



285 Hungry Hollow Road
Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977
Phone: (845) 356-1234
Fax: (845) 356-9676
www.thenatureplace.com

June 2008

The Nature Place Day Camp Mission Statement: To give campers a safe summer in which they can be themselves, have fun, be challenged, connect with others and the Earth, develop new life skills and be supported throughout.

Dear Parent(s) and Camper(s),

Welcome to the summer of 2008!

We hope that you received our May letter/e-mail describing clothing, snacks & lunches, weekly themes, tick/rabies/sun/mosquito information, etc. This June letter/e-mail will let you know everything else that is important to know about the upcoming camp season. Communication between camp and families (a two-way avenue, to be sure) is critical so that we all have a safe, fun and educational summer. Feel free to contact us with ANY question or concern.

This summer we have a staff return rate of over 82%, one of our highest ever! The remaining 18% of 'new blood' is also very important so that we can continue upon our solid foundation established over many years while at the same time bring fresh ideas and spirit to the whole.

Communication

At camp you will receive two important pieces of mail – special delivery by way of your camper! One is called the "Counselor Information Sheet", a colorful page with pictures, greetings and information about your child's counselors. You will also receive a special calendar, specific for your child's group, listing all hikes, overnight trips and special events.

Name Tags

We will be sending you, via regular mail, a nametag with your child's name and his/her group letter. Please be sure your child wears his/her nametag on the first day of camp.

Traffic Procedure for Arrival and Dismissal (VERY IMPORTANT!!!)

Morning drop-off begins at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 9:00 a.m. If you arrive after 9:00 a.m. park your car and escort your child(ren) to their rooms or to the "Morning Share" time. **Children cannot be dropped off before 8:45 a.m.** Because of our limited parking please do not pull into the camp before 8:45 a.m. We cannot have a line of cars backed up onto Route 45! At no time can cars 'stand' or wait along the side of Route 45.

When you drop off your child(ren) in the morning on the first day of camp (June 30) you will be given a reminder of the dismissal information. Your cooperation and patience during our first day's dismissal will be very important and greatly appreciated.

Afternoon dismissal begins at 3: 55 p.m. **Do not come onto the camp property before 3:50 p.m.** As in the morning, we cannot have cars backing up onto Route 45. If you wish to arrange an earlier pick-up, please make arrangements with the office.

In all locations, it is very important to follow the directions of staff members conducting the flow of traffic. This is for everyone's safety!

If for any reason you must park your car (i.e. bring your child in on the first day) and come into camp, you must, from Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45), turn onto Hungry Hollow Road and pull into the third main driveway on the left (the driveway for the Eurythmy School). Proceed up that driveway to the marked spaces on your left or follow the directions of parking staff.

Arrival

All cars enter and exit using the main camp driveway on Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45). All cars must make a **RIGHT TURN ONLY** into the camp! Please see below. Cars follow the one-way loop around the upper driveway or, if directed, the lower loop around the gym. Please proceed as far along the loop as possible before stopping and releasing your camper(s). Counselors are present to meet cars as they pull into camp. Campers are greeted by staff and escorted into the building.

Cars exiting camp may only turn right onto Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45). Right turns prevent hazardous traffic tie-ups. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Dismissal

****All campers with younger siblings will go to the younger sibling's group and wait with him/her.**** The older child will be waiting with the younger sibling's group. Please remind your children of this. The counselors will also be aware of this and will bring the older campers to join their younger siblings at dismissal.

Please submit the "Permission to Dismiss Camper to Person Other than Parent" form if there is any possibility you will not be personally picking up your child every day.

SEVERE WEATHER at pick-up time – If there is a strong thunderstorm or torrential downpour at dismissal we will close off the Route 45 entrance for a 10-minute period (approximately 4:10 p.m.) and keep all the groups inside. Safety is our #1 priority at all times, even dismissal. You will not be able to bring your car into camp until that time or until staff at the entrance give their OK. Do NOT wait or 'stand' on the side of Route 45. It is illegal and dangerous.

Cars picking up campers (and siblings) from Groups A, B and C will enter camp (RIGHT TURN ONLY) from Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45) and then turn right again to enter the *upper driveway* loop (see map area #1). **Please stay in your car!** A counselor will bring your child(ren) to you.

Cars picking up campers (and siblings) from groups D, E, F, G and H will enter camp (RIGHT TURN ONLY) from Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45) and then will turn left to go around the gym for pick-up behind the gym. (See map area #2). Follow the counselors' directions. Please stay in your car! Counselors will bring your child(ren) to you. Remember, there is a RIGHT TURN ONLY when leaving the camp.

