

2023 - 2024 4-H CAMP COUNSELOR APPLICATION

Fact Sheet and Application Form

Due November 1, 2023

This is your first step toward becoming a Camp Counselor.

4-H CAMP INFORMATION

This year camp is scheduled for **08/11/2024 – 08/14/2024**, at Yellowstone Alliance Adventures Camp, south of Bozeman, in beautiful Cottonwood Canyon. **Teen Counselors attend camp 08/10/2024 – 08/14/2024.**

ROLE OF COUNSELORS AT 4-H CAMP

Being a camp counselor is a unique opportunity to meet and work with teens, adults, and youth in a fun, hands-on, outdoor environment. Camp Counselors plan the 4-H Camp program with the assistance of the Camp Director(s), the Camp Advisory Team, and the County Extension Agent(s). Each counselor will be responsible for specific duties both in the pre-planning stages of camp **and** at camp itself. This includes selecting program topics, arranging speakers/presenters, obtaining equipment or other materials, and fundraising as needed for camp. Counselors are also responsible for the safety and welfare of the campers during camp. As part of the leadership team, counselors share in the overall responsibility for the success of camp – the learning, safety, and fun.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Be an enrolled 4-H member aged 13 years or older as of October 1, 2023.
2. Complete the Camp Counselor Application form and return it to Gallatin County Extension Offices by **Wednesday, November 1, 2023**. Please contact the Gallatin County Extension Offices with any questions.
3. Attend a camp counselor selection interview. Counselors will be selected through an interview process.
 - Interviews will take place in early-mid November with various slots available. Business casual attire, 4-H Show Dress, or nice Western-style clothes preferred.
 - **YOU MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION BY THE DEADLINE IN ORDER TO BE INTERVIEWED!**

CAMP COUNSELOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **If selected as a camp counselor**, you must attend all camp planning and training meetings unless you have an excused absence from the Camp Director(s) and/or Extension Agent **prior** to the meeting. Excessive absences or failure to obtain an excused absence prior to a scheduled meeting may result in dismissal from the camp program. It is the counselor's responsibility to obtain any information missed during an excused absence, to complete the necessary homework, and to come prepared to the next meeting or event. A "Decline" on BAND does not equal an excused absence.
2. **Participate in at least 2 fundraising activities or pay a \$200 fee. Please plan ahead!**
3. Counselors are required to provide their own transportation to meetings, trainings, and camp week. Due to parking and safety concerns, camp counselors will only be allowed to drive their personal vehicles to camp on a pre-approved, case-by-case basis. Transportation will not be provided for any camp activities, unless it is arranged prior to the event.

Gallatin County 4-H Camp Counselor Application
Yellowstone Alliance Adventures Camp
08/11/2024 – 08/14/2024 (08/10/2024 – 08/14/2024, for Camp Counselors)

Application (pgs. 2-6) **must** be turned in by November 1, 2023, to the Gallatin County Extension Office.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Grade _____ M/ F _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

The best way to contact me is by: Email Phone Text

Primary Phone Number _____

Alternate Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

4-H Club _____

Number of years as a 4-H member: _____

Number of years as a 4-H Counselor: _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guradian Phone _____

Parent/Guardian E-Mail _____

Primary Emergency Name and Phone Number _____

MEDICAL HISTORY: Do you have any physical conditions which preclude you from performing certain kinds of work? If yes, please explain: _____

Please respond to the following:

1. Why do you want to be a camp counselor?

2. List 3 of your strongest qualities and why it makes you a good candidate:

A)

B)

C)

3. List 3 of your weakness and how you envision making them a strength:

A)

B)

C)

4. List any special trainings or experiences (i.e. First Aid Certification, CPR certification, leadership training, etc.) you have had or have:

5. What do you think the role of a counselor should be?

6. Would your parents/guardian be willing to chaperone for a night or two? ____yes ____no

If yes, list dates/times: _____

Each year the counselors and adult staff select a timely and fun camp theme and plan all the camp activities and programs around the theme. After giving this important topic of “theme” some thought, complete the camp plan sheet on the next page. Please keep copyright and trademark considerations in mind when choosing your camp theme and other ideas.

“My Camp Plan”

Camp Theme:

Group/Counselor Name Ideas:

Special Program (may be / not be related to theme):

Guest Speaker Ideas:

Recreation Ideas:

All Camp Activity Ideas:

Other Suggestions:

4-H Counselor Requirements

I will be expected to:

1. Attend **all** training, planning, and social activities in their entirety unless excused beforehand by a camp director or 4-H agent.
2. Monitor email, phone, text, and BAND communication for important camp information. Respond accordingly when asked. Keep communication channels open.
3. Set a good example by not using profanity or telling off-color jokes and stories both at meetings and during camp week.
4. Not have in my possession or use tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs while I am participating in the 4-H Camp Counselor Program and at 4-H camp. Possession and/or use of these substances will result in immediate dismissal from the Camp Counselor Program.
5. **Abide by the no “Inappropriate Behavior” policy at camp. No public displays of affection.**
6. Abide by the **NO CELL PHONE** policy (Note: unless otherwise authorized by Camp Director or Extension Staff).
7. Be a responsible counselor.
 - a) Get to know campers personally and by name.
 - b) Have all campers, including myself, check in any of their medications with the medical staff.
 - c) Make sure each camper uses personal hygiene.
 - d) Make sure that all my campers are familiar with camp facilities and camp rules.
 - e) Check for illness or injury, but don’t make much of a “fuss” about minor things.
8. **Be in my cabin with my campers always between the hours of “Lights Out” and “Rise and Shine” unless allowed by the Camp Director(s) or 4-H Extension Agent(s).**
9. Never punish a camper by ridicule or physical punishment – patience and understanding works wonders.
10. Urge safety at all times. Take time to explain how and why to do something safely.
11. Go with hurt or sick campers to the nurse or adult no matter how minor the ailment.
12. Organize, plan, and conduct special activities. I will follow through and be prepared for all assigned activities, workshops, and assigned responsibilities.
13. Work as a team with other counselors, adult chaperones, and staff to provide a safe and enjoyable camp experience.
14. See that all campers are involved in all activities. Make sure no one is excluded.
15. Guide, suggest, and develop a feeling of planning and doing things together in camp.
16. Make sure campers understand they are responsible for their own behavior.
17. Be sure that all campers know that they must always remain on the camp grounds.
18. Be on time at all camp activities.
19. Be flexible – plans do change.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to abide by the above responsibilities as a camp counselor. I understand and agree that I will be asked to call my parents/guardian immediately to pick me up if I conduct myself in an irresponsible manner, which includes being out of my cabin after hours and/or the possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, weapons, or fireworks.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Signature of Parent/ Guardian

Date

Phone number of Guardian