is your camera. Not so many years ago campers brought disposable cameras that had 12 pictures on them. Wow, could this be your first challenge of the week! Okay, a flashlight . . . there are other options for seeing at night . . . if you need to borrow a flashlight, we have plenty to lend out. If you want to have your phones with you on your drive to and from camp please turn them in when you check into camp and we will keep them safe for you while at camp.

Camp policies and rules must be adhered to. Program aides are role models and in positions of responsibility. The younger campers look up to you as examples of what kind of person they want to be when they get older. That said, the program aide unit is set up to give you leadership opportunities during the day and camper time in the evenings to relax and get to know and enjoy each other. As a program aide we expect you to step up to the challenges you will surely be faced with. Mistakes, misunderstandings, poor choices are a fact of life and we grow from them, however, let's not grow too fast or too much at camp!

Program aide trainings are required.

June 4th is an all day event starting late morning with a PA bonding day with formal MVCC PA training information.

July 12th is a potluck for more program aide camp training and a chance to meet the staff you will be working with.

We realize that you have other activities and work commitments but to fully embrace your program aide opportunity these training are important. We will ask for your commitment on the program aide application.

Area assignments: We have a wide variety of factors to balance when planning our area placement including; our camp needs, range of camper ages, staff and PA personalities and strengths, and ages and experience of our PA's just to name a few. As much as possible we try to accommodate our PA preferences in their placement at camp. We can not place everyone exactly where they want to be. However, over our many years of camp we have found that PAs who are open to trying something new or different find that they have a great week at camp and often like their new area as much, or even more than the ones they wanted.

**Please sign below verifying that you and your parent/Guardian have read,
understand, and agree to follow our PA expectations.**

PA

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PA Parent

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____