Cars picking up campers and their siblings in Groups I, J, K, L and M, traveling from Chestnut Ridge Road, will turn onto Hungry Hollow Road and then turn left onto Orchard Lane (see map area #3) and follow the instructions of the parking counselors. **Please stay in your car!** A counselor will bring your camper(s) to you. **It is important to remember your child's group letter.**

Several staff members are stationed in key locations to direct traffic. Please follow the instructions of the staff directing traffic.

Helpful Directions for Following the "Right Turn Only" Rule

If you are coming from New Jersey (traveling north along Route 45/Chestnut Ridge Road) you can avoid making a left turn into camp each morning by following this simple route:

After entering New York and before reaching the camp you will come to a traffic light on Chestnut Ridge Road/Route 45. Turn right at this traffic light onto Summit Road. Follow Summit Road to the end. At the stop sign turn left onto Red School House Road. Follow it to the end. At the traffic light, turn left onto Chestnut Ridge Road/Route 45. Travel a short distance and you will see the camp on your right. Turn right into the camp.

If you want to travel north on Chestnut Ridge Road/Route 45 when exiting camp in the afternoon, simply turn right onto Chestnut Ridge Road/Route 45. At the first traffic light, turn left onto Summit Road. Follow it to the end and turn left onto School House Road. Follow it to the end and at the traffic light turn right onto Chestnut Ridge Road/Route 45.

Our “right turn only” rule when entering and exiting the camp during arrival and dismissal may add a few more minutes to your drive time. We concluded years ago that this is well worth our children’s and your safety. For this reason we expect everyone will follow this rule 100% of the time. Thanks for your cooperation.

Bus Information

If you have contracted for transportation you have already received (or will soon be receiving) your bus information concerning pick-up/drop-off.

Emergency Plans

We know, since September 11, that the world is a different place; a world where the kinds of things that The Nature Place offers probably take on greater significance and meaning; a world where our traditionally consistent #1 priority – safety and security of our children - is even more reassuring than before.

If there is an extra-ordinary event or emergency while camp is in session we will let you know the details of our emergency action plan via one or more of the following ways:

- Phone call notification
- A recorded message on camp phone lines
- A message posted on our web site’s home page (thenatureplace.com)
- Announcement(s) on one or more of our area’s major radio stations.

It is important that we have three emergency contacts (other than the parents) on your child’s registration form.

Rest assured that in case of any emergency our first concern is your children. We will be with them and take care of them, whatever the emergency.

Medical Needs

If your camper(s) will require medications while at camp and/or on an overnight camping trip, please bring in both the medication (in it’s original container) and the doctor’s order for the medication.

Swim Gear

In order to maximize campers’ swim time we recommend that campers, especially younger children, come to camp wearing their swimsuit under their camp clothes and bring along a pair of “aqua socks” or swim shoes. This means less time changing clothes and more time in the water. Be sure to send your child’s undergarments for him/her to change into after swimming.

Repellent Use

In our May letter and on our web site there is information about mosquito and tick concerns. After researching repellents, we will have the following products on hand to use this summer.

For mosquitoes, we have chosen Repel by WCP Brands. It contains 30% of oil of lemon eucalyptus. This DEET – free cream will be applied when necessary.

For ticks we have chosen Cutter All Family Insect Repellent. The active ingredient is DEET (7.0%). This unscented, spray repellent will be used, when deemed necessary, only on a camper’s clothing, i.e. long pants and footwear, and will be applied only by counselors.

Getting the Most Out of Camp

So as not to get in the way of meeting new friends, connecting with others, being part of a larger community, learning from and about the natural world, laughing, sharing joy, taking full advantage of our great programs, we ask that electronic games such as Gameboy, music players such as Walkmans and iPods, cell phones and all other such devices be kept at home and NOT brought to camp. Six weeks of camp go by mighty quickly. We don’t want these potentially isolating devices to get in the way of your camper possibly having the best summer of his/her life!

Behavior Guidelines

Our standards at The Nature Place Day Camp have always been very high, which is probably one of the reasons you have chosen to be with us for the summer of 2008. Safety is always our #1 priority and to us this includes “emotional” as well as the “physical” aspect of safety. Campers need to be safe and to feel safe throughout all parts of the camp day, whether they are in camp or away on trips. They need to feel secure that they will not be the subjects of bullying, teasing, harassment, exclusion, belittling or name-calling.

