



STAFF INFORMATION PACKET

ABOUT THE YMCA

Sure everyone has heard about the Y.M.C.A...it's a song, right? The YMCA is more than just a song. It is an international organization that you are about to become a part of!

YMCA: Young Men's Christian Organization

Mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Vision: To build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

Core Values: Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility

Overview: YMCAs make up the largest non-profit community service organization in America. YMCAs are at the heart of community life in most major cities across the nation. They work to meet the health and social service needs of 18 million men, women, and children.

YMCAs help people develop the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. They are for people of all faiths, races, abilities, ages, and incomes. When feasible, no one is turned away for the inability to pay.

There are more than 2,500 YMCAs in the United States, plus YMCAs are located in 120 other countries. In its own way, every Y nurtures the healthy development of children and teens; strengthens families; and makes its community a healthier, safer, better place to live.

HISTORY OF CAMP ROGER

YMCA Camp Roger is so full of history. It is important to know that the journey you are going to embark on this summer will become part of the camp's rich history.

Between 1933 and 1941, Camp Roger was the location of a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) base camp for projects located in the Soapstone Basin. When the Corps was disbanded nationwide in 1942, management responsibilities were transferred to the Forest Service. In 1948, the CCC Liquidation Unit/Federal Security Agency transferred ownership of most remaining CCC buildings to the YMCA. At that same time, the Forest Service granted the YMCA a special use permit to develop the site as a residential summer camp.

Roger H. Freund, YMCA executive secretary [director], was the forerunner in the Y's process to find a camp with hopes that the Y "could find a location where a permanent lodge and cabins could be erected and where 'all manner of outdoor recreation could be developed.'" After making repairs and receiving a donation of tents, cots, cooking utensils and dishes from the Salt Lake Rotary Club, the first camp held at YMCA Camp—later renamed YMCA Camp Roger after founder Mr. Freund—was July 5-19, 1948 with a second session July 26-August 9 that same year. YMCA Camp was open to "any boy 9 years and up." The cost for a two-week session was \$28.00 and health insurance could be added for an additional \$1.00. Girls could not begin attending until 1954, while co-ed camps did not begin until 1971.



During the 1950s, the YMCA repaired and remodeled several CCC buildings and constructed an additional twenty-two buildings including a new lodge. During the 1960s, the YMCA added several more buildings. Since 1999, a new boy's bathhouse, girl's bathhouse, health center, basketball court, sand volleyball court and fence were added to camp. This year we completed renovations on the director's cabin, lodge, and every camper cabin in camp. In almost every major project or building that took place at camp, it would not have been possible without the help of dedicated volunteers and financial contributions from foundations and organizations.

Although only three CCC constructed buildings—maintenance garage, barn and tack shed—remain, the Corps' original layout and design of the site is still evident today. YMCA buildings were designed to complement the site's natural setting and were constructed using natural materials. As a result, Camp Roger remains an intact example of a 1950-era residential camp.

FACILITIES

For those of you who are new to Camp Roger this summer, you are most likely curious about the place where you will call home this summer. Beware because words alone cannot describe the beauty of camp.

YMCA Camp Roger is a wonderful place to live and work during the summer. Camp is located on 40 beautiful acres of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest just 14.5 miles East of Kamas, Utah in the Uinta Mountains.

At the center of camp is the lodge, which houses the kitchen and dining hall. Straight north of the lodge is a large meadow perfect for playing softball/soccer/volleyball or doing all camp activities. Each cabin is a one-room cabin with 6 sets of bunk beds and front porch. All cabins have electricity, but no air-conditioning; we use nature's air-conditioning—windows! All camp staff will have a cabin to call home with 8-10 campers and one other staff member. The camp director's cabin is located just a stone's throw from the lodge and next to the health center, where the health supervisor tends to the health needs of campers and staff. In addition to the lodge and cabins, Camp Roger has several program and storage buildings, a beaver pond, an open corral with 20 horses, an outdoor amphitheater with campfire circle and numerous nature/hiking/biking trails. And for the nature enthusiasts, you will have ample access to the National Forest, Provo River and surrounding lakes.

WHAT TO BRING

Now with your excitement level high as ever, it's time to start packing (or at least start thinking about it)!

YMCA Camp Roger is at an altitude of approximately 8,190 feet, so camp is cooler than the surrounding valleys. It is warm to hot (highs 80s-90s) during the day, but it is comfortable to cool (lows 70s-50s) during the night. Camp offers plenty of opportunities to get dirty so do not hesitate to pack old clothes. On the other hand, there are times when we may hold a camp dance or other special occasion, so feel free to bring a fun outfit for that.

The YMCA will provide you with 5 staff shirts to be worn while campers are in camp, a bed all summer and meals while camps are in session. It is your responsibility to bring the rest, but hopefully this list will be helpful.



CLOTHING

- T-shirts
- Long-sleeve Shirts
- Shorts
- Jeans/Pants*
- Sweatshirts
- Jacket
- Rain Gear
- Underwear
- Socks
- Hiking/Riding Boots
- Sandals
- Tennis Shoes
- Swimsuit
- Hat

TOILETRIES

- Towels/Washcloths
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Soap
- Razor/Shaving Cream
- Lotion/Moisturizer
- Deodorant
- Brush/Comb
- Toothbrush/Paste/Floss
- Contacts/Glasses
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Chap stick
- Sun Screen
- Insect Repellent
- Sewing Kit

BEDDING/ETC.

