



ELEMENTARY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TRIP FOR ALL RADNOR TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FIFTH GRADE - "THE CANADENSIS EXPERIENCE"

March 24, 2022

Dear Fifth Grade Parents/Guardians:

We are writing to announce that the fifth-grade students from Ithan, Radnor, and Wayne Elementary Schools will once again participate in an environmental educational trip to Camp Canadensis in the beautiful Pocono Mountains!

This document includes important details for the trip that require action from you!

General Camp Details



May 18-20
2022

Camp Canadensis is scheduled to occur on Wed., May 18th, Thurs., May 19th, and Fri., May 20th.

5/18: Students will be asked to arrive at their respective schools to prepare to depart by 7:45 am.

5/20: Students will leave camp and return to their school building by 2:45 pm.

During this three-day trip, students will participate in fun and engaging lessons taught by RTSD elementary staff. Some of the lessons include pond study, wildlife study, forest study, fishing, Pennsylvania water life, canoeing, kayaking, a low ropes confidence course, hiking, orienteering, outdoor survival skills, and a sensory trail. In the evenings, activities and movies are provided.

The students will be extremely busy all three days and will be supervised at all times. Approximately twenty-five staff members will accompany the children while at camp. In addition, representation from the elementary administration will be on site at all times.

Camp Facilities



Camp Canadensis is a beautiful, well-maintained, and extremely popular summer camp facility. The children, staff and parent volunteers will stay in cabins that have bunk beds, cubbies for storage of their clothing and gear, and indoor plumbing which includes toilet facilities and hot showers. There is a medical cabin on the premises. Check out the [Camp Canadensis website](#) for a virtual tour, pictures, and camp details.

Transportation



Students and staff will travel by bus to Camp Canadensis along with their overnight belongings. The bus capacity can only accommodate students and staff, so parent volunteers are asked to carpool and drive to Camp Canadensis. The distance is approximately 110 miles (2 hours) from our Radnor elementary schools.

Parent Information Session



An informational webinar meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Parents who attend will hear about the "Canadensis Experience" and have their questions answered. The details and link to this webinar will be shared prior to the meeting date.

Student Registration – Please complete by 4/8/22



Right now, we need to seek permission for your child to attend our environmental education trip and secure volunteers to support this endeavor. **Please click [here](#) to complete the online permission form for your child to attend camp.** If your child is not attending or if you are unsure at this time, we ask that you still complete the form. All responses are due by **Friday, April 8, 2022**. Cost and payment options will be sent in a separate communication.

Parent Volunteers



In addition to approximately twenty-five staff members and a medical team, we will also need parent volunteers. Parents/Guardians help us to supervise lessons, meals, recreation time activities, and sleep in cabins to supervise the children. We will need approximately thirty parent volunteers from each school. The approximate 100 parent/guardian volunteers who join us at camp help us to maintain an adult to child ratio of 1:3.

Please note the following important items:

- If you are a father with a daughter or a mother with a son, please understand that you will not be able to sleep in the same cabin as your son or daughter. Cabins for girls and women are in one section of the camp and boys and men are located in another section.
- Volunteers must attend all three days of the trip. Accommodating split schedules makes it difficult to maintain consistent programming and safety for students.
- Camp Canadensis is a smoke-free and alcohol-free environment.

If you are interested in serving as a parent volunteer, please follow the steps below to ensure you have met all requirements to join the team at Camp Canadensis:

- Complete all necessary clearances (click [HERE](#) for details) **no later than Fri. April 29, 2022.**
 - All clearances must be submitted to the district Human Resources Department.
- Complete the Mandated Reporting Online Training (click [HERE](#) to register).
- Attend the informational webinar meeting scheduled for April 6th. Details will be sent to all parents.
- Register your interest to chaperone [HERE](#). All clearances must be submitted prior to payment.

Cost and Payment Options

We are currently finalizing the cost of the trip for students and parents. In the past, Camp fees have been \$140 for students and slightly less for parents. The student cost includes transportation, room and board, meals, snacks, lesson materials, and use of the camp facilities. Payment for camp fees will be due in advance of the trip. Options will include payment by check or credit card, and financial assistance will be available for those in need.

What's Next?

In April, you will receive cost and payment information, as well as additional information regarding our environmental education trip to Camp Canadensis. The final schedule with lesson titles, meal menus, and a recommended student packing list will be sent home with the students and shared digitally.

We are looking forward to a wonderful environmental education trip with our fifth graders!

The Elementary Administrative Team