Camp may be one of the last bastions of “community”, especially the kind of community in which we celebrate tolerance, acceptance and peace. From day one our goal is to make The Nature Place Day Camp a healthy, vibrant, nurturing and safe community, one in which campers can be themselves, have fun, be challenged, connect with others and with the earth, develop new life skills and be supported throughout. Therefore, we expect all campers will:

1. Always stay with their group
2. Participate in camp activities
3. Deal with other campers and staff members in respectful ways
4. Be supportive of other campers’ needs and efforts
5. Always act in ways that are safe for the camper him/herself as well as for all other campers
6. Treat other campers’ (and the camp’s) property and belongings with respect and consideration
7. Never hit; throw something at; or in any way physically hurt anyone else
8. Never threaten, imply a threat or “get in the face” of another camper
9. Not engage in put-downs of any type or make “fun” of another camper
10. Not purposefully and with ill intent exclude another camper

The consequences of not following the camp’s code of conduct are:

1. *First time* – discussion and meeting at camp with the camp administration and parent(s) to discuss the incident. Partnering with parents is one way in which we create an envelope of safety for all children.
2. *Second time* - the camper will miss one day of camp in order to better understand that there are better behavior choices to be made relative to the incident.
3. *Third time* – a discussion and decision-making meeting with parents in order to look at the real possibility that perhaps The Nature Place Day Camp is not a good match for the camper and his/her needs.

Our goal is to help each camper have a successful summer and positive camp experience. Of course, each incident will be looked at individually and in terms of degree of seriousness.

Please go over our behavior policy and expectations with your camper(s), including the consequences for not following them. Clarity and consistency, at camp and at home, are the keys for making our camp a healthy, nurturing environment for children.

Program Highlights

Regular activities at camp will include: woodworking, chickens, gardening, swim, earth art, lunch, drama, snack, crafts, cooking, cooperative games, outdoor skills, hobby time, morning share, archery, music, farm visits, yoga, nature explorations, storytelling, movement, playground time, mucking, water play, Thurston on Thursday, troll hunting and more.

Day Hikes

Each hike offers a bit of adventure, some challenges, plenty of rest stops, a new awareness of our environment and a chance to go places and experience things most people do not. As with all Nature Place activities, our goals are safety, fun and education.

All hikes are geared to the age and ability of the campers in terms of interest, mileage and terrain. All hikes have been scouted out beforehand. At the end of a hike campers will feel tired, but that good kind of tired that comes from excitement, good exercise and a sense of accomplishment. During the hikes we

will learn proper hiking techniques, safety, natural and human history, the importance of eating and hydrating (drinking) during a hike, how to least disturb the natural areas through which we travel, tick awareness, trail etiquette and more.

On the day of the hike we will cancel the trip if the weather is too hot, raining heavily or there is a serious threat of thunderstorms. There have been occasions when a trip was canceled in the morning due to thunderstorm predictions and the day turned out to be beautiful. Needless to say we were all disappointed, but we will always err on the side of safety. If possible, all canceled hikes are rescheduled. If a hike is canceled your camper will be scheduled for a full day of activities at the camp. So be sure he/she brings a swimsuit to camp every day, even on hike days. Please see the May letter about dressing appropriately and packing lunches for hikes.

All of our camp activities include a risk management plan and hiking is no exception. These plans are based on Ed's 38 years of teaching and working with children out-of-doors, New York State Health Department regulations and American Camp Association standards. A phone, weather radio and first aid kit are taken on every hike. The Trip Leader is certified in advanced first aid and CPR. Bus transportation for all trips is contracted through Chestnut Ridge Transportation unless otherwise noted.

To be eligible for each hike campers must be in good health (as determined by the counselor, trip leader and camp nurse, in consultation with parent), rested, have proper clothing and footwear (i.e. no sandals) and have demonstrated behaviorally before the hike that they will not pose a safety concern for themselves or others. If a camper has any condition or situation which may make questionable his/her safety, fun and enjoyment for any particular hike, then we will partner with parents and discuss the situation before the hike. Each hike is properly geared for the designated age group in terms of distance, terrain, time, weather, etc. You will find a list of our hikes below. At times, younger and older groups will be visiting some of the same places. The experience will be different for each group since there is a wide range of hiking options (different trails, different activities, lengthening or shortening the hike, etc.) within each of these hike locations. All trips are in Harriman State Park and are led by Ed Bieber unless otherwise noted.

