



Camp EcoAdventure Parent Handbook



www.rockeagle4h.org

Please read through the following policies and complete the registration forms attached at the end of this document. Full registration will not be finalized until all forms are sent to Rock Eagle's Environmental Education Program. All medical and registration forms must be provided prior to the camper's arrival. If you have questions please call Becky Collins at 706/484-2836 or e-mail beckyg@uga.edu.

Program Goals

Camp EcoAdventure goals are to:

- ↑ create awareness of our surrounding natural environment,
- ↑ promote natural resource conservation in our daily lives,
- ↑ provide a safe and fun learning environment for all campers,
- ↑ meet new friends,
- ↑ and to have a positive outdoor experience for all!

Camp EcoAdventure is a part of the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program (EE) at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Since it's beginning in 1979, the EE program has served over 840,000 participants. Now included in all five Georgia 4-H centers, the EE program is one of the largest environmental education programs in the nation. For further information, visit www.georgia4h.org/ee.

Camp Staff

All EcoAdventure Counselors are:

- ↑ college degreed
- ↑ CPR/First Aid certified
- ↑ well trained
- ↑ excited for Camp EcoAdventure!

Two counselors will be assigned to each group of 10-16 campers.

Check-in & Pick Up

Check-in

- ↑ All registration and medical forms must be provided prior to checking-in.
- ↑ Check-in will be inside the **Gas Building** lobby. Campers must be brought inside by a parent/guardian. Please do not drop off campers without coming inside for check-in.
- ↑ Parents/Guardians must inform the lead counselor of the expected picking up time for their child. The lead counselor must also know if a different adult will be picking up the camper. For security, all adults picking up campers must show their drivers license.
- ↑ Programming starts at 8:30 am. Campers must be at the **Gas Building** by this time to ensure their attendance at the mornings' activities.
- ↑ Check-in starts at 8:00 am at the **Gas Building** at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center, unless the camper is pre-registered for extended hours.

Pick-up

- ↑ Pick-up is from 4:30-5:00 pm at the **Gas Building**
- ↑ Parents/Guardians are asked to come into the **Gas Building** lobby to pick up their camper. Counselors will ask for identification to ensure campers' safety.

- ✦ Early pick-up must be pre-arranged during check-in. Campers may be located at different areas throughout the center prior to 4:30. If early pick-up is needed, campers will be brought to the **Gas Building** at the pre-arranged time.
- ✦ Children look forward to seeing their adults after a busy and exciting day, and it is confusing for them when no one is there to pick them up. Please help us and your child by being on time. Late fees will be applied, starting at 5:01 pm. This fee is: \$5.00 for the first 5 minutes and \$10.00 for the next 5 minutes. Extended hours are available at the cost of \$6.00/15 minutes; however the camper must be pre-registered for this cost. If not, then the late fees will apply.
- ✦ Please call our offices (706-473 6957) if you will be late to pick up your child.
- ✦ **Campers must be pre-registered for extended hours in order for late fees not to apply.**

Extended Hours

- ✦ Extended hours fee is \$6.00 for every 15 minutes. Payment for extended hours must be included in the registration cost.
- ✦ Campers must be registered for extended hours prior to that day or late fees will apply (see above).
- ✦ Campers will be provided with extra activities/crafts/videos during this time.

Camper's Frequently Asked Questions

- ✦ What happens if I don't know anybody?
There is a good chance that you will be meeting someone new at Camp EcoAdventure! Our goal is for everyone to meet a new friend who shares the excitement of the natural world. Counselors will help everyone join together for the day's new adventures.

- ✦ What will I be doing that day?
At Camp EcoAdventure you will be spending much of your time outside...rain or shine! Make sure you prepare accordingly by wearing play clothes and bringing your rain jacket. We feel very lucky to have such a beautiful place to explore and we are going to take full advantage by walking, running, jumping, crawling, and skipping everywhere! Get ready to have fun and discover Rock Eagle by your feet! Themes and activities change each day; however below is a general schedule. Our home base will be the Natural History Museum. We will venture from there depending upon the activities for that day.

