

SPRUCELANDS



June 11, 2009

Sprucelands Equestrian Center and Summer Camp

Volume 30, Issue 2

"Anything is Possible" at Sprucelands



Last Minute Registrations Welcome

Suddenly camper registrations are coming in. This is a year when many waited until the last minute to make summer plans. No problem. If you still want to include your camper at Sprucelands, contact us immediately so we can work you into the 'Anything Dr. Seuss' fun.

There are openings in the Accelerated Horsemaster Program for all sessions, although the middle four weeks are filling quickly. We are excited about the summer. The staff and horses are ready to go. Cabins are opened and readied for you. Bring lots of enthusiasm and be ready to make your experience the best ever.

Should you be in the local area and want to look at day camp options for your camper, they are available and varied. Should a one week option make sense, talk with Eileen because there are alternatives there as well. We are doing everything possible to meet your camper needs.

Counselor and CIT Leadership Training

Across the winter and spring, our CITs and Counselors have engaged in an ongoing dialogue on Facebook. It has opened conversations about challenges that confront those in leadership roles during the summer.

I am impressed with the quality interactions amongst these young people. They are genuinely concerned about giving campers a

positive, memorable experience.

Leadership training will continue across the summer as these Counselors/CITs are involved with the hands-on connections they make during actual programs and within the cabin community. I can tell already that your campers will benefit from knowing them.

Update from Eileen

This has been a rough fall, winter and spring what with managing commitments in this slow economic time. I totally understand your struggles, and at the same time, am fighting to help Sprucelands survive.

As you know, I am a school counselor at a local public school. I also teach riding lessons, run weekend riding clinics, do summer camp, and now I am marketing my photography through a variety of different avenues including camp.

Post cards and greeting cards will be available in our camp store in case the kids want to purchase for writing home. If you want to look at what is currently available for sale check us out at www.spruceconnect.etsy.com.

Your feedback is welcome.

Special points of interest:

- Camp Lodge phone is turned on in June: 585 457 9998.
- Medications are turned in to Camp Nurse on Opening Day.
- Okay to bring posters for the walls in your cabin, and a throw rug for next to your bed.
- Camp laundry done on Mondays & Tuesdays.

Important Reminders

When relatives visit campers at Horse Shows and ask to take your camper out of camp for lunch or overnight, we need **written** parent permission. When CITs want to leave camp with a friend or relative on their day off, we need the same permission. The **Out of Camp Permission Form** may be downloaded from the website. Bring it with you on Opening Day or mail it to Eileen.

Also, remember to have **a bag for your helmet** so that you may hang it at the barn. That means your helmet is your private helmet. It must be labeled inside and for hygiene reasons will be worn **only** by you. Your helmet/bag will be left at the barn. You will not carry it back and forth to the lodge or cabin.

Sprucelands Equestrian Center and Summer Camp

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Website: www.sprucelands.com
Telephone: 585 457 4150

Remember: Our camp season is from June 21-August 15, 2008.

Places to Stay in the Area

We are in dairy country so there is nothing around the corner. However, the following may help you in your planning.

Hampton Inn, East Aurora, NY 716-655-3300
Arcade Village Motel, Arcade, NY 585-492-3600
Roycroft Inn, East Aurora, NY 716-652-5552
Hillside Inn, Wyoming, NY 585-495-6800
Bryncliff Resort, Varysburg, NY 585-535-7300
(they have a terrific golf course)

Summer *Camp Theme

This summer's theme is All Things Dr. Seuss. After listening to the staff chatter about their ideas for decorating , programs and art projects, I am amazed. They are wiggling with excitement at sharing their creative ideas with you.

Every year we build our Sprucelands summer around a theme. It gives us a framework for designing creative, fun-filled programs and laughing ourselves silly. Riding classes will be named for Dr. Seuss characters. The cabins may be renamed for the summer. Evening programs will be designed with Dr. Seuss in mind. What fun he would have if he was here!

I also like how relationships, independent thinking, responsibility for one's actions, sensible choices, and self confidence are intertwined within the theme. No matter whether it's a cat wearing a funny hat, an elephant or a moose, we all work the theme together to get back to the basics of genuine fun. And that's where the Sprucelands magic kicks in. We accept individual differences and then connect in a way that continues often for a lifetime.

So come join in the fun. We want you to laugh with us!

You Need These to Come to Camp

To attend camp, you will need the following forms:

- Medical Form
- Rider Release Form
- Homesick Plan
- Community Guidelines
- Out of Camp Permission

Forms are in .pdf format for easy download; find in website Table of Contents.

Unique Opportunity

A stay at home vacation is possible. You can come as a family for a day or two or a week if you come during the August 2-15 session.

Costs are reasonable. We have 1-2 cabins available for family use during that session. Participate in our general programming and ride at Sprucelands. Meals provided at specified times.

Families will be expected to honor Sprucelands rules, policies, health department standards, and routines. Contact Eileen if you are interested in joining our camp during 4th session. It could be a good time!

Staff & *Campers* Medical Forms Information

If you filled out your medical form last summer for the first time, then all you need from the doctor this year is an updated medication sheet. If you filled out your medical form two years ago, then you are due for a complete, new medical form.

Staff please take note of the above in case you are due for a new medical. Please make the Camp Nurse job easy and be responsible for getting this done.

Parents Refer to Website for Last Minute Camp Information

You may be waiting for a mailing from us with forms for your coming to camp. This year we are instead sending you to the website for all the necessary forms for camp. Download them, complete them and bring them with you for check-in. It's that easy. Saves us postage and makes it more convenient for you. There's a list of what to bring and what not to bring, a statement of our telephone and cell phone policies, telephone numbers and addresses, camp care package information, and lots more. If you can't access the forms, contact us. We will mail them.

Happy Birthday to all those with birthdays during April and May. We wish you our best and send hugs and giggles your way.