Groups A and B

Week #2 Wednesday, July 9 – Monsey Glen – a very short bus ride from camp, this Rockland County Park has beautiful trails, a peaceful valley and sandstone 'caves' that once provided shelter for our native Americans.

Week #5 Thursday, July 31 – Black Rock Mountain – an old favorite of ours in Harriman Park, this mountain is reached by way of the RD Trail. Kids have said that it feels like the top of the world.

Groups C and D

Week #2 Tuesday, July 8 – Monsey Glen – see description above

Week #6 Tuesday, August 5 – Tom Jones Mountain – in the center of Harriman Park, this mountain boasts glacial boulders, a hiker's lean-to and an interesting story of the origin of its name

Groups E and F

Week #2 Thursday, July 10 – Flaggy Meadow Mountain – the Beech and Red Cross Trails take us by waterfalls, streams and blueberries.

Week #4 Tuesday, July 22 – Stockbridge Mountain – up the Menomine Trail from Silvermine parking area, past an old cemetery, across a stream, through a majestic pine forest and up, up to the top! Watch for Hippo Rock.

Groups G and H

Week # 1 Tuesday, July 1 – Long Mountain – located in the northern reaches of Harriman Park, the top of this mountain is reached by way of the famous Long Path. Once on the top we will see that sometimes things are, literally, written in stone.

Week # 5 Monday, July 21 – Almost Perpendicular – we will discover why this particular section of trail in the southern part of the Park is given the name it carries!

Groups I and J

Week #1 Wednesday, July 2 – Long Mountain – see description under groups G and H.

Week #4 Thursday, July 24 – Parker Cabin Mountain – who was Mr. Parker?; where was his cabin?; who put a memorial to a dog on top of this mountain located in one of the most “wilderness feeling” parts of Harriman Park?.

Groups K and L

Week #1 Thursday, July 3 – Long Mountain - see description above under G and H.

Week #6 Monday, August 4 – Parker Cabin Mountain – see description under I and J.

Groups M

Week #3 Friday, July 18 – Surprise Hike!

Camping Trips

The camping program at The Nature Place is designed to enhance the whole Day Camp experience. Our camping mission statement is: Using the outdoors as a medium, the camping staff and counselors will, with safety as the top priority, help each camper to develop competence and self-confidence in the outdoors. In doing so, she/he will develop responsibility for self and others, social awareness and acceptance, independence and an understanding of and appreciation for the natural environment. A lifelong love and respect for all life is nurtured.

Our camping program is based on the philosophy of ‘roughing it easy’. Camping and the outdoors are very important to us, but first and foremost we never forget that children are the #1 reason why we do what we do.

Trip participants practice minimal-impact camping skills and learn techniques for living and traveling outdoors in comfort and safety. Being aware of our environment is one of our important goals. Trips include environmental education activities as well as opportunities to discover the natural and human history of the areas being visited.

All trips have been scouted beforehand. Members of our full-time professional camping staff are certified in advanced first aid and CPR.

Each camper will receive a packing list prior to each trip. Packing lists will be available on our website at TheNaturePlace.com in the Packing List section. Each camper group will have a pre-trip meeting with a member of our camping department. During this meeting the following topics will be covered: dates and times of trip; mode(s) of transportation; destination(s); length of trip; trip leader(s); supplies and equipment needed (both personal and group); outline of each day; activities during the trip; safety procedures and practices; potential hazards; behavior expectations and consequences; questions from the campers. Your camper will bring home the pre-trip camping information as outlined above. The level of difficulty will also be noted for each of the trips. Both the camp and the parent, together, will decide if the camper meets the eligibility requirements to participate in any and all trips. These requirements include: good health; rested; proper clothing, footwear, equipment, supplies; has demonstrated before the trip that

he/she will not pose a safety concern for him/her self or others; a good and cooperative attitude, one in which the camper has shown a willingness to participate in camp activities.

“Almost Overnight”

Group C – July 21 Group D – July 28

When the camp day ends our adventure begins! A short hike will bring us to our campsite where we will set up tents and cook dinner outdoors. The evening will end with a twilight hike in search of bug-hunting bats, flashing fireflies and twinkling stars. Parents will pick up their “almost over-nighters” at 9:00 p.m. in front of the main camp building – the Lower School of Green Meadow.

