

WELCOME TO YOUR FIRST SUMMER AT NORTH STAR



We are so happy that you decided to come to North Star. Like thousands of campers before you North Star will feel like “your home away from home”. You are going to have the time of your life.

We know that as camp gets a little closer it’s very normal to have a little apprehension about going to camp. All of a sudden you may have some questions: “What is camp going to be like?” We’ve made this handbook to address some of those concerns and to help you make a smooth transition to camp. In it you will see that many of your questions and concerns will be covered.

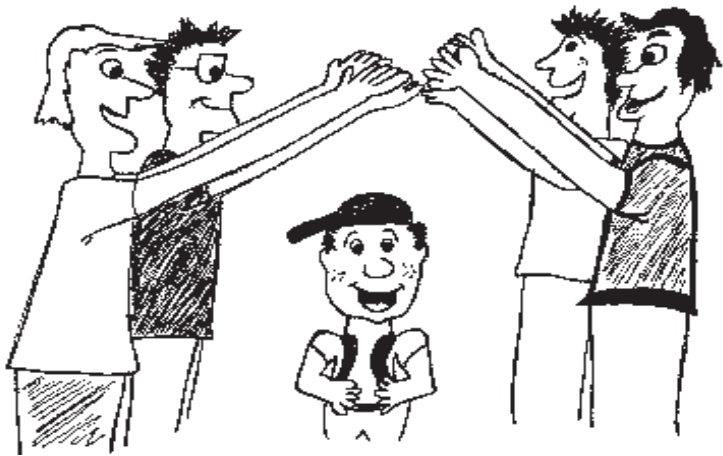
Please read this over with your parents and you may want to bring it with you to camp. Of course if you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

“HOW DO I GET TO CAMP?”

Chicago and Milwaukee campers come to camp by bus. Campers from other cities will first fly to Minneapolis. Don't worry, a counselor with a North Star staff shirt will meet your plane and take you to the area where the other campers are waiting. You will then board a bus for North Star about 1:00 after all flights have arrived.

“ARE WE THERE YET?”

This is a frequently asked question on the bus ride up to camp. A little tip: Don't ask this question until at least 3:30 and that way you'll get the answer you're hoping for. We have asked your camp big brother to sit near you on the bus. These veteran campers are good people to answer your questions. Road trips can be great if you come prepared with books, puzzles, games, and munchies packed separate in a carry on. Please do not bring more food than what you can consume on the bus since food items are not allowed in the cabins. We will collect all uneaten food when you get to camp.



The buses are cool. They have big comfortable seats with television monitors for movie viewing. Andy will be on one of the buses coming from Chicago. When you get nearer to camp the suspense builds. While passing through Hayward, try to catch a peak over the tree tops of the largest fiberglass Musky in the world. It also marks the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame. It's another 14 miles but you'll know that you're at camp because there will be 90 excited looking people standing out on the hill to greet you.

Did you know that your counselors felt a little scared and nervous about coming to camp for the first time too? They will be good people to talk to if you still feel this way when you get to camp. After all the buses arrive, Andy gets us all around the flag pole for the moment we've all been waiting for; "Who is going to be in my cabin?". Some people accuse Andy of stalling to build suspense. Andy will call out your name and you step forward to meet the your counselors and the other guys in your cabin. Don't worry, we always take into consideration who you want to be with. You will also meet and become friends with boys from all over the country. That is the beauty of camp.



On your first day of camp you will go on a tour with your counselors and spend an evening getting to know your cabin and other kids in your village.

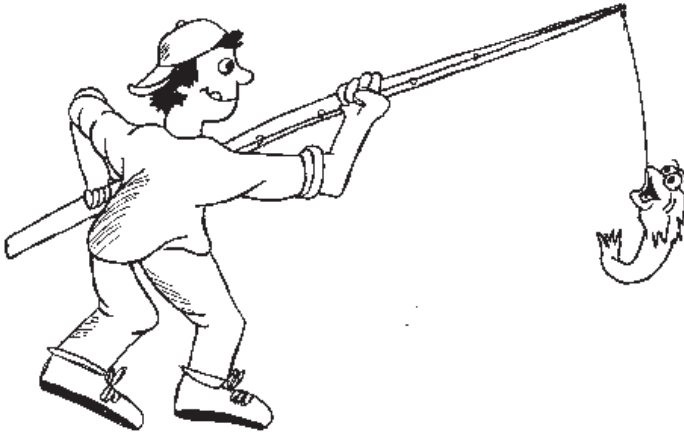
ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?