8:00-8:30	Drop-off; Check-in
8:30	Morning activities
9:30-10:00	Snack
11:15	Lunch
12:15	Afternoon activities
2:30	Snack
2:45	Afternoon activities
4:00	Closing activity/clean up
4:30-5:00	Pick-up

Camp EcoAdventure 2012 Schedule

Campers will be divided into the following age groups:

Alligators: 6-7 year olds, Box Turtles 8-9 year olds & Corn Snakes: 10-11 year olds

Team Challenge (April 2nd, Monday):

Learn what it takes to be a good team member through games and team challenges. During the afternoon the Alligators will visit the Rock Eagle animals. The Box Turtle's will go on a canoeing challenge while the Corn snakes challenge themselves with a thrilling ride on the swing shot, where campers soar back and forth on a giant swing.

Icky, Creepy, and Cool Science (April 3rd, Tuesday):

In this session we explore all things icky, creepy and cool through science experiments and fun activities. Campers will learn about polymers, make slime, eat dirt pudding and dissect owl pellets. Who knew being gross could be so much fun?

Did You Hear That? (April 4th, Wednesday):

This session will focus on our five senses and how we use them every day. Campers will perform various experiments and activities to test their senses, while discovering which sense is their best. Campers will make an instrument to take home.

Finding the FBI (April 5th, Thursday):

Who are the FBI you ask? Fungus, Bacteria and Invertebrates that is. Campers will get wet and muddy as they tromp through the forest and the aquatic ecosystems of Rock Eagle looking for the FBI. (Students will need to bring extra shoes and clothes)

Looking into the Past (April 6th, Friday):

Learn about the people who once inhabited Rock Eagle through exploration of pioneer and Native American cultures. Campers will travel back in time and use tools and play games to learn about Rock Eagle's past.

📌 What should I bring that day?

Use the following checklist to make sure you bring everything you need for your day camp experience. *not required **lunch not provided unless requested

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Backpack*	Backpack*	Backpack*	Backpack*	Backpack*
Rain jacket	Rain jacket	Rain jacket	Rain jacket	Rain jacket
Comfortable shoes (closed-toed)	Comfortable shoes (closed-toed)	Comfortable shoes (closed-toed)	Comfortable shoes (closed-toed)	Comfortable shoes (closed-toed)

Wear play clothes	Wear play clothes	Wear play clothes	Wear play clothes	Wear play clothes
Sunscreen/hat	Sunscreen/hat	Sunscreen/hat	Sunscreen/hat	Sunscreen/hat
Camera*	Change of clothes	Change of clothes	Camera*	Camera*
Sack lunch**	Camera*	Camera*	Sack lunch**	Sack lunch**
	Sack lunch**	Sack lunch**		

- ✦ Please label everything with the Camper's name to ensure all belongings return home with the right camper!

Contacting Your Camper

- ✦ If you need to contact your child for an emergency, call 706/484-2862 or 706/484-2800.
- ✦ Leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible. Please realize, campers will be hiking on center and it may take time before we can return your call.

Camper's Rights

- ✦ Campers have the right to express their thoughts, feelings and desires.
 - This means I can feel free to express my feelings and opinions without being interrupted or criticized.
- ✦ Campers have the right to be safe and have their body respected.
 - This means that no one will threaten me, bully me, or push me.
- ✦ Campers have the right to have their feelings respected and not to be teased, frightened or embarrassed.
 - This means that no one will laugh at me or insult me.
- ✦ Campers have the right to be treated fairly and to receive the same privileges and considerations as everyone else.
 - This means that no one will pick on me because I may be different than them.
- ✦ Campers have the right to have their work and possessions respected by others.
 - This means that no one will destroy your property.

Discipline

To maintain a safe and cooperative setting, Camp EcoAdventure has specific policies and limitations for our facilities, staff, and children behavior. If it becomes necessary to resolve or correct any dangerous or disruptive behavior, Camp EcoAdventure counselors will follow these guidelines:

- ✦ **Communication:** Counselors and the child will discuss the problem occurring and together identify what solutions are available.
- ✦ **Time Out:** Removal from a specific activity for a short period of time followed by a counselor/child conference.
- ✦ **Contacting Guardian:** If the problem continues after attempted solutions, the parent/guardian will be contacted. Discussion as to further actions will occur.
- ✦ **Dismissal from Program:** The camper will be dismissed from the program and a parent/guardian will need to pick him/her up if the behavior continues to be dangerous or disruptive to the other campers. No refund will be provided if a camper must be dismissed.

Positive behavior reinforcement is used to promote appropriate behavior during Camp EcoAdventure. No physical discipline is allowed. Campers are expected to be friendly and courteous to each other

and their counselors. Improper language, name-calling, fighting, stealing and disrespect to others will not be tolerated. Your attendance at Camp EcoAdventure demonstrates your agreement to these discipline guidelines.