On-Site Overnight Camp Out

Group L – July 1 Group H – July 9
Group K – July 2 Group G – July 10
Group J – July 7 Group F – July 24
Group I – July 8 Group E – July 31

As the first step in the camping progression that all campers engage in each year, this experience is the perfect way to teach first-timers (and remind more experienced campers) about the finer points of camping, backpacking and outdoor living. Under the guidance of our veteran trip leaders, campers are guided through the skills of meal cooking, clean up, tent pitching, safe fire building and outdoor etiquette. And, because this campout happens right in our backyard, it’s the perfect way to “work the bugs out” (perhaps literally) for campers anticipating longer excursions.

Backpacking Adventure I (One Night in Harriman State Park)

Group M – July 2 Group K/L – July 17 Group I/J – July 29 and Aug. 5 Group G/H – July 30

Into the forest we go! This backpacking trip will familiarize campers with the ways of backcountry camping and how to enjoy the wilderness in comfort and safety. Campers will learn proper hiking techniques and will practice outdoor living skills that care for people and the earth at the same time.

Backpacking Adventure II (Two Nights in Harriman)

Group K/L – July 22 and 23

A journey into the “wilds” of beautiful Harriman State Park invites campers to practice their backcountry camping skills while enjoying the challenge of this three-day, two-night adventure. A sense of accomplishment and “tired excitement” are found at the end of such an extended trip.

Backpacking Adventure III (Three Nights in Harriman)

Group M – July 22, 23, 24

Like the two-nighter described above except more so! A great chance to feel at home in the natural world.

Flat Water Canoe Paddle and Camp Out (Lake Tiorati, Harriman State Park)

Group M – July 7 & 8 Group J - July 15
Group L – July 9 Group G – July 16
Group K – July 10 Group H – July 17
Group I – July 14

This one night (two, for Group M) canoe/camping trip will introduce participants to the basics of flat water canoeing. Campers will paddle the waters of Lake Tiorati in Harriman State Park. We will teach

proper paddling techniques as well as watercraft safety. Groups will set up camp at the Cedar Pond camping area, located on a very beautiful and private peninsula.

River Canoe/Camping

Group L – July 31

Campers will paddle along a lightly used portion of the Delaware River known for its calm waters and beautiful scenery. The next step beyond the flat water of Lake Tiorati, this trip will provide opportunities for campers to learn how to read a river and navigate its changing current. Keen observers are rewarded with sightings of bald eagles, herons, eels and perhaps even black bears!

River Canoe/Camping (2 night)

Group M – July 29 and 30

A more challenging stretch of the river awaits our oldest campers. More advanced canoeing skills along with river navigation skills will be refined in the faster moving water.

Special Bring-In Days (Every Wednesday)

To help focus on each week's theme, we like to set aside every Wednesday as a special day for campers and counselors to bring in something relating to that week's theme. These items can then be shared among fellow group members.

Week #1: Taking Care Week

Wednesday, July 2. Bring in something you care about.

Week #2: Gravity-don't let it get you down Week

Wednesday, July 9. Bring in something that ignores gravity.

Week # 3: Thinking Green/Being Green Week

Wednesday, July 16. Bring in something very green.

Week #4: Threads, Webs and Circles Week

Wednesday, July 23. Bring in something that connects to something else.

Week #5: Animal Week -

Wednesday, July 30. Bring in your favorite real or stuffed animal.

Week #6: Earth, Wind, Fire and Water Week

Wednesday, August 6. Bring in a piece of earth, a piece of wind or a piece of water. We already have the fire in the sun shining down upon us.

Special Events

Bill Robinson – Monday, June 30 (1st day of camp!) and Monday, July 28th (beginning of animal week)

Bill is a Nature Place favorite because of his warm way of relating to children as well as the interesting animals he shares with us each summer. He is a wildlife specialist who helps injured and orphaned wild animals return to their natural habitats. We will enjoy meeting animals such as owls, large reptiles, eagles and hawks that will actually fly just above our heads!

Clearwater Sail! – Tuesday, July 29, groups E and F

We'll have the opportunity to help hoist the sails, steer the ship, sing river songs, learn about the human and natural history of this river that 'flows both ways', see what's living in a drop of the Hudson's water and meet some creatures from the bottom of the river. This is a fun, educational and exciting day!

Full Camp Harvest Day – Thursday, August 7

This is a very exciting day for everyone! The entire camp hikes to the Fellowship fields to harvest crops such as potatoes, carrots, onions, beets and other bio-dynamically grown vegetables. Two hundred fifty people of all shapes and sizes, young and old, harvesting and singing under a beautiful summer sky, is certainly a sight to behold. And better yet, one to experience first hand!

