

# Outdoor School Information and Counselor Expectations

**To:** Students Interested in Serving as Counselors at Outdoor School

**From:** Beacon (Joel Thomas), Oops! (Dee Upton) and Airwalk (Brandon Affolter) - ODS Directors

**You MUST read this entire sheet BEFORE signing up** to be an Outdoor School (ODS) counselor!

**Please keep this sheet with you FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!**

1. ODS 2018 is being held in a single 1-week session, the dates for Counselors are:

**Saturday, September 22 - Friday, September 28, 2018**

2. **NOT EVERYONE WHO SIGNS UP TO BE AN ODS COUNSELOR WILL BE SELECTED** to attend ODS. Selections are based on recommendations from high school staff with input from law enforcement personnel. Usually upper class, i.e., senior, junior and then sophomore students are chosen first. A limited number of students are chosen from sign-ups in high schools. Students are usually chosen in the order of sign up on the school sign-up sheet. **EACH PERSON MUST SIGN UP HIS/HER OWN NAME ONLY!**

3. Selected counselors will be at **Camp Meriwether, just south of Cape Lookout State Park, by 1 PM and ready to begin training at 1:30 PM on Saturday**. Counselors will remain in camp until 4:15 PM Friday. **Each student must have transportation out of camp by 4:15 PM on Friday.**

4. **Students involved in sports or other school activities will NOT be allowed to leave camp during the week.** Check with your coach or advisor to see if you will be allowed to attend camp. Schools can't always allow football players, volleyball players, or cheerleaders to attend camp. Please check with your school administration. Cross-country track members have sometimes been able to attend.

5. There will be an ODS counselor Introduction Meeting prior to Outdoor School. For Tillamook HS Students this meeting will be on 9-17-2018 at 4:15pm in East School. For Santiam HS Students this meeting will be happening after school on 9-13-2018 in Santiam Elementary School. **No selected counselor should miss this meeting. If you have an incredibly important reason to miss the meeting, contact Beacon yourself prior to the meeting.** Email: Beacon at joel@glensgizmos.com

6. **NO STUDENTS WHO:**

**ARE SUSPECTED of being involved in drugs including alcohol, Marijuana or Vaping,**

**HAVE A HISTORY of resisting authority,**

**HAVE A HISTORY of severe absenteeism, or**

**HAVE A REPUTATION of shirking responsibilities WILL BE ALLOWED TO SERVE AS ODS COUNSELORS.** (It is the hope of ODS staff that those students will not sign up or will be crossed off of the signup list by high school staff who review the list.) If you sign up, please be advised that an authorized person will be doing a **law enforcement records check** for substance abuse and other criminal activity. Any infraction during the past year will result in the student NOT being selected as a counselor.

7. **MAJOR RULES WHILE IN CAMP:**

- a. **Outside of prescription drugs used under a doctor's care, there are absolutely no drugs, alcohol, marijuana, vaping or tobacco including chewing tobacco allowed in camp!**
- b. **High school students must each remain in their cabin areas at night with the sixth graders they are responsible for!**
- c. **Sixth grade students will not be harmed by high school students!**
- d. **Profanity, vulgarity, and insubordination will not be tolerated! Failure to abide by these rules will result in notification to parents and school, and the counselor will be suspended from camp immediately!**

8. Try to finish and hand school assignments in by the Friday before camp unless you make other arrangements with your teachers.

9. **Take a "sack supper" with you to camp to eat on Saturday evening, the 1st supper of training.** (It helps us cut some costs.)

10. Your friends are **NOT** allowed to visit camp! Please tell them of this request! It is also in the best interest of selected counselors for boyfriend/girlfriend and best friends to attend with the expectation that they must be focused on their 6<sup>th</sup> grade campers and not on each other. Your attention must be focused on the 6th graders the entire week!

11. **There will likely be a fee** for each selected counselor. The charge to counselors will be set by the school district and paid to the local school. (The actual cost to TODS is around \$235 per student). **Additional donations are needed AND appreciated by the school!**

12. **If you are still interested in being an ODS counselor, and if, according to the above information, you believe you qualify, please sign the "Yes, I would Like To Be An Outdoor School Counselor" as soon as possible.**