Prescription Medication/Illness

- ✦ Prescription medication will be provided once a day after lunch at 12:00 pm.
- ✦ All prescriptions and other necessary medical supplies (ex: specific drinks, monitors, etc.) must be in their original container with the camper's name. A refrigerator is available to keep medication cold.
- ✦ Over-the-counter medication may be provided if it is supplied by the parents with instructions. An over-the-counter medicine form will need to be filled out at check-in. Camp EcoAdventure will not provide any over-the-counter medication without parent approval.
- ✦ If a child has physical limitations which may prevent hiking/walking distances, Rock Eagle needs to be notified to plan activities accordingly.
- ✦ Campers who become ill need to stay home (or be picked up) to avoid spreading contagious illnesses.
- ✦ Campers who have the following symptoms should not attend camp or will be sent home: fever (101 degrees F will be sent home), nausea, diarrhea, sore throat, active rash, discharging eyes, early cold, and stomach pains.
- ✦ If a camper does become ill, he or she will be placed in isolation (with adult supervision) until a parent/guardian can pick them up.
- ✦ 25% refund will be provided for sudden illness if the camper can not attend that day. Rock Eagle must be notified by 8:00 am if the camper is unable to attend camp for the 25% refund.

Emergency Procedures

- ✦ In case of emergency, Rock Eagle staff will contact the local EMS. The camper will more than likely be taken to Putnam County General Hospital.
- ✦ Action will be taken as necessary according to the medical release form (ex: emergency surgery).
- ✦ Parents will be notified immediately of any emergency situation.
- ✦ Counselors are CPR and First Aid certified and may act accordingly up to their training.
- ✦ An accident report will be filed and provided to the victim's parents and Rock Eagle's Environmental Education Program.

Meals/Snacks

- ✦ Lunch **IS NOT** provided by Rock Eagle.
- ✦ If preferred, campers may buy a sack lunch from Rock Eagle for an extra \$6.00.
- ✦ If campers forget their lunch, then Rock Eagle will provide a lunch. Payment for that lunch must be made before camper leaves that day.
- ✦ Vegetarian meals can be provided if notified in advance on the registration form. No vegan options are available; however, we suggest registering your camper as a vegetarian.
- ✦ Food allergies can be accommodated (within reason) and Rock Eagle must have prior knowledge of allergies.
- ✦ If Rock Eagle is unable to accommodate food allergies, the camper will be asked to bring their own snacks to insure camper health.
- ✦ Two snacks will be provided by Rock Eagle per day.

Weather

- ✦ Camp EcoAdventure loves the rain! We plan to be outside unless severe weather inhibits the daily plans. If so, Camp EcoAdventure will continue inside.
- ✦ Campers should be prepared for rainy days with the proper gear (rain jackets, rain boots, and extra change of clothes).
- ✦ If severe weather occurs (tornados, severe thunder storms), counselors will act accordingly and ensure all campers safety by taking cover in designated areas.

Directions

We are roughly 10 miles north of Eatonton off of Hwy 441. Turn at the large stone pillar (which says the Rock Eagle 4-H Center). Stay straight on Rock Eagle Road (there are 2 possibilities to turn or veer right...stay straight!) until you get to the big magnolia tree with a smaller stone pillar and turn right (you will cross a dam before you come to the magnolia tree). Let our guard know you are here for Camp EcoAdventure and need to meet at the Natural History Museum. They will be able to assist you in the proper direction. Directions can be found at www.rockeagle4h.org/directions.html.

Cancellation Fees

- ✦ A 50% refund will be provided for cancellations up to two weeks prior Camp EcoAdventure (March 19-25th, 2012).
- ✦ A 25% refund will be provided for cancellations 1 week prior to Camp EcoAdventure (March 26-April 1st, 2012).
- ✦ No refund will be provided for cancellations during Camp EcoAdventure, April 2-6, 2012 (see illness for exceptions).

Camp Registration Forms

Fill out the registration forms to ensure complete registration. If you have any questions, call Becky Collins at 706/484-2836 or e-mail beckyg@uga.edu. Mail or fax the forms to:

Rock Eagle 4-H Center
Camp EcoAdventure
Environmental Education Program
350 Rock Eagle Road
Eatonton, GA 31024
Fax: 706/484-2888 (attn: Becky)

