



Field Trip Permission Slip

Who: Middle School

What: Team-building Overnight Camping Trip

Where: Genesee Valley Outdoor Learning Center

When: Thursday, October 11th- Friday, October 12th

Cost: \$10

Permission Slip/Money Due by: Monday, October 1st

Return Permission Slip/Money to: Student's Advisory Teacher

(Please sign and return the bottom portion of this slip)

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

- I give permission for my child to attend the field trip to Genesee Valley.
- I **DO NOT** give permission for my child to attend the field trip to Genesee Valley.

Parent Signature

Date

Phone number I can be reached at in case of an emergency: _____

Are there any medical concerns for your child that we should be aware of (allergic to bees, allergies, asthma)?



A FEW RULES YOU NEED TO KNOW

We are looking forward to your trip to Genesee Valley Outdoor Learning Center. Please check out the following information so that we have the best experience possible.

- * Safety is our #1 concern: Please follow all our rules and listen to adults so that everyone is safe and has fun!
- * Leave Sticks and Stones: Do not pick up and throw sticks or stones (or anything else). We don't want anyone to get hit *and* we want to minimize erosion.
- * No Gum or Candy: While on our course, you will not be allowed to have anything in your mouth that may cause choking. Gum and candy are allowed at mealtime if it is okay with the chaperones.
Do not store food or candy in your tent.
- * Stay on trails and with your group: As your facilitator is leading you around, make sure that you follow him/her and stay on the trails to avoid things like poison ivy and to help minimize erosion.
- * Wait for permission to touch elements: You may see large structures here that are made out of wood, wires and ropes. These are learning tools we call elements. You might have the opportunity to use these elements, but you have to wait for your facilitator to tell you if it is okay.
- * Litter/trash: Please help keep Genesee beautiful: Do not litter. Also, any trash you create here, you must take back home with you. We do not have room for all the trash!
- * Stay off fences: Our fences are OLD! Please do not stand, sit, climb, lean on or jump over them.
- * Buddy System: If you need to go somewhere, first let your facilitator or chaperone know. Then take a buddy and come straight back to your group.
- * Bathrooms: We have regular bathrooms and spot-a-pots. Just let an adult know and don't forget to take a buddy. Use of the woods is not acceptable.
- * Risk: There are two types of risk – Actual and Perceived. Actual risk is something that can truly be dangerous. Perceived risk is something that seems dangerous and makes you nervous but is relatively safe. Keep in mind that Genesee Valley has both “perceived” and “actual” risk but there will be less “actual risk” if you follow directions and safety rules.
- * “Challenge by choice”: Because of the perceived risk factor, some things here may seem really scary and you might not want to try them. The more you challenge yourself, the better your day will be. Our philosophy is that you should choose the level of participation that is the best challenge for you.
- * Toys/Electronics/Money: It is best to leave these things at home. GVOLC will not be responsible for lost or damaged property.
- * Proper footwear: When you are not in your tent, you must always wear some type of footwear that covers the bottom of your feet. When engaged in activity, you must wear shoes that will protect your feet and not slip off (**no flip-flops**). We recommend comfortable shoes that can get dirty or wet. Sneakers or boots work well. **We will refuse participation if footwear is inappropriate.** You may be barefoot in your tent only.
- * Knives or other weapons/tools: Do not bring knives or anything similar onto Genesee Valley property. Such items will be confiscated and other action may be taken. Fishing poles are allowed with proper storage techniques of hooks and complete adult supervision.
- * Quiet time: Our “quiet hours” are from 10:00 pm until 7:00 am. Please respect our home with the level of your voices and your behavior. During this time, you are also confined to your campground / sleeping area with the exception of bathroom use.
- * Buildings: You may only enter buildings that you have permission to use. Do not enter any other building.

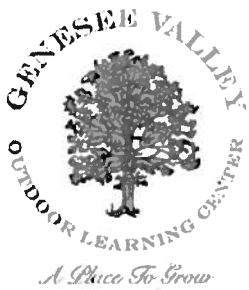


CHAPERONE RULES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND GUIDELINES

Welcome to Genesee Valley! Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to chaperone your group today. By working together, we can all ensure a productive experience for your participants.

