

2009 State Camp Out

Location

Florida Elks Youth Camp
24175 S.E. Highway 450
Umatilla, FL 32784

Dates

March 19, 2009 (Thursday) – March 22, 2009 (Sunday)

Cost

The cost to attend the campout is \$15.00 per person. We will not be collecting money in advance. However, we do need for each of the Federations who will be attending to give us a rough estimate as to how many people will be attending from your group so that we can properly set up the campsites, port-o-lets, etc. All of the activities listed below are included unless otherwise noted (not included- eg. Ropes Course, Crafts, etc.). We are going on an honor system this year. Each Federation that attends will collect the camping fees from its members. On Saturday, we need each group who attends to designate one person to get that Federation's money and a list of members attending the campout to a person that we will designate. Please bring cash, as we do not have a bank account set up to handle checks.

Campfires

Individual tribe camp fires are permitted. However, you may only have a fire in an above-ground fire pit. No ground fires are allowed. At this time, we are trying to locate a firewood vendor to be on site. We cannot guarantee you that we will find one. At the end of the campout, please make sure that you dispose of the ash in a designated area.

Electrical hook ups

There are no electrical hook ups on the camp ground. You are welcome to use a generator on site. However, all generators must be turned off by 10:00 p.m. The only exceptions will be made for medical conditions requiring the use of electrical connections overnight.

Food

We will not have a food vendor on site. As such, you will need to prepare your own meals. There are a couple grocery stores about 15 to 20 minutes from the camp grounds:

ACTIVITIES

Scavenger Hunt

A scavenger hunt list will be available for the kids to pick up on Friday and Saturday. Parents are encouraged to spend some one on one time with their kids hunting for the items found on the list. It is recommended that you bring a plastic bag and a small container with air holes. The collected items will be turned in on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. An I-Pod will be given to the winner. Additional prizes will also be given out. In case we have a tie for the most items found (and we usually do), we will have a raffle drawing for the prizes among the winners.

Chief Rowley – Snake Show

This is a snake show that you will not want to miss. Two shows are tentatively scheduled for Friday and Saturday. I would recommend that you go to the website snakeeducation.com in order to get a better idea of what he does.

Archery

This is an excellent opportunity for your kids to learn how to shoot a bow and arrow. Instruction will be provided on bow safety, how to shoot the bow, etc. We have reserved the archery range for 8 hours on Friday and 8 hours on Saturday. Each session lasts 30 minutes with a maximum of 15 kids per session. Sessions will be on a first come first served basis.

Slip-N-Slide

There is a slip-n-slide on the hill by the lake. I would estimate that it is 70-80 feet long. Weather permitting we will have it running on Friday and Saturday. It can only be used when there are parents present to supervise. In the past we have found that the kids slide down quicker if they are soaped up with tear free soap/shampoo. If you are interested in giving this a shot, then we would recommend that you bring a few bottles of the tear free soap/shampoo.

Crafts (additional cost)

Please encourage your kids to come out and support these vendors as they have made special arrangements to make it to this year's campout.

-Ribits Ceramic Studios will be set up on Friday and Saturday. They will have ceramic figurines available for the kids to paint. The cost for the craft is not included in the camping fees, but I have been told that the prices are very reasonable. In addition, your kids will have a nice souvenir to take home to remember the trip.

-Western Crafts and Wear will be set up on Friday and Saturday. They will have craft projects for the kids to build/put together. They will be providing instructors to assist the kids in putting the projects together. The cost for the craft is not included in the camping fees, but I have been told that the prices are very reasonable. In addition, your kids will have a nice souvenir to take home to remember the trip.

Medicine Man

On Friday night, our Medicine Man, Diving Eagle, will tell stories. This is something that the kids always enjoy. However, space may be limited.

Movie(s)

We will be showing a movie on Friday night. We have not chosen a movie yet. However, it most likely will be rated no higher than PG.

Critter Race

On Saturday, we will be holding a critter race. Each kid will have to find a critter to race. Please do not bring critters from home. The kids must find their critters at the campgrounds. Past entries have included grasshoppers, crickets, lizards, beetles, millipedes, cockroaches, garter snakes, etc. Kids will not be allowed to race poisonous critters, i.e., spiders, centipedes, rattle snakes, etc. The critters will be placed under a small domed lid (ex. Publix Deli Patter Lid) in the center of a larger circle. The first critter to reach the outer circle wins, and moves on to the next round. There will be prizes for the overall winners.

Talako Dancers (Talako Indian Dancers Family Club)

The Talako Indian Dancers will be putting on 2 shows on Saturday. This is a must see. The dancers are all under age 18. Most of the dancers have American Indian heritage. The group is devoted to sharing American Indian Culture with the community through dance. For more information on the group, see their website talakoindiandancers.com

War Games

What is a State Campout without war games? On Saturday, we will have six war games set up for the kids. However, if your tribe has a war game to share please bring it.

Putt-Putt

There is a Putt-Putt course on site. We will be providing some putters and golf balls. However, if you want to bring your own you are encouraged to do so. The Putt-Putt course can be used any time.

Frisbee Golf Course

We will be building a home-made Frisbee golf course. Please make sure to bring your Frisbees. The Frisbee golf course can be used any time.

Kick Ball

This is not a planned activity. However, if you bring your own kick ball we are sure you can get a pick up game. There is a very large field where you can have your game.

Ropes Course (Additional Cost)

If you have been to the Elks Club before, then you know they have a large ropes course. This facility may only be used under the instruction of their staff. We are reserving 2 sessions for Saturday. Each class runs for 4 hours, and each class is limited to 50 participants. The cost to participate is \$25.00 per person. You must be at least 9 years old to participate. The course will be offered on a first come first serve basis. Parents will need to be present to fill out the paperwork required by the Elks Lodge. This activity is very popular and always sales out. As such, you are encouraged to come early to the registration. Please try to bring the exact amount (cash) to the registration, as I do not know if we will have change.

Bon Fire

On Saturday night we will be doing an Indian Ceremony and have a bon fire. The bon fire will be something that you will want to see. In the past, our fires have been known to get as high as 40 to 50 feet. You will not be allowed roast marshmallows on this fire.

Band

The band Sould Out will be putting on a show on Saturday night. This would be the perfect opportunity to let your kids dance around and have some fun.