Of course! There's never a dull moment at camp. After you have settled in to your cabin it's usually time for your first dining experience at camp. You will sit with your cabin and of course use the same good manners that your parents taught you at home. The first nights meal at camp is always cheeseburgers and fries with brownies for dessert. You can count on it because as you will see we don't mess with tradition at camp. We also know that with all the excitement you may not be all that hungry. However from this meal on we can't believe how much you guys eat. Our food is great. We know that you'll love it. We only serve food our campers love and we give you lots of choices.



After meals an important thing happens.

We have announcements. Information is given to you about your day and the unexpected sometimes happens. Like everything at camp we try to keep announcements fun.



WHEN DO WE GO TO BED?

The bell will ring at 8:45 signaling the end of evening program. At that time you'll go back to your cabins and start getting ready for bed. You'll have a chance to go to the wash house to brush teeth and wash. There is some quiet time in the cabins when your

counselor will tell you a story or you may have a cabin discussion, a card game, or perhaps you'll just go to sleep to the sounds of the crickets, the breeze through the pines and thoughts of the next day. Your counselor will then say lights out. Don't worry about using the bathroom during the night or the occasional bed-wetting accident. These things happen and your counselor is here to help.

Many of our younger campers are early risers. If you're an early riser you can quietly get dressed so as not to wake your cabin and do some early morning fishing off the fishing dock or play some early tennis. We ask that you are always considerate of those still sleeping and be as quiet as possible. We know that soon even our early risers will be chanting for "A half hour later". You'll soon learn about this tradition

WHAT IF I HAVE A PROBLEM?

Camp is really no different than home, and sometimes we have little problems. The great thing about camp is that there are so many people who care about you and who want to help you solve your problems.

If you have a problem with a project you can talk to our Program Director in the program office, your counselor or the instructor.

If you are not feeling well you can talk to our nurse in our health center. We have health checks after breakfast, lunch and the evening program. It is always a good idea to see the nurse if you do not feel well, because you could be contagious to other campers and we want you to get well a.s.a.p.

It's real important that you let someone know about your problem so we can help you with the solution. Vickie and Andy are always available to campers even though sometimes we look very busy. Do not be afraid to approach us with a problem or just to talk.

HOW WILL I HEAR FROM MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS?

A special thing about camp is that you'll get letters from lots of people. You may be used to talking and texting with your family and friends. You may even have your own smart phone. Camp is a time for you to hang out with your cabin mates, play games and make new friends. Its hard to do that when you've got a phone with texting and apps. You won't have your electronics during camp but you'll see how awesome it is to get hand written letters from home.

We have our own mini post office where we sort the mail by cabin group. All cabins that have passed cabin inspection get their mail during the afternoon. At camp, we don't allow packages, except for books, magazines and other supplies.

Please do not ask your parents to send you food at camp. Food in cabins attracts critters and insects and they do not make good room mates. Because we're concerned about your living conditions we will check all packages coming into camp



in the office when you open them. Our food is great and there is plenty of it so don't worry about being hungry. Your parents will want to hear from you as well. We will ask you to write a letter to the good people who make camp possible twice a week. This is in addition to any letters sent to other family members or friends.



WHAT'S A TYPICAL DAY LIKE AT CAMP?

Below you will find a schedule of a typical day at camp. We have many special days for you to look forward to as well. We'll let you know with our bell system when it's time to do just about everything. You will learn our bell system very quickly.

8:00 a.m. - First Bell of the day. Roll out of bed.

8:15 a.m. - Another bell warning of 15 min. until breakfast. K.P.'s report to the dining room for set up and everyone else to the wash house to wash up.

8:30 a.m. - Breakfast and morning announcement. Listen carefully for what's in store for the day.

9:00-9:45 Cabin clean up (yes you have to)

9:45 - 11:00 - 1st period project. You'll receive instruction on all of the fun activities that we offer.

11:00 - 12:15 - 2nd period projects



12:15 - Warning bell for lunch. Wash up. K.P.'s report to Dining Room.

12:30 - 1:30 - Lunch followed by announcements for afternoon program.

1:30 - 2:30 - Rest Period. Everyone in the cabin for a little R&R, quiet games, reading and letter writing.