- * All rules that apply to the students also apply to the chaperones. Chaperones are required to enforce the rules as well.
- * Upon arrival, please treat each child as if they have a clean slate, regardless of past behaviors.
- * Parent chaperones may not be placed in the same group as their children. Genesee Valley has found that a parent's presence often hinders the progress of his/her child.
- * The chaperone must stay with his/her group. Chaperones are not permitted to wander the property for any reason, unless they have received explicit permission and a badge from the office. This is a restricted privilege for appointed person(s).
- * Chaperones are to assist in whatever way the facilitator asks (ex. discipline, spotting, runner). They may *participate* in the activities (if invited), but may not help to *solve* them. Too much involvement will limit the participants' learning. REMEMBER: Chaperones are NOT participants; please do not expect that you will be allowed to participate.
- * If necessary, it is the chaperone's responsibility to discipline and, as a last resort, remove a child from the group until he/she is ready to participate in a positive way.
- * Chaperones serve as the primary first aid provider unless they verbally waive responsibility to the facilitator (All facilitators are first aid/CPR certified). If an emergency occurs, the chaperones will make transportation decisions.
- * Children must be supervised at all times, including free time, nighttime and meals. This responsibility may include providing children with constructive activities and keeping them out of the woods and off-limit buildings and off elements. Additional chaperone responsibilities include: monitoring bathroom excursions, moving groups from element to element, and overseeing clean up (don't forget to remind students that we do not have trash facilities and that they take their trash with them).
- * Genesee Valley is a drug-free environment, including alcohol and tobacco. If you absolutely must smoke, it is restricted to the parking lot, out of sight of children. You must also take your butts with you.
- * Please turn off cell phones and beepers or set them to vibrate, so as not to interrupt the group during activities.
- * Any adult (18 or over) must sign a waiver form prior to beginning the program.
- * The proper removal of garbage is ultimately the responsibility of the adults. In addition to keeping our facility clean, we also try to instill in the students a responsibility for the waste they create and for being custodians of our environment. Your group will be billed for any facility left in disarray.
- * Adults are responsible for the enforcement of quiet hours that meet the minimum Genesee Valley request. If you wish to have a longer "quiet time", feel free to exercise your best judgment.
- * Genesee Valley reserves the right to take appropriate action or request a removal from the premises for any policy violations.

Please Note: *Due to the fact that we use the experiential ("learning by doing") education process, frustration within a group is a natural and productive occurrence. If the experiential method is new to you, please be open to and patient with the process; it may be hard to stand back while the students are struggling or taking a "long time" to complete tasks. We assure you that our methods are effective and we thank you for your support! If you would like to know more about the experiential process, feel free to chat with us during a break period or request more information from the office. We love to share our knowledge!!*



Directions to Genesee Valley

(Please note: Internet directions have a high probability of inaccuracy.)

From Baltimore area:

Take Baltimore Beltway 695 to I-83 North.

Exit at 31-Middletown Road.

Turn left at the flashing red light/stop sign onto Middletown Rd and travel about 2.1 miles.

Turn left onto Rayville Road (next to Gas Station, Wally's Country Store) Drive ¼ mile and turn left at the 1st driveway (marked by brown Genesee Valley sign).

Follow the driveway and park in the large parking lot on the left past the bleachers. Please do not park on the circle or in the staff parking area!

From Pennsylvania:

Take I-83 South to Exit 31-Middletown Road.

Make a right onto Middletown Road and travel about 2.1 miles.




Turn left onto Rayville Road (next to Gas Station, Wally's Country Store) Drive ¼ mile and turn left at the 1st driveway (marked by brown Genesee Valley sign).

Follow the driveway and park in the large parking lot on the left past the bleachers. Please do not park on the circle or in the staff parking area!

BALTIMORE LAB SCHOOL

THE DIFFERENCE IS EXTRAORDINARY

Items to Lend

<input type="checkbox"/>		I have a ____ person tent I can lend for the trip.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I have a lantern I can lend for the trip.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I have a cooler I can lend for the trip.

Name: _____

Special Instructions:

Please return this form with your child's permission slip.

BALTIMORE LAB SCHOOL

THE DIFFERENCE IS EXTRAORDINARY

Middle School Fall Camping Trip



Dear Parents,

September 20th, 2012

The Middle School is planning an overnight camping trip to Genesee Valley on October 11th through October 12th from 9:00 am Thursday to 1:00 pm on Friday. We will depart from school on Thursday at 8:30 and return to school by 2:30 on Friday for regular dismissal.

We highly encourage all students to participate for the academic and social benefits we hope students will gain. The Middle School staff members will be accompanying students on the trip; therefore, there will not be regular instruction for middle school students on those two days.

The focus of this trip will be team-building. Students will be involved in activities that challenge them physically, socially, and mentally.

The overall objectives for the trip are:

- To build cooperative group skills
- To encourage independence and confidence
- To encourage positive risk taking
- To make connections with units and literature that will be covered this year

***All within a highly structured and supportive environment**