March 1, 2015

Dear Wildlife Camper and Family:

Thank you for choosing to participate in The University of Iowa Wildlife Camps. We are looking forward to offering camps again this summer that will include fun, hands-on investigations within all our ecosystems at the Macbride Nature Recreation Area (MNRA). We will be getting into the science of nature while still experiencing the best of our recreational activities.

The majority of time will be spent at MNRA. Beak Brigade will utilize the natural areas around the Hawkeye Rec Fields and Peregratio Per Iowam will travel to unique habitats around the state. Some field trips may be taken to other local natural areas in our 2nd-9th grade camps. We reserve the right to relocate camps as needed.

Once again this summer some of the 2nd – 9th grade camps will be spending a half-day swimming: Prairie Falcon on Tuesday, Both Hawk camps on Wednesday, Bald Eagle on Thursday and Osprey/Owl/Condor on Friday…make sure to bring your swimsuit, towel and sunscreen on the days you are scheduled to swim.

Because we spend all if not most of our time in the out-of-doors you should come prepared for sun, rain and everything nature may bring. The sun can injure skin, especially when canoeing or swimming at the lake. Make sure to bring waterproof sunscreen and know how to properly apply it. Shirts with sleeves are recommended to prevent sunburned shoulders. Dehydration is a concern at camp due to increased physical activity, heat, and high humidity. All campers are required to bring a water bottle. Please remember to drink lots of water at camp and throughout the day. (We’ll remind you of both these things, too!)

Because it may rain during camp, we encourage you to bring a raincoat or poncho. Camp goes on, even in the rain. Programs will move inside when necessary during storm watches and warnings. To have a wonderful time outdoors your child will need the proper clothing and we encourage them to wear appropriate shoes.

We’ve seen some progress in the reduction of non-recyclable waste generated at lunchtime. We would love to see this continue. If possible, avoid over-packaged products and bring reusable containers. We will follow a carry-in/carry-out policy.

Registration questions should be directed to Jeanette Luke at 335-9294.

We are anxious to see all of you and have another memorable summer!

Sincerely,

Meredith Caskey
UI Wildlife Camp Coordinator
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CAMPS

1. Campers will meet Monday through Friday. (With the exception of the four day camps & preschool program)

2. Campers that will be transported from Hawkeye Recreation Fields can be dropped off between 7:45 a.m. and 8:20 a.m. We will leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. Campers will meet in marked designated areas at the Hawkeye Recreation Fields. Campers can be picked up between 4:00 p.m. and 4:15 p.m.

3. Campers that will be meeting us at the Archery Pavilion can be dropped off between 8:15 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. Campers can be picked up between 3:40 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. This is not applicable to Beak Brigade or Peregrenatio Per Iowam.

4. For a $25 ($20 for our four day weeks) fee, we offer a “Late Stay” Program at the Hawkeye Recreation Fields only. The shelter there will provide relief from the sun. These campers must be picked up by 5:15 p.m. This is not applicable to Beak Brigade or Peregrenatio Per Iowam.

5. Each camper should bring a lunch and full water bottle. Additional water will be provided.

6. If a camper becomes ill during the day, the family will be notified and expected to pick up their child.

7. If a camper becomes unmanageable during the day, the family will be notified. If he/she becomes a daily problem, they will not be allowed to finish the week.

8. If your child is unable to attend camp for any reason, please contact Recreational Services between 8:00 and 8:20 a.m. at 335-9294.

9. Shoes, socks, and shirts must be worn at all times. Be prepared for water activities by having shoes that are water resistant or an old pair of sneakers.

10. Each camper will receive one camp T-shirt for each camp attended and a bandana for the four day camps.

*A confirmation letter was sent via email upon receiving your application. We require that each camper have all forms, waivers completed and is paid in full before they can attend camp. Final payment due dates can be found on confirmation letters for each camp registered. Special events and inclement weather may affect activities completed each week.
DAILY SCHEDULE

8:30-9:15 Bus/Van trip to the Macbride Nature Recreation Area
9:15-9:30 Introduction to the day’s activities
9:30-11:30 Morning Session (small group)
11:30-12:30 Lunch and supervised free time
12:30-2:30 Afternoon Session (small group)
2:30-3:15 Special Activity (all camp)
3:15-3:30 Wrap-up/Clean-up
3:30-4:15 Bus/Van trip home
4:15-5:15 Late Stay (Hawkeye Recreation Fields Only)

Owl Camp overnight is on Thursday. Peregrinatio Per Iowan overnights will be Tuesday and Wednesday. Food will be provided for the overnight(s) and the day(s) following the overnight(s).

Suggested items to bring for the overnights:

Positive attitude, flexibility
Sleeping bag/pad/pillow
Raincoat / rainwear
Extra pair of shoes
Clothes for two to three days in the wild
Toiletries
Camera (optional)
Binoculars (optional)
Field Guides (optional)
Backpack
Water bottle
Sunscreen / Insect repellent
Hat
Flashlight
Towel
Sandals, Extra socks
Swimming suit / trunks

There will be a family meeting for the Peregrinatio Per Iowam group at the Hawkeye Recreation Fields, under the shelter from 4:00-4:30pm on the first day of camp both weeks this camp is offered. Please have one family member in attendance to get important safety information and schedules.

If your child’s camp is participating at the High Adventure Challenge Coarse (Harris Hawk) or climbing at the Campus Recreation Wellness Center Climbing gym (Golden Eagle, Peregrinatio Per Iowam), we have included in the email confirmation a waiver for you and your child to fill out and sign so that your child will be able to participate. Please be sure you both sign the waivers.