

Smokies Science Investigations, July 17-22, 2017

PARENTS - Do the following:

- **TURN IN THESE COMPLETED FORMS BY JUNE 26:**
 - Medical Form
 - Contract
 - Travel Plans
 - Camper T-shirt (optional)
- **ARRIVE** at Tremont **between 2:00pm and 4:00pm on Monday, July 17.**
- **PICK UP** your child promptly at **10:00am on Saturday, July 22.**

NEED TO KNOW:

The MEDICAL FORM

- We cannot admit any camper who does not have a complete medical form.
- This form must be signed by the parent or guardian.
- You may mail, scan/email, OR fax it. (Please do not mail a hard copy if you submit your forms via fax or scan/email. We'll contact you if we can't read it.)

- In case of an accident or illness, parents will be notified if children require medical attention beyond what Tremont is able to provide. If we are unable to reach you in an emergency situation, the director will make a decision regarding appropriate action and continue to attempt to contact you or another responsible person as indicated on the medical form.
- Your child's camping experience depends in part on his or her wellbeing. Please send only a healthy, illness-free child to camp.

CAMPER CONTRACT

Campers participating in our camps need to read and think about each of these guidelines. Read this over together, check and discuss each point, and then agree to these guidelines by signing the contract. Campers must understand, agree to, and abide by these guidelines. These expectations are important in order to create a positive and enjoyable experience for everyone involved with the program. Each teen will have responsibilities toward the group. They will be expected to carry their share of the group food and equipment, to be physically and mentally ready for the challenges of backpacking, to help with the cooking and cleaning duties, and to participate in all group activities.

ARRIVAL

We will do our best to be efficient as we meet each one of you, review your health form, collect any medications needed at camp and answer any questions you may have regarding your child's stay. Please have these medications ready for check-in. You will then have the opportunity to help your child move into the tents, tour the

site and say your good-byes. Our sales area will be open on the first and last day of camp if you wish to purchase T-shirts, books, or other items.

MEDICATIONS

*We request that you please do **not** take your child off any regularly prescribed medications during their week at summer camp.* The resulting behavior following a sudden change in medicine regime can be difficult for both your child and our staff. We realize that opinions may differ on this. However, camp can be a challenge as it is without further burdening a child with disrupting a routine.

PHONE CALLS

Because telephone calls intrude and interrupt the magic of the camp experience, we are not able to field telephone calls between campers and parents. Rest assured, not hearing from your child is a sign that they are having fun and are fully involved in the life of camp. The best way to stay in touch with your child is by writing letters and postcards. **If there is an emergency**, you can contact us by calling our office Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Saturday from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. When our office is closed, you can leave a message on our answering machine and we will get it first thing the next business morning. If it is urgent to contact us immediately when our office is closed, call the National Park Service Dispatch at 865-436-1294.

MAIL

Every camper loves mail. Start writing those letters now! Rather than writing how much you miss your son or daughter (which is of course true but could make them homesick), consider instead telling him or her how proud you are of them for spending a week away from home! Send mail to:

(Camper's name)
Smokies Science Investigations
Tremont
9275 Tremont Rd
Townsend, TN 37882

SAFETY

We are proud to report that we have an outstanding safety record when it comes to kids and the outdoors. However, we do take the concerns of parents very seriously and have provided some insight into risk factors during summer camp. Please call or visit our web site if you're interested in learning more about precautions we take to ensure your child has a safe experience.

LOST AND FOUND

When picking up your child on the last day of camp, please make sure they return home with every item they brought with them. Following the end of camp we are able to keep items for only a brief period due to the large amount of lost and found

items left behind. If you wish any items to be returned to you, you must notify us immediately following the end of camp and we'll send you instructions to arrange for a UPS pick up.

ABOUT SMOKIES SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS

This is a new summer program in its pilot year! Smokies Science Investigations is the perfect introduction to scientific investigation and deep discovery of the natural world. Teenagers will spend the week immersed in authentic field research and will engage the scientific process by designing and conducting their own experiments and presenting the results to local professionals. They will hold birds, catch salamanders, climb mountains, swim in rivers, camp in Cades Cove, and discuss their findings, all while forming tight bonds with each other and the national park.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE AT TREMONT
9275 Tremont Road
Townsend, TN 37882
Phone: 865-448-6709
Fax: 865-448-9250
www.gsmit.org ~ mail@gsmit.org