



Betsy-Jeff Penn 4H Educational Center

804 Cedar Lane, Reidsville, NC 27320

336-349-9445

www.bjpenn4h.org

“To Inspire Youth!”

Dear Campers and Parents:

We are very excited to have you aboard for *Summer 2025*. We hope that the enclosed information will help you to prepare for your upcoming stay with us.

The Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center provides **traditional camping** opportunities for campers **aged 8-12** to grow by participating in camp activities and challenging themselves. The program opens doors for campers to feel safe and accepted. Campers are placed in cabin and activity groups according to age. Groups of coed campers travel together during the day. Day activities consist of canoeing, climbing wall, archery, swimming, and arts and crafts while the older aged groups also practice leadership skills on the teambuilding course and challenge themselves on the high ropes course.

The **Adventure/Trekker Program** is designed for campers **aged 12-14** and consists of two groups, the Adventurers and the Trekkers. The Adventurers will enjoy a variety of activities focusing on outdoor living skills. Activities will include teambuilding challenges, high ropes, canoeing, and camping. The Trekkers spend the first part of the week learning canoeing and rock-climbing skills at camp. This group does not participate in the “traditional camp” activities such as archery, arts and crafts, etc. The last part of the week, they go off-site to raft the Dan River, camp at Pilot Mt State Park, and rock climb at Pilot Mountain.

Evening activities at camp include Land and Water Sports, Talent Show, and a Dance. Campers also share the responsibility of cleaning and maintaining living areas, cabin bathrooms, and the dining hall, as well as the natural areas as part of our community growth opportunities. Our program is designed to work with young people who can succeed in a program with a 1:8 staff/camper ratio. Unfortunately, campers who cannot abide by the rules and have behavior that is not manageable, will be dismissed from camp.

Fees will be paid in advance and will not be refunded for children who return home voluntarily or are dismissed due to behavior/discipline problems. Only in the case of a family emergency or written doctor's excuse, will fees be refunded.

Please understand that **all medication MUST be in the original container with the original prescription**. Medication can only be dispensed according to the original doctor's prescription. Most children treated with medication for behavioral or emotional problems benefit from continued medication at camp. According to a joint statement by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Camp Association, “Elective interruption in medications (drug holidays) should be avoided in campers on long term psychotropic therapy.”

You may request that your child be roomed with one other camper. Campers must be within 1-year age difference of each other. We will do our best to meet camper requests; however, **we CANNOT guarantee that all camper requests will be met**.

Campers will not have phone privileges while at camp or access to email. Please do not send cell phones to camp. Parents will be notified under the Director's discretion in the case of illness, injury, behavior problems, and severe homesickness; therefore, the old adage sticks "no news is good news!" Calls made to campers must be limited to emergencies only. Most campers miss something about home when away but being away from home is an important skill for a child to learn. As a parent, you can help prevent homesickness by discussing strategies with your child. Some helpful hints are hiding your own doubts, avoiding stressful changes prior to camp, and arranging practice time away from home. *Do not make camp be your child's first time away from home.* Please do not make "pick-up" arrangements as this undermines a child's confidence. If you have serious homesickness concerns, feel free to contact us.

Neither the 4-H Camp nor the Camp Staff shall be liable for the cost of any medical treatment. Camp insurance covers only certain accidents and illnesses. Limit of camp insurance for accidents is \$3,500 for injury and \$1,000 for illness. Camper illness and/or injury sustained while at camp must be reported and recorded while on site to be covered by the camp's insurance. Pre-existing illness (asthma, diabetes, etc.) is not covered.

If your child has special needs, and you desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this program, please contact the Camp and/or the County 4-H Agent regarding the child's needs at least 30 days prior to camp. Campers need to be able to dress, eat, and use the restroom without assistance and participate in traditional camp activities.

We do have a camp store that is quite popular with all the campers. Camp store items range in price from \$.50 - \$15. For example, snacks are \$.50 - \$1. T-shirts are \$12 and most other camp souvenirs range from \$2 - \$10. Snacks are sold daily, and souvenirs are sold on the last day full day to prevent items getting lost or misplaced. **As a reminder, the camp fee includes both a Camp T-Shirt and a \$15 Store Card.**

Camper mail should be sent to: **Camper Name**, c/o Penn 4-H Center, 804 Cedar Lane, Reidsville, NC 27320. Please do not send *any nut products* or anything valuable.

Please upload completed forms to your brickyard account and bring printed copies to check-in

- **All Online Forms need to be completed**
- 4-H Enrollment Form
- Participation Agreement
- Healthcare Recommendations by Licensed Medical Personal
- Trekker Consent Form – For Trekker Program Participants only

Arrival/Check-In: Sunday, 2:00-3:00 pm, in the Rec Hall

Pick-up: Friday, 9:00 - 10:00 am, in the Rec Hall

Please make sure to follow arrival and pick-up times. Camp staff needs adequate time to prepare the camp for your arrival on Sunday. Early arrivals are discouraged. If you have questions, feel free to call 336-349-9445 or email me at zatate@ncsu.edu. Thanks, and see you at Camp!

Sincerely,

Zoe Tate
Summer Camp Director
Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center
336.349.9445 ext. 306