

Dear 4-H Member,

Would you like to interact with other 4-H teens from the area, have three fun-filled days camping, and be a positive role model to younger 4-H members? Apply to be a Southern Indiana Camp Counselor! Enclosed you will find a Southern Indiana 4-H Camp Counselor and Junior Camp Director Application for 2023, specific job responsibilities for these positions and a bio sheet. We will once again be camping at Country Lake Christian Retreat, located near Henryville. Camp dates for 2023 will be June 2-4. There are thirteen counties camping together from Southern Indiana – Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence, Orange, Scott, Washington, Dubois, Daviess, Martin and Perry.

We will be conducting interviews again! Once you submit your counselor application, you will be provided with a link to sign up for your interview time via Sign Up Genius. Again, this year we will be completing all interviews via Zoom to help you prepare for future interviews, which are more likely to be hosted on a web platform in the current hiring process. **Interviews are mandatory to be considered for a Camp Counselor or Junior Camp Director position.**

2023 Camp Counselor Interview Schedule via Zoom:

- February 27, 28, March 1st: 4 pm- 6 pm
- You can sign up for any of these days, and they will be on a first-come, first-serve basis

Counselors are expected to attend the following trainings to prepare for their role:

- **Overnight retreat April 22nd & 23rd at Country Lake**
 - **April 22nd – arrival 9:30 a.m.- 10:00am**
 - **April 23rd – depart in afternoon**
- **June 1, 2023 at County Lake Retreat Center**
 - **Arrive at 4:30pm and depart at conclusion of camp on June 4**

***You are responsible for your own transportation to the retreat and camp.**

Camp Counselors and the Junior Camp Directors will be chosen from the completed applications, as well as interviews. These applications are due back to the Extension office or uploaded via 4HOnline by **February 1, 2023**. Applications will be reviewed by the entire Southern Indiana planning team. Competition for Junior Director and Counselor will be tough, so please fill out the applications seriously and completely. We will only be accepting a certain number of counselors this year. Counselors will only be selected if they qualify based on the following criteria:

- **All Counselors:** Application Details, Interview, Leadership Potential
 - **New Counselors:** Educator Recommendations
 - **Returning Counselors:** Past Performance, Initiative, Appropriate Behavior

Applications submitted through 4-HOnline can utilize the editable PDF form or scan and upload your document into the system. If you have questions or need assistance with this please contact your local Extension Office. Once you submit your application, you will receive an email to sign-up for an interview time.

If you have any questions about camp, responsibilities of being a counselor or junior director, or would like the application sent to you via e-mail, please contact your 4-H educator.

Sincerely,
Southern Indiana 4-H Educators

Southern Indiana 4-H Camp
2023 Junior Camp Director and Camp Counselor Application

June 2-4, 2023

Country Lake Retreat Center: 815 County Lake Road, Underwood, IN (Clark County)

Deadline for application to be returned to your Extension Office is **February 1, 2023**.

I am applying for: (See position descriptions for responsibilities)

Jr. Camp Director Camp Counselor Both

Personal Information

County: _____

Name: _____ Grade as of Jan 1, 2023 _____ Male Female

Address: _____ Zip _____

Cell # _____ Phone # _____ Email _____

Name of school: _____

What spring semester & summer extra-curricular activities are you involved in? Please list all. How do you plan to prioritize the prep-time (including counselor trainings) it takes to get camp ready?

Years in 4-H _____ T-shirt size: (Adult) S M L XL XXL Birthdate: _____

Number of years attended 4-H Camp (not including 2023) _____ Member _____ Counselor

2. List your past youth camping experience and duties below (include dates, numbers of camps, and your responsibilities):

4-H Camps –

Other Camps-

3. Have you ever been a 4-H camp counselor before? Yes No

If yes, what were your responsibilities (group leader, cabin counselor, activities at camp)? Be specific.