Outragehiss Pets – every Tuesday and Thursday

These become even extra special days at camp when we are visited by **Outragehiss Pets**, our neighbor here in Chestnut Ridge. They bring over a variety of animals (i.e. giant marine toad, hog nose snake, fennec fox, binturong, pixie-bob, scorpion, spur thigh, Cuban rock iguana, just to name a few) for us to touch or just say hello to from a distance.

Panning for Gold – Tuesday and Wednesday, August 5 and August 6

The old prospector, Mark Enterline, returns to camp to lead campers in a gold prospecting adventure right in our own camp stream. Campers will build a dam, set up a sluice box and pan the stream's sandy bottom for bits of real gold (not fool's gold!), that mysteriously find their way from the Sierra Mountains to The Nature Place every summer. Each lucky miner will gather his/her loot in a small jar as a memento of this day's real or imagined "flash in the pan".

Family (mostly evening) Programs

Please join us for these special family events, designed for all enrolled campers and their families.

Family Games Night – Wednesday, July 2, 7:15 p.m.

Everyone can play and have fun with our cooperative or 'new' games. Come out during this first week of camp and experience the kinds of games your campers will be playing during the summer.

Campfire Songs – Thursday, July 10, 8:00 p.m.

Come and join us outdoors for the double magic of a campfire and a community sing-along. We may also take a walk to see a dazzling firefly display as well as a sparkling show of stars up in the heavens.

Songs of Peace and Freedom – Wednesday, July 23, 7:15 p.m.

Victoria Cristgau and Free Atlast will lead a highly percussive and participatory evening. Victoria, a leader in the Peace/Justice movement for many years, travels the nation conducting improv and singing workshops. She will be working during the day with campers, leading them in many international songs.

An Evening with Chuck Stead – Thursday, July 31, 7:15 p.m.

Enjoy storytelling at its finest with Ramapo Mountain Poet, local historian, playwright, author, actor and our camp's popular storyteller, Chuck Stead. This is a chance for you to experience his storytelling magic and to see why all campers (and all the staff) love Chuck and eagerly look forward to his Friday morning stories. His imaginative tales and familiar cast of characters appeal to all ages.

Earth Art - Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m. to Noon. Join Yasmin Khan and her art department as we create Earth Art in our woodlands and fields.

Family Barbecue and Slide Show - Wednesday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m. (Rain Date, August 7)

Come one and all to our end of the season get-together! Enjoy great food, good company and a very special slide presentation of the summer's many activities. We ask that families bring a salad or dessert to share. The camp provides hot dogs, hamburgers and vegetarian burgers. You must bring your own REAL plates, cups and silverware. At The Nature Place we believe in "earth friendliness". Remember, there is no such place as "away". Disposable "throw-away" items always end up somewhere, in some form, on our beautiful planet.

Pond Membership!

All enrolled camp families now have the opportunity to become members of the Threefold Pond, our camp swimming facility. If you would like to be part of a swim community where there are no radios, no smoking, no crowds on weekends, but where you'll find plenty of kids, shade, sun, grass, more nature than concrete, and like-minded families, then call Bonnie Johnson, Pond Manager, at 845-371-9711 for more information and a pond application form.

Art Request

If you have any, could you send in paper towel/toilet paper rolls, egg cartons and any natural items that you or your child may have been collecting and now you don't know what to do with, i.e. a bag of pine cones, cool-looking sticks, shells, etc.

True Foods

There are many hidden gems on our 200-acre Hungry Hollow Road campus and True Foods, operated by Pamela Schultz, is one of them and is open to the public. This café/restaurant offers organic entrees, salads, wraps, soups, baked goods and hot and cold beverages – to take out or to sit down and enjoy. Located in the Main House Dining Room (big white building off of Hungry Hollow Road, directly across from the Pond and the location of our camp winter office). Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, Sunday 4:00 p.m.-7pm. Call Pam at 845-425-7205 for more information.

All of us at The Nature Place Day Camp look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Ed Bieber

"Summer's lease hath all too short date."

William Shakespeare

PS – Some parents have requested to come to camp so that their child can meet his/her counselors and see their room before the actual start of camp. We have set aside two times for this toward the end of our Staff Orientation Week: Friday, June 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m., and Saturday, June 28, 11 a.m.-12 noon. Please call to let us know if you are coming during these hours.