

Dear Outdoor Skills/First Year Camper Section:

Welcome to the National Camping School at Ten Mile River Scout Reservation! The section staff for the Outdoor Skills/First Year Camper section is looking forward to having you with us starting on the morning of **Saturday, June 1st**. There's more information about the wider program at TMR NCS available [at this link](#).



By way of introduction, my name is **Evan Cree Gee** and I will serve as the Section Director for our week together at Ten Mile River. I've been involved in National Camping School for close to a decade and am really excited to get to know you all. (Owing to some scheduling issues, I will not be able to join everyone until Sunday night, so in my absence **Eric Miller**, who is filling in for me during this absence, will lead everyone through the check-in process and first 24 hours.)

As a part of the check-in process you will meet for an entrance interview with Eric, so have everything completed and ready to turn-in on Saturday morning.

In effort to save time during this process, **please print and fill out the attached Personal Resource Questionnaire**. Note that the purpose of these questionnaires are to gauge where the class is in terms of skills, so please be truthful and don't feel like you need to embellish!

Please also make sure that you have your completed **Annual Health Form** ready to go upon arrival. After moving into your respective campsites, you'll join the other Outdoor Skills & First Year Camper section participants in our first session by the fire ring, and our first meal together will be lunch at the Dining Hall.

While Outdoor Skills & First Year Camper is one National Camping School certification, we will occasionally be separating into two sections: (1) those of you who will serve as Outdoor Skills/"Scoutcraft" directors at your camps this summer, and (2) those of you who will serve as First Year Camper Program directors at your camps this summer. Please understand what your role at camp is this summer so that our staff can better prepare you this week.

**Note that everyone will be going on an overnight/outpost trek and campout in Ten Mile River's "backcountry," so be prepared with backpacking equipment and gear including a hiking pack and tent.** Feel free to contact me for more information. The most important thing is that you come prepared with

equipment for a backpacking overnigher. To that end, please bring the following, in addition to your BSA uniforms and front-country camping gear:

- internal or external frame backpack
- sleeping bag and pad
- personal tent for backpacking (*don't purchase if you don't own one or can't find one to borrow; we usually have a few spares*)
- mess kit
- rain gear
- pocket knife
- two (2) water bottles
- hiking boots

If you want to get a head start on some skill preparation in advance of our week together, please review the following knots: square knot, sheet bend, bowline, taut line hitch, two-half hitches, and clove hitch. We will have plenty of time to go over these as a group during the week if you don't have a chance to review.

If there is anything else with which I can be of further help, ***please reach out and let me know prior to arrival at TMR.*** We will have a very busy week and go from the early morning to late at night; we have a lot of activities, practicals, lessons, and fun planned. See you soon!

Yours in Scouting,

Evan Cree Gee

Outdoor Skills Section Director

NCS at Ten Mile River SR

[evancg515@gmail.com](mailto:evancg515@gmail.com)

# National Camping School Personal Resource Questionnaire

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: Attending high school \_\_\_\_\_ Attending college \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated college \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Religious Preference: Christian \_\_\_\_\_ Jewish \_\_\_\_\_ Muslim \_\_\_\_\_ Buddhist \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Council you are working for: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp you are going to work for: \_\_\_\_\_

Position you will hold in camp: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCOUTING EXPERIENCE

Registered position in Scouting: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in Scouting: Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Adult Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_\_\_ New to Scouting \_\_\_\_\_

Years of summer camp experience: Camper \_\_\_\_\_ Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Positions \_\_\_\_\_

I have experience working with: Cub Scouts \_\_\_\_\_ Scouts BSA \_\_\_\_\_ Venturers/Sea Scouts/Explorers \_\_\_\_\_

I have previously completed National Camping School: Year \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Training: ILST/ISLC/ILSS \_\_\_\_\_ NYLT \_\_\_\_\_ NAYLE \_\_\_\_\_ Position-Specific Training \_\_\_\_\_ Wood Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Campfire Resources: Song Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Master of Ceremonies \_\_\_\_\_ Musical instrument \_\_\_\_\_

## NATIONAL CAMPING SCHOOL

What do you feel you can best do to support Troops and campers in camp?

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What do you feel you are least comfortable with regarding your job this summer?

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What do you expect to gain from this National Camping School experience?

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Do you have any physical or medical limitations on your activity?

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Do you have any special dietary requirements?

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## National Camping School Outdoor Skills Assessment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Camp: \_\_\_\_\_

In a Scout Camp, have you previously been a:

Outdoor Skills/Scoutcraft Instructor:    YES    NO    If Yes, number of years experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Outdoor Skills/Scoutcraft Director:    YES    NO    Number of staff you supervise: \_\_\_\_\_  
 First-Year Camper Instructor:    YES    NO    If Yes, number of years experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
 First-Year Camper Director:    YES    NO    Number of staff you supervise: \_\_\_\_\_

| SKILL   | <b>1 – Weak</b><br><i>I have little to no knowledge of this topic and I need help.</i> | <b>2 – Basic</b><br><i>I have a basic grasp of the topic, but I need help to be ready for camp.</i> | <b>3 – Okay</b><br><i>I have an understanding of the material, and with work I will be ready for camp.</i> | <b>4 – Solid</b><br><i>I am ready now to teach Scouts at camp.</i> | <b>5 – Strong</b><br><i>I am very comfortable and can teach Scouts or adults today.</i> |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>BASIC SKILLS (material covered in Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks)</b> |  |   |  |  |   |
| Camping   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Cooking   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Fire building   |  |   |  |  |   |
| First aid   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Hiking  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Knot tying & rope care  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Lashings/pioneering projects  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Map & compass   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Woods tools (knife, ax, saw)  |  |   |  |  |   |
| <b>ADVANCED SKILLS (material covered in relevant merit badges)</b>                        |  |   |  |  |   |
| Primitive/backcountry camping   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Wilderness survival   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Cooking over a campfire   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Fire-building without matches   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Wilderness first aid  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Backpacking   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Splicing  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Cross-country orienteering  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Geocaching  |  |   |  |  |   |
| <b>CAMP EXPERIENCE</b>  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Aims & Methods of Scouting  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Youth Development/Working with Scouts   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Teaching & Learning Processes   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Managing Camp Staff   |  |   |  |  |   |
| Leave No Trace & Outdoor Ethics   |  |   |  |  |   |

What do you think are your greatest needs?

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What expertise do you have to share with other National Camping School participants?

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