



## **Natural Leaders Legacy Camp Frequently Asked Questions**

**APPLY ONLINE at**

**<https://childrenandnature.wufoo.com/forms/m13wy2xb17pvvl/>**

### **1. What should I pack to bring with me? Weather? What will be provided?**

**Please bring clothes that you do not mind getting dirty.** All of the items listed below are suggestions that depend upon weather conditions. We recommend bringing the following items:

- pants or shorts,
- casual shirts,
- rain coat or poncho,
- sneakers,
- a hat & sunglasses,
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc. **will NOT be provided**)
- If rain or cold weather is expected, wear clothing such as fleece or wool—cotton clothing is not recommended,
- Sunscreen,
- A water bottle,
- Something to write with (pen or pencil) & something to write on (a notebook or journal),
- Towel (no bedding needed though),
- For travel, you'll need: a valid photo ID & your flight information & confirmation number, and
- For kayaking (or other outdoor activities) you'll need the following: clothes that you don't mind getting wet, sunglasses strap, sandals that strap onto your feet (no flip flops).

### **2. What should I expect for activity level & place – indoors & outdoors? Agenda?**

The coming agenda will include detailed information about what to expect. You can expect to be both inside & outside. You'll be actively learning throughout although not always physically active. We will go for an outdoors trip (which may include kayaking) and you will be active for that. For the other sessions (community & leadership training) you'll be both in & outdoors and moving around.

### **3. Where am I staying and will I have roommates? Who are the other participants?**

You will be rooming with other participants in the Legacy Camp of your same gender. There will be a bio sheet of the other participants released once all participants are confirmed. You will be staying at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC), a US Fish & Wildlife facility in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. You'll be staying in double bed rooms with other participants of your same gender. Here's an overview of their facilities with a few pictures -

<http://training.fws.gov/campus/maps/campus-map.pdf>.





#### 4. **How will I get to and from the National Conservation Training Center (Legacy Camp location)?**

You will be responsible for travel from your home to Dulles International Airport (and the return trip at the end of the week). Once you arrive at Dulles, we will arrange your transportation to NCTC via a shuttle bus or another option. All of this will be arranged and communicated with you by your Home Team leader.

#### 5. **How can I best prepare for the program (physically & mentally)?**

Mentally, read over the agenda, this document of FAQs, and the bios of the trainers, participants & the Natural Leader's National Team. Take some time to skim through the Children & Nature Network website and Richard Louv's books Last Child in the Woods and The Nature Principle. Be prepared to be mentally engaged and actively participating in stimulating discussions for the 5 days we will have together. Physically, double check that you've packed all the right things and that you are ready with your flexible pants (we're not talking spandex here), a positive attitude, and a willingness to get to know amazing new people.

#### 6. **What will we learn?**

You will learn about the Children & Nature Network and movement, the Natural Leaders Network, community leadership and receive an introduction to several tools you can use to connect communities to nature. Our goals are to:

- Engage participants in the Natural Leaders Network, the children & nature movement and grassroots organizing
- Prepare and mentor participants to lead at least four action items in their home communities over the next year related to several different initiatives, including:
  - Introducing people to nature
  - Let's GO (Get Outdoors)! Month
  - Every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in a National Park initiative
  - and several others!

#### 7. **What are we committing to?**

You are committing to lead four events in your home communities and a 1 year commitment to stay engaged with the Natural Leaders Network. Here are examples of four events that you could possibly lead (you can check out the Natural Leaders Network Facebook page for other NL examples):

- an outdoor service project,
- a Let's Get Outside event,
- a Nature-Deficit Disorder house party, and
- give a speech in your college/university/community.



You will receive training in how to lead these events at the Legacy Camp and you will receive mentoring at and following the Legacy Camp to support you in leading the events. To stay engaged in the Natural Leaders Network, we'll ask you to periodically participate in conference calls and support the work of the Network by occasionally volunteering your time.

**8. Will there be a communications network between participants so we can stay in touch and share our experiences on what we learned during Legacy Camp after the camp finishes?**

Yes! For the most part, we communicate by email and on social media (Facebook, Twitter, and C&NN Connect - <http://childrenandnature.ning.com/>). However, if you have more ideas for how we can stay in touch, we would be very eager to hear about them! Natural Leaders have always developed strong connections with each other that last far beyond the camp.

**9. Will there be an opportunity to learn from other attendees? I believe that this is something that will happen informally throughout our experience, but it would be nice to have time set aside to realize, share and support each other in our past and future visions of connecting youth to the natural world?**

The Legacy Camp is designed to grow from your previous experiences and build on prior knowledge. Our trainers will lead you through sessions that allow you to share your backgrounds and connect with each other. Much of this will happen informally (over meals, campfires, and in the dorms) too.

In addition, throughout the Legacy Camp you will meet in a small, regionally-based "home group" that will give you an opportunity to get to know a small group of your peers and one of the Natural Leaders Legacy Team members very well. This will be a prime opportunity to get to know each other more closely and develop a shared vision for your region.

**10. How have other applicants shown their artistic expressions?**

Search the tag ("2015 Natural Leaders Legacy Camp Artistic Expression for Application") on YouTube. Many of the Legacy Camp participants have posted their artistic expressions, and we encourage you to do the same!

**11. Who sponsors this camp and how did it come about?**

The sponsors of the Legacy Camp are The North Face, the REI Foundation, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Children & Nature Network. The Legacy Camp has developed over the past 4 years as a way to grow the Natural Leaders Network. We will talk more about the history of the Natural Leaders Network at the Legacy Camp.

**12. Do I need spending money?**

We would encourage you to bring spending money for souvenirs or any expenses that you incur while traveling. All of your meals and lodging and program costs at the Legacy Camp will be covered.