4. Why do you want to be a 4-H camp counselor?

5. As a camp counselor, you will grow and develop as a leader. What do you hope to get out of this position?

6. On which Camp Committee(s) do you think you would like to serve? What is an idea you have for the committees? (see camp committee descriptions)

7. Please complete the camp class activity included in the application packet.

To be a Camp Counselor or Junior Director there are training sessions necessary to fulfill these roles. There is an expectation that you will attend the 5th Annual “Camp Counselor Training Retreat” the weekend of April 22nd – 23rd, 2023 at Country Lake Retreat Center, and arrive early on Thursday, June 1 at Country Lake Retreat Center before camp begins.

Training Details:

- **April 22nd & 23rd at Country Lake**
 - **April 22nd – arrive at 9:30 a.m.**
 - **April 23rd – depart in afternoon**
 - **June 1, 2023 at County Lake Retreat Center**
 - **Arrive at 4:30pm and depart at conclusion of camp on June 4**
- *You are responsible for your own transportation to the retreat and camp.**

Any counselor missing the retreat will not be permitted to attend camp. In the event of an illness or family emergency, contact your 4-H Educator ASAP.

I realize as a camp counselor or Junior Camp Director, I am here to serve the campers and make camp the best that it can be for the youth involved. I have read the Junior Camp Director and Camp Counselor Job Responsibilities and agree to abide by these expectations as they apply to my position. I understand that if I am not fulfilling my duties, I may be asked to leave camp.

4-H member’s signature

4-H member’s parent or legal guardian signature

Build a Camp Class of your Dreams!

Suppose you have a great idea for a class or activity at 4-H camp this year. How would you plan, prepare and execute the class? Well, here is your chance to flex your class preparing muscles!

The scenario: You will rotate **20 different campers ages 9-12** through your class five times. You have **40 minutes** per class. It is a sunny day out at Country Lake, and you have first choice of an open field, woods, shelter house, lake, campfire area, etc. from which to choose to hold your workshop.

Class/Activity Name: _____

1 Sentence Description: _____

Number of other counselors or adults needed to help you: _____

Time needed to prepare your class to perfection with your helpers (from now until camp, and how will you prepare- meetings, email, phone call, text...)

Materials Needed: _____

Timeline during your class session:



Intro

End

Please rate the focus of your workshop for the campers from 1-5 (1 = most important)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Educational	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have Fun
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learn Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	Learn Life Skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Make friends
<input type="checkbox"/>	Get Exercise	<input type="checkbox"/>	Build self confidence

What is the MAIN IDEA or FEELING or THOUGHT you want the campers to leave your class with?

Is there anything else we should know about your class?

Camp Committees

Camp Committee: Recreation

This committee helps us have some fun! Members on the Recreation Committee will be responsible for any free recreation time and will help coordinate organized recreation. They should make sure all equipment and facilities are ready and be prepared to lead the whole camp or small groups in relay races and other fun activities.

Camp Committee: Campfire

Campfire flames flicker in the heart of every 4-H member. This committee helps quiet the flames with reflection at the end of each camp day. This committee encourages our 4-H members to think about the 4 Hs: Head, Heart, Hands, and Health and how they have used each of these during their 4-H Camp experience so far.

Camp Committee: Song

Share your love of song and fun! This group is responsible for teaching and leading songs with all campers during line up and meal time.

Camp Committee: Land Lovers

While some 4-H campers enjoy life in the water, some prefer to keep their feet firmly on the land. This committee provides a creative corner of fun activities for our land loving campers through arts and crafts, games, or other experiences you may create. **Please note – members of this committee will set up Land Lover activities in The Corral and then are free to spend “Swim Time” at their assigned duty.**

Camp Committee: Film Crew

4-H cameras roll in 3-2-1! Documenting all the fun and learning that happens during camp is the focus of this committee. The goal of this group will be to have a completed and edited video for the closing camp event on Sunday afternoon.

Camp Committee: Camper Care

Help our campers avoid the “camper blues” by making them feel welcome and involved during their entire camp experience! This team will serve as a welcome committee when campers arrive at their dorms, and they will be a resource to other counselors throughout camp to help them re-engage campers that are feeling homesick or having trouble in any way.