2:30 - 3:45 - 3rd period projects

3:30 - 3:45 - 4th Period: Village Activities (Monday, Weds. and Sat.) Village activities are usually team sports played by the green vs white teams. Challenge Games (Sundays and Tues.) Cabins challenge each other to competitions.

4:30 - 5:45 - 5th period: Organized free period. The swim area, waterfront area and many other activities are open to enjoy. This is your "me time". You can choose to just relax and plan your own activities.

5:45 - Warning bell for dinner. Wash up.

6:00 - Dinner

7:15 - 8:45 - Evening program. It changes every night, i.e.: campfires, skits, capture the flag, etc.

8:45 - Back to cabins, end of evening program.

Lights Out

9:30: Juniors 10:00: Intermediates

10:30: Seniors 11:00: Pine Manor





One day each week is a Cruiser Days. On these cabin days your cabin group will plan the day and all meals will be

picnics and cook-outs.

NORTH STAR LINGO

WANEGAN: Native American term for trading post. This is our camp store. You can purchase snacks, soap, fishing tackle, stamps etc.

A WANEGAN: An edible selection made at the camp store. Campers dream about them and write music and dramatizations about them.

K.P.: Kitchen Patrol. You will get a turn to set your table get the food and return dirty dishes. You probably were a K.P. at home and didn't realize it.

HORSE 'N GOGGLE: Like flipping a coin but we throw fingers when we need to decide who gets an extra turn or dessert.

KILL IT, FILL IT,: If you empty a bowl or a pitcher during a meal, then you get the honors of filling it again.

WHEN THE HAND GOES UP THE MOUTH GOES SHUT: When someone raises their hand this is our cue that our attention is needed.

HALF HOUR LATER: This is when a half an hour extra sleep is granted in the



morning. Campers go to great lengths to convince us to let them sleep.

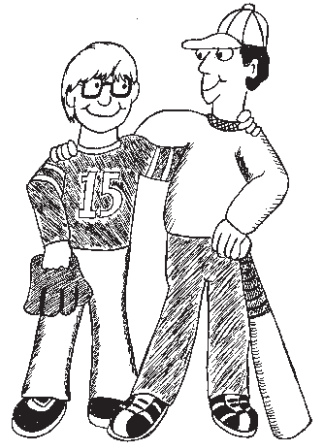
KEY LOG: A tiny piece of wood that can be thrown into a campfire to thank someone for a favor. We do this on Friday nights.

TUSH BALL: This is a game played with a ball off of the canoe racks. Some campers play it every chance they get.

A TRIPPER: A counselor who takes you on your overnight trips. They look woodsy and wear bandanas and hiking boots

O.D.: Officer of the Day. The O.D. is posted at the wash house in the morning and evening to provide supervision during high volume times in the wash house. They may ask you if you brushed your teeth.

CRUISER: The cruiser is a person who is assigned each period to be the roving supervision during program periods. If you are found in your cabin during program periods, the cruiser will hurry you along to your program.



WHAT IS THE BIG BROTHER PROGRAM?

We always assign a new camper with a big brother. A camp big brother is someone who has been to camp before and would like to show you the ropes so that camp feels like home in no time. Your big brother will contact you to see if you have any questions prior to camp. We ask big brothers to sit near their little brothers on the bus on the way to camp. When you get to camp your big brother can be a big help if you have a problem.



WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AT CAMP?

Going away from home for the first time is a big step in learning responsibility. You will need to be responsible for keeping yourself clean. You will also have to keep your bunk area organized and clean. Your cabin will be inspected by inspector #12 daily. We'll show you when you get to camp how we would like to see your beds and shelves.

You will also have a job everyday on the cabin job wheel. We're counting on everyone to do their jobs, so that camp will run smoothly. Keeping track of your personal possessions will be your responsibility. We have a lost and found where you can find your missing things. Being respectful of others and their property including the camp property is a responsibility that everyone at camp shares. For example writing on your cabin walls or beds or not putting away equipment after use is considered disrespectful at camp. With so many people using our campsight we have to be careful about the impact to our sight. We will ask you to recycle, dispose of litter and to not put anything unnatural into the lake. We look forward to you being a part of our community this summer. We know that you will be a great community member



ARE THERE ANY MORE QUESTIONS?

If you have questions please don't sit at home and wonder. Just give us a call. We'd love to hear from you. Our phone number is 715-462-3254.

We're excited for the summer to start and we're looking forward to getting to know you better. As we say at camp, "Keep your campfires burning."

- *Andy and Vickie*