

## COUNSELOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Thank you for agreeing to counsel at a Pilgrim Lodge event. The Outdoor Ministries Team is grateful for your participation in service to the youth and adults of the Maine Conference.

### What to Expect:

- Counselors at Pilgrim Lodge are volunteers who share a cabin with an average of 8 youth.
- Campers benefit greatly from having energetic counselors and camp leaders.
- Be prepared to be awake from 6:30 am until 11 pm.
- An hour of rest time is scheduled for the camp each day, but this doesn't always provide time to sleep. To make the most of the few short days campers have at PL, there is little rest during the remainder of the daily schedule.
- A counselor should be in good health and enjoy working with youth of all abilities.
- A counselor should be in attendance at all camp activities during the session
  - Unless preparing for a later activity, with permission of the dean, or in the case of illness
- Please make every effort to attend all pre-camp meetings and training sessions
- Submit all required paperwork to the camp office
  - Required annually:
    - Background check
    - Health form
  - First-time counselors must complete:
    - Volunteer Profile
    - 2 Volunteer Reference Forms
    - Voluntary Disclosure Statement
    - Maine State Mandated Reporter Training (online course and quiz)
      - Must be completed/maintained every 4 years
    - Online training for volunteers
- Counselors will have the opportunity to work as a team with other counselors and campers to complete curriculum and camp activities as scheduled.
  - This includes, but is not limited to:
    - Supporting camper groups in planning camp-wide worship
    - Leading (or assisting) at least one small-group activity, such as field games or crafts.
- Counselors are responsible for the safety and well-being of campers at all times - especially during all counselor-led activities

- Counselors will remain with their campers from lights out until breakfast.
  - In emergency situations, arrangements should be made with neighbor counselors, or the deans, to ensure the constant supervision of campers.

#### About the Site:

- All cabins have an indoor bathroom and shower.
- Trip and island camp lodging will vary camp to camp.
- The terrain at Pilgrim Lodge varies greatly. Being able to navigate trails, dirt roads, and open fields will play an important role in participating in camp activities.

#### What to Bring:

- Bedding (cot and mattress provided)
- Season and setting appropriate clothing
  - Weather on the lake can change abruptly so be prepared for warmth, cold, rain, and sunshine.
- Rain gear
- Swimwear
- Closed-toe shoes are a must, as well as other casual footwear
- Materials for camp activities (planned ahead of time with your deans and co-counselors)

#### A Note About Cell Phones:

- Counselors are requested to leave cell phones and other electronic devices turned off during all camp events.
- Cellular phones may, however, be used when the counselor has personal time away from the camp activities and in the evening after the campers are in bed, making sure to be out of sight and earshot of campers.

Living in community with youth and fellow counselors for a week at Pilgrim Lodge is a powerful experience. We look forward to your week at camp and hope you enjoy the opportunity to enrich the lives of our youth.