

Connect with Nature and Journey Into the Heart



Welcome to Camp!

Hello,

Please note, a confirmation letter was sent via email upon receiving your application and this is a general day camp confirmation letter, please make sure you have the correct dates.
Thanks

We are glad you chose **The Living Earth Day Camp** for your child's summer adventure. If you are new to The Living Earth School we welcome you with open arms. We invite you to experience what a nature camp really should be.....about the children, their learning, growth and creating a positive experience in nature. We also welcome all those returning. We are so thrilled to have you back and look so forward to our ongoing relationship. We love nothing more than running around with kids in the woods and helping them connect with nature and gain love and appreciation for this beautiful earth we live on! We know the importance of children having direct contact with nature in a safe nurturing environment. We strive to make this summer camp experience the best your child has ever had. We have an amazing crew of wonderful, skilled staff just waiting for our summer venture together.

Please put this form in a safe place, ready for camp!!!

Camp is held: (please check website or call us for exact dates, as this is a general daycamp form)

Camp begins at 9:00am and goes to 4:00pm daily.

(Pick up on Friday is at noon, aftercare available)

**We received your non-refundable deposit of \$ _____,
which brings your remaining total to \$ _____.**

If you have already paid in full, please disregard the above.

Please pay the remaining tuition by June 1 and if you have not sent in your medical form, enclose that as well.

Please read this letter in detail prior to coming to camp. We aim to keep the camp running as efficiently and smoothly as possible so our attention can be on your wonderful camper. Please let us know if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do for you.

What to Bring List:

Please read carefully and make sure to have all the following items daily. We really appreciate your attention to this list.

- Small day pack/ back pack ~ (in which all the following items fit into)
- Healthy packed lunch (note-we follow pack it in pack it out and recommend minimal packaging)
We provide an afternoon snack, though extra snacks are a good idea
- Water bottle filled (quart size is preferred)
- Swim suit/trunks- (Please come to camp with bathing suit on and under clothes)
- Towel
- Comfortable shoe to be worn- gym shoe recommended, hiking sandal or hiking boot will do
- Swim shoes/or hiking sandals to swim in (some type of shoe is required for swimming, flip flops are not included here. This is campers second shoe.)
- Rain coat (if needed)

Also, please note- wear clothing that can & will get dirty. Make sure to have campers name clearly written on all personal items. This is important to make sure all of your items return home with you, plus keeps our valued attention with your camper and not on their gear. The swim shoe is required for swimming and camper won't be permitted to swim without proper swim shoes.

And Now for the Nitty Gritty Details

Day 1-Please arrive on time for camp sharply at 9am or a few minutes before. The following will help keep things organized and fluent. We will organize campers into their camp group with their assigned camp counselors at the start of our day. We require that each camper has all forms completed and is paid in full. We will have each parent fill out a form that lists those authorized to drive your child to and from camp, whether it's yourself, spouse or friend. We also have a sign out sheet that is to be filled out by each driver daily, that states who they are picking up. We will also give out the overnight handout and any other information at that time. We prefer to meet each parent on day 1 and to make sure all paperwork is completed. If this is not possible because of carpooling, please make sure to check in with camp director to ensure you have everything completed ahead of time. Also please make sure camper comes with all items on the what to bring list, backpack, lunch, water bottle, swim suit on beneath clothes, swim shoes etc.

Overnight- There will be an optional, but highly recommended overnight on Thursday evening of camp. Camp on Thursday is at regular time, 9am and continues through Friday with pick up at 12 noon. There is an optional after care program available for an additional \$20, with pick up at 4pm. We will give an overnight handout on the first day of camp. Again, the overnight is an optional part of the day camp experience. If you choose to have your camper participate, we strongly recommend that they are comfortable with spending a night away from home or have at least tried it out a few times before camp. We have found having them sleep over at a close friend or grandparent's house helps prepare them with ease, making it a more positive experience for everyone. If you have any concerns about this, we would love to talk to you in detail and share our experiences with you

Carpool- We really encourage carpooling as part of our camps, to lessen our eco impact and to build community with fellow campers and their families, plus its not as fun to spend all that time

in the car. Our aim is to make this run smoothly for you, though it is up to you to make the remaining arrangements. If you did not fill out the carpooling information on the application, please contact us as soon as possible, as the closer it gets to camp the more difficult arranging this may be. We will connect you with other families that have noted yes on carpooling. We then will give your contact information to those who have requested and who live in your immediate area. Otherwise on the first day of camp, we will let parents know that there are parents wishing to connect with other fellow carpoolers and you may set it up from there.