T-Shirt Design Form

Do you think you have this year's t-shirt design idea? If so, create your shirt design below and we will vote at camp counselor retreat weekend! This year's camp theme is "4-H Around the World."

Camp Counselor Job Responsibilities

Qualifications

- Minimum of grade 9 or higher as of January 1st.
- Courteous and responsible.
- Will attend all counselor trainings.

Role as a cabin counselor/group leader:

- Help the group in the cabin get to know each other.
- Account for all campers at all times.
- Work with your campers to make sure the grounds and cabin are clean, free of litter and picked up every day.
- Recognize that some campers may be away from home for the first time; therefore, help those who may feel homesick.
- Make sure campers are up and no one is left in the cabin in the morning and everyone is in the cabin in the evening.
- Make sure campers are at scheduled activities and encourage them to be involved.
- Be actively engaged with the campers at all times.
- Cooperate with other camp counselors, facilities staff, extension educators and junior directors.
- Enforce camp rules for safety and conduct. Camper Safety is our highest priority!
- Be responsible for all 4-H members and their care from check-in on the first day of camp to check-out on the last day of camp, 24 hours a day. This includes remaining in the cabin with them through the night.
- Help maintain a clean, controlled, safe, learning and fun camp session for each and every one present at the camp.
- Camp counselors will be released **AFTER** the final inspection of the camp.
- **Camp Counselors will be good stewards of technology, keeping in mind camper safety, development and inclusion. Counselors will follow all rules outlined by Extension Educators related to technology. Violators will be relieved of their duties as a camp counselor or junior director.**

Always work to get to know the campers in your charge and where they are at all times.

As a Camp Counselor, you will set an example of acceptable behavior for campers by following camp rules (Country Lake Retreat and Conference Rules) and the criteria set out in the Behavioral Criteria for 4-H Events and Activities. Signatures of Camp Counselor and parent or legal guardian are required on these forms.

Failure to fulfill the responsibilities as a camp counselor or to be a model of acceptable behavior may result in the following:

Verbal warning
Parents or legal guardian called and you will be sent home

If any violations occur, it may prevent any current or future opportunity to you to serve as a camp counselor or Jr. Director.

Junior Camp Director Position Description

Qualifications

- Minimum of grade 10 or higher as of January 1st.
- Courteous and responsible.
- It is not required but preferred that you have been a counselor previously.

Responsibilities

- Participate in camp planning committee activities/meetings.
- Attend camp planning meetings, counselor trainings; planning process may include additional phone, e-mail or other communication. Communication outside formally held meetings is encouraged.
- Work individually and as a member of the camp leadership team.
- Assist the Extension Educators in developing the camp theme.
- With assistance from camp counselors, develop, plan and coordinate alternative activities in advance in case of rain.
- Plan and conduct the opening and closing ceremonies with the counselors and other staff.
- Assist the Extension Educators and other instructors with educational classes/activities.
- Plan and implement nightly camp activity.
- Plan and coordinate social activities for Camp Counselors and Jr. Camp Directors.
- Act as team leader for the counselors.
- Work with Extension Educators to facilitate check-in and check-out of the campers.
- Announce daily activities after consulting with and getting approval from the Extension Educators and the Camp Director.
- Assist with cabin and grounds inspections.
- Assist in maintaining camp rules – i.e., expected to help insure appropriate conduct, dress, and behavioral expectations of counselors and campers.
- Oversee facilities inspection at the end of camp.
- Jr. Camp Directors must remain until inspection is completed and the grounds have passed the Camp Director's and Country Lake Retreat Manager's inspection.
- Help maintain a clean, controlled, safe, educational and fun camp session for each and every person present at the camp.
- Report to Extension Educators and Camp Director.
- **Camp Counselors will be good stewards of technology, keeping in mind camper safety, development and inclusion. Counselors will follow all rules outlined by Extension Educators related to technology. Violators will be relieved of their duties as a camp counselor or junior director.**

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