- Sleeping Bag
- Sheets/Blankets
- Pillow
- Alarm Clock
- Stuffed Animals
- Posters/Decorations for your cabin
- Fan (optional)
- Lamp (optional)

MISC.

- Backpack/Fanny Pack
- Sunglasses
- Water Bottle
- Flashlight
- Camera/Film
- Games/Cards
- Movies
- Stationary/Stamps
- Reading Books
- Skit/Activity/Song Books
- Costumes/Props for Skits
- Musical Instrument
- Mountain Bike
- Calling Card
- Laundry Soap**

*Required for horseback riding along with closed-toe shoes.

**There is a washer and dryer at camp.

VITAL INFORMATION

Mail: The mail is picked up and dropped off weekdays at the Kamas Post Office. Your mailing address at camp is:

YMCA Camp Roger
Your Name
 General Delivery
 Kamas, UT 84036

Telephones: Since Camp Roger is miles away from civilization, does not have a grounded phone line and cell phone service is non-existent, the satellite phone at camp is only used during emergencies. In the event of an emergency, the satellite phone number will probably be 254-381-4757. (The satellite phone number will be confirmed in May and given to you during staff training.) If someone needs to get you a non-emergency message during the camp week, s/he may call the YMCA office at 801-466-6299 to deliver the message. For any personal calls that you may want to make, cell phones work in Kamas, Utah which is a 15 minute drive from camp.

➤ Camp provides children a chance to live *without* electronic devices. As such, we do not permit cell phones, pagers, gameboys, I-pods, or similar devices.

We understand that as a staff member living there all summer you will want these little luxuries. These items must be stored out of site of campers at all times and only be utilized during time off. Thursday trips to the Kamas Pool are *not* days to catch up on cell phone messages and make calls.

Shopping/Restaurants: The closest grocery store, restaurants and “night life” are in Kamas (15 minutes drive) or Park City (30 minutes drive). If you prefer the big city, Salt Lake and Provo are each about 1 hour from camp.



THE CAMPERS

In addition to having fun, this is the reason why you will be at YMCA Camp Roger this summer.

“The camper is the most important person in the camp; without him or her, there would be no camp. It is concern for their joys, their growth, their newfound skills and their social gains that cause agencies to plan, support and maintain camps. The camper is the focus of the program, and this fact must constantly be kept in proper perspective by the counselor and, in fact, the entire camp staff.

A camper is a magical creature, possessing two arms, two legs, a head and a torso, all bursting with the breath of life, all anxious to explore the camp and counselor, most of which is attempted the first day of camp.” Written by Tom Dinkins, Triangle Y Ranch Camp.

Campers attending YMCA Camp Roger come in all shapes and sizes and from all backgrounds. Camp is open to boys and girls ages 7-17. They are different races, religions and ethnicities. The campers come mainly from the Salt Lake Valley, but there are always the occasional few from other states and even other countries! Some campers come from the best of families, while others come from families that have overcome many struggles. But from the time the campers arrive at camp, they are all equals.

By the end of the week you and your campers will be one. You will know everything about them; from what they say in their sleep to their unusual talents. You will always be moving and doing things with the campers. You will be with your group during horseback riding, teambuilding, bikes, meals, reflections, chores and archery, the hike, nature and arts and crafts. The whole camp will be together at meals, all camp game, special event, dance, campfire, lunch program, and flag lowering and raising.

SUGGESTED READING LIST

The following is a list of books, which you may find helpful in preparing you to work at camp this summer. Feel free to bring these books and any other helpful books with you this summer.

Being a Good Counselor

1. How to be a Successful Camp Counselor
2. A Very Practical Guide to Discipline with Young Children (Mitchell)
3. What to do Instead of Screaming! (Nagel)

Games and Activities

1. Funn Stuff (Rohnke)
2. The Game Finder: A Leader's Guide to Great Activities
3. Everybody Wins!

Program Activities

1. Greatest Skits on Earth (Rice and Yaconelli)
2. Classic Outdoor Games A Real World Guide
3. Cloud on the Clothesline (Pearse) (Jack Pearse LTD, 1981)
4. The Skit Book (MacDonald and Scull)
5. Bottomless Bag (Rohnke)

Songs and Stories

1. The Book of Kids Songs: A Holler-Along Handbook
2. More Campfire Programs with Jack Pearse (Jack Pearse LTD, 1991)
3. Sing with Jack Pearse (Pearse) (Jack Pearse LTD, 1981)



STAFF TRAINING

Let the fun begin!

You will need to report to YMCA Camp Roger by 1:00pm on Sunday, June 6, 2010. During this week, you will go through intensive training and begin bonding with the other staff members. It will be just as if camp was in session so staff is required to stay up at camp until the end of the week.

GETTING TO CAMP

...because we would not want you to get lost!

From Salt Lake City, take I-80 east past the Park City exit to Exit 148, US 40 (to Heber). Go approximately 4-5 miles toward Heber on US 40 and take the Park City/Kamas Exit 4 and turn left toward Kamas. Once in Kamas, turn left at the first stop sign, and then turn right at Highway 150 (Chevron gas station) toward Mirror Lake. Travel along Hwy 150 for 14.5 miles until you reach Soapstone Basin. Turn right, go across the bridge and keep going straight until you see the sign for YMCA Camp Roger. Follow the sign into camp.

For more information about Camp Roger, visit www.ymcacamproger.org or contact Camp Director Amy Henry at 801-839-3379 or camproger@ymcasaltlake.org. See you in June!