Swimming-We ask that campers come to camp with their bathing suit on underneath their clothes. This greatly maximizes our fun camp time together. We will change into dry clothes thereafter, so please make sure to have underwear or other necessary items to change into. If your child is not a strong swimmer or unable to swim, please make this known to us, if you have not already on the application. Your camper's safety is our utmost concern and we only swim with a lifeguard on duty. We recommend that your camper have swim lessons or gets comfortable with swimming prior to camp. We do a required simple swim test on day 1. If camper does not swim with ease, we require they wear one of our life jackets while at the swim hole. We don't want anyone feeling uncomfortable with this, we just want everyone to be safe.

Friends- We really love to see all campers making new friends at camp and we encourage this. Though we understand some campers sign up together and it is really important for them to be together. If you have not already informed us of this on the application, please do so no later than a few weeks before camp. We will try our absolute best to accommodate your requests but, please know we assign groups prior to day one and changing group members once campers have arrived is a difficulty. Groups often co-mingle throughout the day for swimming, group games etc. We will try our best here, though at times there are reasons for certain arrangements.

Location- Please note camp is located in Sugar Hollow in White Hall, about 25 minutes from Charlottesville. Our mailing address is in Afton and camp is not located there.

Recommended reading- A great book to have your child read or to even read out loud together is: My Side of the Mountain, also Golden Guide Field Guides are a great way to start learning about the world of nature.

We are so excited about our adventures for the summer. If at any time between now and the beginning of camp you have any questions, concerns, or want to discuss your child's participation in camp, feel free to contact us.

The summer season will be upon us soon. The mountains will be thick and green, filled with bird song and cool running streams. Before we know it we will be gathering together around the campfire to start the first day of camp.

We look forward to seeing you soon,

Kate and Hub Knott & the LES Staff

The Living Earth School

101 Rocky Bottom Lane

Afton, VA 22920

info@livingearthva.com/www.livingearthva.com

(540) 456-7339



Directions to The Living Earth Camp

LOCATION:

The Living Earth Camp is located at The Sugar Hollow Girl Scout camp in Albemarle County on Sugar Hollow Road (Rt. 614), about 14 miles west of Charlottesville, VA.

TELEPHONE: (434) 823-5531- This is the camp telephone, during camp season. We may not always be close to the phone to hear it ringing, but please leave a message. We check messages regularly throughout the day and will get back to you promptly.

DIRECTIONS:

North/South on Route 29 –

Take the 250 Bypass around Charlottesville. Take the *Barracks Road Exit* (Route 654) west for 11 miles (The road changes to Garth road and the route number changes to 614). At Whitehall the road name changes to Browns Gap Rd. When you go past Wyants Store at Whitehall (which is just a small intersection) continue on Browns Gap Road for 1/10 of a mile. At The Piedmont Store, bear to the left onto Sugar Hollow Road. Continue on Sugar Hollow Road for four miles crossing two bridges. The camp entrance is on the left, look for signs. These roads are winding, narrow roads.

East/West on Route I-64 –

Take, Exit #107, Route 250/Crozet. Travel east on Route 250 (Rockfish Gap Road) about 1 mile. At the light turn left onto Crozet Road (Rt. 240) and follow Crozet Road into the town of Crozet, through the traffic light and under the railroad bridge. Continue out of Crozet an additional ½ mile; the road will take a sharp turn to the right and become Brown's Gap Road (Rt. 810). Continue on Brown's Gap Rd. four miles to the stop sign at Whitehall; Wyants Store will be right in front of you. At Whitehall turn left onto Brown's Gap Rd. (Rt. 614). Continue on Brown's Gap Road for 1/10 of a mile. At The Piedmont Store, bear to the left onto Sugar Hollow Road. Continue on Sugar Hollow Road for four miles crossing two bridges. The camp entrance is on the left, look for signs. These roads are winding, narrow roads.