



# Outpost Expectations

We request that these expectations and the mission statement be reviewed and understood by the adult leaders, parents and youth before attending Outpost.

## **Upham Woods Outpost Mission Statement:**

*"The Upham Woods Outpost program is to be a safe, low-impact camping/canoeing experience providing youth with outdoors skills, an appreciation for the natural world, and respect for members of their team. Upon completion of this valuable life experience, participants will have gained understanding of the diversity of people and the planet and how to better serve both in continuation with the 4-H motto."*

## **Expectations**

### **■ Outpost camp is strenuous.**

Though our trips are not considered extreme by youth adventure program standards, there still exists a high physical component to this camping/canoeing experience. Canoes must be paddled, gear must be portaged, campsites must be set up, meals must be prepared, etc. Campers will experience various forms of physical exertion. Weather and wave activity can create additional challenges that must be overcome. It is therefore extremely important that everyone come prepared for some fun and rewarding hard work.

### **■ Outpost camp expects participation from everyone.**

In order to be safe, adhere to a schedule, care for equipment, and have the most valuable personal experience for all, Outpost camp requires that everyone work and help out. Learning how to prepare/cook camp meals, pitch a tent, build a fire, pack and carry your own gear are some of the main goals of the experience.

### **■ Outpost camp should be considered a "privilege" to youth invited to participate.**

**Your county should use discretion in selecting youth that truly understand the Outpost adventure and what it involves.** Only those who wish to have the opportunity to learn new skills and challenge themselves should attend this unique camp. Campers and parents should be clearly informed of what these trips entail including: weather conditions, safety hazards, physical/behavioral expectations, etc.

### **■ Outpost camp is a low-impact camping/canoeing experience, and we try to follow a low impact ethic: "If you pack it in, pack it out."**

Not only does this teach a valuable lesson to youth but also it makes the experience better for the next Outpost after yours. We have as many as 18 outposts in a summer. We must be sure the resources we have now remain beautiful for years to come.

### **■ Outpost can change your life...**

Outpost is great for the youth who have demonstrated leadership in the past and are ready for another challenge. By participating in an Outpost trip, youth gain confidence, memories, and friendships that may last the rest of their lives.